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**From:** Maxine Murray <mmurray@cityofflint.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 28, 2014 3:03 PM  
**To:** Byrne, Randall (Treasury);Kapp, Gene (MSP);Muchmore, Dennis (GOV);Roberts, John (DTMB);West, Samantha (GOV);Dempkowski, Angela (Treasury);Baird, Richard (GOV);Larkin, Brian (GOV);Darnell Earley;Deasy, Thomas (MSP);Koryzno, Edward (Treasury);Clement, Elizabeth (GOV);Elizabeth Murphy;Etue, Kriste (MSP);Hollins, Harvey (GOV);James Tolbert;Jerry Ambrose;Klotz, Josephine (MSP);Lee, Nichole (MSP);McGowan, Emmitt (MSP);Sands, Thomas (MSP);Sipes, Stephen (MSP);O'Neill, Stephen (MSP);Saxton, Thomas (Treasury);Workman, Wayne (TREASURY)  
**Subject:** Electronic Communication  
**Attachments:** Bi-weekly Call Participants.pdf

Good afternoon,

Please find attached an electronic communication from Emergency Manager, Darnell Earley.

Thank you.

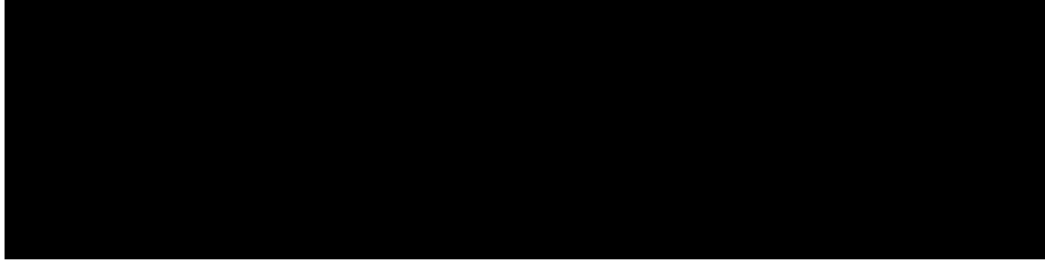
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Maxine Murray  
Executive Assistant to  
Mayor Dayne Walling  
Darnell Earley, Emergency Manager  
1101 S. Saginaw Street  
Flint, MI 48502  
810.237.2035 Telephone  
810.766.7218 Fax



**City of Flint Wednesday 9:00 am Phone Conference Agenda  
April 30, 2014**

- 1) Public Safety Update – FPD, MSP (FFD if needed)**

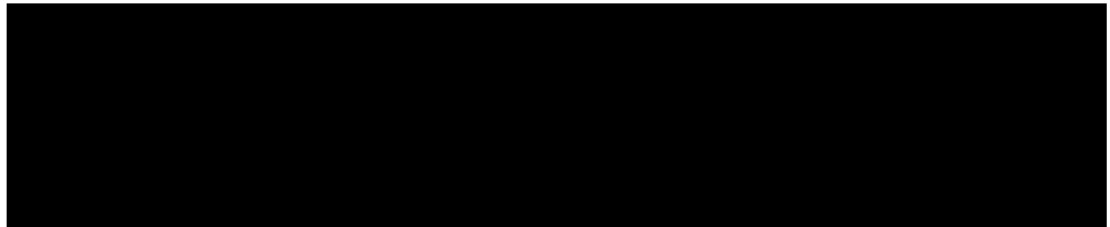


- 2) Governor's Office Update –Rich Baird, H. Hollins**

- 3) Retiree Lawsuit – Status, Issues**



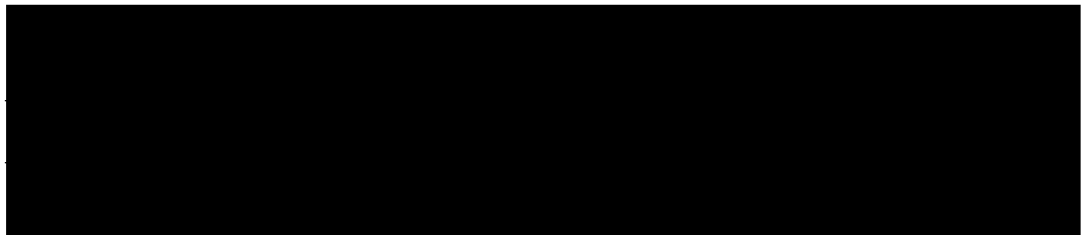
- 4) Financial Update**



- c) Update on E&Y 5 Year projections: reviewing final drafts.**



- 5) City Council Update**





**6) Blue Ribbon Committee**



**6) Water Issues**

a) The City has successfully transitioned from DWSD to full operation on the Flint River. Shut-off ceremony was held on Friday, April 25, 2014. All DEQ requirements have been met.

b) Negotiations with GCDC continue with regards to sale of the pipeline section. COF current proposal is for \$3.9 million sale price, the value established in recent valuation. Valuation has been submitted and reviewed by Treasury. Submission to Treasury for approval is anticipated prior to ending relationship with DWSD. Also, COF is negotiating back-up service agreement for GCDC for period between DWSD termination and KWA start-up.

State approval needed so that notice may be issued to Flint City Council.

**7) Other items**

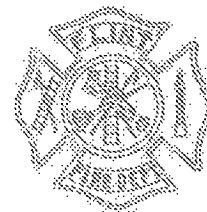
Created on: 04/29/14

, access code 



Dwayne Welling  
Mayor

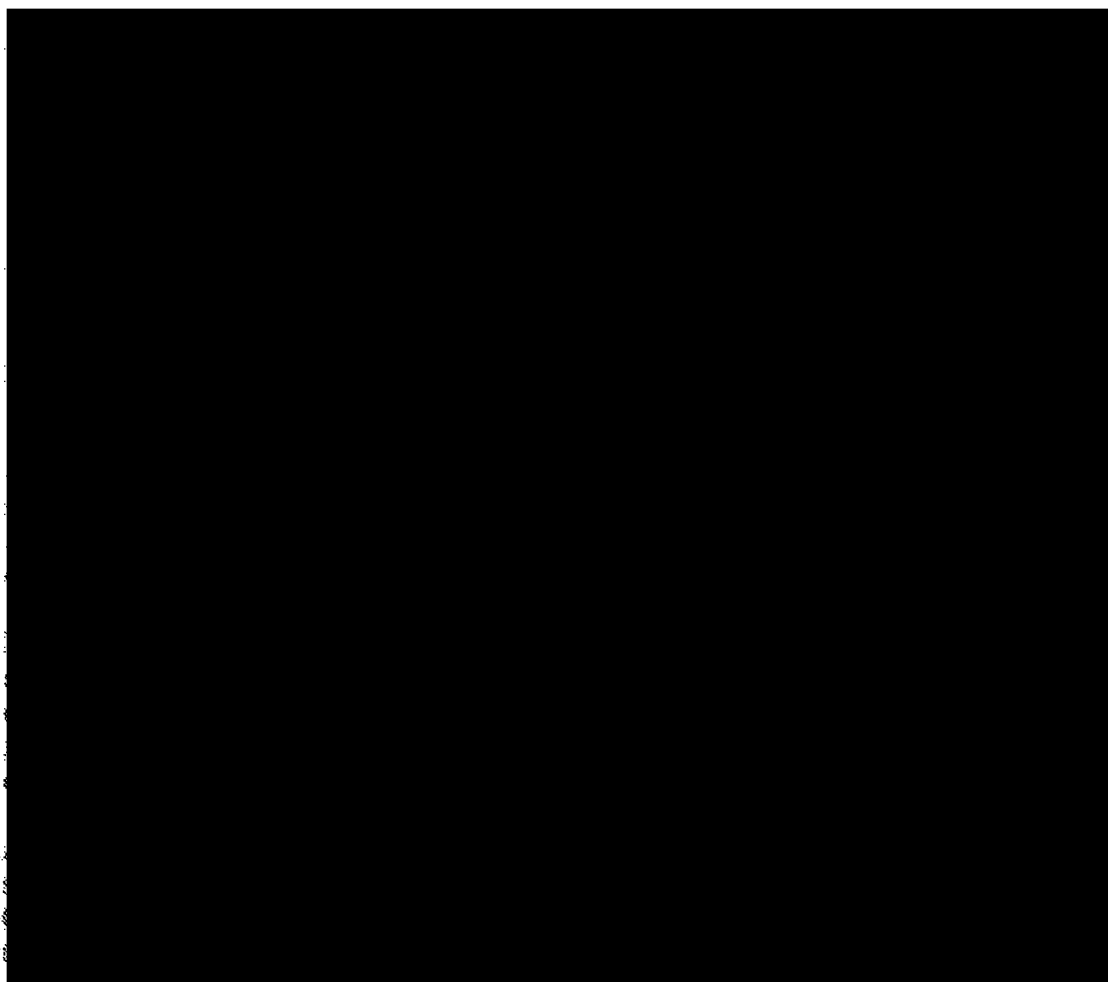
## FLINT FIRE DEPARTMENT

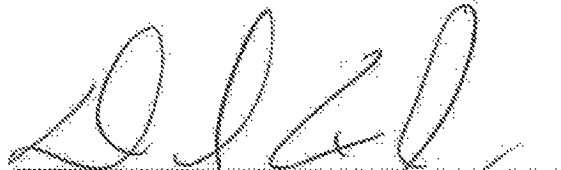
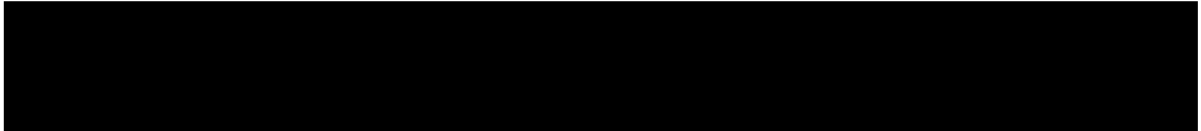


David Cox Jr.  
Chief of Fire

Darnell Earley  
Emergency Manager

**TO:** Darnell Earley, Emergency Manager  
**FROM:** David Cox Jr., Chief of Fire  
**DATE:** April 28, 2014  
**RE:** MIOSHA Update





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David Cox Jr., Chief of Fire



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
Michigan Occupational Safety & Health Administration  
MARTHA B. YODER  
DIRECTOR

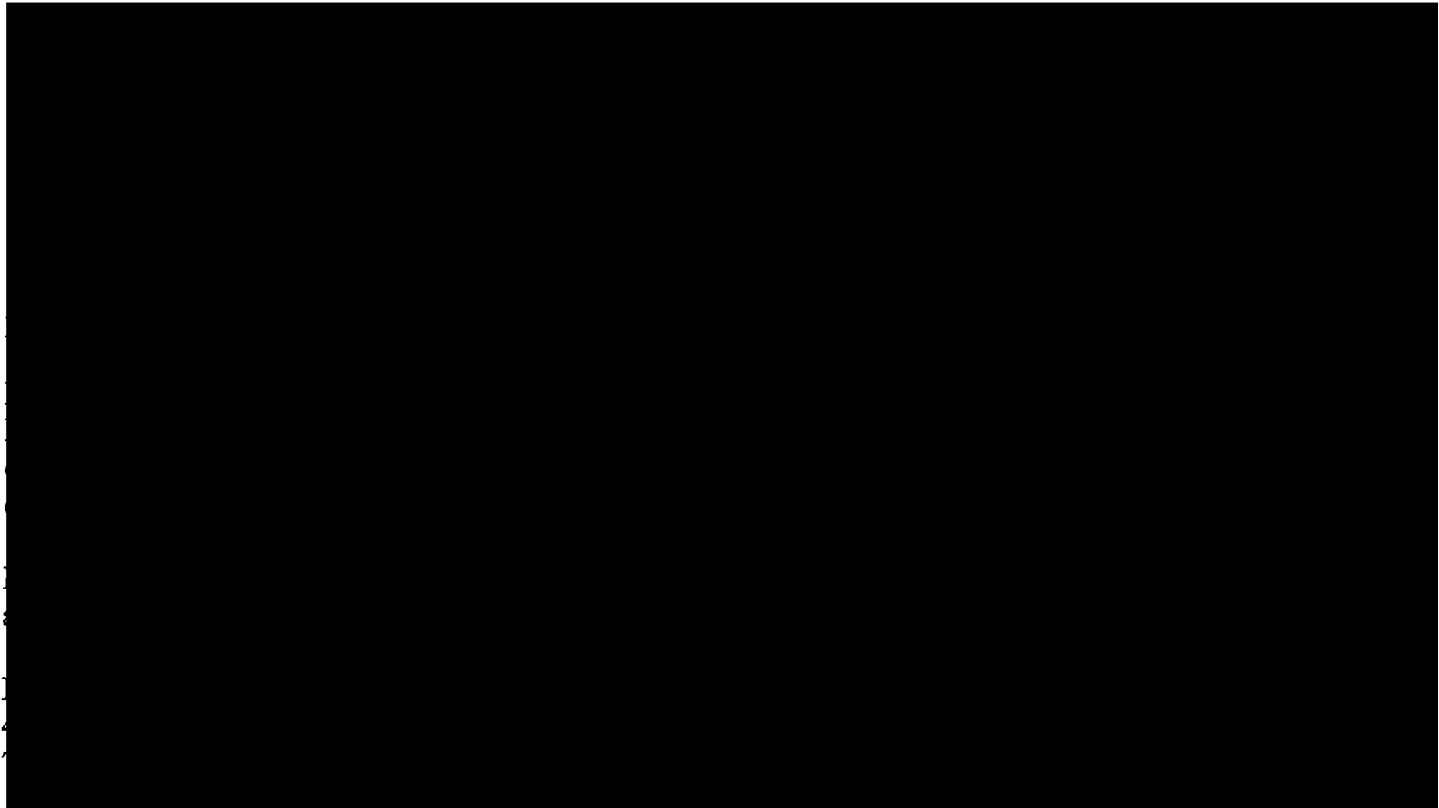
STEVE ARWOOD  
DIRECTOR

April 25, 2014

Chief David Cox Jr.  
Flint Fire Department  
310 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Flint, MI 48502

Dear Chief Cox:

RE: Inspection #312044290



Flint Fire Department  
April 25, 2014  
Page 2

Sincerely,

*Matthew Macomber*

Matthew Macomber, M.S., CIH  
Certified Industrial Hygienist

MM:ks

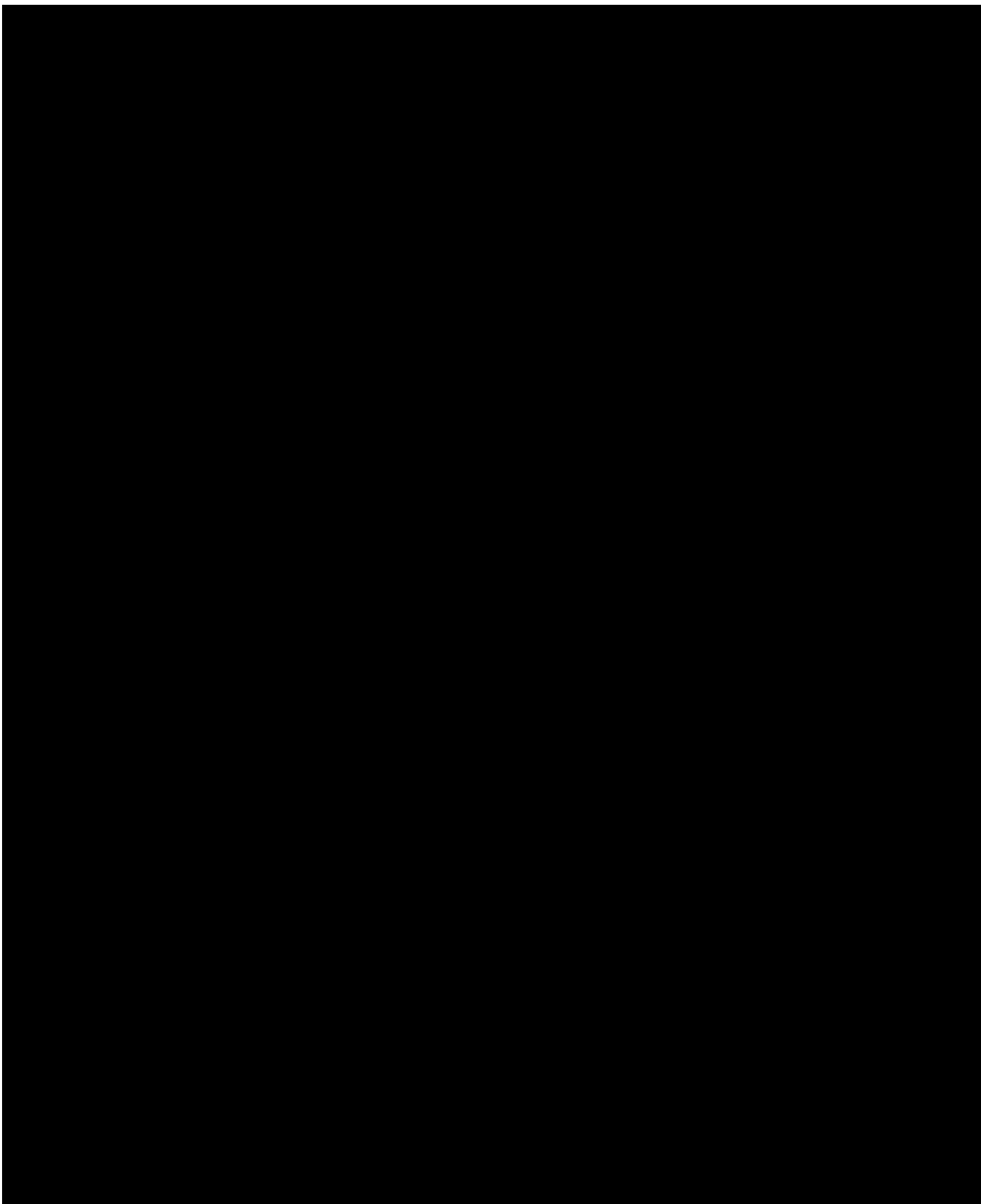
Enclosure(s): Citations  
Air Contaminant Data Sheet  
IFCRI form

Cc: Lt. Kovach, Union President  
Flint Fire Department  
310 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Flint, MI 48502

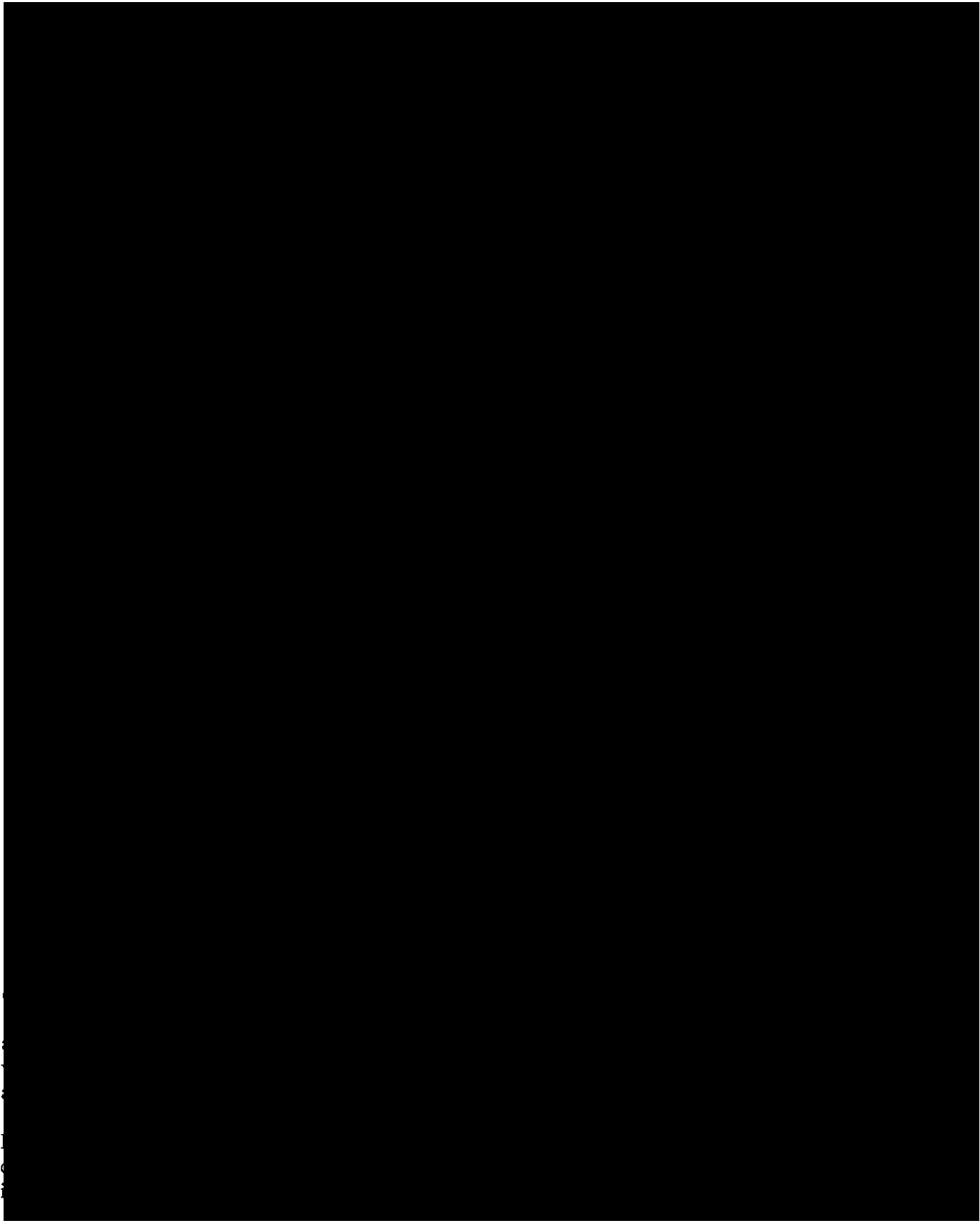
**Michigan Department of Licensing & Regulatory Affairs**  
**Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA)**  
General Industry Safety and Health Division  
7150 Harris Dr., PO Box 30644  
Lansing, MI 48909-8144  
Phone: (517)322-1831 FAX: (517)322-6353

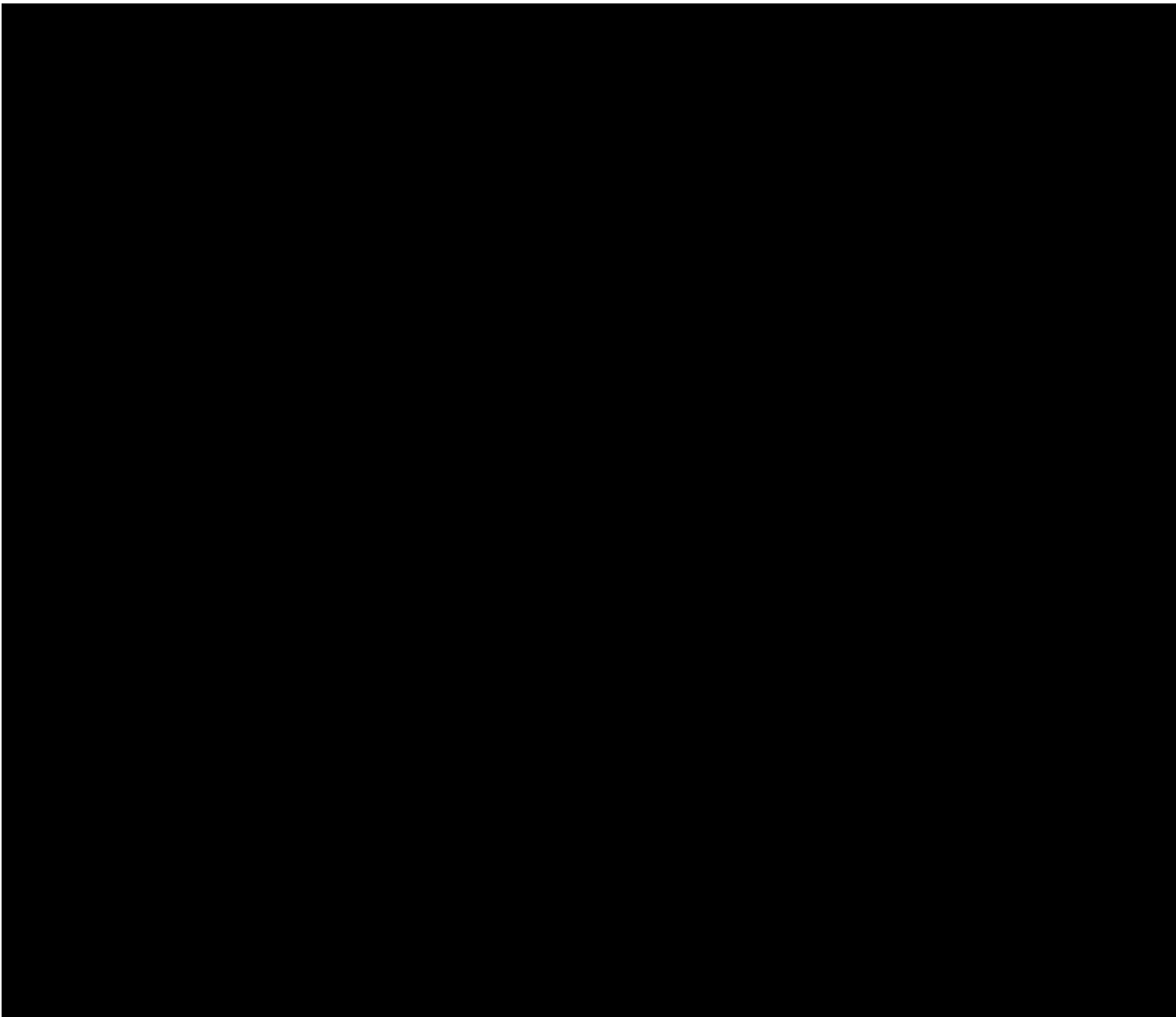


## Citation and Notification of Penalty







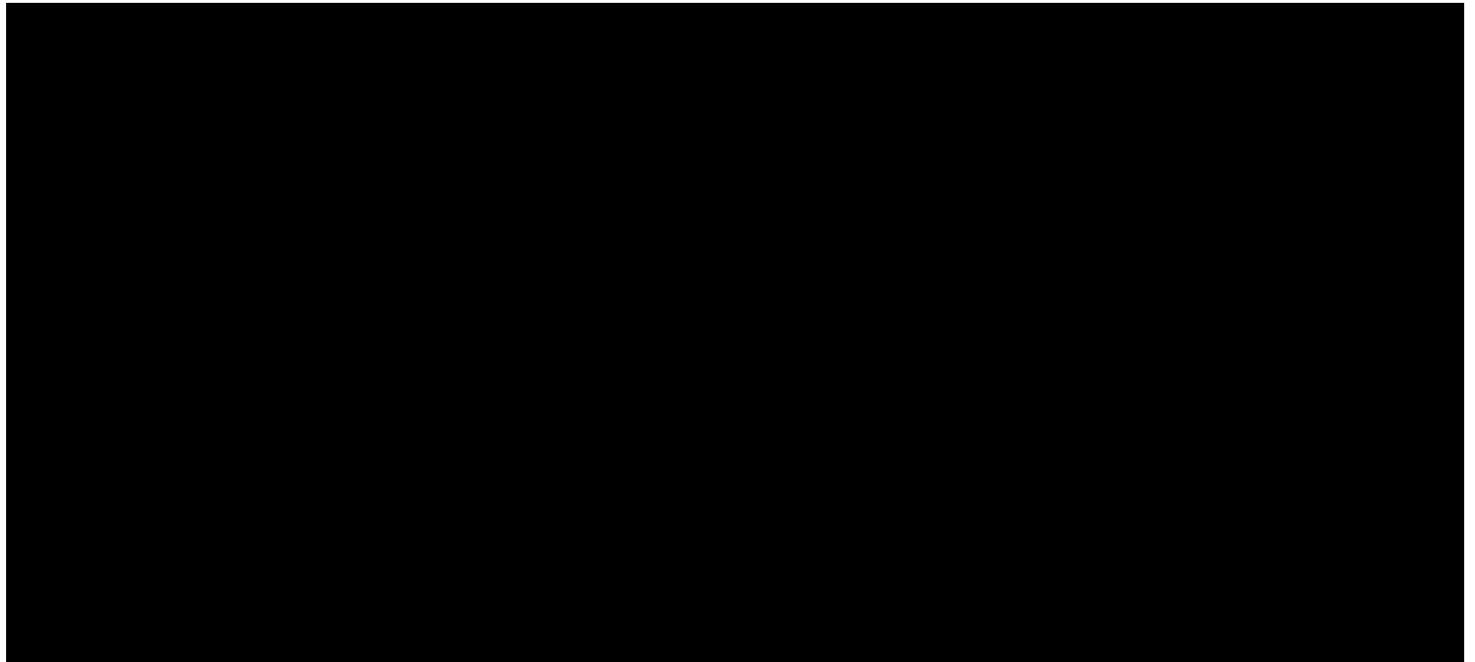


**Michigan Department of**  
Licensing and Regulatory Affairs  
General Industry Safety and Health Division

**Inspection Number:** 312044290  
**Inspection Dates:** 03/04/2014 - 04/14/2014  
**Issuance Date:** 04/25/2014  
**CSHO ID:** F5827  
**Optional Inspection Nbr:**



**Citation and Notification of Penalty**

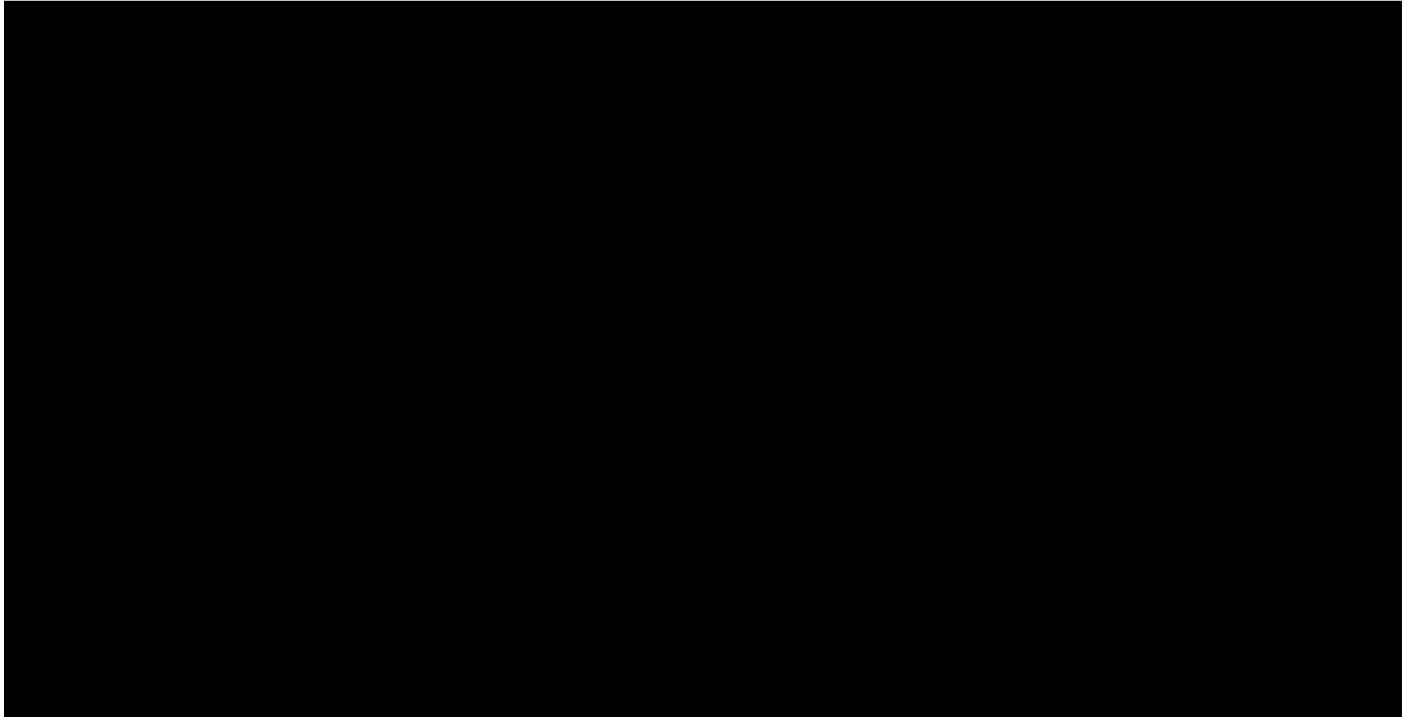


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See pages 1 through 4 of this Citation and Notification of Penalty for information on employer and employee rights and responsibilities.



**Citation and Notification of Penalty**



*Caulammaso*

Authorized Signature

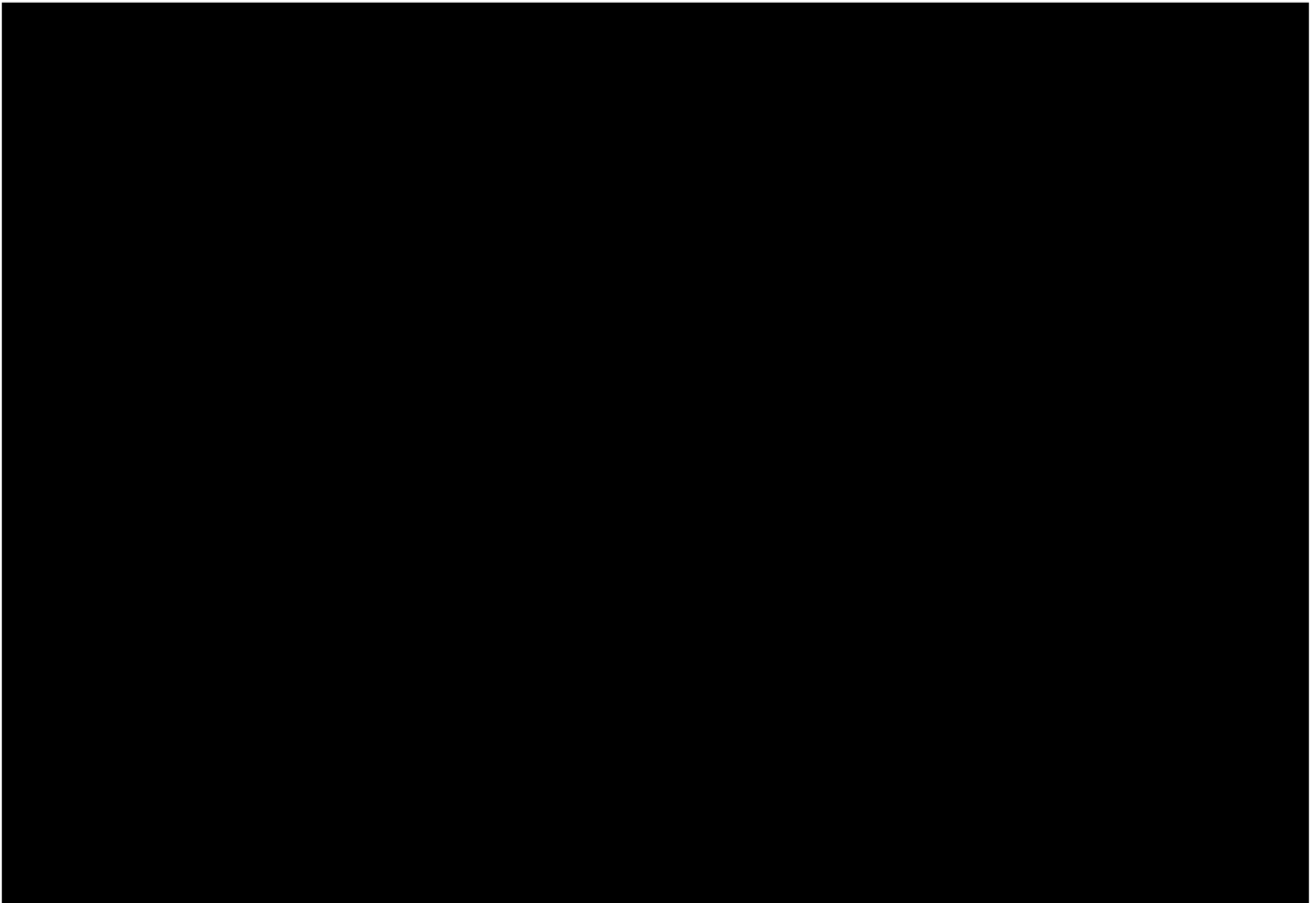
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See pages 1 through 4 of this Citation and Notification of Penalty for information on employer and employee rights and responsibilities.

**Michigan Department of Licensing & Regulatory Affairs**  
**Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA)**  
General Industry Safety and Health Division  
7150 Harris Dr., PO Box 30644  
Lansing, MI 48909-8144  
Phone: (517)322-1831 FAX: (517)322-6353



## PROPOSED PENALTY INVOICE



Carla Mose

Authorized Signature

Sheet A #1

## AIR CONTAMINANT DATA SHEET

Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs  
Michigan Occupational Safety & Health Administration  
(MIOSHA)

General Industry Safety & Health Division

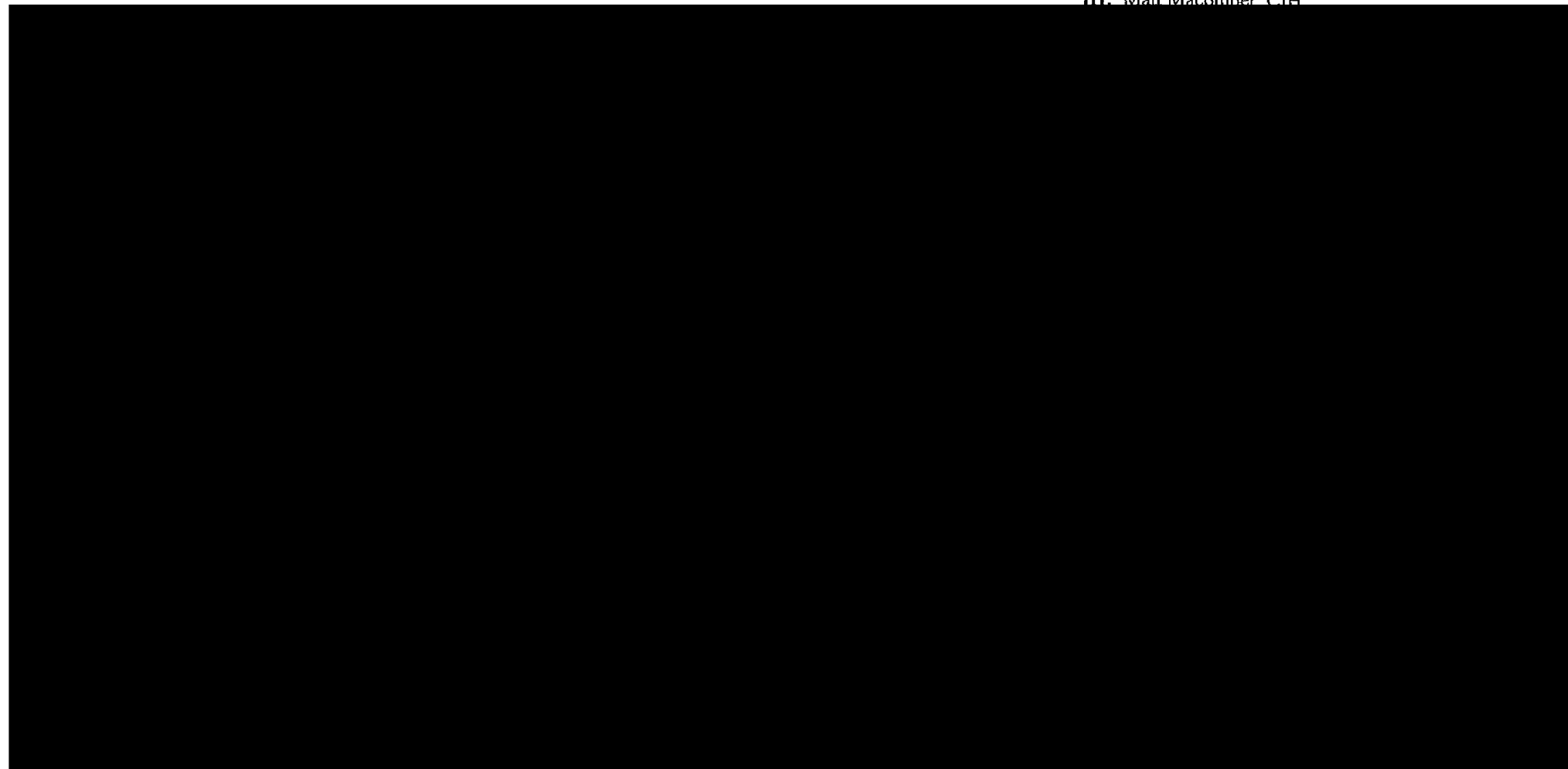
I# 312044290

Employer: City of Flint Fire Department

Date: March 26, 2014

Location: 310 East 5<sup>th</sup>, Flint, MI 48502

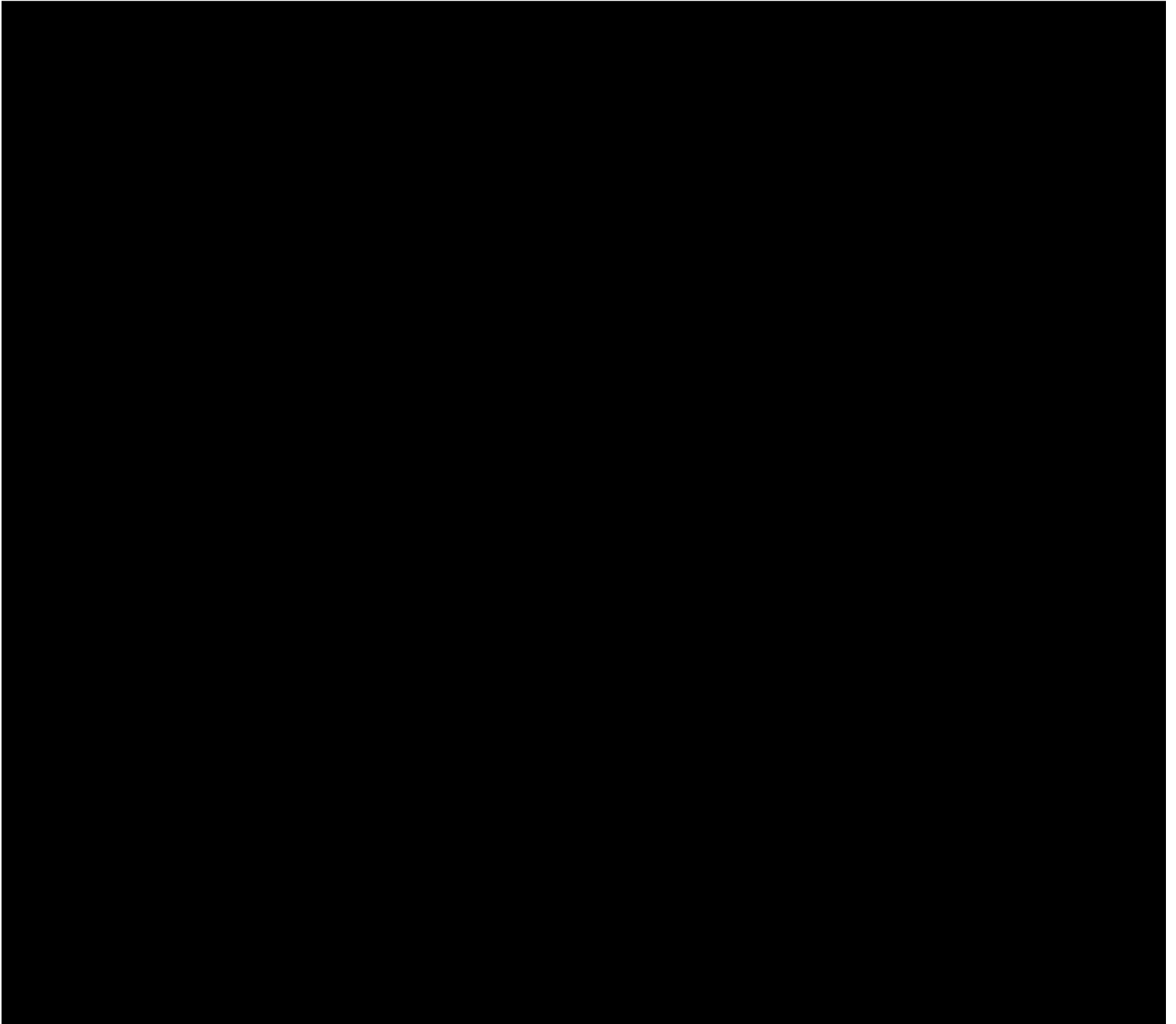
IH: Matt Macomber CIH



# **INSPECTION FINDINGS FOR COMPLAINT AND REFERRAL ISSUES**

Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

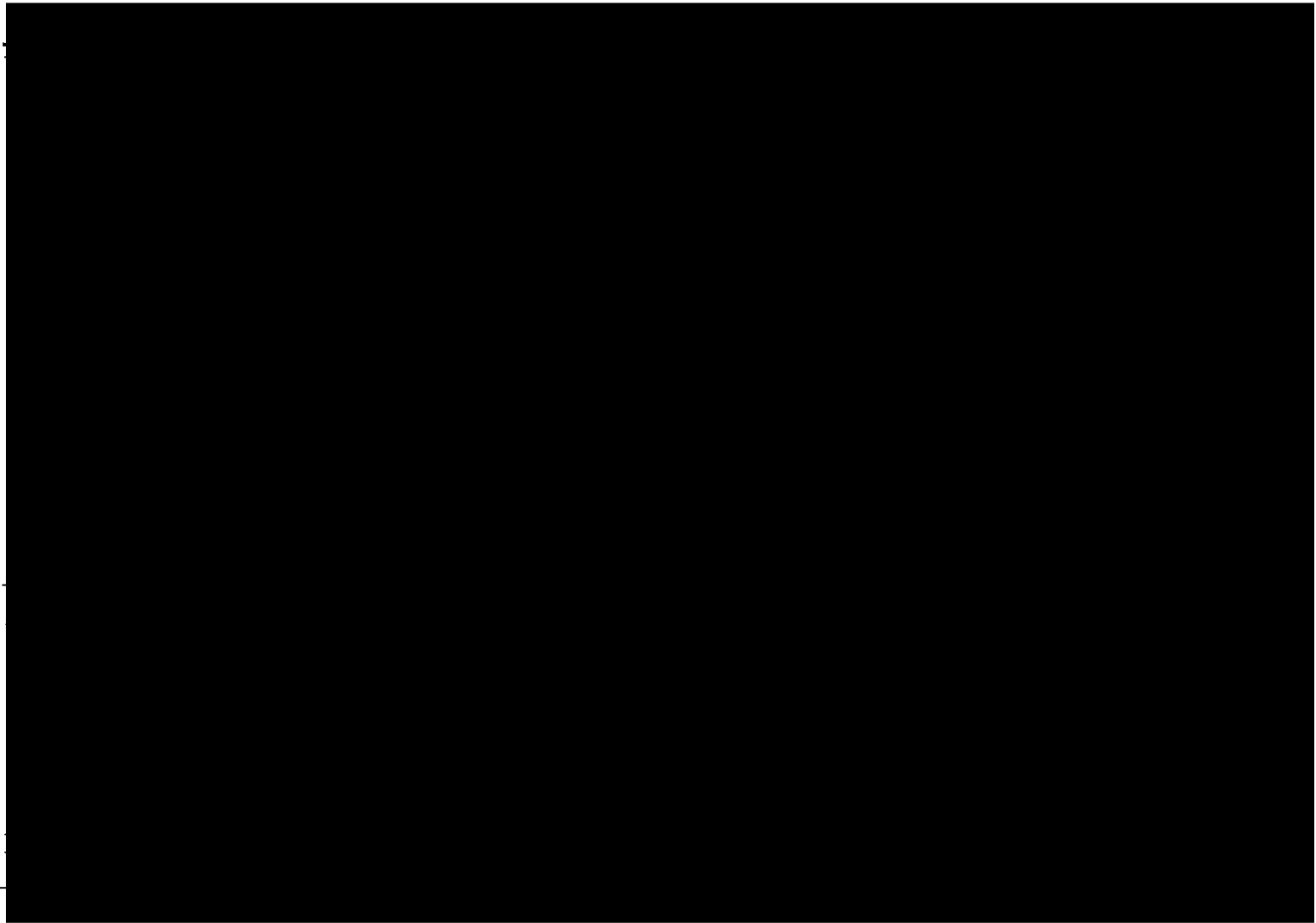
**MIOSHA**



# **INSPECTION FINDINGS FOR COMPLAINT AND REFERRAL ISSUES**

Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

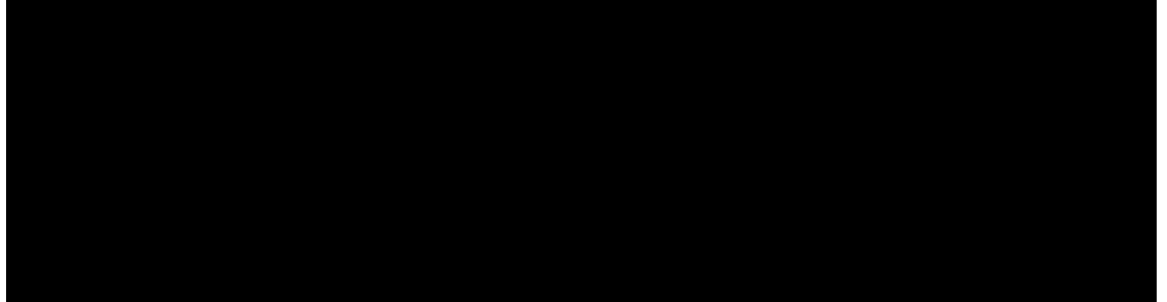
**MIOSHA**





**City of Flint Wednesday 9:00am Phone Conference Agenda  
May 14, 2014**

**1) Public Safety Update – FPD, MSP, (FFD, if needed)**

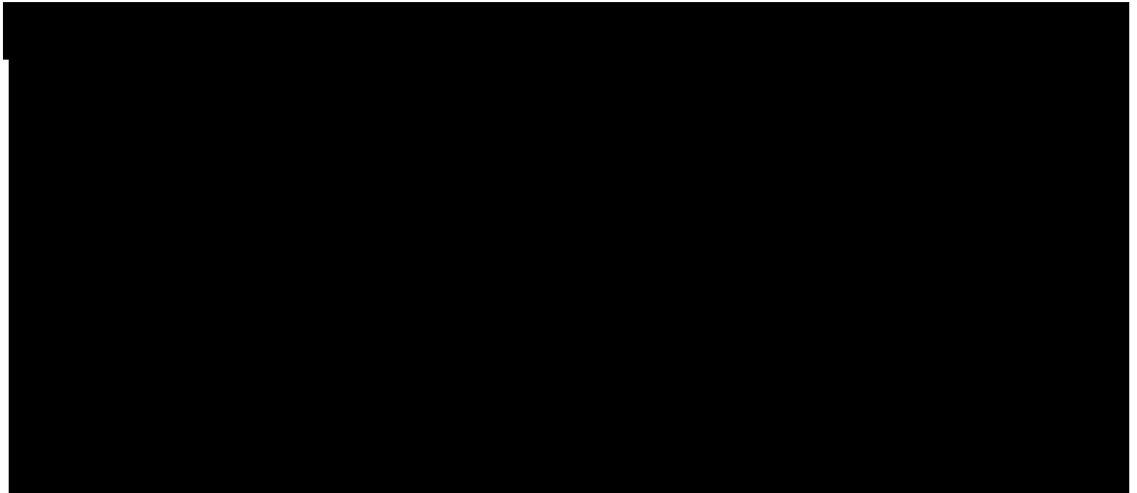


**2) Governor's Office Update - Rich, Baird, H. Hollins**

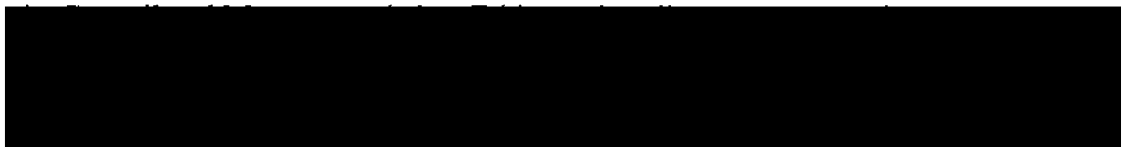
**3) Lawsuits – Status, Issues**



**4) Financial Update**

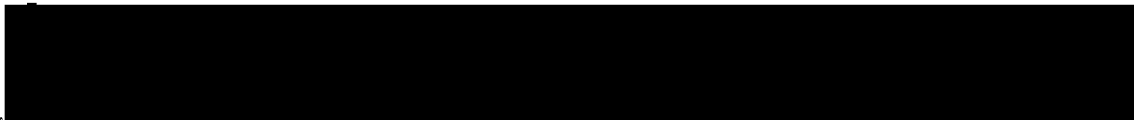


**5) City Council Update**





**6) Blue Ribbon Committee on Governance**



**7) Water Issues**

- a) The City received written notification from the DEQ that no back-up water service contract is required. Notification has been made to DWSD.
- b) The Water Treatment Plant has been operating very well.
- c) Pipeline Sale to GCDC – status?

**8) Other Items**

- 1) Attachment – communication from P. Bade

 access code 

Created on: 05/09/14

**CITY OF FLINT  
LEGAL DEPARTMENT  
MEMORANDUM**

*Confidential communications between Attorney and Client are privileged, and may not be disclosed without approval of the Law Department; furthermore all notes, opinions and impressions contained in this memorandum are considered confidential work product.*

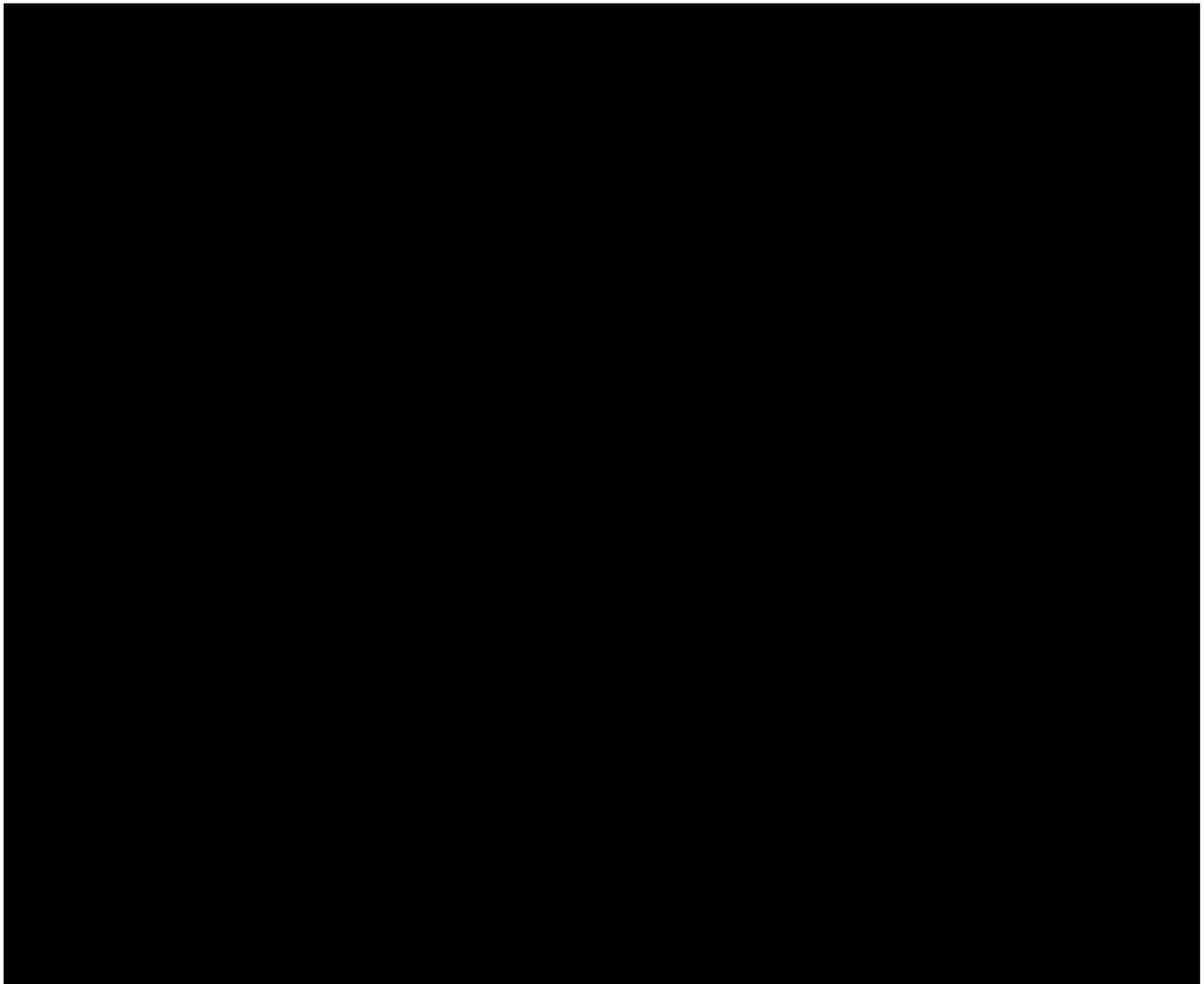
**TO:** Darnell Earley, Emergency Manager

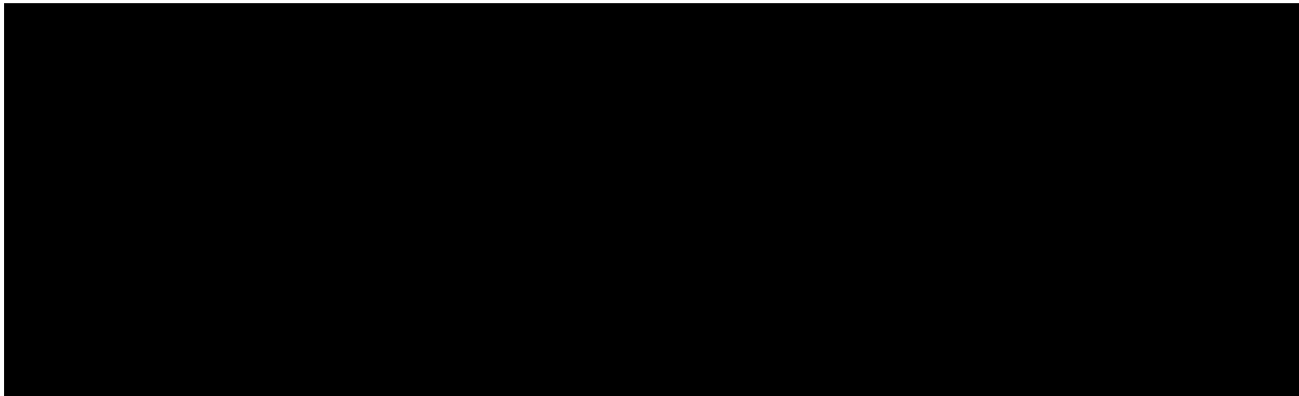
**FROM:** Peter M. Bade, Chief Legal Officer

**RE:** [REDACTED]

**DATE:** May 12, 2014

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S:\P. Bade\EM2014\Memos\Earley.Memo.05.12.14. [REDACTED].doc

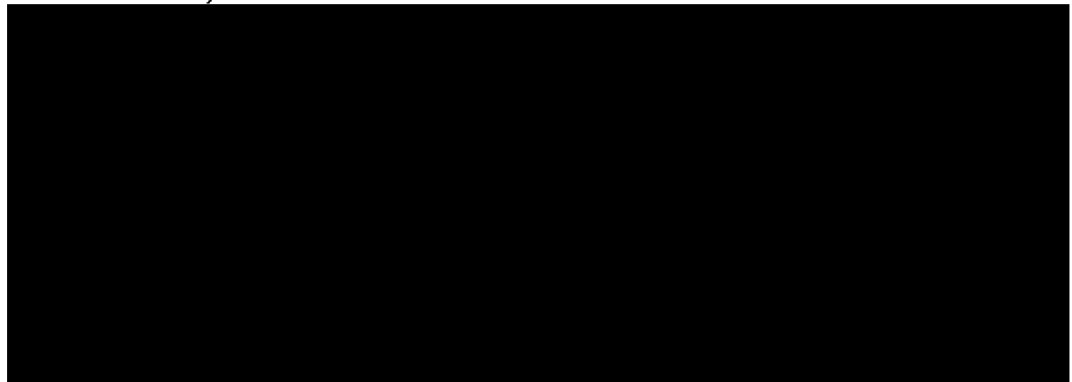
**City of Flint Wednesday 9:00am Phone Conference Agenda  
May 28, 2014**

**1) Public Safety Update – FPD, MSP, (FFD, if needed)**

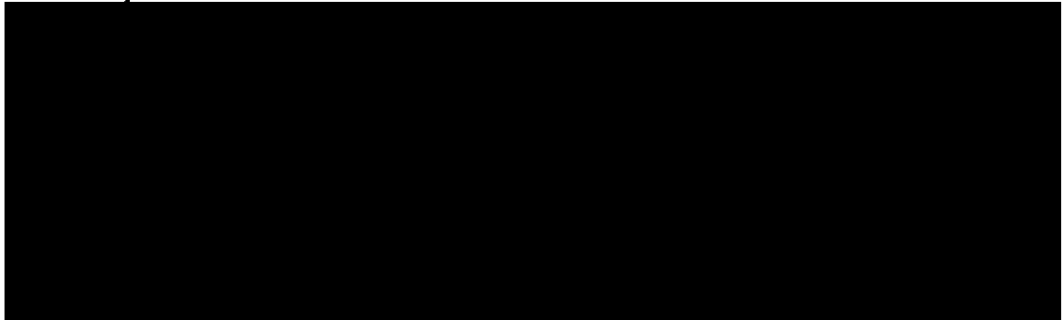


**2) Governor's Office Update - Rich, Baird, H. Hollins**

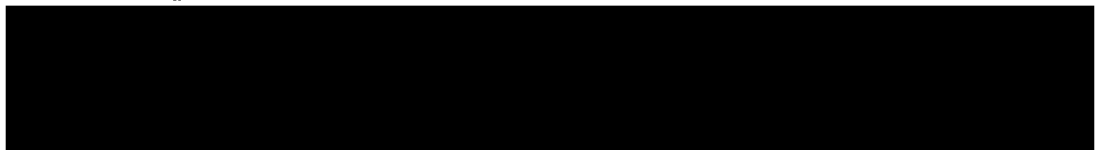
**3) Lawsuits – Status, Issues**



**4) Financial Update**

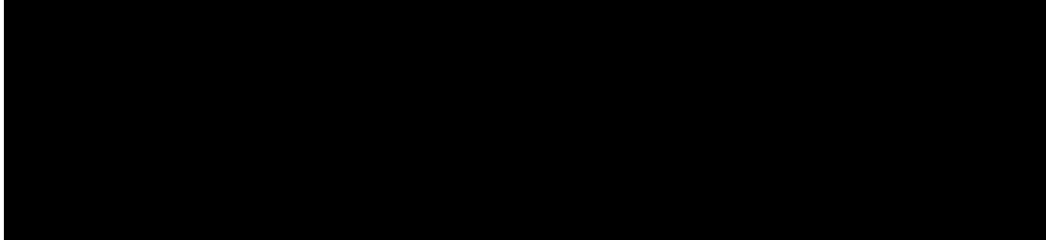


**5) City Council Update**





**6) Blue Ribbon Committee on Governance**





**7) Water Issues**

- a) The City Council met twice to discuss the sale of a 9 mile section of unused pipeline to the GCDC. The City had negotiated a sale price of \$3.9 million. Council first voted to reject the sale. A second meeting resulted in a vote to sell the pipe section for \$3.9 million but receive the funds in two payments over two fiscal years. It is unknown if the City council made a submission of this proposal to the local emergency financial assistance loan board. Does Flint have Treasury's approval to execute the contract of sale?

**8) Other Items**

Attachment: Five Year Financial Projection

 , access code 

Created on: 05/23/14

**CITY OF FLINT - FIVE YEAR OUTLOOK**  
**All Funds Summary**

		Current FY14	Proposed FY15	Proposed FY16	Projected FY17	Projected FY18	Projected FY19
<b>General Fund</b>							
	101						
	Revenues*	\$53,558,121	\$55,080,609	\$56,232,962	\$56,739,059	\$58,909,276	\$57,421,459
	Expenses	\$53,558,121	\$55,080,609	\$56,232,962	\$56,938,513	\$58,938,562	\$58,558,952
	Cumulative Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$1,789,455)	(\$5,829,771)	(\$51,986,254)
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$1,759,455)	(\$4,029,317)	(\$6,137,493)
Includes \$1 million for deficit elimination							
<b>Major Streets</b>							
	202						
	Revenues	\$6,335,405	\$7,022,888	\$8,116,688	\$8,343,935	\$8,572,568	\$8,528,214
	Expenses	\$6,335,405	\$7,022,888	\$8,116,688	\$8,419,985	\$8,711,579	\$8,525,138
	Cumulative Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$75,050)	(\$239,011)	(\$245,924)
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$75,050)	(\$239,011)	(\$245,924)
<b>Local Streets</b>							
	203						
	Revenues	\$2,601,090	\$2,694,458	\$2,783,112	\$2,841,557	\$2,904,072	\$2,867,991
	Expenses	\$2,601,090	\$2,694,458	\$2,783,112	\$2,880,521	\$2,972,698	\$3,067,834
	Cumulative Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$38,964)	(\$67,626)	(\$297,452)
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$38,964)	(\$67,626)	(\$297,452)
<b>Police and Fire Millage</b>							
	205						
	Revenues	\$1,845,837	\$2,258,560	\$7,249,000	\$4,464,540	\$4,602,941	\$4,871,985
	Expenses	\$1,845,837	\$2,258,560	\$7,249,000	\$7,538,960	\$7,848,037	\$8,169,829
	Cumulative Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$3,074,420)	(\$3,245,097)	(\$3,297,844)
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$3,074,420)	(\$3,245,097)	(\$3,297,844)
<b>Neighborhood Police Millage</b>							
	207						
	Revenues	\$1,550,190	\$1,378,104	\$1,233,874	\$1,268,551	\$1,289,587	\$1,317,039
	Expenses	\$1,550,190	\$1,378,104	\$1,233,874	\$1,283,229	\$1,335,841	\$1,389,611
	Cumulative Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$14,677)	(\$46,254)	(\$146,533)
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$14,677)	(\$46,254)	(\$146,533)
<b>Parks Millage</b>							
	208						
	Revenues	\$373,064	\$440,140	\$341,423	\$348,251	\$359,047	\$364,433
	Expenses	\$373,064	\$440,140	\$341,423	\$355,880	\$368,638	\$384,793
	Cumulative Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$6,629)	(\$9,591)	(\$15,360)
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$6,629)	(\$9,591)	(\$15,360)
<b>Lighting Special Assessment</b>							
	219						
	Revenues	\$2,982,050	\$2,694,870	\$2,696,300	\$2,561,485	\$2,433,411	\$2,311,740
	Expenses	\$2,982,050	\$2,694,870	\$2,696,300	\$2,696,300	\$2,696,300	\$2,696,300
	Cumulative Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$134,815)	(\$262,704)	(\$378,264)
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$134,815)	(\$262,704)	(\$378,264)

		Current FY14	Proposed FY15	Proposed FY16	Projected FY17	Projected FY18	Projected FY19
Waste Collection	226						
	Revenues	\$5,132,490	\$5,388,293	\$5,450,723	\$5,178,187	\$4,519,278	\$4,973,314
	Expenses	\$5,132,490	\$5,388,293	\$5,450,723	\$5,559,787	\$5,670,652	\$5,784,381
	Cumulative Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$381,599)	(\$1,151,373)	(\$2,244,649)
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$381,599)	(\$1,151,373)	(\$1,171,057)
Drug Forfeiture	265						
	Revenues	\$435,042	\$435,063	\$433,398	\$445,401	\$458,783	\$473,582
	Expenses	\$435,042	\$435,063	\$433,398	\$445,401	\$458,783	\$473,582
	Cumulative Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
HUD Grant 2014	274						
	Revenues	\$11,787,729	\$5,035,899	\$5,035,899	\$5,156,976	\$5,342,585	\$5,502,853
	Expenses	\$11,787,729	\$5,035,899	\$5,035,899	\$5,156,976	\$5,342,585	\$5,502,853
	Cumulative Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Grants	298						
	Revenues	\$7,483,680	\$4,864,978	\$4,864,978	\$5,010,925	\$5,181,253	\$5,316,093
	Expenses	\$7,477,823	\$4,864,978	\$4,864,978	\$5,010,925	\$5,181,253	\$5,316,093
	Cumulative Gap	\$5,758	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Stimulus Grant	297						
	Revenues	\$4,524,108	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Expenses	\$4,524,108	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Cumulative Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Public Improvement Fund	402						
	Revenues	\$2,150,000	\$2,850,957	\$2,867,867	\$2,825,347	\$3,018,532	\$3,081,373
	Expenses	\$2,150,000	\$2,850,957	\$2,867,867	\$2,982,706	\$3,184,997	\$3,252,912
	Cumulative Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$157,359)	(\$166,335)	(\$171,534)
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$157,359)	(\$166,335)	(\$171,534)
* Includes \$980,000 for deficit elimination							
Building Safety Fund	542						
	Revenues	\$2,548,456	\$2,385,528	\$2,484,708	\$2,484,708	\$2,484,708	\$2,484,708
	Expenses	\$2,548,456	\$2,385,528	\$2,484,708	\$2,584,988	\$2,687,452	\$2,794,950
	Cumulative Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$99,280)	(\$202,140)	(\$312,388)
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$99,280)	(\$202,140)	(\$312,388)
<b>TOTAL General City</b>							
	Revenues	\$103,288,162	\$99,538,346	\$99,791,023	\$97,789,914	\$98,467,519	\$99,392,750
	Expenses	\$103,278,404	\$99,538,346	\$99,791,023	\$103,480,422	\$107,289,719	\$111,397,647
	Cumulative Gap	\$9,758	\$0	\$0	(\$5,690,508)	(\$14,522,797)	(\$28,522,894)
	Annual Gap	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$5,690,508)	(\$14,522,797)	(\$28,522,894)



Sewer Fund	590	Current FY14	Proposed FY15	Proposed FY16	Projected FY17	Projected FY18	Projected FY19
Revenues		\$31,929,269	\$30,256,545	\$32,346,745	\$32,346,745	\$32,346,745	\$32,346,745
Expenses		\$31,929,269	\$30,256,545	\$32,346,745	\$34,809,999	\$36,169,343	\$37,218,857
Cumulative Gap		\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$2,463,254)	(\$3,822,598)	(\$10,634,964)
Annual Gap		\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$2,463,254)	(\$3,822,598)	(\$4,890,212)
Water Fund	591						
Revenues		\$47,896,872	\$37,500,000	\$37,500,000	\$37,500,000	\$37,500,000	\$37,500,000
Expenses		\$47,896,872	\$34,503,330	\$35,042,250	\$38,941,189	\$40,741,806	\$41,943,725
Cumulative Gap		\$0	\$2,996,670	\$2,457,750	(\$1,341,189)	(\$4,883,996)	(\$9,925,990)
Annual Gap		\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$1,341,189)	(\$5,291,996)	(\$4,445,725)
Water and Sewer	590 & 591						
Revenues		\$79,826,141	\$67,756,545	\$69,846,745	\$69,846,745	\$69,846,745	\$69,846,745
Expenses		\$79,826,141	\$64,760,075	\$67,358,995	\$73,450,286	\$78,891,049	\$79,160,682
Cumulative Gap		\$0	\$2,996,470	\$2,487,750	(\$3,603,543)	(\$10,647,847)	(\$19,981,784)
Annual Gap		\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$3,603,543)	(\$7,944,304)	(\$8,312,937)
TOTAL CITY							
Revenues		\$183,114,303	\$167,294,891	\$169,637,768	\$167,636,659	\$168,314,264	\$169,339,495
Expenses		\$183,104,545	\$164,298,421	\$167,450,018	\$176,930,719	\$184,190,768	\$190,558,329
Cumulative Gap		\$9,758	\$2,996,470	\$2,487,750	(\$9,294,061)	(\$25,170,554)	(\$46,488,888)
Annual Gap		\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$9,294,061)	(\$15,876,504)	(\$21,318,834)

**CITY OF FLINT - FIVE YEAR OUTLOOK**  
**Pension and Retiree Healthcare Costs**

		Current FY14	Proposed FY15	Proposed FY16	Projected FY17	Projected FY18	Projected FY19
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>101</b>						
	Retiree Healthcare Expense	\$8,034,324	\$10,167,701	\$10,777,763	\$11,424,429	\$12,109,895	\$12,836,488
	Pension Expense	\$8,401,335	\$7,887,617	\$7,360,876	\$7,802,529	\$8,270,680	\$8,766,921
	<u>Other Expenses</u>	<u>\$37,122,482</u>	<u>\$37,025,291</u>	<u>\$38,143,326</u>	<u>\$39,362,568</u>	<u>\$40,611,121</u>	<u>\$42,010,930</u>
	Total Expenses	\$53,558,121	\$55,080,609	\$56,281,965	\$58,589,526	\$60,991,696	\$63,614,339
	Retiree Healthcare as % of Total Expenses	15%	18%	19%	19%	20%	20%
	Pension as % of Total Expenses	16%	14%	13%	13%	14%	14%
	Healthcare & Pension Costs as % of Total	31%	33%	32%	33%	33%	34%
<b>Major Streets</b>	<b>202</b>						
	Retiree Healthcare	\$598,155	\$1,058,180	\$1,119,551	\$1,186,724	\$1,267,928	\$1,333,403
	Pension	\$865,832	\$551,415	\$596,693	\$632,357	\$670,298	\$710,516
	<u>Other expenses</u>	<u>\$5,187,419</u>	<u>\$5,415,293</u>	<u>\$6,400,554</u>	<u>\$6,587,904</u>	<u>\$6,783,353</u>	<u>\$6,981,277</u>
	Total	\$6,331,406	\$7,022,888	\$8,116,898	\$8,416,985	\$8,711,579	\$9,025,196
	Healthcare & Pension %	18%	23%	21%	22%	22%	23%
<b>Local Streets</b>	<b>203</b>						
	Retiree Healthcare	\$388,761	\$200,824	\$212,873	\$225,845	\$239,184	\$253,535
	Pension	\$331,106	\$330,318	\$354,959	\$378,257	\$398,832	\$422,762
	<u>Other expenses</u>	<u>\$1,881,223</u>	<u>\$2,163,316</u>	<u>\$2,215,280</u>	<u>\$2,278,619</u>	<u>\$2,334,682</u>	<u>\$2,391,627</u>
	Total	\$2,501,090	\$2,694,458	\$2,783,112	\$2,860,521	\$2,972,698	\$3,067,924
	Healthcare & Pension %	28%	20%	20%	21%	21%	22%
<b>Police and Fire Millage</b>	<b>205</b>						
	Retiree Healthcare	\$0	\$1,337,828	\$1,418,098	\$1,503,184	\$1,593,376	\$1,688,977
	Pension	\$448,524	\$2,593,093	\$2,748,679	\$2,913,600	\$3,088,416	\$3,273,721
	<u>Other expenses</u>	<u>\$1,397,303</u>	<u>\$5,327,639</u>	<u>\$3,082,223</u>	<u>\$3,122,176</u>	<u>\$3,166,267</u>	<u>\$3,207,130</u>
	Total	\$1,845,827	\$9,258,560	\$7,249,000	\$7,538,960	\$7,848,057	\$8,169,828
	Healthcare & Pension %	24%	42%	57%	59%	60%	61%
<b>Neighborhood Police Millage</b>	<b>207</b>						
	Retiree Healthcare	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Pension	\$379,834	\$300,795	\$318,844	\$337,975	\$358,253	\$379,748
	<u>Other expenses</u>	<u>\$1,170,246</u>	<u>\$1,077,309</u>	<u>\$915,030</u>	<u>\$845,254</u>	<u>\$977,688</u>	<u>\$1,010,863</u>
	Total	\$1,550,180	\$1,378,104	\$1,233,874	\$1,283,229	\$1,335,841	\$1,390,611
	Healthcare & Pension %	25%	22%	26%	26%	27%	27%
<b>Parks Millage</b>	<b>208</b>						
	Retiree Healthcare	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Pension	\$5,591	\$20,663	\$20,663	\$21,903	\$23,217	\$24,610
	<u>Other expenses</u>	<u>\$367,473</u>	<u>\$419,477</u>	<u>\$320,760</u>	<u>\$333,177</u>	<u>\$346,421</u>	<u>\$360,183</u>
	Total	\$373,064	\$440,140	\$341,423	\$355,080	\$369,638	\$384,793
	Healthcare & Pension %	1%	5%	6%	6%	6%	6%
<b>Lighting Special Assessment</b>	<b>219</b>						
	Retiree Healthcare	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Pension	\$0	\$6,029	\$6,360	\$6,773	\$7,180	\$7,611
	<u>Other expenses</u>	<u>\$2,982,960</u>	<u>\$2,688,841</u>	<u>\$2,688,910</u>	<u>\$2,689,527</u>	<u>\$2,689,120</u>	<u>\$2,688,889</u>
	Total	\$2,982,960	\$2,694,870	\$2,695,300	\$2,696,300	\$2,696,300	\$2,696,300
	Healthcare & Pension %	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

		Current FY14	Proposed FY15	Proposed FY16	Projected FY17	Projected FY18	Projected FY19
Waste Collection	226						
Retiree Healthcare		\$821,180	\$411,202	\$435,874	\$462,026	\$489,748	\$519,133
Pension		\$25,335	\$12,888	\$13,767	\$14,593	\$15,489	\$16,397
Other expenses		\$4,485,865	\$4,872,103	\$5,001,082	\$5,083,118	\$5,165,716	\$5,248,821
Total		\$5,132,490	\$5,396,293	\$5,450,723	\$5,559,737	\$5,670,932	\$5,784,351
Healthcare & Pension %		13%	8%	8%	9%	9%	9%
Drug Forfeiture	265						
Retiree Healthcare		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pension		\$122,739	\$82,406	\$87,351	\$92,592	\$98,148	\$104,036
Other expenses		\$312,303	\$342,657	\$346,048	\$353,806	\$361,645	\$369,650
Total		\$435,042	\$425,063	\$433,399	\$446,401	\$459,793	\$473,587
Healthcare & Pension %		28%	19%	20%	21%	21%	22%
HUD Grant 2014	274						
Retiree Healthcare		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pension		\$230,159	\$292,418	\$292,418	\$309,963	\$328,661	\$348,275
Other expenses		\$11,537,570	\$4,743,481	\$4,743,481	\$4,877,013	\$5,014,024	\$5,154,688
Total		\$11,767,729	\$5,035,899	\$5,035,899	\$5,186,976	\$5,342,685	\$5,502,863
Healthcare & Pension %		2%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%
Other Grants	296						
Retiree Healthcare		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pension		\$40,027	\$230,605	\$230,605	\$244,441	\$259,108	\$274,854
Other expenses		\$7,437,804	\$4,634,371	\$4,634,371	\$4,766,484	\$4,902,145	\$5,041,436
Total		\$7,477,931	\$4,864,976	\$4,864,976	\$5,010,925	\$5,161,253	\$5,316,091
Healthcare & Pension %		1%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Federal Stimulus Grant	297						
Retiree Healthcare		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pension		\$1,355,981	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other expenses		\$3,168,127	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total		\$4,524,108	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Healthcare & Pension %		30%	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Public Improvement Fund	402						
Retiree Healthcare		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Pension		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other expenses		\$2,150,000	\$2,850,957	\$2,867,987	\$2,982,706	\$3,104,997	\$3,232,302
Total		\$2,150,000	\$2,850,957	\$2,867,987	\$2,982,706	\$3,104,997	\$3,232,302
Healthcare & Pension %		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Building Safety Fund	542						
Retiree Healthcare		\$562,954	\$393,633	\$417,251	\$442,286	\$468,823	\$496,953
Pension		\$151,734	\$237,628	\$251,886	\$268,899	\$283,019	\$300,000
Other expenses		\$1,833,768	\$1,764,268	\$1,815,583	\$1,874,803	\$1,935,609	\$1,997,997
Total		\$2,548,456	\$2,395,529	\$2,484,700	\$2,584,088	\$2,687,452	\$2,794,950
Healthcare & Pension %		28%	26%	27%	27%	28%	28%
<b>TOTAL General City</b>							
Retiree Healthcare Expense		\$10,205,384	\$13,567,368	\$14,381,410	\$15,244,295	\$16,158,952	\$17,128,489
Pension Expense		\$12,058,297	\$12,545,975	\$12,283,001	\$13,019,981	\$13,801,180	\$14,629,251
Other Expenses		\$81,814,723	\$73,425,003	\$73,175,615	\$75,267,159	\$77,392,690	\$79,695,294
Total Expenses		\$103,278,404	\$99,538,346	\$99,840,026	\$103,531,434	\$107,352,822	\$111,453,034
Retiree Healthcare as % of Total Expenses			14%	14%	15%	15%	15%
Pension as % of Total Expenses			12%	12%	13%	13%	13%
Healthcare & Pension Costs as % of Total			22%	27%	27%	28%	28%

		Current FY14	Proposed FY15	Proposed FY16	Projected FY17	Projected FY18	Projected FY19
Sewer Fund	590						
	Retiree Healthcare	\$2,329,983	\$2,447,568	\$2,594,420	\$2,750,085	\$2,918,090	\$3,088,996
	Pension	\$2,179,100	\$2,040,715	\$2,163,159	\$2,292,949	\$2,430,525	\$2,576,357
	<u>Other expenses</u>	<u>\$27,420,188</u>	<u>\$25,768,264</u>	<u>\$27,569,166</u>	<u>\$29,685,065</u>	<u>\$30,803,527</u>	<u>\$31,550,604</u>
	Total	\$31,929,269	\$30,256,545	\$32,346,745	\$34,609,099	\$38,148,143	\$37,216,957
	Healthcare & Pension %	14%	15%	15%	16%	16%	15%
Water Fund	591						
	Retiree Healthcare	\$1,680,062	\$2,953,588	\$3,141,403	\$3,329,887	\$3,529,680	\$3,741,461
	Pension	\$1,815,687	\$1,803,098	\$1,911,284	\$2,025,991	\$2,147,519	\$2,276,370
	<u>Other expenses</u>	<u>\$44,401,123</u>	<u>\$29,735,844</u>	<u>\$29,859,593</u>	<u>\$33,485,341</u>	<u>\$35,084,707</u>	<u>\$35,925,894</u>
	Total	\$47,895,872	\$34,503,530	\$35,012,260	\$38,841,189	\$40,741,908	\$41,943,725
	Healthcare & Pension %	7%	14%	14%	14%	14%	14%
Water and Sewer	590 & 591						
	Retiree Healthcare	\$4,010,045	\$5,411,154	\$5,735,823	\$6,079,972	\$6,444,771	\$6,831,457
	Pension	\$3,994,787	\$3,843,813	\$4,074,443	\$4,318,910	\$4,578,044	\$4,852,727
	<u>Other expenses</u>	<u>\$71,821,309</u>	<u>\$55,505,108</u>	<u>\$57,548,729</u>	<u>\$63,051,406</u>	<u>\$65,868,234</u>	<u>\$67,476,498</u>
	Total	\$79,826,141	\$64,760,075	\$67,358,995	\$73,450,288	\$76,891,049	\$79,160,682
	Retiree Healthcare as % of Total Expenses	5%	8%	9%	8%	8%	9%
	Pension as % of Total Expenses	5%	6%	6%	6%	6%	6%
	Healthcare & Pension %	10%	14%	15%	14%	14%	15%
TOTAL CITY							
	Retiree Healthcare	\$14,215,429	\$18,978,522	\$20,117,233	\$21,324,267	\$22,603,723	\$23,959,946
	Pension	\$16,053,084	\$16,389,788	\$16,357,444	\$17,338,891	\$18,379,224	\$19,481,978
	<u>Other expenses</u>	<u>\$152,836,032</u>	<u>\$128,930,111</u>	<u>\$130,724,344</u>	<u>\$138,318,565</u>	<u>\$143,260,924</u>	<u>\$147,171,792</u>
	Total	\$183,104,545	\$164,298,421	\$167,199,021	\$176,981,722	\$184,243,871	\$190,613,716
	Retiree Healthcare %	8%	12%	12%	12%	12%	13%
	Pension %	9%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
	Healthcare & Pension %	17%	22%	22%	22%	22%	23%

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**From:** Eubanks, Rachael <REubanks@rwbaird.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 06, 2014 5:07 PM  
**To:** Wurfel, Sara (GOV); Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Cc:** Saxton, Thomas (Treasury)  
**Subject:** FW: Rating Agency Info  
**Attachments:** SOM credit rating summary 6-4-2014.pdf; S-P 10-29-13.pdf; Fitch 10-28-13.pdf; Moody's 10-25-13.pdf; MI CF Published 3\_31\_14.pdf; State GO Ratings 5.8.14.pdf; Moodys Detroit Bill Pkg 060614.pdf; 2014-05-30\_Fitch Final Release\_DWSD Water and Sewer.pdf; ATT00001.txt

Sara and John,

Per our discussion, I am forwarding you the rating report package Tom referenced. Should you have questions, please let us know.

Thank you,

Rachael Eubanks  
Director  
Public Finance  
Robert W. Baird & Co.  
(517) 371-2652



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**From:** Saxton, Thomas (Treasury) [<mailto:SaxtonT@michigan.gov>]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 06, 2014 2:57 PM  
**To:** Emmitt, Beth (GOV); Hansen, Rachel (GOV)  
**Cc:** Clinton, Kevin (TREASURY); Muchmore, Dennis (GOV)  
**Subject:** FW: Rating Agency Info

Beth/Rachel -- when we met with the Governor earlier this week about the rating agencies he asked for some past reports they have issued re the state. The most recent samples (from all three) are attached. A couple of the items also relate to Detroit. And finally I have included some comparisons of Michigan's ratings to other states as well as our past ratings history.

I assume you will get this to him in his 'weekend' reading material package. If anything else is needed please let me know. Thanks

## **FITCH MAINTAINS WATCH NEGATIVE ON DETROIT, MICHIGAN'S WATER & SEWER REVS**

Fitch Ratings-Chicago-30 May 2014: Fitch Ratings maintains the Rating Watch Negative on the following city of Detroit, Michigan (the city) bonds issued on behalf of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD):

- \$1.1 billion senior lien water revenue bonds 'BB+';
- \$565 million second lien water revenue bonds 'BB'.
- \$1.6 billion senior lien sewer revenue bonds 'BB+';
- \$788 million second lien sewer revenue bonds 'BB'.

### **SECURITY**

Senior lien water and sewer bonds are separately secured by a first lien on net revenues of each water and sewer system (the systems). Second lien bonds are separately secured by a second lien on the net revenues of each system after payment of senior lien bonds.

### **KEY RATING DRIVERS**

**WATCH MAINTAINED DUE TO UNCERTAINTY:** A key assumption underpinning Fitch's ratings is that water/sewer bondholders are legally protected from impairment under Chapter 9 given the clear intent of the bankruptcy code to carve out debt supported by special revenues. Nonetheless, there remains uncertainty surrounding the city Emergency Manager's (the EM) attempt to impair system bondholders under the city's Fourth Amended Plan of Adjustment (the POA). The POA includes removal of the call protection, threatened reduction in interest coupon and possible subordination of bondholder security interest. Fitch believes that there is no legal basis to compel bondholders to accept such impairment as proposed in the POA.

**WEAK FINANCIAL OPERATIONS:** The system continues to exhibit weak financial performance. Fiscal 2014 debt service coverage (DSC) numbers that are expected to fall below projections. Fitch believes financial improvement over the near term is unlikely given significant customer delinquencies and the loss of the water system's largest wholesale customer. Fitch's concern about DWSD's financial profile is further exacerbated by the city's status as a bankrupt entity.

**SEPARATE OPERATIONS:** All system funds and accounts are separate and distinct from other city funds including the city's general fund. Excess system funds are invested by the bond trustee for and at the direction of DWSD.

**HIGHLY LEVERAGED DEBT PROFILE:** The systems' debt load is expected to remain elevated for the foreseeable future. Borrowing needs for sewers are moderate and for water, minimal.

**EXPANSIVE SERVICE TERRITORY:** The systems provide essential services to a broad area. The water system covers roughly 43% of Michigan's population, with over 70% of operating revenues coming from wealthier suburban customers. The sewer system includes roughly 30% of Michigan's population, with over 50% of operating revenues coming from suburban customers.

**STRONG RATE-ADJUSTMENT HISTORY:** The governing body has instituted virtually annual rate hikes in support of financial and capital needs. While there have been changes in the city's governance

structure through the appointment of the EM, Fitch does not view this change as a concern at this time.

## RATING SENSITIVITIES

**IMPAIRMENT OF BONDHOLDERS:** Fitch would likely view the court's confirmation of the POA as filed on May 5, 2014 as a distressed debt exchange leading to a ratings downgrade to as low as 'D'. In any event, no such rating action will be taken prior to resolution of significant objections filed by bondholders and other creditors.

**WEAKENED FINANCIAL PROFILE:** DWSD's inability to maintain at least breakeven operations would likely result in a downgrade.

**SUSTAINED RATE INCREASES AND IMPROVED COLLECTIONS:** Management's ability to consistently increase rates while improving residential retail collections will be important in maintaining the rating.

## CREDIT PROFILE

### CHAPTER 9 LEGAL PROTECTIONS AND SEPARATION FROM CITY OPERATIONS

The ratings remain predicated on Fitch's view that there is substantial protection provided to the DWSD's system debt as it constitutes special revenue obligations under Chapter 9 of the bankruptcy code. The ratings also consider a separation of system funds from other city funds as required under city charter and the bond ordinance; billing and collection of rates and charges by DWSD. Relative autonomy by the department's governing structure to oversee the affairs of the system without undue influence by the city; and retention of surplus funds by the system.

DWSD is an enterprise fund of the city and therefore is not entirely free from potential city influence. Any actions taken that directly or indirectly change this historical paradigm could exert immediate and significant credit pressure on system bonds.

### NEGATIVE WATCH MAINTAINED ON CITY'S PROPOSED POA

The Negative Rating Watch continues to reflect uncertainty regarding potential event risks related to the EM's actions that attempt to impair DWSD bondholders. Fitch sees no apparent reason for DWSD bondholders to accept any impairment (including voting for the POA) given the very strong legal position of this debt within Chapter 9 bankruptcy proceedings. Should the POA be confirmed as filed and thereby result in impairment to bondholders, Fitch would likely view the action as a distressed debt exchange leading to a ratings downgrade to as low as 'D'. In any event, no such rating action will be taken prior to resolution of significant objections filed by bondholders and other creditors.

The Fourth Amended POA proposes impairments to certain DWSD bondholders depending on whether they choose to accept or vote against the POA. Bondholders voting against the POA would be impaired as a result of receiving different interest coupons than currently held, with such coupons virtually guaranteed to be lower than the existing coupons. Bondholders voting for the POA will receive new existing rate (NER) DWSD bonds with coupons that are the same as the existing bonds' coupons. However, the NER DWSD bond holders would be impaired relative to their current position as the NER bonds will have no call protection as of the POA's effective date.

Approximately \$2.2 billion (or 42%) of combined water as sewer bondholders are impaired under the POA. While Fitch is unable to determine the criteria used by the EM to select which CUSIPs within Class 1A would be impaired, Fitch assumes that certain non-callable or callable bonds with final maturities or call dates after July 1, 2015 were selected to be impaired.

## WEAK FINANCIALS AND UNCERTAINTY PERSIST

The system's fiscal 2013 audited results are currently unavailable but are expected to be released by June 30, 2014. The delay has been largely due to issues relating to the city's bankruptcy filing and the application of appropriate financial accounting and related disclosures in this scenario. DWSD recently disclosed detailed draft copies of its fiscal 2013 financial statements.

The draft results reflect all-in sewer bond debt service coverage (DSC, including senior, subordinate and junior lien state revolving fund debt) at 0.97x as calculated by Fitch, well below its original projection of 1.22x. DSC for the water bonds was slightly higher at 1.12x but also below prior expectations of 1.29x.

The decrease in DSC is primarily due to a decline in retail and wholesale revenues. The sewer system achieved actual debt service coverage in excess of 1x for fiscal 2013 largely due to the bond documents' exclusion from net revenues non-cash annual OPEB accrued expenses (totaling \$13.6 million). This approach differs from Fitch's calculation of DSC which incorporates financial accruals.

Bond ordinance debt service coverage based on the unaudited results for sewer was 1.03x and for water was 1.22x. The system's liquidity metrics are below average for unaudited fiscal 2013. Days cash on hand was a relatively low 61 days for sewer and 167 days for water.

Significant delinquencies by city retail customers continue, with approximately 73% of active billings at least 60 days delinquent as of May 1. However, management's efforts to implement more timely water shut-offs over the last year (excluding winter months) are expected to improve the systems' overall collection rates in the near-term.

DWSD forecasts that fiscal 2014 revenues will be below budgeted levels, again, due to lower system billings. The DWSD's operating expenses are estimated to be under budget as a result of attrition and other non-personnel cuts. Bond ordinance DSC for fiscal 2014 is projected to total 1.25x for sewer and 1.20x for water, which are both below DWSD's Jan. 1, 2013 projections of 1.3x for each system.

## LOSS OF LARGEST WATER CUSTOMER INTERMEDIATE TERM PRESSURE

DWSD lost its second largest water wholesale customer on April 25, when Flint started supplying and treating its own drinking water. While Flint's water contract with DWSD expired on April 16, 2014, the department had expected that Flint's actual departure from the system would happen sometime over the next three to five years.

DWSD projects that it will lose a total of approximately \$2 million for the months of May and June (0.5% of total fiscal 2014 revenues) with Flint's departure. However, Genesee County, which previously purchased its water from Flint, is currently negotiating a full service contract with DWSD until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline to Lake Huron is built (within three-to-five years). At that time, Genesee County expects to maintain a standby emergency service contract with DWSD.

DWSD projects that revenues from Genesee County should total approximately \$12 million-\$13 million for fiscal 2015; not enough to offset the estimated \$25 million loss from a full year without Flint. Beginning in fiscal 2016, the balance of uncovered Flint costs is expected to be reallocated among remaining customers pursuant to DWSD wholesale contracts.

## SYSTEM LEVERAGE REMAINS HIGH



Fitch expects leverage for both systems to remain high for the foreseeable future. DWSD's sewer debt profile is relatively weak with long-term debt per customer totaling a high \$3,768 for sewer and \$2,079 for water. Principal payout remains slow with only 28% of sewer debt maturing in 10 years; 26% for water.

The systems' 2015-2019 capital improvement plans (CIP) total approximately \$505 million each for water and sewer. Near-term debt issuances totaling approximately \$150 million for sewer is expected in early fiscal 2015 with \$155 million for water in fiscal 2016.

#### BROAD SERVICE AREA ENHANCES SYSTEM STABILITY

The water system is a regional provider serving around 4.2 million people or nearly 43% of Michigan's population, including the city's population of over 700,000. The system serves the city on a retail basis and 124 communities through 84 wholesale contracts. The service territory consists of an area of 138 square miles in Detroit and 981 square miles in eight counties.

The sewer system is a regional provider serving around 2.8 million people or nearly 30% of Michigan's population, including the city. The system serves the city on a retail basis and 76 communities through 22 wholesale contracts. The service territory consists of an area of 138 square miles in Detroit and 850 square miles in three counties.

Population and customer growth for both systems have experienced modest annual declines for a number of years. Detroit's population in particular has experienced continuous decline, but suburban areas have picked up most of the migration.

#### CONSISTENT SYSTEM RATE INCREASES

The board has consistently raised rates to meet financial and capital needs. However, unfavorable operating conditions (including very high delinquencies) and rising fixed costs have muted the positive revenue impact. For fiscal 2014, DWSD implemented 4% increases on July 1, 2013 and has approved another 4% increase for fiscal 2015. Annual increases of 4% are preliminarily forecast for fiscals 2016-2019.

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Additional information is available at 'www.fitchratings.com'.

In addition to the sources of information identified in Fitch's Revenue-Supported Rating Criteria, this action was additionally informed by information from Creditscope.

Applicable Criteria and Related Research:

- 'Revenue-Supported Rating Criteria' (June 2013);
- 'U.S. Water and Sewer Revenue Bond Rating Criteria' (July 2013);
- '2014 Water and Sewer Medians' (December 2013);
- '2014 Outlook: Water and Sewer' (December 2013).

Applicable Criteria and Related Research:

Revenue-Supported Rating Criteria

[http://www.fitchratings.com/creditdesk/reports/report\\_frame.cfm?rpt\\_id=709499](http://www.fitchratings.com/creditdesk/reports/report_frame.cfm?rpt_id=709499)

U.S. Water and Sewer Revenue Bond Rating Criteria

[http://www.fitchratings.com/creditdesk/reports/report\\_frame.cfm?rpt\\_id=715275](http://www.fitchratings.com/creditdesk/reports/report_frame.cfm?rpt_id=715275)

2014 Water and Sewer Medians

[http://www.fitchratings.com/creditdesk/reports/report\\_frame.cfm?rpt\\_id=724358](http://www.fitchratings.com/creditdesk/reports/report_frame.cfm?rpt_id=724358)

2014 Outlook: Water and Sewer Sector

[http://www.fitchratings.com/creditdesk/reports/report\\_frame.cfm?rpt\\_id=724357](http://www.fitchratings.com/creditdesk/reports/report_frame.cfm?rpt_id=724357)

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**AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2015**  
**House Enrolled Bill 5313, Art. I**

	FY 2014 Current Law	FY 2015 Exec. Rec.	FY 2015 Enrolled	Difference from Exec Rec.
Ongoing GF/GP	\$37,180.3	\$42,876.2	\$43,216.2	\$340.0
One-Time GF/GP	\$3,400.0	\$2,000.0	\$2,700.0	\$700.0
<b>Total GF/GP</b>	<b>\$40,580.3</b>	<b>\$44,876.2</b>	<b>\$45,916.2</b>	<b>\$1,040.0</b>
Ongoing Gross	\$76,783.3	\$80,494.3	\$81,762.2	\$1,267.9
One-Time Gross	\$3,400.0	\$2,000.0	\$2,700.0	\$700.0
<b>Total Gross</b>	<b>\$80,183.3</b>	<b>\$82,494.3</b>	<b>\$84,462.2</b>	<b>\$1,967.9</b>

**VETOES RECOMMENDATIONS**

The department recommends no vetoes and the State Budget Office concurs.

**UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS**

The bill includes 2 boilerplate sections that we believe are unenforceable.

- **Sec. 453 (2)** requires indemnification payments, at fair market value prescribed in the animal industry act, of livestock if the kill is verified by the department of natural resources. This section is attempting to amend Public Act 487 of 2012 (wildlife depredations indemnification act) by reference and is therefore unenforceable. The department believes this section should have been deleted as Public Act 487 of 2012 creates a new act that specifically deals with indemnification for the death, injury, or loss of livestock from wolves, coyotes, and cougars. This section was deemed unenforceable in last year's budget bill (P.A. 59 of 2013).
- **Sec. 803** requires unexpended or unencumbered balances of appropriations for thoroughbred and standardbred programs that may occur in the event of no live race meet in 2014 or 2015 to be held in escrow. This section is in violation of MCL 18.1451, which requires the unencumbered balance of each appropriation to lapse to the state fund from which it is appropriated. Should a lapse occur to the Michigan agriculture equine industry development fund, this language is contingent on some future action by the legislature to appropriate resources specifically for thoroughbred and standardbred programs. This is unenforceable, as it attempts to amend existing law without republication. The language also attempts to direct the Michigan Gaming Control Board to do certain actions. This section was deemed unenforceable in last year's budget bill (P.A. 59 of 2013).

**Sec. 804** is a statement of intent that the Michigan gaming control board use actual expenditure data in determining the regulatory costs of conducting racing dates and is basically identical to enforceable language that appears in Article VIII (General Government; Casino Gaming Sec. 978).

### SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONGOING ISSUES

- **Commercial forestry audit program** – The Legislature (Senator Green) added \$150,000 general fund and related boilerplate Sec. 609 for a commercial forestry audit program with audits to be performed by a team composed of qualified professionals including the department, the department of environmental quality, university faculty and conservation groups. The Michigan Forest Products Council testified in support of a 3-year pilot program to conduct site visits and prepare an analysis and audit for best management practices for water quality and forest ecosystems.
- **Farmland preservation program** – The Legislature added \$121,700 general fund and moved \$200,000 general fund from the unclassified positions line item to the farmland preservation program. Restricted funding is no longer adequate to sustain the program and staff has been reduced creating backlogs within the program. The department has been working with stakeholders on funding options but no agreement has been reached. Total fiscal year 2015 appropriation is \$905,700.
- **Local conservation districts** – The Legislature moved \$2.2 million from the environmental stewardship and MAEAP programs to fund local conservation districts. In addition, boilerplate sec. 605 states that no funds other than those appropriated for MAEAP shall be used for administration or implementation of the Michigan agriculture environmental assurance program (MAEAP). Although the department does not like this language, they have indicated they can live with it and will attempt to revise it for fiscal year 2016.
- **Shows and exhibitions** – The Legislature (Rep. Potvin) added \$50,000 general fund and boilerplate Sec. 806 for a new grant program to provide financial support, promotion, prizes and premiums of equine, livestock and other agricultural commodity expositions. A similar program called 'premiums – county and state fairs' was last funded in 2009 with state service fee funds. Executive order 2009-22 reduced funding from \$1.6 million to \$147,200 and the program was eliminated in fiscal year 2010. In an effort to maintain a good working relationship with the Legislature, the department is not recommending a veto.
- **County fairs capital improvement grants** – The Legislature (Rep. Potvin) added \$18,400 general fund to the county fairs capital improvement grants to bring the total appropriation to \$320,000.

### SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONE-TIME ISSUES

- **Muskegon farmers market** – The target agreement included \$200,000 one-time general fund for this earmark.
- **Ottawa County Agriculture incubator grant** – The target agreement included \$500,000 one-time general fund for this earmark.

### BOILERPLATE EARMARKS

- **Eastern Michigan food bank** – The Legislature (Senator Moolenaar) included a \$200,000 earmark funded from the \$1,050,000 rural development value-added grant resources to be used for the completion of the Eastern Michigan food bank's new food hub facility. In an

effort to maintain a good working relationship with the Legislature, the department is not recommending a veto of this earmark.

- **Food and agriculture industry growth initiative** – The Legislature (Senator Casperson) included a \$250,000 earmark funded from the \$3.0 million food and agriculture industry growth initiative resources to be used for a regional public private partnership consisting of Michigan Technological University and Verso Paper Corporation located in Quinnesec (Dickinson County) to study heating a greenhouse using low-grade pulp and paper mill waste. This earmark was reduced from \$390,000 to \$250,000 which is the maximum that can be awarded under the grant program. In an effort to maintain a good working relationship with the Legislature, the department is not recommending a veto of this earmark.

**LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS											
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR	COMMENTS	INTENT or BINDING	SBO REC
MDARD	I	710 (7)	Eastern Michigan food bank "food hub" facility	\$200.0	\$200.0	1.0	Located in Midland and serves 22 counties in the eastern half of the state (north of Livingston County)	Moolenaar	The rural development value added grants is funded with \$1.0 million general fund. Boilerplate was added to earmark \$200,000 to expand and renovate a warehouse facility to store, repackage and distribute fresh produce. The Mott Foundation recently announced a pledge of \$2.5 million towards the \$5.25 million estimate (\$1.0 million of which is contingent upon the food bank raising \$600,000 in matching funds by the end of 2014). MDARD did not award a grant to this project in 2013 as they felt the project was not ready. MDARD continues to work with the group in an effort to get them ready for the next round of grants.	Binding	Retain; In an effort to maintain a good working relationship with the legislature, MDARD will work to comply with this earmark
MDARD	I	711 (7)	Food and agriculture industry growth initiative	\$250.0	\$250.0	0.0	Iron Mountain Upper Peninsula	Casperson	The food and agriculture industry growth initiative is funded with \$1.0 million ongoing and \$2.0 million one-time general fund. Boilerplate was added to earmark \$250,000 for a regional public private partnership consisting of Michigan Technological University (MTU) and at least 1 pulp and paper manufacturing operation (specifically Verso Paper Corp located in Dickinson County). A similar proposal was submitted as a 2014 grant proposal to provide funding for a feasibility study for the construction of a new hydroponic greenhouse. MDARD did not award a grant to this project as funds were not awarded for projects that directly benefited a single organization. This attempt teams up the private company with MTU.	Binding	Retain; In an effort to maintain a good working relationship with the legislature, MDARD will work to comply with this earmark
MDARD		III	Muskegon farmers market	\$200.0	\$200.0	0.0	Muskegon	Hansen	Part of target agreement. According to Senator Hansen, funds will be used to outfit the kitchen area of the new Muskegon farmers market so cooking classes can be offered. He added that there is a big problem with obesity and high blood pressure and the goal is to get people to eat and cook more healthy. The farmers market was moved to a 4 acre parcel that is part of 23 acres owned by the nonprofit Downtown Muskegon Development Corporation (DMDC) and features 130 lighted vendor stalls, year-round indoor event spaces, and 400 parking spaces. A private effort to raise \$3.9 million to build the market is just \$270,000 short of its goal. The largest corporate sponsor is Alcoa Foundation.	Binding	Retain part of target agreement
MDARD		III	Ottawa County Agriculture incubator grant	\$500.0	\$500.0	0.0	Ottawa County	Meekhof	Part of target agreement. Ottawa County requested \$249,113 in FY14 for strategic growth initiative competitive grant funding. They were not selected for an award. This project is described as an Ag-Technology Business Incubator that would provide customized business support services to assist a critical mass of farmers and other entrepreneurs who want to commercialize agricultural technology innovations. According to the application, Ottawa County conducted a pilot incubator project which verified the need for, and effectiveness of, a unique service delivery model. This was done with a \$20,000 grant from USDA Rural Development and \$10,000 from Ottawa County. This application indicated there would be client fees paid by those utilizing the incubator services. The total budget for this application was about \$360,000 for a 2 year period. About 70% of the total cost would have been covered by the state grant and there was about 30% of the funding coming from in-kind staff time from the County. \$76,000 of the total grant was budgeted for university faculty for scientific research to assist 8 incubator clients to quantify the outputs, energy usage, technical competitive advantages, and outcomes of prototypes that are built utilizing the technology that the 8 business startups want to commercialize.	Binding	Retain part of target agreement

AMT IN THOUSANDS

BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR	COMMENTS	INTENT or BINDING	SBO REC
TOTAL DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS				\$1,150.0	\$1,150.0						

NOTE: Executive Recommendation items should not be on this list.

**ONE-TIME FUNDING SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS									
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	EXEC OR LEGIS. (SPONSOR)	COMMENTS
MDARD	I		Food and agriculture industry growth initiative	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0	statewide	Executive	Part of Executive Recommendation
MDARD	I		Muskegon Farmers Market	\$200.0	\$200.0	\$0	Muskegon	Hansen	Part of the Leadership Target Agreement
MDARD	I		Ottawa County Agriculture Incubator grant	\$500.0	\$500.0	0.0	Ottawa County	Meekhof	Part of the Leadership Target Agreement
<b>TOTAL ONE-TIME FUNDING</b>				<b>\$2,700.0</b>	<b>\$2,700.0</b>				

**NOTE: "SEC" is for any boilerplate sections which are related to the one-time funding line-items contained in Part 1.**



# UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS

[Do Not Include Legislative Intent Sections]

## LEGISLATORS (Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)

BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	Shared with Colleen?	AMENDS BY REF or TITLE/OBJECT ISSUE
MDARD	I	803	If no live thoroughbred or standardbred races, all purse money appropriated for thoroughbred or standardbred must be held in escrow for a period not to exceed 18 months.	Mt. Pleasant	Bi-partisan	Bi-partisan	Horse Racing	<b>Sec. 803</b> requires unexpended or unencumbered balances of appropriations for thoroughbred and standardbred programs that may occur in the event of no live race meet in 2013 or 2014 to be held in escrow. This section is in violation of MCL 18.1451, which requires the unencumbered balance of each appropriation to lapse to the state fund from which it is appropriated. Should a lapse occur to the Michigan agriculture equine industry development fund, this language is contingent on some future action by the legislature to appropriate resources specifically for thoroughbred programs. This is unenforceable, as it attempts to amend existing law without republication. The language also attempts to direct the Michigan Gaming Control Board to do certain actions. This section was deemed unenforceable in last year's budget bill (P.A. 59 of 2013).	yes	amends existing law without republication
MDARD	I	453(2)	Requires indemnification payments of livestock if the kill is verified by the department of natural resources.	statewide	Bi-partisan	Bi-partisan	Farmers	<b>Sec. 453 (2)</b> requires indemnification payments, at fair market value prescribed in the animal industry act, of livestock if the kill is verified by the department of natural resources. This section is attempting to amend Public Act 487 of 2012 (wildlife depredations indemnification act) by reference and is therefore unenforceable. The department believes this section should have been deleted as Public Act 487 of 2012 creates a new act that specifically deals with indemnification for the death, injury, or loss of livestock from wolves, coyotes, and cougars.	yes	amends existing law by reference

**VETO CONSIDERATIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

				AMT IN THOUSANDS			LEGISLATORS (Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)					VETO RECS		
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	DEPT REC	SBO REC	FINAL
MDARD	I		None											
TOTAL OF RECOMMENDED VETOES				\$0.0	\$0.0									

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**  
**Agriculture and Rural Development (EHB 5313, Art. I)**

(Amounts in thousands)

**FUNDING HISTORY**

GF/GP  
All Funds

FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Plus One-Time)
\$37,180.3	\$40,580.3	\$37,180.3	\$40,580.3	\$42,876.2	\$44,876.2	\$43,216.2	\$45,916.2
\$76,783.3	\$80,183.3	\$76,783.3	\$80,183.3	\$80,494.3	\$82,494.3	\$81,762.2	\$84,462.2
% Change - GF/GP				15.3%	10.6%	0.8%	2.3%
% Change - All Funds				4.8%	2.9%	1.6%	2.4%

KEY ISSUES	EXECUTIVE REC.		ENROLLED BILL	
	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS
<b><u>ONGOING</u></b>				
1 Food (1,160.0) and dairy (600.0) safety improvement initiative	\$1,760.0	\$1,760.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
2 Qualified forest program	\$2,500.0	\$2,335.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
3 Pesticide and plant pest management	\$800.0	\$800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
4 Technical adjustments to align authorization with expected revenue	\$419.4	(\$1,531.9)	\$0.0	\$927.9
<b>Enrolled: additional federal grants included</b>				
5 Economics (includes OPEB)	\$216.5	\$347.9	\$0.0	\$0.0
6 Environmental stewardship/MAEAP	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,173.8)
<b>Enrolled: unrolled line and moved \$2.2 million to local conservation district line</b>				
7 Local conservation district	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$0.1)	\$2,173.7
<b>Enrolled: removed placeholder</b>				
8 Unclassified positions	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$200.0)	(\$200.0)
<b>Enrolled: moved \$200,000 general fund to farmland preservation program</b>				
9 Farmland preservation program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$321.7	\$321.7
<b>Enrolled: moved \$200,000 general fund from unclassifieds and added additional 121,700 to program</b>				
10 Shows and exhibitions	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$50.0	\$50.0
<b>Enrolled: included funding for new program to support equine, livestock and other agricultural commodity expositions</b>				
11 County fairs capital improvement grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$18.4	\$18.4
<b>Enrolled: increased funding for grant program</b>				
12 Commercial forestry audit program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150.0	\$150.0
<b>Enrolled: included funding for new program</b>				
Subtotal of Ongoing Changes	\$5,695.9	\$3,711.0	\$340.0	\$1,267.9
<b><u>ONE-TIME</u></b>				
1 Food and agriculture industry growth initiative	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
2 Muskegon farmers market	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$200.0	\$200.0
<b>Enrolled: Added by the Legislature as part of target agreement</b>				
3 Ottawa County agriculture incubator grant	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0
<b>Enrolled: Added by the Legislature as part of target agreement</b>				
Subtotal of One-Time Changes	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$700.0	\$700.0
<b>FY2015 Total -- Ongoing and One-Time</b>	<b>\$44,876.2</b>	<b>\$82,494.3</b>	<b>\$45,916.2</b>	<b>\$84,462.2</b>

## **Major Boilerplate Issues:**

### **New Sections**

Sec. 609      Guidelines for the commercial forestry audit program

### **Amended Sections**

Sec. 701      Adds subsection requiring the department to award a \$200,000 rural development value-added grant to the eastern Michigan food bank for the completion of its 'food hub' facility

Sec. 711      Adds subsection specifying that \$250,000 in food and agriculture industry growth initiative funds be designated for a public private partnership consisting of Michigan Tech and a pulp and paper manufacturing operation (Verso Paper Corp) focused on removing barriers and leveraging opportunities related to combined heat and power co-located with sustainable agricultural food processing operations.

**LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS												
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR	COMMENTS		INTENT or BINDING	SBO REC
Comm. Colleges	II	N/A	None.									
TOTAL DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS				\$0.0	\$0.0							

**NOTE: Executive Recommendation items should not be on this list.**

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**  
**Community Colleges (SB 762 / HB 5311 / HB 5314)**

(Amounts in thousands)

House Location	HP
Senate Location	SP

**FUNDING HISTORY**

	FY 2014 Enacted (Ongoing)	FY 2014 Current Law (One-Time)	FY 2014 Current Law (Total)	FY 2015 Changes (Ongoing)	FY 2015 Changes (One-Time)	FY 2015 Exec Rec (Ongoing)	FY 2015 Exec Rec (One-Time)	FY 2015 Exec Rec (Total)
GF/GP	\$137,263.5	\$1,100.0	\$138,363.5	\$36,647.3	(\$1,100.0)	\$173,910.8	\$0.0	\$173,910.8
School Aid Fund	\$197,614.1	\$0.0	\$197,614.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$197,614.1	\$0.0	\$197,614.1
All Funds	\$334,877.6	\$1,100.0	\$335,977.6	\$36,647.3	(\$1,100.0)	\$371,524.9	\$0.0	\$371,524.9
% Change from prior FY - GF/GP						26.7%	-100.0%	25.7%
% Change from prior FY - School Aid Fund						0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
% Change from prior FY - All Funds						10.9%	-100.0%	10.6%

	EXECUTIVE REC.			HOUSE ACTION			SENATE ACTION			CONFERENCE / ENROLLED		
	GF/GP	SCHOOL AID	ALL FUNDS	GF/GP	SCHOOL AID	ALL FUNDS	GF/GP	SCHOOL AID	ALL FUNDS	GF/GP	SCHOOL AID	ALL FUNDS
<b>FY2015 ONGOING KEY ISSUES</b>												
1 MPSERS rate cap costs	\$20,900.0	\$0.0	\$20,900.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
2 3% operations increase for community colleges <i>Conf. &amp; Sen: Rolled local strategic value into performance funding line items.</i>	\$8,947.3	\$0.0	\$8,947.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
3 MPSERS rate cap buy-down <i>Conf. &amp; Sen: Not included.</i>	\$6,800.0	\$0.0	\$6,800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$6,800.0)	\$0.0	(\$6,800.0)	(\$6,800.0)	\$0.0	(\$6,800.0)
4 <b>GF/GP fund shift</b> <i>Sen: Added</i> <i>Conf: Not included.</i>				\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150,000.0	(\$150,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5 <b>MPSERS retiree health care</b> <i>Sen: Added</i> <i>Conf: Not included.</i>				\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$6,800.0	\$0.0	\$6,800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Total of Ongoing Changes	\$36,647.3	\$0.0	\$36,647.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150,000.0	(\$150,000.0)	\$0.0	(\$6,800.0)	\$0.0	(\$6,800.0)
<b>FY2015 TOTAL: ONGOING ONLY</b>	<b>\$173,910.8</b>	<b>\$197,614.1</b>	<b>\$371,524.9</b>	<b>\$173,910.8</b>	<b>\$197,614.1</b>	<b>\$371,524.9</b>	<b>\$323,910.8</b>	<b>\$47,614.1</b>	<b>\$371,524.9</b>	<b>\$167,110.8</b>	<b>\$197,614.1</b>	<b>\$364,724.9</b>
<b>FY2015 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS</b>												
1 Removal of one-time VLC FY14 funding	(\$1,100.0)	\$0.0	(\$1,100.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Total of One-Time Changes	(\$1,100.0)	\$0.0	(\$1,100.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<b>FY2015 TOTAL: ONE-TIME ONLY</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>
<b>FY2015 TOTAL: ONGOING AND ONE-TIME</b>	<b>\$173,910.8</b>	<b>\$197,614.1</b>	<b>\$371,524.9</b>	<b>\$173,910.8</b>	<b>\$197,614.1</b>	<b>\$371,524.9</b>	<b>\$323,910.8</b>	<b>\$47,614.1</b>	<b>\$371,524.9</b>	<b>\$167,110.8</b>	<b>\$197,614.1</b>	<b>\$364,724.9</b>

**FY2015 MAJOR BOILERPLATE CHANGES:**

**Conference/Enrolled**

RETAINED	Sec. 208	Penalty of 1% of appropriations for colleges that do not comply with JCOS requirements.
MODIFIED	Sec. 209	Transparency site: Retained SBO approval of transparency sites, retained disclosure of costs related to Affordable Care Act. Added massive new report on opportunities for high schoolers to earn credits.
NEW	Sec. 217	New language to create a Steering Committee for the ACS data report included as informally suggested by SBO.
RETAINED	Sec. 230	Kept requirement for community colleges to submit a board resolution to get local strategic value payments. Because LSV is rolled into performance funding line items, but separate due dates are kept for LSV, distributing these funds will be technically more complex than usual.
DELETED	Sec. 230a	Did not include tuition restraint.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**  
**Community Colleges (EHB 5314, Art. II)**

(Amounts in thousands)

<b>FUNDING HISTORY</b>	FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Plus One-Time)
GF/GP	\$137,263.5	\$138,363.5	\$137,263.5	\$138,363.5	\$173,910.8	\$173,910.8	\$167,110.8	\$167,110.8
School Aid Fund	\$197,614.1	\$197,614.1	\$197,614.1	\$197,614.1	\$197,614.1	\$197,614.1	\$197,614.1	\$197,614.1
All Funds	\$334,877.6	\$335,977.6	\$334,877.6	\$335,977.6	\$371,524.9	\$371,524.9	\$364,724.9	\$364,724.9
% Change - GF/GP					26.7%	25.7%	-3.9%	-3.9%
% Change - School Aid Fund					0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
% Change - All Funds					10.9%	10.6%	-1.8%	-1.8%

<b>KEY ISSUES</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE REC.</b>			<b>ENROLLED BILL</b>		
	<b>GF/GP</b>	<b>School Aid</b>	<b>ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>GF/GP</b>	<b>School Aid</b>	<b>ALL FUNDS</b>
<b><u>ONGOING</u></b>						
1 MPSERS rate cap costs	\$20,900.0	\$0.0	\$20,900.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
2 3% operations increase for community colleges	\$8,947.3	\$0.0	\$8,947.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<b>Enrolled: Rolled local strategic value into performance funding line items.</b>						
3 MPSERS rate cap buy-down	\$6,800.0	\$0.0	\$6,800.0	(\$6,800.0)	\$0.0	(\$6,800.0)
<b>Enrolled: Not included by target agreement.</b>						
Subtotal of Ongoing Changes	\$36,647.3	\$0.0	\$36,647.3	(\$6,800.0)	\$0.0	(\$6,800.0)
<b><u>ONE-TIME</u></b>						
1 None.	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Subtotal of One-Time Changes	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<b>FY2015 Total -- Ongoing and One-Time</b>	<b>\$173,910.8</b>	<b>\$197,614.1</b>	<b>\$371,524.9</b>	<b>\$167,110.8</b>	<b>\$197,614.1</b>	<b>\$364,724.9</b>

**Major Boilerplate Issues:**

**Restored Sections**

Sec. 230 Kept requirement for community colleges to submit a board resolution to get local strategic value (LSV) payments. Because LSV is rolled into performance funding line items, but separate due dates are kept for LSV, distributing these funds will be technically more complex than usual.

**New Sections**

Sec. 217 New language to create a Steering Committee for the Activities Classification Structure (ACS) data report included as informally suggested by SBO.

**Amended Sections**

Sec. 209 Retained SBO approval of transparency sites, retained disclosure of costs related to Affordable Care Act. Added detailed new report on opportunities for high schoolers to earn credits. Requires reporting data to CEPI; while CEPI has no specified duties, no funding is included for them to do anything with these data.

**Deleted Sections**

Sec. 230a Did not include tuition restraint language.

## LEGISLATIVE ACTION SUMMARY (LAS) TEMPLATE - RANGE NAMES

	Range Name	
House Bill Location	HOUSE	HP
Senate Bill Location	SENATE	SP

\*\*Location = Where action was last taken

HS = Subcommittee, HA = Appropriations, HP = Floor

SS = Subcommittee, SA = Appropriations, SP = Floor

		Range Name	GF/GP	Range Name	School Aid	Range Name	ALL FUNDS
	Current FY Current Law - Ongoing	CLENONGFGP	137,263.5	CLENONSAF	197,614.1	CLENONALL	334,877.6
	Current FY Current Law - One-Time	CLENOTGFGP	1,100.0	CLENOTSAF	0.0	CLENOTALL	1,100.0
	Current FY Current Law - Total	CLENGFGP	138,363.5	CLENSAF	197,614.1	CLENALL	335,977.6
EXEC REC	Ongoing Changes	RECCHONGFGP	36,647.3	RECCHONSAF	0.0	RECCHONALL	36,647.3
	Executive Recommendation - Ongoing	RECONGFGP	173,910.8	RECONSAF	197,614.1	RECONALL	371,524.9
	One-Time Changes	RECCHOTGFGP	(1,100.0)	RECCHOTSAF	0.0	RECCHOTALL	(1,100.0)
	Executive Recommendation - One-Time	RECOTGFGP	0.0	RECOTSAF	0.0	RECOTALL	0.0
	Executive Recommendation - Total	RECGFGP	173,910.8	RECSAF	197,614.1	RECALL	371,524.9
HOUSE	Ongoing Changes	HCHONGFGP	0.0	HCHONSAF	0.0	HCHONALL	0.0
	Executive Recommendation - Ongoing	HONGFGP	173,910.8	HONSAF	197,614.1	HONALL	371,524.9
	One-Time Changes	HCHOTGFGP	0.0	HCHOTSAF	0.0	HCHOTALL	0.0
	Executive Recommendation - One-Time	HOTGFGP	0.0	HOTSAF	0.0	HOTALL	0.0
	Executive Recommendation - Total	HGFGP	173,910.8	HSAF	197,614.1	HALL	371,524.9
SENATE	Ongoing Changes	SCHONGFGP	150,000.0	SCHONSAF	(150,000.0)	SCHONALL	0.0
	Executive Recommendation - Ongoing	SONGFGP	323,910.8	SONSAF	47,614.1	SONALL	371,524.9
	One-Time Changes	SCHOTGFGP	0.0	SCHOTSAF	0.0	SCHOTALL	0.0
	Executive Recommendation - One-Time	SOTGFGP	0.0	SOTSAF	0.0	SOTALL	0.0
	Executive Recommendation - Total	SGFGP	323,910.8	SSAF	47,614.1	SALL	371,524.9
CONFERENCE / ENROLLED	Ongoing Changes	CCHONGFGP	(6,800.0)	CCHONSAF	0.0	CCHONALL	(6,800.0)
	Executive Recommendation - Ongoing	CONGFGP	167,110.8	CONSAF	197,614.1	CONALL	364,724.9
	One-Time Changes	CCHOTGFGP	0.0	CCHOTSAF	0.0	CCHOTALL	0.0
	Executive Recommendation - One-Time	COTGFGP	0.0	COTSAF	0.0	COTALL	0.0
	Executive Recommendation - Total	CGFGP	167,110.8	CSAF	197,614.1	CALL	364,724.9

### Guidelines

\*\*The range names are already set up, linked to the legislative action summary, and will adjust as you update the legislative action summary.

\*\*If your agency does not have any requests for a certain category, you may hide those rows (DO NOT DELETE) or leave it on the legislative action summary with zeros.

\*\*The School Aid column is for the Education-Omnibus legislative action summaries only, as a standard pull file has been created.



**COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
FISCAL YEAR 2015  
House Enrolled Bill 5314, Art. II**

	FY 2014 Current Law	FY 2015 Exec. Rec.	FY 2015 Enrolled	Difference from Exec Rec.
Ongoing GF/GP	\$137,263.5	\$173,910.8	\$167,110.8	(\$6,800.0)
One-Time GF/GP	\$1,100.0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total GF/GP</b>	<b>\$138,363.5</b>	<b>\$173,910.8</b>	<b>\$167,110.8</b>	<b>(\$6,800.0)</b>
Ongoing School Aid	\$197,614.1	\$197,614.1	\$197,614.1	\$0
One-Time School Aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total School Aid</b>	<b>\$197,614.1</b>	<b>\$197,614.1</b>	<b>\$197,614.1</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Ongoing Gross	\$334,877.6	\$371,524.9	\$364,724.9	(\$6,800.0)
One-Time Gross	\$1,100.0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Gross</b>	<b>\$335,977.6</b>	<b>\$371,524.9</b>	<b>\$364,724.9</b>	<b>(\$6,800.0)</b>

**VETO RECOMMENDATIONS**

The State Budget Office recommends no vetoes.

**UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS**

There are no boilerplate sections recommended as unenforceable.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONGOING ISSUES**

- **Increase in Operations Funding** – EHB 5314 includes an increase in operations funding of \$8.9 million general fund, distributed through a performance funding formula. This represents a 3.0% increase, as was proposed in the Executive Recommendation. The total general fund spending in the Community Colleges budget, \$173.9 million, is consistent with the target agreement, as is School Aid Fund spending at \$197.6 million.
- **Performance Funding Formula** – The Legislature leaves the formula unchanged from the Governor's Recommendation. Tuition restraint was not included as a prerequisite for performance funding, as had been proposed by the Governor.
- **MPSERS Rate Cap Costs** – EHB 5314 increases funding for MPSERS UAL costs over the statutory cap of 20.96% by \$20.9 million, bringing total funding to \$52.3 million. The Legislature did not agree to lower the statutory rate cap to 19.76%, freeing up \$6.8 million in general fund, consistent with the target agreement if the Legislature did not agree to lower the cap.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONE-TIME ISSUES**

There are no major one-time issues.

**ONE-TIME FUNDING SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS									
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	EXEC OR LEGIS. (SPONSOR)	COMMENTS
Comm. Colleges	II	N/A	None.						
TOTAL ONE-TIME FUNDING				\$0.0	\$0.0				

**NOTE: "SEC" is for any boilerplate sections which are related to the one-time funding line-items contained in Part 1.**

UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS  
[Do Not Include Legislative Intent Sections]

LEGISLATORS  
(Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)

BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	Shared with Colleen?	AMENDS BY REF or TITLE/OBJECT ISSUE
Comm. Colleges	II	N/A	None.							

**VETO CONSIDERATIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

LEGISLATORS (Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)											VETO RECS			
AMT IN THOUSANDS														
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	DEPT REC	SBO REC	FINAL
Comm. Colleges	II	N/A	<u>None.</u>											
TOTAL OF RECOMMENDED VETOES				\$0.0	\$0.0									

**LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS											
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR	COMMENTS	INTENT or BINDING	SBO REC
Corrections	V	437	Goodwill Flip the Script Program	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	0.0	Wayne County	Johnson / Proos	Provides funding for and expands on Goodwill of Wayne County's existing program to target those entering the criminal justice system for the first or second time to partner with courts on alternative sentencing programs, illiteracy, and career development / continuing education for women.	Binding	No Veto
Corrections	V	N/A	70 x 7 Life Recovery Muskegon Pilot Program	\$600.0	\$600.0	0.0	Muskegon County	Haveman	Stipulation of the target agreement. Re-entry program current exists in Ottawa County. Provides mentoring, employment, substance abuse, and other counseling services.	Binding	No Veto
Corrections	V	435	Prisoner Re-entry Legal Services	\$149.0	\$149.0	0.0	Kent, Oakland, and Wayne Counties	MacMaster	Requires contracting with Legal Aid of Western Michigan and the Legal Aid and Defender Office in Oakland County to establish 2 pilot projects to provide outreach, education, and legal representation to former offenders in areas such as employment, housing, income stability, child custody and other domestic matters. Also requires that the Oakland County legal aid office provide these services for Wayne County offenders.	Binding	No Veto
<b>TOTAL DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS</b>				<b>\$3,249.0</b>	<b>\$3,249.0</b>						

**NOTE: Executive Recommendation items should not be on this list.**

# CORRECTIONS

## FISCAL YEAR 2015

### House Enrolled Bill 5313, Art. V

	FY 2014 Current Law	FY 2015 Exec. Rec.	FY 2015 Enrolled	Difference from Exec Rec.
Ongoing GF/GP	\$1,973,233.3	\$1,963,712.5	\$1,953,712.5	(\$10,000.0)
One-Time GF/GP	\$9,032.5	\$26,485.9	\$27,085.9	\$600.0
<b>Total GF/GP</b>	<b>\$1,982,265.8</b>	<b>\$1,990,198.4</b>	<b>\$1,980,798.4</b>	<b>(\$9,400.0)</b>
Ongoing Gross	\$2,047,614.3	\$2,023,435.8	\$2,013,435.8	(\$10,000.0)
One-Time Gross	\$9,032.5	\$26,485.9	\$27,085.9	\$600.0
<b>Total Gross</b>	<b>\$2,056,646.8</b>	<b>\$2,049,921.7</b>	<b>\$2,040,521.7</b>	<b>(\$9,400.0)</b>

#### VETO RECOMMENDATIONS

The department recommends no vetoes and the State Budget Office concurs.

#### UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS

There are no boilerplate sections deemed unenforceable.

#### SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONGOING ISSUES

- **Department Operational Savings** – After general fund targets were reached with legislative leadership, the department was largely successful in negotiating where reductions would occur. A total of \$11.9 million in department suggested operational savings are included in the budget, primarily from correctional facility accounts. The department continues to identify efficiencies in their operations that allowed for this level of savings to be budgeted in fiscal year 2015.
- **Hepatitis C Treatment Protocol** – The Executive Recommendation included a request for \$4.9 million in funding for a new Hepatitis C treatment protocol that has been promulgated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and adopted by the Federal Bureau of Prisons. The legislature included only \$4.4 million in funding for this area. The treatment program utilizes a new drug called Sovaldi that is very expensive (approximately \$84,000 for a 12-week treatment regimen), but very effective in treating the disease. The department commenced treatment utilizing Sovaldi for a limited number of inmates beginning in January 2014 using existing funds by triaging the cases that are most suited for the new regimen. The additional funding in fiscal year 2015 will allow for additional treatment slots.
- **DHS Michigan Rehabilitation Services (Senator Proos / Senator Caswell)** – The legislature added \$1.0 million general fund for an interdepartmental grant to the Department of Human Services' Michigan Rehabilitation Services program. Section 406 of boilerplate requires that funding be utilized to expand the swift-and-sure sanctions probation program and is intended to assist individuals with histories of probation violations, exceptional mental health needs, and who meet the profile of the existing customer base of Michigan Rehabilitation Services.

- **Legislative Earmarks** – Two ongoing earmarks were added by the legislature for a total of \$2,649,000 general fund. The earmarks include \$2.5 million for Goodwill of Greater Detroit's Flip the Script program and \$149,000 for Legal Aid of Western Michigan and Legal Aid and Defender Services of Oakland County. These earmarks are described in detail in a separate attachment. These earmarks are not recommended for veto as the department was able to negotiate the amounts down from a total of \$4.9 million that had previously been supported by the legislature. Had the original amounts been included, the department would have experienced larger cuts in order to accommodate them within target. Representative Haveman, who supported these earmarks, was particularly helpful to the department in workgroup meetings to eliminate troublesome boilerplate and to shift target reductions into areas the department supported. The department also intends to build metrics for these earmarks in order to obtain the most favorable outcomes from the projects.
- **Geriatric and Medically Fragile Inmates** – The legislature did not act on the Executive Recommendation's FY14 capital outlay request to include funding for planning for the conversion of Cotton Correctional Facility into a specialized facility to care for geriatric and medically fragile inmates. Representative Haveman has expressed his desire for the department to first look to the private sector to determine if this type of service could be conducted outside prison walls. Section 938 of boilerplate requires the department to issue a request for information for this type of contract by January 1<sup>st</sup>. The department has already contracted with KPMG to conduct the RFI and it is expected that it will be issued this month.

#### SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONE-TIME ISSUES

- **Muskegon County 70 x 7 Life Recovery Pilot Project (Representative Haveman)** – As stipulated in the Leadership Target Agreement, one-time funding of \$600,000 general fund is included for this program that currently exists in Ottawa County. The program provides mentoring, employment, substance abuse, and other counseling services to re-entry populations.

**ONE-TIME FUNDING SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS									
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	EXEC OR LEGIS. (SPONSOR)	COMMENTS
MDOC	V	111	Mobilize Parole / Probation Staff in Detroit, Pontiac, Saginaw, and Flint	\$440.6	\$440.6	0.0	Detroit, Pontiac, Saginaw, Flint	Exec	Included in the Executive Recommendation, this funding along with \$582,400 in on-going funding will allow for i-phones and laptops for parole / probation staff in these cities to allow for more time in the field.
MDOC	V	111	Prisoner education enhancement	\$1,045.3	\$1,045.3	0.0	Statewide	Exec	Included in the Executive Recommendation, this funding along with \$3,250,000 in on-going funding will provide for demand-driven vocational programs, the implementation of curricula and training, and allow for the connection of trained offenders with employers prior to release.
MDOC	V	111	70 x 7 life recovery Muskegon pilot program	\$600.0	\$600.0	0.0	Muskegon County	Rep. Haveman	Stipulation of the target agreement. Re-entry program currently exists in Ottawa County. Provides mentoring, employment, substance abuse, and other counseling services.
MDOC	V	111	Neal Settlement Agreement	\$25,000.0	\$25,000.0	0.0	Statewide	Exec	Included in the Executive Recommendation, this reflects the final year of the six year payment of \$100 M to female prisoner / plaintiffs. \$20 M is removed from the on-going section of the budget.
<b>TOTAL ONE-TIME FUNDING</b>				<b>\$27,085.9</b>	<b>\$27,085.9</b>				

**NOTE: "SEC" is for any boilerplate sections which are related to the one-time funding line-items contained in Part 1.**



# SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

## Corrections (EHB 5313, Art. V)

(Amounts in thousands)

### FUNDING HISTORY

GF/GP  
All Funds

FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Plus One-Time)
\$1,973,233.3	\$1,982,265.8	\$1,973,233.3	\$1,982,265.8	\$1,963,712.5	\$1,990,198.4	\$1,953,712.5	\$1,980,798.4
\$2,047,614.3	\$2,056,646.8	\$2,047,614.3	\$2,056,646.8	\$2,023,435.8	\$2,049,921.7	\$2,013,435.8	\$2,040,521.7
% Change - GF/GP				-0.5%	0.4%	-0.5%	-0.5%
% Change - All Funds				-1.2%	-0.3%	-0.5%	-0.5%

KEY ISSUES	EXECUTIVE REC.		ENROLLED BILL	
	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS
<b><u>ONGOING</u></b>				
1 Medicaid Expansion Full Year Savings	(\$19,080.8)	(\$19,080.8)	\$0.0	\$0.0
2 Neal Settlement Agreement	(\$20,000.0)	(\$20,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
3 Remove Food Services Legacy Costs	(\$8,167.1)	(\$8,167.1)	\$0.0	\$0.0
4 Hepatitis C Treatment New CDC Protocol	\$4,900.0	\$4,900.0	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)
5 Leased Beds - Increased Local Participation	\$4,000.0	\$4,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
6 Medicaid Expansion Administrative Costs	\$830.9	\$1,079.7	\$0.0	\$0.0
7 Central Records Base Adjustment	\$600.0	\$600.0	(\$600.0)	(\$600.0)
8 Maintenance Adjustment	\$500.0	\$500.0	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)
9 Prosecutorial and Detainer Expenses	\$449.0	\$449.0	(\$149.0)	(\$149.0)
9A Pilot Prisoner Re-Entry Legal Services - Kent and Oakland County Earmarks	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$149.0	\$149.0
10 Adjust or Eliminate Restricted Fund Deducts	\$0.0	(\$15,541.3)	\$0.0	\$0.0
11 Economics	\$29,226.0	\$30,045.8	\$0.0	\$0.0
12 Other Post Employment Benefits	(\$8,013.8)	(\$8,198.8)	\$0.0	\$0.0
13 Prisoner Education Enhancement (On-Going)	\$3,250.0	\$3,250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
14 Mental Health Diversion Council - Local Jail Post-Release Transition Pilot	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
15 Mobilize Parole / Probation Staff in Detroit, Pontiac, Saginaw, and Flint (On-Going)	\$582.4	\$582.4	\$0.0	\$0.0
16 Bureau of Healthcare Services Professional Development and Training	\$402.6	\$402.6	\$0.0	\$0.0
17 New IDG to DHS for Michigan Rehabilitation Services / Swift & Sure Sanctions	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0
18 New Earmark for Goodwill - Flip the Script Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0
19 Department Operational Savings / Various Line Items (Dept. Suggested Lines)	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$11,900.0)	(\$11,900.0)
Subtotal of Ongoing Changes	(\$9,520.8)	(\$24,178.5)	(\$10,000.0)	(\$10,000.0)
<b><u>ONE-TIME</u></b>				
1 Mobilize Parole / Probation Staff in Detroit, Pontiac, Saginaw, and Flint (One-Time)	\$440.6	\$440.6	\$0.0	\$0.0
2 Prisoner Education Enhancement (One-Time)	\$1,045.3	\$1,045.3	\$0.0	\$0.0
3 Neal Settlement Agreement	\$25,000.0	\$25,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
4 Muskegon County 70 x 7 Life Recovery Pilot Project	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$600.0	\$600.0
Subtotal of One-Time Changes	\$26,485.9	\$26,485.9	\$600.0	\$600.0
<b>FY2015 Total -- Ongoing and One-Time</b>	<b>\$1,990,198.4</b>	<b>\$2,049,921.7</b>	<b>\$1,980,798.4</b>	<b>\$2,040,521.7</b>

### Major Boilerplate Issues:

### New Sections

Sec. 406

Requires the department to allocate not less than \$1.0 million for an IDG to DHS for Michigan Rehabilitation Services to expand the swift and sure sanctions probation program. Intended to assist individuals with histories of probation violations, exceptional mental health needs, and who meet the profile of the existing customer base of MRS.

- Sec. 504 Requires the department to conduct a workgroup with MDCH, MDOT, DHS, the Michigan Strategic Fund, and members of the House and Senate to determine if the state can maximize its services and funding for transportation for low-income, elderly, and disabled individuals through consolidation of current transportation services for these populations under one department.
- Sec. 938 Requires the department to issue a Request for Information for a contract to provide beds in a skilled nursing facility for placement of geriatric and medically fragile inmates such that those inmates are eligible for Medicaid reimbursement.

UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS  
[Do Not Include Legislative Intent Sections]

LEGISLATORS  
(Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)

BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	Shared with Colleen?	AMENDS BY REF or TITLE/OBJECT ISSUE
MDOC	V		None	N/A			N/A		No	

**VETO CONSIDERATIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

				AMT IN THOUSANDS			LEGISLATORS (Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)					VETO RECS		
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	DEPT REC	SBO REC	FINAL
MDOC	V		None									None	NONE	
TOTAL OF RECOMMENDED VETOES				\$0.0	\$0.0									

# SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

## Education (EHB 5313, Art. VI)

(Amounts in thousands)

### FUNDING HISTORY

GF/GP  
All Funds

FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Plus One-Time)
\$70,893.9	\$70,893.9	\$70,893.9	\$70,893.9	\$84,039.0	\$84,939.0	\$81,183.0	\$82,083.0
\$298,366.0	\$298,366.0	\$298,366.0	\$298,366.0	\$325,676.1	\$326,576.1	\$286,196.1	\$287,096.1
% Change - GF/GP				18.5%	19.8%	-3.4%	-3.4%
% Change - All Funds				9.2%	9.5%	-12.1%	-12.1%

KEY ISSUES	EXECUTIVE REC.		ENROLLED BILL	
	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS
<b><u>ONGOING</u></b>				
1 Childcare Caseload <b>Enrolled: Legislature revised subsidy payments line to reflect the May Consensus caseload projections</b>	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$36,624.0)
2 Educator Evaluations Staffing and Systems Upgrades <b>Enrolled: Reduced to meet target agreement level of \$3.4 M</b>	\$5,014.0	\$5,014.0	(\$2,500.0)	(\$2,500.0)
3 Maximum Hours Increase for the Child Development and Care Program	\$0.0	\$6,900.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
4 Transfer Payments to Libraries from School Aid (Ren Zone/MPERS)	\$4,500.0	\$4,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5 Tiered Reimbursement System for the Child Development and Care Program	\$0.0	\$3,672.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
6 Transfer Federal Assessments Funding from School Aid	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
7 Economics	\$316.4	\$1,812.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
8 School Reform Efforts 6.0 Additional FTEs	\$918.6	\$918.6	\$0.0	\$0.0
9 MPERS Rate Subsidy Payment to Libraries Increase to \$2.2 M	\$900.0	\$900.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
10 Financial Independence Team 4.0 Additional FTEs	\$778.1	\$778.1	\$0.0	\$0.0
11 Great Start Readiness Program 3.0 Additional FTEs	\$404.0	\$404.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
12 MPERS Rate Cap Reduction for Public Libraries <b>Enrolled: Rate cap reduction not included</b>	\$356.0	\$356.0	(\$356.0)	(\$356.0)
13 Child Development and Care IDG - Economics	\$0.0	\$275.5	\$0.0	\$0.0
14 Other Post Employment Benefits	(\$42.0)	(\$220.1)	\$0.0	\$0.0
Subtotal of Ongoing Changes	\$13,145.1	\$27,310.1	(\$2,856.0)	(\$39,480.0)
<b><u>ONE-TIME</u></b>				
1 Educator Evaluations Staffing and Systems Upgrades	\$900.0	\$900.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Subtotal of One-Time Changes	\$900.0	\$900.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<b>FY2015 Total -- Ongoing and One-Time</b>	<b>\$84,939.0</b>	<b>\$326,576.1</b>	<b>\$82,083.0</b>	<b>\$287,096.1</b>

### Major Boilerplate Issues:

### Restored Sections

Sec. 220      Assesses a 1% penalty of state board/superintendent operations funding if the department fails to respond to a legislative request or file a required report within 30 days.

### New Sections

Sec. 235      Requires the department to notify the legislature if entering into a contract that exceeds \$1 M or if seeking an amendment to a federal waiver from the NCLB.

Sec. 236      Requires the department to compile a report of mandates on nonpublic schools by April 15, 2015.

Sec. 702      Funds appropriated for Educator Evaluations may not be spent until the enactment of HB 5223 and HB 5224.

**LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS - FY15 BILLS**[illegible]

**NOTE: Executive Recommendation items should not be on this list.**

**EDUCATION**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2015**  
**House Enrolled Bill 5313, Art. VI**

	FY 2014 Current Law	FY 2015 Exec. Rec.	FY 2015 Enrolled	Difference from Exec Rec.
Ongoing GF/GP	\$70,893.9	\$84,039.0	\$81,183.0	(\$2,856.0)
One-Time GF/GP	\$0.0	\$900.0	\$900.0	\$0.0
<b>Total GF/GP</b>	<b>\$70,893.9</b>	<b>\$84,939.0</b>	<b>\$82,083.0</b>	<b>(\$2,856.0)</b>
Ongoing Gross	\$298,366.0	\$325,676.1	\$286,196.1	(\$39,480.0)
One-Time Gross	\$0.0	\$900.0	\$900.0	\$0.0
<b>Total Gross</b>	<b>\$298,366.0</b>	<b>\$326,576.1</b>	<b>\$287,096.1</b>	<b>(\$39,480.0)</b>

**VETOES RECOMMENDATIONS**

The department recommends no vetoes and the State Budget Office concurs.

**UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS**

There are no boilerplate sections deemed unenforceable.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONGOING ISSUES**

- **Childcare Caseload** – Consistent with the caseload projections agreed to at the May 2014 Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference, EHB 5313 reduces the subsidy payments line for the Child Development and Care program by \$36.6 million, all federal Child Care Development Funds, bringing the subsidy payments line down to \$110.3 million (\$39.0 million general fund).
- **Educator Evaluations Staffing and Systems** – Pursuant to the target agreement, a total of \$3.4 million is appropriated for Educator Evaluations (\$2.5 million ongoing). Language is also included prohibiting these funds from being spent until HB 5223 and HB 5224 (Educator Evaluation policy bills) are enacted.
- **MPSERS Rate Cap Reduction** – EHB 5313 does not include \$356,000 in funding for the MPSERS rate cap reduction proposed in the Exec Rec for libraries. This is consistent with the decisions made by conferees in the school aid and community colleges budgets as well.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONE-TIME ISSUES**

- **Educator Evaluations Staffing and Systems** – Per the target agreement, EHB 5313 includes \$900,000 in one-time funding for educator evaluations, as part of the \$3.4 million total agreed to in the target agreement.

**ONE-TIME FUNDING SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS									
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	EXEC OR LEGIS. (SPONSOR)	COMMENTS
Education	VI	702	Educator Evaluations	\$900.0	\$900.0	0.0	Various	EXEC / TARGET	Pursuant to the target agreements, a total of \$3.4 million is appropriated for Educator Evaluations in the Office of Educational Improvement and Innovation - with \$900,000 in one-time and \$2.5 million in ongoing. Funds may not be spent until HB 5223 and HB 5224 are enacted (Sec. 702).
<b>TOTAL ONE-TIME FUNDING</b>				<b>\$900.0</b>	<b>\$900.0</b>				

**NOTE: "SEC" is for any boilerplate sections which are related to the one-time funding line-items contained in Part 1.**



UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS  
[Do Not Include Legislative Intent Sections]

LEGISLATORS  
(Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)

BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	Shared with Colleen?	AMENDS BY REF or TITLE/OBJECT ISSUE
Education	VI		NONE							

**VETO CONSIDERATIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

				AMT IN THOUSANDS			LEGISLATORS (Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)					VETO RECS		
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	DEPT REC	SBO REC	FINAL
Education			NONE	\$0.0	\$0.0	0.0								
TOTAL OF RECOMMENDED VETOES				\$0.0	\$0.0									

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
FISCAL YEAR 2015  
House Enrolled Bill 5313, Art. VII**

	FY 2014 Current Law	FY 2015 Exec. Rec.	FY 2015 Enrolled	Difference from Exec Rec.
Ongoing GF/GP	\$28,104.5	\$38,375.9	\$38,375.9	\$0.0
One-Time GF/GP	\$1,000.0	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$0.0
<b>Total GF/GP</b>	<b>\$29,104.5</b>	<b>\$40,875.9</b>	<b>\$40,875.9</b>	<b>\$0.0</b>
Ongoing Gross	\$516,168.8	\$501,591.8	\$500,091.8	(\$1,500.0)
One-Time Gross	\$1,000.0	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$0.0
<b>Total Gross</b>	<b>\$517,168.8</b>	<b>\$504,091.8</b>	<b>\$502,591.8</b>	<b>(\$1,500.0)</b>

**VETOES RECOMMENDATIONS**

The department recommends no vetoes and the State Budget Office concurs.

**UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS**

There are no boilerplate sections deemed unenforceable.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONGOING ISSUES**

- **Water quality and use initiative** – The Executive recommended an additional \$3,977,200 general fund for a comprehensive water strategy initiative designed to build healthy ecosystems focusing on the enhancement of a water use assessment tool, permit process improvements, real-time beach monitoring, wetlands, and water quality monitoring efforts. The Legislature concurred but divided the appropriation into 3 separate lines; namely water quality and use initiative/general, real-time beach monitoring program, and wetlands program.
- **Cleanup funding** – The Executive Recommendation continued a planned multi-year effort to phase-out the use of refined petroleum fund support for debt service, replacing \$3,014,500 refined petroleum fund with general fund in the Treasury bill to free up an equal amount of refined petroleum fund to be used to address cleanup projects in the Department of Environmental Quality. This brings total refined petroleum fund support for environmental cleanups to \$44.7 million. The proposal was supported by the Legislature.
- **Hazardous waste management program** – The Executive recommended and the Legislature concurred with an additional \$1,900,000 general fund to maintain the existing hazardous waste program. In addition, the Legislature reduced restricted authorization by \$1,500,000 to align authorization with available funds.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONE-TIME ISSUES**

- **Electronic document management system** – The Executive recommended and the Legislature concurred with an additional \$2,500,000 one-time general fund for a department-wide electronic document management system designed to provide efficient and effective access to department records.

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS

AMT IN THOUSANDS											
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR	COMMENTS	INTENT or BINDING	SBO REC
DEQ	VII		None								
TOTAL DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS				\$0.0	\$0.0						

NOTE: Executive Recommendation items should not be on this list.

**ONE-TIME FUNDING SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS									
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	EXEC OR LEGIS. (SPONSOR)	COMMENTS
DEQ	VII		Electronic document management system	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	0.0	statewide	Executive	Part of Executive Recommendation
TOTAL ONE-TIME FUNDING				\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0				

**NOTE: "SEC" is for any boilerplate sections which are related to the one-time funding line-items contained in Part 1.**

# SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

## Environmental Quality (EHB 5313, Art. VII)

(Amounts in thousands)

### FUNDING HISTORY

GF/GP  
All Funds

FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Plus One-Time)
\$28,104.5	\$29,104.5	\$28,104.5	\$29,104.5	\$38,375.9	\$40,875.9	\$38,375.9	\$40,875.9
\$516,168.8	\$517,168.8	\$516,168.8	\$517,168.8	\$501,591.8	\$504,091.8	\$500,091.8	\$502,591.8
% Change - GF/GP				36.5%	40.4%	0.0%	0.0%
% Change - All Funds				-2.8%	-2.5%	-0.3%	-0.3%

KEY ISSUES	EXECUTIVE REC.		ENROLLED BILL	
	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS
<b><u>ONGOING</u></b>				
1 Hazardous waste management (funding to maintain existing program) <b>Enrolled: aligns restricted authorization with available funds</b>	\$1,900.0	\$1,900.0	\$0.0	(\$1,500.0)
2 Water quality and use initiative (includes \$1.0 million for wetlands and \$500,000 for beach monitoring) <b>Enrolled: Legislature divided this amount into 3 separate lines</b>	\$3,977.2	\$3,977.2	\$0.0	\$0.0
3 Compliance assistance	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
4 Refined petroleum cleanup program <b>Enrolled: Legislature moved \$500,000 out of staff line and into cleanup line</b>	\$0.0	\$3,014.5	\$0.0	\$0.0
5 Drinking water revolving fund program	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
6 Recycling initiative	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
7 Technical adjustments to align authorization with expected revenue	\$7.1	(\$28,388.6)	\$0.0	\$0.0
8 Economics (includes OPEB)	(\$112.9)	\$419.9	\$0.0	\$0.0
Subtotal of Ongoing Changes	\$10,271.4	(\$14,577.0)	\$0.0	(\$1,500.0)
<b><u>ONE-TIME</u></b>				
1 Electronic document management system	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Subtotal of One-Time Changes	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<b>FY2015 Total -- Ongoing and One-Time</b>	<b>\$40,875.9</b>	<b>\$504,091.8</b>	<b>\$40,875.9</b>	<b>\$502,591.8</b>

### Major Boilerplate Issues:

### New Sections

- Sec. 502 Department may not assess additional penalties for violations that occurred under a previous owner unless compelled by a consent order, judgment, or other legal requirement.
- Sec. 603 Department must compile and make available on a website a report containing a summary document of each completed asset management plan for any stormwater, asset management or wastewater grant awarded.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**  
**Judiciary (EHB 5313, Art. XII)**

*(Amounts in thousands)*

**FUNDING HISTORY**

GF/GP  
All Funds

FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Plus One-Time)
\$178,950.6	\$183,441.3	\$178,950.6	\$183,441.3	\$186,277.4	\$187,277.4	\$186,152.4	\$186,527.4
\$278,923.4	\$283,414.1	\$278,923.4	\$283,414.1	\$287,517.6	\$288,517.6	\$287,392.6	\$287,767.6
% Change - GF/GP				4.1%	2.1%	-0.1%	-0.4%
% Change - All Funds				3.1%	1.8%	0.0%	-0.3%

KEY ISSUES	EXECUTIVE REC.		ENROLLED BILL	
	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS
<b><u>ONGOING</u></b>				
1 Judgeship Savings by Attrition - Net total of 12.0 judgeships eliminated	(\$1,528.5)	(\$1,528.5)	\$0.0	\$0.0
2 Increase in Federal Support for Drug Treatment Courts	\$0.0	\$1,375.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
3 Next Generation Michigan Court System Implementation	\$4,125.0	\$4,125.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
4 Limited English Proficiency in the Courts	\$245.0	\$245.0	(\$125.0)	(\$125.0)
5 Michigan Indigent Defense Commission administrative staffing - 4.0 FTEs.	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
6 Mental Health Diversion Program - Assisted Outpatient Treatment	\$1,730.0	\$1,730.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
7 State Appellate Defender Office Staff Increase - 1.0 FTE	\$350.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
8 Economics	\$1,631.8	\$1,926.6	\$0.0	\$0.0
9 Other Post Employment Benefits	(\$226.5)	(\$278.9)	\$0.0	\$0.0
Subtotal of Ongoing Changes	\$7,326.8	\$8,594.2	(\$125.0)	(\$125.0)
<b><u>ONE-TIME</u></b>				
1 Removal of FY2014 one-time Trial Court Innovations Fund (\$1 M) GF; (1.0) FTE and MiCS Case Management System (\$3.5 M).	(\$4,490.7)	(\$4,490.7)	\$0.0	\$0.0
2 Trial Court Performance Innovations Fund - 1.0 FTE	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	(\$625.0)	(\$625.0)
Subtotal of One-Time Changes	(\$3,490.7)	(\$3,490.7)	(\$625.0)	(\$625.0)
<b>FY2015 Total -- Ongoing and One-Time</b>	<b>\$187,277.4</b>	<b>\$288,517.6</b>	<b>\$186,527.4</b>	<b>\$287,767.6</b>

**Major Boilerplate Issues:**

**New Sections**

Sec. 209	If funds become available for Juvenile Justice Vision 20/20, the State Court Administrative Office shall allocate funding from the line item to implement a new IT database which tracks statistical and demographic data on adjudicated juveniles for the use of the department of human services, circuit and probate courts, private juvenile justice agencies. Includes intent for a work project - Total estimated project cost is \$5.6 M; tentative completion date is September 30, 2019.
Sec. 211	Requires Judiciary to establish an interagency agreement with the Department of Human Services and the Michigan Department of Corrections to link the Swift and Sure Sanctions Program with Michigan Rehabilitative Services. Requires contracting for job placement and support services for eligible probationers. Allows for utilization by parolees if future legislation is completed to allow for the change.

UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS  
[Do Not Include Legislative Intent Sections]

LEGISLATORS  
(Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)

BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	Shared with Colleen?	AMENDS BY REF or TITLE/OBJECT ISSUE
DEQ	VII		None							



**VETO CONSIDERATIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

				AMT IN THOUSANDS			LEGISLATORS (Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)					VETO RECS		
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	DEPT REC	SBO REC	FINAL
DEQ	VII		None											
TOTAL OF RECOMMENDED VETOES				\$0.0	\$0.0									

**INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2015**  
**House Enrolled Bill 5313, Art. XI**

	FY 2014 Current Law	FY 2015 Exec. Rec.	FY 2015 Enrolled	Difference from Exec Rec.
Ongoing GF/GP	\$11,000.0	\$150.0	\$55.0	(\$95.0)
One-Time GF/GP	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<b>Total GF/GP</b>	<b>\$11,000.0</b>	<b>\$150.0</b>	<b>\$55.0</b>	<b>(\$95.0)</b>
Ongoing Gross	\$75,335.5	\$65,284.7	\$65,189.7	(\$95.0)
One-Time Gross	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<b>Total Gross</b>	<b>\$75,335.5</b>	<b>\$65,284.7</b>	<b>\$65,189.7</b>	<b>(\$95.0)</b>

**VETO RECOMMENDATIONS**

The department recommends no vetoes and the State Budget Office concurs.

**UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS**

There are no unenforceable sections.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONGOING ISSUES**

- **Healthy Michigan Plan study** – A total of \$150,000 general fund was included in the Executive Recommendation to analyze the impact of Act 207 of 2013 (Healthy Michigan Plan) on private market insurance rates. Although the target agreement included the full amount, the Legislature reduced it to \$55,000, and included boilerplate requiring the department to get at least two bids for the project. As a result, the overall DIFS budget is \$95,000 under the target agreement.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONE-TIME ISSUES**

There are no major one-time issues.

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS

AMT IN THOUSANDS											
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR	COMMENTS	INTENT or BINDING	SBO REC
DIFS			None.	\$0.0	\$0.0	0.0					
TOTAL DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS				\$0.0	\$0.0						

NOTE: Executive Recommendation items should not be on this list.

**ONE-TIME FUNDING SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS									
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	EXEC OR LEGIS. (SPONSOR)	COMMENTS
DIFS			None.	\$0.0	\$0.0	0.0			
TOTAL ONE-TIME FUNDING				\$0.0	\$0.0				

**NOTE: "SEC" is for any boilerplate sections which are related to the one-time funding line-items contained in Part 1.**

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**  
**Department of Insurance and Financial Services (EHB 5313, Art. XI)**

(Amounts in thousands)

**FUNDING HISTORY**

GF/GP  
All Funds

FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Only)
\$11,000.0	\$11,000.0	\$11,000.0	\$11,000.0	\$150.0	\$150.0	\$55.0
\$75,335.5	\$75,335.5	\$75,335.5	\$75,335.5	\$65,284.7	\$65,284.7	\$65,189.7
% Change - GF/GP				-98.6%	-98.6%	-63.3%
% Change - All Funds				-13.3%	-13.3%	-0.1%

KEY ISSUES	EXECUTIVE REC.		ENROLL
	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS	GF/GP
<b><u>ONGOING</u></b>			
1 Autism Coverage Fund	(\$11,000.0)	(\$11,000.0)	\$0.0
2 Healthy Michigan Plan Study	\$150.0	\$150.0	(\$95.0)
<b>Enrolled: \$95,000 reduction and requires at least two bids.</b>			
3 Economics	\$0.0	\$835.4	\$0.0
4 Other Post Employment Benefits	\$0.0	(\$36.2)	\$0.0
Subtotal of Ongoing Changes	(\$10,850.0)	(\$10,050.8)	(\$95.0)
<b><u>ONE-TIME</u></b>			
1 None.	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
Subtotal of One-Time Changes	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
<b>FY2015 Total -- Ongoing and One-Time</b>	<b>\$150.0</b>	<b>\$65,284.7</b>	<b>\$55.0</b>

**Major Boilerplate Issues:**

**New Sections**

- Sec. 245 Requires the department, in conjunction with DCH, to establish accounting structures within MAIN to identify Healthy Plan expenditures and provide relevant accounting queries.
- Sec. 246 Provides that the general fund appropriation for executive director programs may only be used for Healthy Michigan reporting requirements and requires the department to acquire at least two bids for the project.

FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Plus One-Time)
\$55.0
\$65,189.7
-63.3%
-0.1%

<b>ED BILL</b>
<b>ALL FUNDS</b>
\$0.0
(\$95.0)
\$0.0
\$0.0
(\$95.0)
\$0.0
\$0.0
<b>\$65,189.7</b>

Michigan

Plan

E

FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Plus One-Time)
\$309,921.5
\$569,924.9
-1.3%
0.0%

<b>ED BILL</b>
<b>ALL FUNDS</b>
\$0.0
\$0.0
\$0.0
(\$5,000.0)
\$0.0
\$4,000.0
\$0.0
\$0.0
\$0.0
\$0.0
(\$1,000.0)
\$0.0
\$0.0
\$0.0
\$800.0
\$800.0
<b>\$569,924.9</b>

nd the number

UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS  
[Do Not Include Legislative Intent Sections]

LEGISLATORS  
(Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)

BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	Shared with Colleen?	AMENDS BY REF or TITLE/OBJECT ISSUE
DIFS			None.							



**VETO CONSIDERATIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

LEGISLATORS (Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)											VETO RECS			
AMT IN THOUSANDS														
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	DEPT REC	SBO REC	FINAL
DIFS			None.	\$0.0	\$0.0	0.0								
TOTAL OF RECOMMENDED VETOES				\$0.0	\$0.0									

**LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS											
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR	COMMENTS	INTENT or BINDING	SBO REC
Judiciary			None								
TOTAL DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS				\$0.0	\$0.0						

**NOTE:** Executive Recommendation items should not be on this list.

**JUDICIARY**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2015**  
**House Enrolled Bill 5313, Article XII**

	FY 2014 Current Law	FY 2015 Exec. Rec.	FY 2015 Enrolled	Difference from Exec Rec.
Ongoing GF/GP	\$178,950.6	\$186,277.4	\$186,152.4	(\$125.0)
One-Time GF/GP	\$4,490.7	\$1,000.0	\$375.0	(\$625.0)
<b>Total GF/GP</b>	<b>\$183,441.3</b>	<b>\$187,277.4</b>	<b>\$186,527.4</b>	<b>(\$750.0)</b>
Ongoing Gross	\$278,923.4	\$287,517.6	\$287,392.6	(\$125.0)
One-Time Gross	\$4,490.7	\$1,000.0	\$375.0	(\$625.0)
<b>Total Gross</b>	<b>\$283,414.1</b>	<b>\$288,517.6</b>	<b>\$287,767.6</b>	<b>(\$750.0)</b>

**VETOES RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Judiciary recommends no vetoes and the State Budget Office concurs.

**UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS**

There are no boilerplate sections that we believe are unenforceable.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONGOING ISSUES**

- Although the legislature met the overall general fund target of \$186,527,400, the on-going amount is \$625,000 above target and the one-time amount is below target by the same amount.
- The Executive Recommendation included a request for \$245,000 in funding for court interpreters to help ensure Michigan's compliance with federal directives. The legislature reduced the amount by \$125,000 general fund to reach the overall target agreement funding level.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONE-TIME ISSUES**

- **Trial Court Performance Innovations Fund** – The one-time \$1 M general fund investment request was reduced by \$625,000 to \$375,000 general fund. First established in fiscal year 2014 with \$1 M general fund, this investment provides for the continuance of grants to trial courts with innovative ideas for improving court performance and public service.

**ONE-TIME FUNDING SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS									
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	EXEC OR LEGIS. (SPONSOR)	COMMENTS
JUDICIARY			Trial Court Innovation Fund	\$375.0	\$375.0	1.0	Statewide	Proos	Investment scaled back from \$1 M GF to \$375,000 GF. Funding provides grants to trial courts with innovative ideas for improving court performance and public service.
TOTAL ONE-TIME FUNDING				\$375.0	\$375.0				

UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS  
[Do Not Include Legislative Intent Sections]

LEGISLATORS  
(Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)

BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	Shared with Colleen?	AMENDS BY REF or TITLE/OBJECT ISSUE
Judiciary			None							

**VETO CONSIDERATIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

				AMT IN THOUSANDS			LEGISLATORS (Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)					VETO RECS		
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	DEPT REC	SBO REC	FINAL
Judiciary			None	\$0.0	\$0.0	0.0								
TOTAL OF RECOMMENDED VETOES				\$0.0	\$0.0									

**LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS											
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR	COMMENTS	INTENT or BINDING	SBO REC
LARA	XIII	510	Health Systems Regulation - Minimum expenditure for inspection and licensing of freestanding surgical outpatient facilities	\$530.0	\$530.0	0.0	N/A	Sen. Jansen	Michigan Right to Life initiated earmark first added in FY 2013.	Binding	Retain
LARA	XIII	512	Health Professions - IT project to improve transparency of disciplinary actions related to health professionals	\$200.0	\$200.0	0.0	N/A	Sen. Jansen	<b>New in 2015.</b> Per Sen. Jansen's comments, this earmark was spurred by disciplinary actions against a Muskegon abortion doctor that were not publically posted on LARA's website.	Binding	Retain
LARA	XIII	1002	Disability Accessibility Pilot Project - intended to provide services to municipalities and businesses to improve accessibility and create universal design blueprints for accessible elevators	\$0.0	\$100.0	0.0	N/A	Sen. Jansen	<b>New in 2015.</b> Most tangible direction provided in Sec. 1002 is the universal design blueprints, otherwise the intent is rather amorphous.	Binding	Retain
<b>TOTAL DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS</b>				<b>\$730.0</b>	<b>\$830.0</b>						

**LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2015**  
**House Enrolled Bill 5313, Art. 13**

	FY 2014 Current Law	FY 2015 Exec. Rec.	FY 2015 Enrolled	Difference from Exec Rec.
Ongoing GF/GP	\$22,864.6	\$25,033.8	\$25,033.8	\$0.0
One-Time GF/GP	\$2,140.3	\$0.0	\$15,000.0	\$15,000.0
<b>Total GF/GP</b>	<b>\$25,004.9</b>	<b>\$25,033.8</b>	<b>\$40,033.8</b>	<b>\$15,000.0</b>
Ongoing Gross	\$500,778.4	\$509,188.2	\$508,888.2	(\$300.0)
One-Time Gross	\$2,140.3	\$22,400.0	\$33,600.0	\$11,200.0
<b>Total Gross</b>	<b>\$502,918.7</b>	<b>\$531,588.2</b>	<b>\$542,488.2</b>	<b>\$10,900.0</b>

**VETOES RECOMMENDATIONS**

No vetoes are recommended by the department, and the State Budget Office concurs.

**UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS**

No boilerplate sections are deemed unenforceable.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONGOING ISSUES**

- **Health Professions (Jansen)** – The Legislature added \$200,000 general fund to support an information technology project to make disciplinary actions taken against health professionals publically available through the online license verification website. (Section 512)
- **Fund Shifts (Jansen/Forlini)** – The Legislature included the following fund shifts between line items that maintained the general fund target while freeing up \$1.97 million in fungible Liquor Purchase Revolving Fund (LPRF) to lapse to the general fund. To complete the three-way fund shift, the budget relies on \$2.2 million in additional Corporation Fees to support the RPM and MIOSHA programs. The department has indicated they will be able to effectively manage the use of the additional Corporation Fees. Specifics of the fund shifts are detailed below:
  - **Reinventing Performance in Michigan** – General fund to Corporations Fees (\$175,000)
  - **MIOSHA** – General fund to Corporations Fees (\$2 million)
  - **Fire Services** – LPRF to general fund (\$1.97 million)

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONE-TIME ISSUES**

- **Delphi Corporation Workers' Compensation Claims** – Consistent with the target agreement, the Legislature included \$15 million general fund to pay workers' compensation claims to former Delphi Corporation employees. Section 1001 provides that \$7 million of the total cannot be spent until the Self Insurer's Security Fund (SISF) balance and \$8 million general fund are fully expended.



- **Disability Accessibility Pilot Project, Section 1002 (Jansen)** – The Legislature added \$100,000 in one-time funding from Elevators Fees to support this pilot that is intended to provide services to municipalities and businesses to improve accessibility and create universal design blueprints for accessible elevators.
- **Unemployment Insurance Agency** – At the department's request, the Legislature removed \$2.4 million for development of a new mobile claim filing application. The department intends to re-prioritize the funds towards resolving customer service issues with the new MIwams system.
- **Liquor Control Commission** – The Legislature reduced the final year of project funding from \$2 million to \$500,000 reflecting the current estimates in the Department of Technology, Management and Budget project plan.

**ONE-TIME FUNDING SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS									
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	EXEC OR LEGIS. (SPONSOR)	COMMENTS
LARA	XIII	-	Liquor Control Commission - IT Upgrades	\$0.0	\$500.0	0.0	N/A	Executive	The Executive had recommended \$2M in the final year of project support. The Legislature reduced it to \$500,000 to reflect the current estimates in the DTMB project plan.
LARA	XIII	-	Unemployment Insurance Agency - Customer Service	\$0.0	\$18,000.0	0.0	N/A	Executive	Utilizes Penalty & Interest funds on a one-time basis to maintain customer service levels in the face of declining federal administrative support.
LARA	XIII	1001	Delphi Corporation Workers' Compensation Payment Fund	\$15,000.0	\$15,000.0	0.0	N/A	Executive	Consistent with the leadership target agreement, \$15 million one-time was included in LARA for the Delphi Corp. workers' compensation claim payout. Boilerplate provides that \$7 million of the total cannot be spent until the Self Insurer's Security Fund (SISF) balance and \$8 million GF/GP are fully expended. The Executive originally recommended \$8 million in a FY 2014 supplemental; this particular item was not taken up.
LARA	XIII	1002	Disability Accessibility Pilot Project	\$0.0	\$100.0	0.0	N/A	Jansen	Pilot is intended to provide services to municipalities and businesses to improve accessibility and create universal design blueprints for accessible elevators. Fund source is elevator fees.
<b>TOTAL ONE-TIME FUNDING</b>				<b>\$15,000.0</b>	<b>\$33,600.0</b>				

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**  
**Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (EHB 5313, Art. 13)**

(Amounts in thousands)

**FUNDING HISTORY**

GF/GP  
All Funds

FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Plus One-Time)
\$22,864.6	\$25,004.9	\$22,864.6	\$25,004.9	\$25,033.8	\$25,033.8	\$25,033.8	\$40,033.8
\$500,778.4	\$502,918.7	\$500,778.4	\$502,918.7	\$509,188.2	\$531,588.2	\$508,888.2	\$542,488.2
% Change - GF/GP				9.5%	0.1%	0.0%	59.9%
% Change - All Funds				1.7%	5.7%	-0.1%	2.1%

KEY ISSUES	EXECUTIVE REC.		ENROLLED BILL	
	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS
<b><u>ONGOING</u></b>			<i>Reduced FTE's (100.7)</i>	
1 Increase Supplemental Compensation Benefit Fund Due to Tax Law Changes	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
2 Increase Authorization in Bureau of Construction Codes	\$0.0	\$1,066.3	\$0.0	\$0.0
3 Reinventing Performance in MI (RPM)	\$700.0	\$700.0	(\$175.0)	\$0.0
<b>Enrolled: Shifted \$175.0 from GF/GP to Corporations Fees</b>				
4 Technical Adjustments	\$450.0	\$1,516.1	\$0.0	(\$500.0)
<b>Enrolled: Added \$1.5M Federal for Services to Blind Persons</b>				
<b>Enrolled: Removed (\$2M) in Lieu of Receive/Expend Boilerplate</b>				
5 Economics	\$114.7	\$6,139.6	\$0.0	\$0.0
6 Other Post Employment Benefits	(\$95.5)	(\$2,012.2)	\$0.0	\$0.0
7 Bureau of Fire Services Fund Shift - LPRF to GF/GP	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,971.7	\$0.0
<b>Enrolled: Included by the Legislature</b>				
8 MIOSHA Fund Shift - GF/GP to Corporation Fees	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,996.7)	\$0.0
<b>Enrolled: Included by the Legislature</b>				
9 Health Professions Disciplinary Actions - IT Transparency Upgrades	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$200.0	\$200.0
<b>Enrolled: Included by the Legislature</b>				
Subtotal of Ongoing Changes	\$2,169.2	\$8,409.8	\$0.0	(\$300.0)
<b><u>ONE-TIME</u></b>				
1 Unemployment Insurance Agency - Increase Penalty & Interest Authorization	\$0.0	\$18,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
2 Unemployment Insurance Agency - Mobile Claim IT Application Development	\$0.0	\$2,400.0	\$0.0	(\$2,400.0)
<b>Enrolled: Removed at LARA's Request to Re-prioritize on Systems Issues</b>				
3 Liquor Control - Shift IT Project to One-Time for Final Year (LPRF)	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	(\$1,500.0)
<b>Enrolled: Reduced by (\$1.5M) Consistent with DTMB Project Plan</b>				
4 Delphi Corporation Workers' Compensation Payment Fund	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$15,000.0	\$15,000.0
<b>Enrolled: Added \$15M GF/GP Consistent with the Target Agreement</b>				
5 Disability Accessibility Pilot Project	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$100.0
<b>Enrolled: Added \$100.0 Elevator Fees for this Pilot Project</b>				
Subtotal of One-Time Changes	\$0.0	\$22,400.0	\$15,000.0	\$11,200.0
<b>FY2015 Total -- Ongoing and One-Time</b>	<b>\$25,033.8</b>	<b>\$531,588.2</b>	<b>\$40,033.8</b>	<b>\$542,488.2</b>

## **Major Boilerplate Issues:**

### **Retained Sections**

Sec. 510 Earmarks at least \$530,000 for activities related to the inspection and licensing of freestanding surgical outpatient facilities.

### **New Sections**

Sec. 245 In conjunction with DCH, requires accounting structure in MAIN to identify Health MI Plan expenditures.

Sec. 512 Earmarks \$200.0 in Health Professions for IT project to make disciplinary actions against health professionals available on-line.

Sec. 513 Authorizes Fire Services to charge a new fee (not to exceed \$200.00) for responding to confirmed false inspection appointments.

### **One-Time Boilerplate Sections**

Sec. 1001 Provides that \$7M GF/GP for Delphi workers' comp claims cannot be spent until the SISF balance and \$8M GF/GP are fully expended.

Sec. 1002 Earmarks \$100.0 for the disability accessibility pilot project.

UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS  
[Do Not Include Legislative Intent Sections]

LEGISLATORS  
(Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)

BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	Shared with Colleen?	AMENDS BY REF or TITLE/OBJECT ISSUE
LARA			NONE							

VETO CONSIDERATIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS

BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	AMT IN THOUSANDS			LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	LEGISLATORS (Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)		INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	VETO RECS		
				GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs		HOUSE	SENATE			DEPT REC	SBO REC	FINAL
LARA			NONE											
TOTAL OF RECOMMENDED VETOES				\$0.0	\$0.0									

**LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS											
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR	COMMENTS	INTENT or BINDING	SBO REC
DMVA	XIV		None								
TOTAL DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS				\$0.0	\$0.0						

**NOTE: Executive Recommendation items should not be on this list.**

**MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2015**  
**House Enrolled Bill 5313, Art. XIV**

	FY 2014 Current Law	FY 2015 Exec. Rec.	FY 2015 Enrolled	Difference from Exec Rec.
Ongoing GF/GP	\$41,003.3	\$45,754.5	\$45,754.5	\$0.0
One-Time GF/GP	\$5,500.0	\$3,000.0	\$3,400.0	\$400.0
<b>Total GF/GP</b>	<b>\$46,503.3</b>	<b>\$48,754.5</b>	<b>\$49,154.5</b>	<b>\$400.0</b>
Ongoing Gross	\$161,230.0	\$163,543.7	\$163,543.7	\$0.0
One-Time Gross	\$5,500.0	\$3,000.0	\$3,400.0	\$400.0
<b>Total Gross</b>	<b>\$166,730.0</b>	<b>\$166,543.7</b>	<b>\$166,943.7</b>	<b>\$400.0</b>

**VETOES RECOMMENDATIONS**

The department recommends no vetoes and the State Budget Office concurs.

**UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS**

There are no boilerplate sections deemed unenforceable.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONGOING ISSUES**

- **National Guard Tuition Assistance Program** – The Executive Recommendation included \$5.0 million ongoing GF/GP to establish a state tuition assistance program for Michigan Air and Army National Guard service members. The proposed tuition assistance program would cover 100% of tuition and authorized fees, up to \$4,500 a year, for members to pursue course work in programs leading to a certificate, their first associates, bachelors or masters degree. The Legislature, while supportive of the program, reduced the ongoing amount by \$657,900 GF/GP, but appropriated \$400,000 in one-time funds to supplement the ongoing appropriation.
- **Michigan Veterans' Affairs Agency (MVAA)** – The Executive Recommendation included \$2.2 million Ongoing GF/GP to support initiatives as part of the continued effort by the MVAA to improve services to veterans. The new funding will support the full year costs of the agency, establish regional coordinators in conjunction with the governor's Regional Prosperity Initiative, and support grants to local units of government to assist in providing veteran services. The Legislature reduced the recommended support for the full year costs of the agency by \$200,000 GF/GP.
- **Veterans' Service Grants** – The Legislature, through its reductions to the tuition assistance program and MVAA, increased the level of state-funded grants to Veterans Service Organizations by \$857,900 Ongoing GF/GP, to a total of \$3.8 million Ongoing GF/GP. The Executive recommended continuing the funding for Veterans' Service Organizations at \$2.9 million Ongoing GF/GP. The department does not oppose the funding increase.



### SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONE-TIME ISSUES

- **Special Maintenance - Veterans' Homes** – The Legislature, in concurrence with the Executive Recommendation, included \$3.0 million in One-Time GF/GP support for special maintenance needs at the state's veterans' homes.
- **National Guard Tuition Assistance Program Reserve** – The Legislature utilized a \$400,000 GF/GP increase to the department's one-time target to provide reserves for the National Guard Tuition Assistance Program. Per boilerplate Section 14-702, the funding can only be expended upon exhaustion of ongoing resources.

**ONE-TIME FUNDING SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS									
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	EXEC OR LEGIS. (SPONSOR)	COMMENTS
DMVA	XIV	701	Special Maintenance - Veterans' Homes	\$3,000.0	\$3,000.0	-	Grand Rapids & Marquette	Exec	The Executive and Legislature concurred with providing \$3.0M in one-time general fund to support special maintenance and capital outlay projects at the State's two veterans' homes. Boilerplate added by the legislature includes carry forward authorization and requires quarterly reports on the status of projects.
DMVA	XIV	702	National Guard Tuition Assistance Program Reserve	\$400.0	\$400.0	-	-	-	Executive Recommendation included \$5.0M in ongoing general fund to support the establishment of the National Guard Tuition Assistance Program. Legislature reduced ongoing by \$657,900 general fund but added \$400,000 in one-time general fund. The one-time portion may only be expended upon exhaustion of ongoing resources.
<b>TOTAL ONE-TIME FUNDING</b>				<b>\$3,400.0</b>	<b>\$3,400.0</b>				

**NOTE: "SEC" is for any boilerplate sections which are related to the one-time funding line-items contained in Part 1.**

# SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

## Military and Veterans Affairs (EHB 5313, Art. XIV)

(Amounts in thousands)

### FUNDING HISTORY

GF/GP  
All Funds

FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Plus One-Time)
\$41,003.3	\$46,503.3	\$41,003.3	\$46,503.3	\$45,754.5	\$48,754.5	\$45,754.5	\$49,154.5
\$161,230.0	\$166,730.0	\$161,230.0	\$166,730.0	\$163,543.7	\$166,543.7	\$163,543.7	\$166,943.7
% Change - GF/GP				11.6%	4.8%	0.0%	0.8%
% Change - All Funds				1.4%	-0.1%	0.0%	0.2%

KEY ISSUES	EXECUTIVE REC.		ENROLLED BILL	
	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS
<b><u>ONGOING</u></b>				
1 Align Income and Assessments authorization with actual revenues at Grand Rapids Veterans' Home; GF added to support economics	\$225.0	(\$2,275.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
2 Adjust restrict fund sources to accurately reflect revenues	\$0.0	(\$850.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
3 National Guard Tuition Assistance Program	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	(\$657.9)	(\$657.9)
<b>Enrolled: Reduced to support increase for Veterans Service Grants</b>				
4 Veterans' Affairs Agency - Regional Coordinators	\$750.0	\$750.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5 Veterans' Affairs Agency - County Veterans' Counselors	\$250.0	\$250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
6 Veterans' Affairs Agency - Annualization Costs	\$1,200.0	\$1,200.0	(\$200.0)	(\$200.0)
<b>Enrolled: Reduced to support increase for Veterans Service Grants</b>				
7 Executive Revision 2015-1 (Remove Ongoing GF for Armory Maintenance)	(\$3,051.2)	(\$3,051.2)	\$0.0	\$0.0
8 Economics	\$509.5	\$1,753.3	\$0.0	\$0.0
9 Other Post Employment Benefits	(\$132.1)	(\$463.4)	\$0.0	\$0.0
10 Veterans Service Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$857.9	\$857.9
<b>Enrolled: Increases base grant to veterans' service organizations</b>				
Subtotal of Ongoing Changes	\$4,751.2	\$2,313.7	\$0.0	\$0.0
<b><u>ONE-TIME</u></b>				
1 Special Maintenance - Veterans' Homes	\$3,000.0	\$3,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
2 National Guard Tuition Assistance Program Reserve	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$400.0	\$400.0
<b>Enrolled: Added to offset reduction in ongoing and meet targets. Ongoing funding must be exhausted before expending reserve amount.</b>				
Subtotal of One-Time Changes	\$3,000.0	\$3,000.0	\$400.0	\$400.0
<b>FY2015 Total -- Ongoing and One-Time</b>	<b>\$48,754.5</b>	<b>\$166,543.7</b>	<b>\$49,154.5</b>	<b>\$166,943.7</b>

### New Sections

Sec. 400 (7)

Authorizes the department to expend up to \$50,000 to hire legal services to represent veterans cases before the federal court in order to maintain accreditation by the VA

### Amended Sections

Sec. 400 (1)

Requires a report providing estimates of the number of homeless veterans in Michigan

Sec. 400 (4)

Removes allocation of \$50,000 for training and education support for county veterans counselors

### One-Time Boilerplate Sections

Sec. 702

Indicates that the one-time funding for National Guard Tuition Assistance can only be expended after the ongoing appropriation is exhausted.

UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS  
[Do Not Include Legislative Intent Sections]

LEGISLATORS  
(Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)

BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	Shared with Colleen?	AMENDS BY REF or TITLE/OBJECT ISSUE
DMVA	XIV		None							

**VETO CONSIDERATIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

				AMT IN THOUSANDS			LEGISLATORS (Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)					VETO RECS		
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	DEPT REC	SBO REC	FINAL
DMVA	XIV		None											
TOTAL OF RECOMMENDED VETOES				\$0.0	\$0.0									

**LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

AMT IN THOUSANDS											
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	LEGISLATIVE SPONSOR	COMMENTS	INTENT or BINDING	SBO REC
DNR	XV	1201	Saginaw River feasibility study	\$280.0	\$280.0	0.0	Saginaw	Kahn	Part of target agreement. Earmarks funding to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of deepening the Saginaw River from the 6th Street turning basin to the Saginaw Bay for the purpose of increasing economic activity in the region.	Binding	Retain
DNR	XV		Hart-Montague Trail	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	0.0	Muskegon County Oceana County	Hansen	Part of target agreement. This trail has received funding in 3 phases from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and also received a grant from MDOT. They need \$1.9 million in match but only raised \$800,000. This earmark would cover the remaining required match.	Binding	Retain
DNR	XV		City of Alma/Alma College Public Safety Land Improvement	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	0.0	Gratiot County	Emmons	Part of target agreement. According to DNR, there was interest in obtaining a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grant for call boxes, security lighting and a recreation area along the campus trail. However, private entities are not eligible for trust fund grants and within weeks of the conversation, this earmark was included in the bill.	Binding	Retain
DNR	XV		River Raisin National Battlefield Foundation Grant	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	0.0	Monroe County	Richardville	Part of target agreement. The Senate funded this earmark by reducing MCC (Summer Youth Initiative) funding. The River Raisin National Battlefield Park became the nation's 393rd National Park in October 2010. Private foundations are raising money for a museum and to continue the battlefield restoration.	Binding	Retain
DNR	XV		Flint River Dike repair	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	0.0	Flint	Kahn	Part of target agreement. The Senate funded this earmark by reducing MCC (Summer Youth Initiative) funding. There is a DEQ Coastal and Inland Waters Permit for bank stabilization and dredging that will expire in March 2015. In 2007, a 16-mile dike system was scheduled to be completed with a \$1.84 million Hazard Mitigation Grant Program authorized by FEMA (issued through MSP).	Binding	Retain
<b>TOTAL DISTRICT/PROVIDER SPECIFIC EARMARKS</b>				<b>\$5,280.0</b>	<b>\$5,280.0</b>						

**NOTE: Executive Recommendation items should not be on this list.**

**NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2015**  
**House Enrolled Bill 5313, Art. XV**

	FY 2014 Current Law	FY 2015 Exec. Rec.	FY 2015 Enrolled	Difference from Exec Rec.
Ongoing GF/GP	\$24,686.6	\$43,841.5	\$43,841.5	\$0.0
One-Time GF/GP	\$750.0	\$3,000.0	\$4,750.0	\$1,750.0
<b>Total GF/GP</b>	<b>\$25,436.6</b>	<b>\$46,841.5</b>	<b>\$48,591.5</b>	<b>\$1,750.0</b>
Ongoing Gross	\$342,388.9	\$378,935.4	\$379,935.4	\$1,000.0
One-Time Gross	\$750.0	\$4,000.0	\$4,750.0	\$750.0
<b>Total Gross</b>	<b>\$343,138.9</b>	<b>\$382,935.4</b>	<b>\$384,685.4</b>	<b>\$1,750.0</b>

**VETOES RECOMMENDATIONS**

The department recommends no vetoes and the State Budget Office concurs.

**UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS**

There are no boilerplate sections deemed unenforceable.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONGOING ISSUES**

- **Invasive species initiative** – The Governor recommended \$4.0 million ongoing and \$2.0 million one-time general fund to implement a comprehensive, coordinated regional response to prevent, detect, eradicate, and control invasive species. The Legislature reduced total funding to \$5.0 million and moved the entire amount to ongoing.
- **Forestry investment** – The Executive Recommendation included \$4.0 million general fund for wildfire protection to offset a like amount of forest development fund to be redirected to forest management to achieve the goals of the forest products summit, increase demand for Michigan wood products, and support the growth of rural economies across the state. The Legislature reduced general fund \$80,000 below the Executive Recommendation to meet the target agreement.
- **Michigan conservation corps** – The Governor recommended an increase of \$1.0 million general fund to expand and rename the summer youth initiative. The Legislature concurred with the name change but reduced funding for the program \$2.5 million below the Governor's recommendation. Total ongoing funding support is \$1.0 million. Boilerplate section 250 requires the department to work with the Michigan civilian conservation corps partnership steering committee to plan for a nonprofit Michigan civilian conservation corps that is administered outside of state government.

- **Great Lakes research vessel** – The Executive Recommendation included \$2.0 million one-time funding to replace the Lake Huron research vessel Chinook (\$1.0 million from general fund). The Legislature concurred but moved funding to the ongoing section.
- **Hart-Montague trail** – Consistent with the target agreement, the Legislature (Sen. Hansen) included \$530,000 general fund for the Hart-Montague trail.
- **Cormorant population mitigation** – The Legislature added \$50,000 general fund for cormorant mitigation which brings the total appropriation to \$150,000.
- **State Parks funding** – The Executive Recommendation included and the Legislature concurred with \$3,750,000 general fund for state parks repairs and maintenance. There is an informal agreement to earmark \$2.5 million of this total for Belle Isle.

#### SUMMARY OF MAJOR ONE-TIME ISSUES

The following items are consistent with the target agreement:

- **River Raisin National Battlefield foundation grant** – The Legislature (Sen. Richardville) included \$2.0 million one-time general fund for the preservation of the national battlefield located in Monroe.
- **Saginaw River feasibility study** – The Legislature (Sen. Kahn) included \$280,000 one-time general fund to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of deepening the Saginaw River from the 6<sup>th</sup> Street turning basin to the Saginaw Bay for the purpose of increasing economic activity in the region.
- **Flint River dike repair** – The Legislature (Sen. Kahn) included \$1.0 million one-time general fund to repair a dike on the Flint River.
- **City of Alma/Alma College public safety land improvements** – The Legislature (Sen. Emmons) included \$1.0 million one-time general fund for this earmark.
- **Hart-Montague trail** – The Legislature (Sen. Hansen) included \$470,000 one-time general fund for the Hart-Montague trail (total of \$1.0 million with the \$530,000 ongoing general fund).

#### SUMMARY OF MAJOR BOILERPLATE ISSUES

- **Section 901:** Snowmobile law enforcement grants must be used to provide grants to county law enforcement agencies. Although the department does not like this language, they have indicated they can live with it.
- **Section 1002:** Not less than \$980,000 must be spent on the development of new trails in accordance with the off-road vehicle trail expansion plan. Although the department does not like this language, they have indicated they can live with it.



# ONE-TIME FUNDING SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS

AMT IN THOUSANDS									
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	EXEC OR LEGIS. (SPONSOR)	COMMENTS
DNR	XV		River Raisin National Battlefield park foundation	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	0.0	Monroe	Sen Richardville	Part of leadership target agreement
DNR	XV	1201	Saginaw River feasibility study	\$280.0	\$280.0	0.0	Saginaw	Sen Kahn	Part of leadership target agreement
DNR	XV		Flint River dike repair	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	0.0	Flint	Sen Kahn	Part of leadership target agreement
DNR	XV		Hart-Montague trail	\$470.0	\$470.0	0.0	Oceana County	Sen Hansen	Part of leadership target agreement
DNR	XV		City of Alma/Alma College public safety land improvements	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	0.0	Alma	Sen Emmons	Part of leadership target agreement
TOTAL ONE-TIME FUNDING				\$4,750.0	\$4,750.0				

NOTE: "SEC" is for any boilerplate sections which are related to the one-time funding line-items contained in Part 1.

**SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**  
**Natural Resources (EHB 5313, Art. XV)**

(Amounts in thousands)

**FUNDING HISTORY**

GF/GP  
All Funds

FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Plus One-Time)
\$24,686.6	\$25,436.6	\$24,686.6	\$25,436.6	\$43,841.5	\$46,841.5	\$43,841.5	\$48,591.5
\$342,388.9	\$343,138.9	\$342,388.9	\$343,138.9	\$378,935.4	\$382,935.4	\$379,935.4	\$384,685.4
% Change - GF/GP				77.6%	84.2%	0.0%	3.7%
% Change - All Funds				10.7%	11.6%	0.3%	0.5%

KEY ISSUES	EXECUTIVE REC.		ENROLLED BILL	
	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS
<b><u>ONGOING</u></b>				
1 Annualize game and fish protection revenue	\$0.0	\$8,057.5	\$0.0	\$0.0
2 Capital outlay adjustments	\$0.0	(\$415.6)	\$0.0	\$0.0
3 Revenue adjustment to align authorization with expected revenue	\$150.0	\$2,060.7	\$0.0	\$0.0
4 Forestry investment	\$4,000.0	\$4,000.0	(\$80.0)	(\$80.0)
<b>Enrolled: Legislature reduced general fund support to meet targets</b>				
5 Invasive species initiative	\$4,000.0	\$4,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0
<b>Enrolled: Legislature moved one-time funding to ongoing and reduced total</b>				
6 Michigan Conservation Corps	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	(\$2,500.0)	(\$2,500.0)
<b>Enrolled: Legislature reduced funding; total funding \$1.0 million</b>				
7 Non-motorized trail initiative	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
8 Conservation officers	\$3,500.0	\$3,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
9 Replace and augment state park repair and maintenance capital outlay projects	\$3,750.0	\$6,250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
10 Economics (includes OPEB)	\$254.9	\$5,593.9	\$0.0	\$0.0
11 Great Lakes research vessel	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$2,000.0
<b>Enrolled: Legislature moved one-time funding to ongoing</b>				
12 Hart-Montague trail	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$530.0	\$530.0
<b>Enrolled: Legislature added funding; total funding \$1.0 million</b>				
13 Cormorant population mitigation	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$50.0	\$50.0
<b>Enrolled: Legislature increased funding; total funding \$150,000</b>				
Subtotal of Ongoing Changes	\$19,154.9	\$36,546.5	\$0.0	\$1,000.0
<b><u>ONE-TIME</u></b>				
1 Invasive species initiative	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	(\$2,000.0)	(\$2,000.0)
<b>Enrolled: Legislature moved one-time funding to ongoing and reduced total</b>				
2 Great Lakes research vessel	\$1,000.0	\$2,000.0	(\$1,000.0)	(\$2,000.0)
<b>Enrolled: Legislature moved one-time funding to ongoing</b>				
3 River Raisin National Battlefield Foundation grant	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0
<b>Enrolled: Legislature included funding for the preservation of the battlefield</b>				
4 Saginaw River feasibility study	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$280.0	\$280.0
<b>Enrolled: Legislature included funding and boilerplate for a study on the feasibility of deepening the Saginaw River</b>				
5 Flint River dike repair	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0
<b>Enrolled: Legislature included funding to repair a dike on the Flint river</b>				
6 Hart-Montague Trail	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$470.0	\$470.0

# SUMMARY OF MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

## Natural Resources (EHB 5313, Art. XV)

(Amounts in thousands)

### FUNDING HISTORY

	FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	FY2014 Original Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Only)	February FY2014 Appropriation (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Exec. Rec. (Ongoing Plus One-Time)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Only)	FY2015 Enrolled Bill (Ongoing Plus One-Time)
GF/GP	\$24,686.6	\$25,436.6	\$24,686.6	\$25,436.6	\$43,841.5	\$46,841.5	\$43,841.5	\$48,591.5
All Funds	\$342,388.9	\$343,138.9	\$342,388.9	\$343,138.9	\$378,935.4	\$382,935.4	\$379,935.4	\$384,685.4
% Change - GF/GP					77.6%	84.2%	0.0%	3.7%
% Change - All Funds					10.7%	11.6%	0.3%	0.5%

KEY ISSUES	EXECUTIVE REC.		ENROLLED BILL	
	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS	GF/GP	ALL FUNDS
<b>Enrolled: Legislature added funding; total earmark of \$1.0 million (see ongoing section)</b>				
7 City of Alma/Alma college public safety land improvement	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0
<b>Enrolled: Legislature added funding</b>				
Subtotal of One-Time Changes	\$3,000.0	\$4,000.0	\$1,750.0	\$750.0
<b>FY2015 Total -- Ongoing and One-Time</b>	<b>\$46,841.5</b>	<b>\$382,935.4</b>	<b>\$48,591.5</b>	<b>\$384,685.4</b>

### Major Boilerplate Issues:

### New Sections

- Sec. 250 As a condition of expenditure of funds for the Michigan conservation corps, the department must work with the Michigan civilian conservation corps (MCCC) partnership steering committee to plan for a nonprofit MCCC that is administered outside of state government.
- Sec. 251 From amounts appropriated for invasive species, the department must allocate not less than \$3.6 million for grants for the prevention, detection, eradication, and control of invasive species.
- Sec. 704 If SBs 873-877 are enacted, the department must allocate \$200,000 for the Pure Michigan trails programs. These bills would replace references to Michigan trailways with references to Pure Michigan Trails and allow the director of DNR, rather than the Natural Resources Commission to designate a trail as a Pure Michigan Trail. The bills were all ordered enrolled on June 12, 2014.
- Sec. 808 The department must develop a lawful and reasonable plan designed to motivate lessees under state-granted oil and gas leases past their primary term to undertake new operations to ensure minerals are fully developed.
- Sec. 1201 The department must conduct a study to determine the feasibility of deepening the Saginaw River from the 6th Street turning basin to the Saginaw Bay for the purpose of increasing economic activity in the region.

### Amended Sections

- Sec. 603 Includes new requirement that department must use any additional funds and any remaining funds to harass cormorants with the goal of reducing foraging attempts on fish populations.

UNENFORCEABLE SECTIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS  
[Do Not Include Legislative Intent Sections]

LEGISLATORS  
(Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)

BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	Shared with Colleen?	AMENDS BY REF or TITLE/OBJECT ISSUE
DNR	XV		None							

**VETO CONSIDERATIONS - FY15 ENROLLED BILLS**

				AMT IN THOUSANDS			LEGISLATORS (Sponsor or Interested Rep/Sen)					VETO RECS		
BUDGET	ARTICLE	SEC	PROGRAM/DESCRIPTION (Include funding items as well as boilerplate, if relevant)	GF/GP	GROSS	FTEs	LOCATION / SITE (County, City, District, etc.)	HOUSE	SENATE	INTEREST GROUPS	COMMENTS	DEPT REC	SBO REC	FINAL
DNR	XV		None											
TOTAL OF RECOMMENDED VETOES				\$0.0	\$0.0									

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**From:** Maxine Murray <mmurray@cityofflint.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 24, 2014 9:17 AM  
**To:** Byrne, Randall (Treasury);Kapp, Gene (MSP);Muchmore, Dennis (GOV);Roberts, John (DTMB);West, Samantha (GOV);Dempkowski, Angela (Treasury);Baird, Richard (GOV);Larkin, Brian (GOV);Darnell Earley;Deasy, Thomas (MSP);Koryzno, Edward (Treasury);Clement, Elizabeth (GOV);Elizabeth Murphy;Etue, Kriste (MSP);Hollins, Harvey (GOV);James Tolbert;Jerry Ambrose;Klotz, Josephine (MSP);Lee, Nichole (MSP);McGowan, Emmitt (MSP);Sands, Thomas (MSP);Sipes, Stephen (MSP);O'Neill, Stephen (MSP);Saxton, Thomas (Treasury);Workman, Wayne (TREASURY)  
**Subject:** Agenda for Wednesday June 25, 2014  
**Attachments:** Agenda for Treasury Conf 062514.pdf

Good morning,

Please find attached the agenda for tomorrow's conference call.

Thank you.

--

Maxine Murray  
Executive Assistant to  
Mayor Dayne Walling  
Darnell Earley, Emergency Manager  
1101 S. Saginaw Street  
Flint, MI 48502  
810.237.2035 Telephone  
810.766.7218 Fax

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**From:** Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Friday, February 06, 2015 8:44 AM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB);Harkins, Chris (DTMB);Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** FW: Drinking Water Revolving Fund Program  
**Attachments:** City of Flint Loans.xlsx  
  
**Importance:** High

Background information on the Flint water situation and the Drinking Water Revolving Fund program

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**From:** Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 30, 2015 3:10 PM  
**To:** Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)  
**Cc:** McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)  
**Subject:** FW: Drinking Water Revolving Fund Program  
**Importance:** High

Additional information on the recommended cut to the state match for the drinking water revolving fund program.

This doesn't directly affect the Flint situation; however, from the Bridge article, Mayor Walling is requesting forgiveness for Flint's debt payments to the drinking water revolving fund. I've attached a spreadsheet on the 4 outstanding loans.

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**From:** Epkey, Amy (DEQ)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 30, 2015 2:44 PM  
**To:** Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Cc:** Boyd, Jeremy (DEQ)  
**Subject:** Drinking Water Revolving Fund Program

Jenny,

The Drinking Water Revolving Fund Program leverages federal funds to support low interest loans to assist water suppliers with implementing infrastructure improvements necessary to provide safe drinking water.

Per Treasury, there is \$9.7 million currently available to match federal funds. If DEQ receives \$2.25 million in 2015 and \$2.05 million in 2016, there would be \$14 million available to match federal funds. An estimated \$6 million per year would be needed each year to leverage \$30 million of federal funds each year. This means 2015 and 2016 would require \$12 million of the \$14 million balance and that in 2017 there is the potential that Michigan may not be able to fully maximize anticipated federal funds.

Please let me know if you would prefer the information in excel format or if you have any additional questions.

Thanks,  
Amy

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Drinking Water Revolving Fund						
2	City of Flint As of 1/27/2015						
3	Issue Date	Project Number	Rate	Final Loan Amount	Final Maturity	Last Payment	Outstanding Balance
4	9/30/1999	7019-01	2.50%	7,168,994.00	4/1/2020	10/1/2014	2,543,994.00
5	9/28/2000	7019-02	2.50%	8,035,000.00	4/1/2021	10/1/2014	3,275,000.00
6	9/28/2001	7019-03	2.50%	9,311,408.00	4/1/2022	10/1/2014	4,256,408.00
7	9/25/2003	7019-04	2.50%	18,984,934.00	10/1/2024	10/1/2014	10,694,934.00
8				43,500,336.00			20,770,336.00



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**From:** Maxine Murray <mmurray@cityofflint.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 14, 2015 2:54 PM  
**To:** Kapp, Gene (MSP);Muchmore, Dennis (GOV);Roberts, John (DTMB);Dempkowski, Angela (Treasury);Baird, Richard (GOV);Carter, Jerry (MSP);Deasy, Thomas (MSP);Koryzno, Edward (Treasury);Clement, Elizabeth (GOV);Elizabeth Murphy;Etue, Kriste (MSP);Hollins, Harvey (GOV);Hill, Darryl (MSP);James Tolbert;Jerry Ambrose;Klotz, Josephine (MSP);Lee, Nichole (MSP);McGowan, Emmitt (MSP);Natasha Henderson;Smith, Paul (GOV);Byrne, Randall (Treasury);Sands, Thomas (MSP);Sipes, Stephen (MSP);O'Neill, Stephen (MSP);Saxton, Thomas (Treasury);Workman, Wayne (TREASURY);West, Samantha (GOV)  
**Subject:** Bi-Weekly Conference Call  
**Attachments:** Agenda for Conference Call with Treasury 041515.xlsx; warer quality plan 4 14 15.pdf; Update & Transition Progress April 13 2015.pdf; Update & Transition Progress April 13 2015 Media Release.pdf

Good afternoon,

Please find attached the agenda for the 9:00 am conference call scheduled for **Wednesday, April 15, 2015.**

Thank you.

--

Maxine Murray  
Executive Assistant to  
Mayor Dayne Walling  
Gerald Ambrose, Emergency Manager  
Natasha L. Henderson, City Administrator  
1101 S. Saginaw Street  
Flint, MI 48502  
810.237.2035 Telephone  
810.766.7218 Fax

	A	B	C	D	E
1	<b>City of Flint Wednesday 9:00am Phone Conference Agenda</b>				
2	<b>April 15, 2015</b>		1-888-557-8511, Access code 3389106		
3			<b>Last Report</b>		<b>Status</b>
4	<b>1) Public Safety Update – FPD, MSP, (FFD, if needed)</b>				
5		a) FPD	Crime and Staffing Status Report		Update
6			Status of evaluating/implementing ICMA recommendations		In process
7					
8		b) FFD			
9					
10		c) Other update from Chief Tolbert and MSP			
11					
12	<b>2) Governor's Office Update – R. Baird, H. Hollins, B. Clement</b>				
13		a) District Court Consolidation	County Board approved MOU. City Council notified on April 10 of EM's intent to approve consolidation. Council was briefed on April 13 at CoW. Council to meet on April 20 to determine what of any action it wishes to take.		In process
14		b) Local Income Tax Initiative	Additional source of funds still needed for City. H. Hollins working to find a new sponsor. Projected financial challenges associated with projection of FY17 budget may emphasize the rational.		No Change
15					
16	<b>3) Finance and Administrative Update</b>				
17		a) Management Vacancies	MML has received responses for Treasurer, HR Director and Finance Director positions. Phone conference to review this week		In process
18		b) Budget	Development underway. Presentation expected late.		In process
19		c) DEP/RAP	Council approved application for \$7 million Emergency Loan to finance deficit.		In process
20		d) Purchasing	Revised purchasing ordinance enacted effective May 1		Complete
21					
22	<b>4) City Council Update</b>				
23		a) EM Order	Order signed defining organizational reporting relationships to new City Administrator.		Complete
24		b) Council/Mayor Compensation	Order signed re-establishing Council and Mayor salaries at previous levels		Complete
25		c) Council Rules	Meeting held by Council last week to update Council rules and procedures.		In process
26					
27	<b>5) Water Issues</b>				

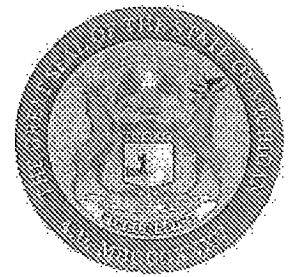
	A	B	C	D	E
28		a) MDEQ Violation Notice	Water is within federal/state guidelines. Violation notice and water update mailed last week.		Complete
29		b) Drinking Water Revolving Fund	Order #2 was issued to restructure and amend the debt service payments on the DWRF Bonds, by postponing the principal payments. Funds to be used to finance GAC installation and other recommendations		Complete
30		c) Action plan on water quality	Action plan based on consultant's recommendations has been developed and shared with Council and advisory committees. Approval of contract for installation of granulated activated charcoal (GAC) filter (primary recommendation) received from Treasury.		Update
31					
32	<b>6) 9-1-1 Reconsolidation Plan</b>				
33		a) Tower Transfer to Consortium	Final documents being completed		In process
34					
35	<b>7) Transition Activities</b>				
36		a) Final Order	Final order and letter being drafted.		In process
37					
38					
39	<b>8) Other Items</b>				

**City of Flint**  
**Water Quality Implementation Plan**

Item	Cost	Owner & Support	April				May				June					July				August					September					
			6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28		
Clean Plate Settlers	N/A	F-1 / DPW	Staff																											
Repair Clarifier	\$10,000	F-1 / DPW	Contractor																											
Chemical Dosing & Levels	TBD	F-1 / DPW	Staff / LAN																											
GAC Purchase & Installation	\$1,600,000	LAN / DPW	Design/DEQ Approval				Procurement				Mobilization				Installation															
Watermain Leak Detection	\$900,000	S-1 / DPW	RFP / Response				Contract				Mobilization				Performance / Repairs															
Hydraulic Model & Flushing Program	\$173,700	LAN / DPW	Model being populated with field data																											
2 Miles of Pipe Replacement	\$2,163,000	S-1 / DPW	RFP / Response				Contract Signing				Mobilization				Construction															
Total	\$4,846,700																													



**CITY OF FLINT**  
*OFFICE OF THE EMERGENCY MANAGER*



Gerald Ambrose  
Emergency Manager

**TO:** Josh Freeman, President, Flint City Council

**From:** Jerry Ambrose, Emergency Manager

**Cc:** Flint City Council  
Mayor Dayne Walling  
Natasha L. Henderson, City Administrator

**DATE:** April 13, 2014

**RE:** Update and Transition Progress

Thank you for your consideration of my request for authorization to apply for the \$7 million loan from the State's Emergency Loan Board. This loan, if approved, will be used to eliminate the City's General Fund deficit ahead of the schedule in our current Deficit Elimination/Reserve Accumulation Plan. This will enable the City to move forward with building adequate reserves necessary to foster financial stability. This, along with the commitments established in ordinance to develop and maintain a multi-year budget based on a strategic plan and to address the funding of long term liabilities, Flint's financial solvency can be sustainable.

Thank you also for your consideration of the proposed consolidation of the 68<sup>th</sup> and 67<sup>th</sup> District Court, an action which has been long in the making. Recommended by the State Court Administrators Office and authorized by state law, the consolidation is planned to become effective January 2, 2016. The Memorandum of Understanding, approved today by the Genesee County Board of Commissioners, details the advantages the consolidation will have for the City of Flint. The city will see a reduction in costs of more than \$8.4 million over the first 10 years, providing some much needed funds to support police services. Additionally the new court division is assured of at least 2 probation officers, something which the Court has not had for several years. And, as provided in both law and the agreement, judges will continue to be elected from within the City.

As you know, my focus over the past few months has been and continues to be transitioning the City from oversight by an Emergency Manager to home rule under the guidance of a Receivership Transition Advisory Board.

Much progress has been made in preparing for the transition, including action by the City Council to complete the following:

- Final adoption of the Capital Improvements Plan
- Final adoption of ordinances regarding planning, budgeting, funds balance, and deficit elimination
- Update of the Strategic Plan's Vision, Mission, and Goals
- Adoption of budget priorities to guide development of the FY16/FY17 budget

Additionally, our new City Administrator Natasha Henderson is on board and is assuming duties as the experienced and professionally trained chief administrative officer for the City.

There are several issues which we are continuing to address, including:

- Water safety, quality, and affordability continues to be a top priority. The City's water supply today is safe, as measured by the same MDEQ standards that have been in place for years, and steps are being taken to improve treatment and distribution processes in order to address issues of discoloration and odor, and to assure continued safety. Reviews of our pricing structure are also underway to assure that customers are treated equitably while generating sufficient revenue to operate the system.

Public safety continues to be an area of critical concern. The independent study of our police and fire organization provided a number of recommendations focused on how to best deploy the resources we have, and also confirmed that the staffing levels afforded by our limited resources are extremely low in comparison to comparable municipalities. This emphasizes the critical continuing importance of renewing the two voter-approved public safety millages and working to assure continuing state support through the assignment of state troopers and through financial support of the City lock-up. Loss of any of this support would be a disaster for the City.

- Achieving and then maintaining financial stability will continue to require constant attention. Approval of the ordinances regarding financial stability and the anticipated approval of the \$7 million loan provide additional tools with which to work. Attention will need to be paid to not only developing and adopting budgets for FY16 and FY17 but doing so in the context of understanding the impact of those budgetary decisions into the following three years. Essential to this is making the budget decisions which truly address achievement of the stated vision, mission and goals for the City as adopted by the City Council. Unfortunately, the challenges in doing so will be great, as the City will continue to be faced with the reality of a structural deficit, where for the foreseeable future current expenditure patterns exceed revenue streams – a difficult position, given the City's already low level of services. Complicating this further is the potential impact of the retiree health care lawsuit, once the final outcome is decided.

- Finally progress continues with modernizing the operations of the City and setting the framework for future development. With the Master Plan and Capital Improvement Plan in place, focus is now turning to implementation, including updating the Zoning Ordinance.

As we move forward with preparing for transition, there is much work yet to do. Today I am taking three actions consistent with our path:

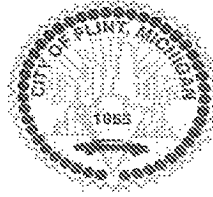
- Adoption of an updated purchasing policy – I am enacting the revisions to the Purchasing policy which were reviewed by Council within the past few months. These changes are made with the goal of assuring that the process of obtaining goods and services is consistent with the expectations of the Strategic Plan. There must be proper oversight and transparency, with a goal of obtaining goods and services that best meet the needs of City departments. The process must ensure competitive procurement, conducted in a timely and ethical manner. The City Council has an important role in assuring compliance with the policy, which is not the same as conducting purchasing operations.
- Confirming the role of the City Administrator – Before the search for a new City Administrator was begun, it was determined, within the context of the Seven Point Transition Plan, that an experienced and professional City Administrator would be selected on the basis of an open competitive process, and that the duties of the City Administrator would be structured in a manner which assures the ability to manage and direct the administrative affairs of the City in a professional manner. While those duties and expectations were described in the job description of the City Administrator and in recruitment materials, I am now formally enacting them in Emergency Manager Order Number 3.
- Re-establishing salaries for Mayor and Council – As we are moving towards transition, the duties and responsibilities of the Mayor and City Council are expanding towards the traditional roles of a City operating under home rule. Council meetings are now held twice per month, with committee meetings held once per month. The Mayor is now much more engaged in a Chief Executive role. Consequently, I have determined to re-establish the salaries for Mayor and Council at the levels in place immediately prior to the appointment of an Emergency Manager in November, 2011. Continued receipt of the re-established salaries, however, is contingent upon attainment of certain training. The re-established levels, and the contingency regarding training, is found in Emergency Manager Order Number 4.

Over the next several weeks, there will be much work with respect to finalizing the loan application and developing the FY16 and FY17 budgets along with FY18, FY19, and FY20 projections. Work will also continue with implementing improvements of the water system, and reviewing our associated rate structure. Evaluation and implementation of the recommendations for best use of

police and fire resources will continue, including corrective action for the police evidence room issues. Summer street maintenance and repair programs, as well as sidewalk repairs will soon be underway. Public meetings regarding the zoning ordinance are being held, with a recommended updated ordinance expected for consideration in late spring. A revision to the City's business licensing ordinance is expected soon. These are but a few of the many activities to be expected as the City makes the best use of its resources to provide the best level of service it can within the resources it has.

I look forward to working with you as we move towards transition to home rule under the guidance of a Receivership Transition Advisory Board. Please contact me if you have any questions.





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**EMERGENCY MANAGER  
CITY OF FLINT  
GENESEE COUNTY MICHIGAN**

**ORDER No. 3**

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

BY THE POWER AND AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE EMERGENCY MANAGER  
("EMERGENCY MANAGER") FOR THE CITY OF FLINT, MICHIGAN ("CITY")  
PURSUANT TO MICHIGAN'S PUBLIC ACT 436 OF 2012, LOCAL FINANCIAL  
STABILITY AND CHOICE ACT, ("PA 436"); GERALD AMBROSE, THE EMERGENCY  
MANAGER, ISSUES THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

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Pursuant to PA 436, the Emergency Manager has broad powers in receivership to rectify the financial emergency and to assure the fiscal accountability of the City and its capacity to provide or cause to be provided necessary services essential to the public health, safety and welfare; and

Pursuant to PA 436, the Emergency Manager acts in place of local officials, specifically the Mayor and City Council, unless the Emergency Manager delegates specific authority; and

Pursuant to PA 436, the Emergency Manager has broad power to manage the local government, and may issue orders to elected and appointed officials necessary to accomplish the purpose of the Act. An Order issued under PA 436 is binding on the person to whom it is issued; and

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

The City Administrator shall serve as the City's Chief Administrative Officer at the pleasure of the Mayor, City Council and Emergency Manager or Receivership Advisory Transition Board (hereinafter "Board"), in accordance with the provisions of her contract with the City of Flint

dated February 23, 2015, and is charged with implementing executive and legislative directives and policies of the Mayor and City Council, subject to oversight of the Board, including strategic planning and budgeting, and with directing the management of day-to-day-administrative activities and appointed staff officials.

Consistent with the City Administrator Employment Agreement and Position Description, and subject to the approval and directives of the Board, the City Administrator shall have the following authority, duties and responsibilities notwithstanding any provision of the City Charter or Code of Ordinances:

1. Serve, advise and report to the Mayor with respect to the Mayor's executive functions, as set forth in Charter §4-101.
2. Serve and advise the Council with respect to the Council's legislative functions, as set forth in Charter §3-101.
3. Serve, advise and report to the Emergency Manager, as required by Public Act 436, so long as an Emergency Manager is in place.
4. Serve, advise and report to the Board, including:
  - a. Advise and report to the Board as required by Public Act 436;
  - b. Fully comply and assist the Board in meeting all duties assigned to it by the governor pursuant to MCL 141.1563(h);
  - c. Provide all budgetary information requested by the Board;
  - d. Serve as the primary contact between the Board and the City, including any department heads, officers, attorneys, accountants, employees, and any other contractors or consultants hired by the City to assist the City Administrator or the City in the discharge of powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities;
  - e. Promptly and effectively communicate with the Board regarding any matter that may have a significant financial impact on the City.
5. Direct City department heads in carrying out the daily activities of the City, in the assembly of financial and management information; and in the gathering and assembly of pertinent data and information and recommendations for the Mayor and City Council's consideration in making executive determinations and policy.
6. Translate executive decisions and policies of the Mayor into administrative procedures for the cost effective and efficient operation of the City.
7. Implement legislative action of the City Council.
8. Monitor and manage the administrative inter-activity of the City departments so the delivery of public services represents an efficient, effective, and coordinated effort.
9. Interact with other governmental agencies as requested by the Mayor or City Council.

10. Prepare and review correspondence, reports, speeches, resolutions, and other material for public relations purposes. Answers citizen and official inquiries regarding City policy matters.
11. In consultation with the Mayor, direct the assembly of information and items for consideration by the Council, and provide them to the City Clerk for inclusion on the appropriate agendas.
12. Regularly consult with the Mayor in the development of actions with respect to the Mayor's executive functions, and with matters relating to the daily administrative functions of the City, including the evaluation of the performance of department heads, and the resolution of customer service issues.
13. Except to the extent prohibited by or in material conflict with applicable laws and authorities, the City Administrator or designee shall attend all meetings of the City Council, both public and closed, with the exception of those closed meetings devoted to the consideration of any action or lack of action on, or pursuant to, this Agreement, or any amendment thereto, or the City Administrator's evaluation. The City Administrator shall advise members, and make recommendations consistent with policy objectives, strategic planning and administrative activities.
14. Attend public meetings and events; give presentations and information to the public regarding matters of City business.
15. Manage and oversee all department heads, division heads, managers and non-elected City employees. This shall include an annual written performance evaluation of all department heads, including those identified in paragraphs 15, 16 and 17.
16. Recommend, subject to the Mayor's approval, the following appointments:
  - a. Chief of Police;
  - b. Fire Chief;
  - c. Director of Finance;
  - d. Planning & Development Director;
  - e. Director of Department of Public Works;
  - f. Chief Legal Officer;
  - g. Chief Personnel Officer.
17. Recommend, subject to the Council's approval, the following appointments: City Clerk and City Auditor.
18. With the exception of those positions set forth in paragraphs 16 and 17, appoint all department heads, division heads and management positions, including the City Treasurer, Purchasing Director and the City Assessor, subject to any collective bargaining agreement(s) that may be applicable.

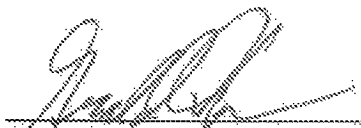
19. Ensure that all appointment processes, whether by the Mayor, Council or City Administrator, are open, competitive, and administered by the Human Resources Department or a qualified recruitment firm, with selection of the most qualified candidate to be based on defined education, experience, and professional standards appropriate to the position.
20. All appointments made pursuant to paragraphs 15, 16 and 17 shall serve at the pleasure of the City Administrator based on performance review.
21. Review current and potential litigation and labor disputes with the City Attorney and Mayor, and as needed the Board, and have complete decision making authority on behalf of the City, on all matters of litigation and labor disputes, including the ability to settle or initiate lawsuits and resolve labor disputes. The Mayor and City Council shall be consulted on such matters prior to implementation.
22. Negotiate all collective bargaining agreements on behalf of the City.
23. Work collaboratively with the City Council, the Mayor, other City or State officials and the Board to successfully transition to the termination of receivership for the City by supporting, implementing, and maintaining the financial and operating plans and the reforms instituted by the City's emergency managers, including but not limited to, the financial and operating plan for the city under Section II Act 436, and by providing appropriate training and explanation of City operations.
24. Serve as an official City representative before the Board, State departments and agencies, and the Michigan Legislature, with assistance from the Finance Director and the Mayor.
25. Be responsible for and vested with full authority necessary to effectively direct and supervise the day-to-day operations of the City by seeing that all laws and ordinances are faithfully executed, preparing the proposed annual budget as recommended by the Finance Director and any accounting firm retained by the City, and supervising the expenditures of all sums appropriated to and the attainment of all objectives established for departments of the executive branch of the City and working collaboratively with all officers and officials to effectively execute daily operations.
26. Ensure that a rolling six-year capital improvement plan is annually prepared in accordance with applicable law and the City's Code of Ordinances. Coordinate with the Mayor on the annual preparation of a rolling two-year budget
27. Review, approve and co-sign with the Mayor all contracts on behalf of and entered into by the City and modify or terminate any current contract with the City.
28. Approve all financial policies, City policies and procedures, job descriptions and personnel policies for the City, after consultation with the Mayor and City Council.
29. Designate check signers on all City bank accounts.

30. Refer City Council communications to the appropriate City employee or investigate such matter(s) and inform the City Council of the results of such efforts. Provided, however, when responding to City Council referrals, the City Administrator shall have discretion to utilize the personnel and resources the City Administrator deems reasonable and so as to avoid unnecessary interruption of services or incurrence of unnecessary costs.
31. Any investigation by the City Council, as contemplated by Charter §3-205 and §3-206, including the power to subpoena witnesses, shall be subject to the City Administrator's review and approval, so as to avoid unnecessary interruption of services or incurrence of unnecessary costs.
32. In the event the Mayor or Council fails to perform any duty or take any required action after having been afforded a reasonable opportunity to do so, the City Administrator may perform the duty or function of the Mayor or Council upon approval of the Board.

This Order may be amended, modified, repealed or terminated by any subsequent Order issued by the Emergency Manager.

Dated: 4/10/15

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Gerald Ambrose  
Emergency Manager  
City of Flint

cc: State of Michigan Department of Treasury  
Mayor Dayne Walling  
Flint City Council  
Inez Brown, City Clerk

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**EMERGENCY MANAGER  
CITY OF FLINT  
GENESEE COUNTY MICHIGAN**

**ORDER No. 4**

**MAYOR/COUNCIL COMPENSATION**

BY THE POWER AND AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE EMERGENCY MANAGER  
("EMERGENCY MANAGER) FOR THE CITY OF FLINT, MICHIGAN ("CITY").  
PURSUANT TO MICHIGAN'S PUBLIC ACT 436 OF 2012, LOCAL FINANCIAL  
STABILITY AND CHOICE ACT, ("PA 436"); GERALD AMBROSE, THE EMERGENCY  
MANAGER, ISSUES THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

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Pursuant to Public Act 436, the Emergency Manager has broad powers in receivership to rectify the financial emergency and to assure the fiscal accountability of the City of Flint and its capacity to provide or cause to be provided necessary services essential to the public health, safety and welfare; and

Pursuant to Public Act 436, the Emergency Manager acts in place of local officials, specifically the Mayor and City Council, unless the Emergency Manager delegates specific authority; and

Pursuant to Public Act 436, the Emergency Manager has broad power to manage the local government, and may issue Orders to elected and appointed officials necessary to accomplish the purpose of the Act; and

Pursuant to Public Act 436, City Council meetings are scheduled and conducted at the discretion of the Emergency Manager; and

An Order issued under PA 436 is binding on the person to whom it is issued; and

Prior to the appointment of Emergency Manager Michael Brown on December 1, 2011, Mayor Dayne Walling's annual compensation rate was \$91,801; and

Prior to the appointment of Emergency Manager Michael Brown on December 1, 2011, Flint City Council President had an annual compensation rate of \$20,856. City Council Vice President had an annual compensation rate of \$20,381; and, City Councilmembers had an annual compensation rate of \$19,907; and

As the City of Flint moves toward transition from governance and management by an Emergency Manager to Home Rule with oversight by a Receivership Transition Advisory Board, the responsibilities of the Mayor and Council are being increased, with the City Council now meeting regularly twice per month and Committees once per month

Mayor Walling's duties and responsibilities have increased and will further increase as the City of Flint progresses to local control; and

Mayor Walling has completed Level One of Michigan Municipal League (MML) core courses for municipal government and receipt of the MML Education Award, as required by Emergency Manager Order 2 dated April 18, 2011, and has otherwise accomplished the assigned tasks; and

Based on his increased duties, responsibilities and performance, Mayor Walling's salary is established at an annual compensation rate of \$91,801, effective April 13, 2015; and

City Council's duties and responsibilities have increased and will further increase as the City of Flint progresses to local control; and

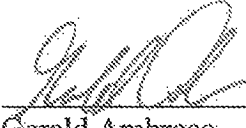
Based on increased duties, the annual compensation for the Flint City Council President shall be \$20,856; the City Council Vice President shall be \$20,381; and all other Council members shall be \$19,907, effective April 13, 2015; provided however, that council members must have completed the Level One of Michigan Municipal League (MML) core courses for municipal government and received the MML Education Award by November 1, 2015, and as certified by the City Council President, or their annual compensation shall be reduced to \$10,500 until such time as they have done so.

The compensation set forth above shall continue until the Local Officers Compensation Commission convenes to establish the compensation for the Mayor and Council in accordance with MCL 117.5c and Flint City Code, Chapter 2, Article III.

This Order is effective April 13, 2015.

This Order may be amended, modified, repealed or terminated by any subsequent Order issued by the Emergency Manager.

Dated: 4/10/15

By:   
Gerald Ambrose  
Emergency Manager  
City of Flint

cc: State of Michigan Department of Treasury  
Mayor Dayne Walling  
Flint City Council  
Inez Brown, City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 3865

An Ordinance to amend the City of Flint Code of Ordinances by amending Chapter 18, Taxation; Funds; Purchasing; Article IV, Purchases.

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF FLINT:

Sec. 1. That the Ordinances of the City of Flint shall be amended by amending Chapter 18, Taxation; Funds; Purchasing; Article IV, Purchases; by updating Sections 18-19 through 18-21.13; the renumbering of Section 18-21.14 to Section 18-21.20; and, the addition of new Sections 18-21.15 through 18-21.19, which shall read in its entirety as follows:

**ARTICLE IV: PURCHASING**

**§ 18-18 SHORT TITLE.**

This ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the "Purchasing Ordinance of the City of Flint."

**§ 18-19 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purposes of this article, the following terms, phrases, words, and their derivations shall have the meaning given herein. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words in the plural number include the singular number, and words in the singular number include the plural number. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory.

**AGENCY.** Any department, office, multiple member body or other organization of City government and includes any elective officer, appointee or person acting or purporting to act in the exercise of official duties, but shall not include the Board of Hospital Managers.

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE.** The Mayor of the City of Flint.

**CITY.** The City of Flint, Michigan.

**CITY COUNCIL.** The Council of the City of Flint.

**CONTRACTUAL SERVICES.** All telephone, gas, water, electric light and power service; towel and cleaning service; insurance; leases for all grounds, buildings, office or other space required by the agencies, with the exception of property under the control of the Housing Commission, Department of Community Development or any independent multiple member board established in accordance with the provisions of the FLINT CITY Charter; and the rental, repair or maintenance of equipment, machinery and other City owned personal property. The term shall not include professional and other contractual services which **THAT** have been proven to be unique and not subject to competition.

**DIRECTOR.** ~~The Director of Purchases and Supplies~~ **PURCHASING DIRECTOR AND/OR PURCHASING MANAGER.**

**PROCUREMENT CARD.**

**SUPPLIES.** All supplies, materials and equipment.

**§ 18-20 ~~DIRECTOR OF PURCHASES AND SUPPLIES~~ PURCHASING DIRECTOR.**

There is hereby created the position of **PURCHASING Director of Purchases and Supplies** who shall be a member of the Classified Service and shall be appointed by the Mayor **CITY ADMINISTRATOR** with the approval of the City Council. The **PURCHASING Director** shall perform all duties as provided herein **BY THIS ORDINANCE AND THE FLINT CITY CHARTER** under the direction of the Mayor **CITY ADMINISTRATOR** and shall perform such **ALL** other duties as may be prescribed by the Mayor **CITY ADMINISTRATOR**.



~~§ 18-21 DIRECTOR TO HAVE  
SUPERVISION OF PURCHASE AND  
DISTRIBUTION OF SUPPLIES,  
MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT.~~

~~The Director of Purchases and Supplies shall have general supervision of the purchase and distribution of all supplies, materials and equipment and shall perform all duties required by law and shall have the powers and duties prescribed by this article.~~

~~§ 18-21.1 ADDITIONAL DUTIES AND  
RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTOR.~~

~~The Director shall have the power and it shall be his duty:~~

~~(a) Purchase or contract. To purchase or contract for all supplies and contractual services needed by any agency in accordance with purchasing procedures as prescribed by this article and such rules and regulations as the Director shall adopt for the internal management and operation of the office of Director of Purchases and Supplies and such other rules and regulations as shall be prescribed by the Mayor as the purchasing functions related to executive staff offices and departments.~~

~~(1) Exceptions prohibited. The authority of the Director to negotiate all purchases for all agencies shall not be abridged by excepting by rule any particular agency.~~

~~(2) Unauthorized purchases. Except as herein provided, it shall be unlawful for any agency to order the purchase of any supplies or make any contract within the purview of this article other than through the Director and any purchase ordered or contract made contrary to the provisions hereof shall not be approved and the City shall not be bound thereby.~~

~~(b) Other powers and duties. In addition to the purchasing authority conferred in~~

~~subsection (a) above and in addition to any other powers and duties conferred by this article, the Director shall:~~

~~(1) Minimum expenditure. Act to procure for the City the highest quality in supplies and contractual services at least expense to the City.~~

~~(2) Encourage competition. Discourage uniform bidding and endeavor to obtain as full and open competition as possible on all purchases and sales;~~

~~(3) Purchasing analysis. Keep informed of current developments in the field of purchasing, prices, market conditions and new products, and secure for the City the benefits of research done in the field of purchasing by other governmental jurisdictions, national technical societies, trade associations having national recognition, and by private businesses and organizations.~~

~~(4) Forms. Prescribe and maintain such forms as he shall find necessary to the operation of this article.~~

~~(5) Standard nomenclature. Prepare and adopt a standard purchasing nomenclature for agencies and suppliers.~~

~~(6) Vendor's catalog file. Prepare, adopt and maintain a vendor's catalog file.~~

~~(7) Bulk purchases. Exploit the possibilities of buying "in bulk" so as to take full advantage of discounts.~~

~~(8) Tax exemptions. So as to procure for the City all tax exemptions to which it is entitled.~~

~~(9) Cooperation with Department of Finance. Cooperate with the Department of Finance so as to secure for~~

~~the City the maximum efficiency in budgeting and accounting to the extent required by the Director of Finance.~~

~~(10) — Disqualification of bidders. Have the authority, with the approval of the Mayor to declare vendors who default on the quotations or contracts irresponsible bidders and to disqualify them from receiving any business from the City for a stated period of time. Any vendor who feels himself aggrieved by the decision may, within ten (10) days of notification of such determination, make objections thereto, in writing, to the City Clerk. Within fifteen (15) days of the receipt of said notification, the City Council shall, after public hearing, make a final determination as to the disqualification of the vendor, which determination shall be final.~~

#### **~~§ 18-21.2 REQUISITION AND ESTIMATES.~~**

~~(a) — Requisitions or estimates. All agencies, either by or with the authorization of the head of the department under which the agency operates, shall file with the Director detailed requisitions or estimates of their requirements in supplies and contractual services in such manner, at such times, and for such future periods as may be required for budgeting and accounting purposes.~~

~~(b) — Unforeseen requirements. An agency shall not be prevented from filing, in the same manner, with the Director at any time a requisition or estimate for any supplies and contractual services, the need for which was not foreseen when the detailed estimates were filed.~~

#### **~~§ 18-21.3 ENCUMBRANCE OF FUNDS.~~**

~~Except in cases of emergency, the Director shall not issue any order for delivery on a contract or open market purchase until the Chief Finance Officer shall have certified, after pre-audit, that there is to the credit of the agency concerned a sufficient unencumbered~~

~~appropriation balance, in excess of all unpaid obligations, to defray the amount of such order.~~

~~(a) Vendor information shall be furnished on a monthly basis to City Council.~~

~~The Director shall furnish to the Council by the fifteenth day of each month a list of all vendors, with or without a contract, to whom money was owed as of the last day of the preceding month. In addition to the name of each vendor the list shall contain each vendor's address, and, as of the last day of the preceding month, the total amount of money owed to each vendor, and how much of the amount owed each vendor has been due for more than 30 days and more than 60 days.~~

~~A violation of this ordinance is considered a misdemeanor, punishable by a \$500.00 fine, and/or 90 days in jail.~~

#### **~~§ 18-21.4 COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIRED.~~**

~~All purchases of supplies, contractual services, or sales of personal property which is unsuitable for continued use, except as specifically provided herein, shall be based wherever possible on competitive bids.~~

#### **~~§ 18-21.5 FORMAL CONTRACT PROCEDURE.~~**

~~All supplies and contractual services, except as otherwise provided herein, when the estimated cost thereof shall exceed \$3,000.00 shall be purchased by written contract or purchase order from the lowest responsible bidder, after due notice inviting proposals; and no purchase in excess of \$3,000.00 shall be made by the Director and/or Manager, except upon the approval of the City Council. In the event that purchases made without City Council approval from any one supplier exceed \$3,000.00 in any fiscal year, City Council shall be informed of such in writing by the Director of Purchases and/or Purchasing Manager. All sales of personal property with an estimated value in excess of \$3,000.00 shall be~~

~~sold by written contract or bill of sale to the highest responsible bidder, after due notice inviting proposals.~~

~~(a) Notice inviting bids.~~

~~(1) Electronic media and/or newspaper.~~

~~a. Notices inviting bids/proposals shall be published at least five (5) days preceding the last day set for the receipt of proposals on the City of Flint website, any electronic media service, or at least one newspaper of general circulation in the City, if funding is available.~~

~~b. Scope of notice. The electronic media and/or newspaper notice required herein shall include a general description of the articles to be purchased or sold, shall state where bid blanks and specifications may be secured, and the time and place for opening bids.~~

~~(2) Bidder's list. The Director and/or Manager shall also solicit sealed bids from all responsible prospective suppliers who have requested their names be added to a "bidders list," which the Director and/or Manager shall maintain by directing prospective suppliers to the available electronic media source or by sending them a copy of such newspaper notice or such other notice as will acquaint them with the proposed purchase or sale. In any case, invitations sent to the vendors on the bidders' list shall be limited to commodities that are similar in character and ordinarily handled by the trade group to which the invitations are sent.~~

~~(b) Bid deposits. When deemed necessary by the Director and/or Manager, bid deposits shall be prescribed in the public notice inviting bids.~~

~~Unsuccessful bidders shall be entitled to return of bid deposits upon award of the contract. A successful bidder shall forfeit any bid deposit required by the Director and/or Manager upon failure on his part to enter a contract within ten (10) days after the award.~~

~~(c) Bid opening procedure.~~

~~(1) Sealed. All bids and proposals shall be submitted via either the electronic media source or in a sealed envelope to the Director and/or Manager and shall be identified as such electronic means or on the face of the envelope.~~

~~(2) Opening. Bids shall be opened in public at the time and place stated in the public notices and shall be witnessed by the City Clerk's designee.~~

~~(3) Tabulation. A tabulation of all bids received shall be available for public inspection.~~

~~(d) Rejection of bids.~~

~~(1) The Director and/or Manager shall have the authority to reject any bids, or any part thereof, when the public interest shall be served thereby; provided, however, that in such event the public interest shall be clearly stated in the notice of rejection.~~

~~(2) Bidders in default to City. The Director and/or Manager shall not knowingly accept a bid from a contractor who is in default on the payment of taxes, licenses or other monies due the City. Contracts with bidders who are found to have been in default at the time of award of the contract shall be voidable.~~

~~(e) Award of contract.~~

~~(1) Authority of the Director and/or Manager. The Director and/or Manager shall have the authority to award~~

~~contracts within the purview of this article, subject to the approval of the City Council.~~

~~(2) ———— Lowest responsible bidder. Contracts shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. In determining the “lowest responsible bidder,” in addition to price, the Director and/or Manager shall consider the following factors, among others:~~

~~a. — The ability, capacity and skill of the bidder to perform the contract or provide the services required;~~

~~b. — Whether the bidder can perform the contract or provide the service promptly, or within the time specified, without delay or interference;~~

~~c. — The character, integrity, reputation, judgment, experience and efficiency of the bidder in business;~~

~~d. — The quality of performance of previous contracts or services~~

~~e. — The previous and existing compliance by the bidder with laws and ordinances relating to the contract or services;~~

~~f. — The sufficiency of the financial resources and ability of the bidder to perform the contract or provide the services;~~

~~g. — The quality, availability and adaptability of the supplies, or contractual services, to the particular use required;~~

~~h. — The ability of the bidder to provide future maintenance and~~

~~service for the use of the subject of the contract;~~

~~i. — The number and scope of conditions attached to the bid;~~

~~j. — Compliance with the City’s affirmative action program;~~

~~k. — Other factors involved. A contract may be awarded to a bidder based on factors other than the lowest bid, including but not limited to the bidder’s competence, reliability and/or skills; provided that the Director and/or Manager submits a report detailing such factors to City Council subject to its approval.~~

~~(f) — Award to other than the low bidder. From the bidders so determined to be responsible, the Director and/or Manager shall award the contract to the lowest such bidder; provided, that in determining the lowest bid, the Director and/or Manager shall consider the bona fide business location of the bidder. If the lowest responsible bidder is not located within the City limits of Flint, and the lowest bid of the responsible bidders located within the City limits of Flint does not exceed that of the lowest nonlocal bidder by more than seven percent (7%), then the Director and/or Manager may determine said lowest local bidder to be the lowest responsible bidder, and make the award to such local bidder accordingly, subject to the approval of the City Council. Additionally, if the lowest responsible bidder is not located within the limits of the City of Flint, and the lowest bid of the responsible bidder located within the County of Genesee does not exceed the bid of the lowest nonlocal bidder by more than three and one half percent (3.5%), then the Director and/or Manager may determine said lowest Genesee County bidder to be the lowest responsible bidder, and make the award to such Genesee County bidder accordingly, subject to the approval of the City Council.~~

~~(g) — Irresponsible bidder; statement required.~~ When bidders are determined not to be responsible bidders and their bids would have been lower than the bid actually awarded, a full and complete statement of the reason for such determination shall be prepared by the Director and/or Manager and filed with the other papers relating to the transactions.

~~(h) — Performance bonds.~~ The Director and/or Manager shall, in his discretion, have the authority to require either a performance bond, cash deposit or surety, before entering a contract, in such amount as he shall find reasonably necessary to protect the best interests of the City.

~~(i) — Unique services.~~ Professional or personnel contractual services which have been proven to be unique and not subject to the requirements of the competitive bidding process in excess of \$2,000.00 cumulative for a fiscal year shall require City Council approval unless otherwise provided by the Charter or other law.

~~(j) — Prohibition against subdivision.~~ No contract or purchase order shall be subdivided to void the requirements of this section.

~~(k) — Termination of contract.~~ No contract or purchase which was made or awarded with the approval of the City Council may be terminated by the Director and/or Manager or any other member of the Executive Branch without first obtaining the approval of City Council for such termination.

#### **§-18-21.6 OPEN MARKET PROCEDURE.**

All purchases of supplies, contractual services, or sales of personal property which is unsuitable for continued use, which has an estimated value of less than three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00), may be made in the open market, without proper advertisement and without observing the procedure prescribed in § 18-21.5 for the award of formal contracts.

~~(a) — Minimum number of bids.~~ All open market purchases shall, whenever feasible, be based on at least three (3) competitive bids, and shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder in accordance with the standards set forth in § 18-21.5(e)(2).

~~(b) — Notice inviting bids.~~ The Director shall solicit bids by:

~~(1) — Direct mail request to prospective vendors; or~~

~~(2) — By telephone; or~~

~~(3) — By public notice posted on the bulletin boards of the City Hall.~~

~~(c) — Recording.~~ The Director shall keep a record of all open market orders and the bids submitted in competition thereon, and such records shall also be open to public inspection.

#### **§ — 18-21.7 PETTY EXPENDITURES REVOLVING FUND.**

Petty cash funds may be established within any agency with the approval of the Director of Finance. From this fund shall be paid all purchases not in excess of \$100.00 each, made by the heads of agencies for incidentals, with the approval of the Director. The Director shall promulgate rules and regulations for use of the petty expenditures revolving fund.

#### **§ — 18-21.8 CENTRAL WAREHOUSING; STOREROOM'S REVOLVING FUND.**

~~(a) — Administration.~~ The Director shall control and supervise storerooms and warehouses and shall administer the storeroom's revolving fund.

~~(b) — Storeroom's revolving fund.~~ There is hereby created a storeroom's revolving fund.

~~(1) — Accounting procedure.~~ Requisitions from supplies, in a storeroom or warehouse shall be credited by the Director to the storeroom's

~~revolving fund by a charge against the appropriation of the using agency.~~

~~(2) *Inventory.* The Director shall maintain a perpetual inventory record of all materials, supplies or equipment stored in storerooms and warehouses.~~

#### **~~§ 18-21.9 PRICE AGREEMENT CONTRACT PROCEDURE.~~**

~~The head of the agency shall have the authority to submit requisitions to the Director for supplies available under the terms of a price agreement.~~

#### **~~§ 18-21.10 EMERGENCY PURCHASES.~~**

~~(a) *Emergency defined.* For the purpose of this section only, an *EMERGENCY* constitutes a situation that threatens the public health, safety or welfare, and:~~

~~(1) Is unforeseeable;~~

~~(2) Calls for immediate action;~~  
~~and~~

~~(3) Cannot be responded to using established procurement methods.~~

~~(b) *By Director and/or Manager.* In case of an emergency that requires the immediate purchase of supplies or contractual services, the Director and/or Manager shall be empowered to secure by open market procedure and at the lowest obtainable price, any supplies or contractual service:~~

~~(1) Without City Council approval for amounts not exceeding \$10,000.00 per vendor during a six (6) month period;~~

~~(2) With City Council approval for amounts exceeding \$10,000.00 per vendor during a six (6) month period.~~

~~(3) *Recorded explanation.* The Director and/or Manager shall immediately file a report explaining the circumstances of an emergency purchase with the City Clerk to be entered into the minutes of the City Council and remain open to public inspection.~~

~~(c) *By head of department.* In case of an emergency which may result in the loss of:~~

~~(1) *Life.* The head of any agency may purchase directly any supplies or services necessary under the circumstances then in existence; or~~

~~(2) *Property.* The head of any agency may purchase directly only those supplies or services not to exceed \$10,000.00 during a six (6) month period without the prior approval of City Council.~~

~~(d) *Violation.* Any person in violation of making an unauthorized expenditure as outlined in this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a \$500.00 fine and/or ninety (90) days in jail upon conviction of the Court.~~

#### **~~§ 18-21.11 INSPECTION AND TESTING.~~**

~~The Director may inspect, or supervise the inspection of all deliveries of supplies or contractual services to determine their conformance with the specifications set forth in the order or contract.~~

~~(a) *Inspection by agency.* The Director shall have the authority to authorize agencies having the staff and facilities for adequate inspection to inspect all deliveries made to such agencies under rules and regulations which the Director shall prescribe.~~

~~(b) *Tests.* The Director shall have the authority to require chemical and physical tests of samples of deliveries which are necessary to determine their quality and conformance with the specifications. In the performance of such tests, the Director shall have the authority to make use~~

of laboratory facilities of any agency of the City government or of any outside laboratory.

#### **~~§ 18-21.12 SURPLUS SUPPLIES.~~**

~~All using agencies shall submit to the Director, at such times and in such form as he shall prescribe, an inventory of all supplies which are no longer used or which have become obsolete.~~

~~(a) *Transfer.* The Director shall have the authority to transfer surplus supplies to other agencies.~~

~~(b) *Sale.* The Director shall have the authority to sell all supplies which have become unsuitable for public use, or to exchange the same for, or trade in the same on, new supplies.~~

~~(1) *Competitive bidding.* Sales under this section shall be made to the highest responsible bidder and in conformance with §§ 18-21.5 or 18-21.6 hereof whichever is applicable.~~

#### **~~§ 18-21.13 COOPERATIVE PURCHASING.~~**

~~The Director shall have the authority to join with other units of government in cooperative purchasing plans when the best interests of the City would be served thereby.~~

#### **§ 18-21 PURPOSE AND SCOPE.**

THE VISION FOR THE CITY IS A WELL-MANAGED, FINANCIALLY STABLE, AND ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNMENT FOCUSED ON CREATING AND MAINTAINING A VIBRANT AND GROWING COMMUNITY THAT WILL ATTRACT AND RETAIN RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, STUDENTS AND VISITORS AND IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE. THE CITY'S MISSION IS TO ASSURE THAT RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, STUDENTS AND VISITORS RECEIVE MUNICIPAL SERVICES IN A CUSTOMER FRIENDLY

AND FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE MANNER.

STRUCTURING CITY OPERATIONS TO ACHIEVE THIS MISSION AND VISION HAVE REQUIRED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LONG RANGE STRATEGIC PLANNING AND BUDGETING. EQUALLY IMPORTANT IS ESTABLISHING THE PRINCIPLES BY WHICH GOODS AND SERVICES WILL BE OBTAINED.

THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING GOODS AND SERVICES MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH THE STRATEGIC PLAN. THERE MUST BE PROPER OVERSIGHT AND TRANSPARENCY, WITH A GOAL OF OBTAINING THE GOODS AND SERVICES THAT BEST MEET THE NEEDS OF CITY DEPARTMENTS. THE PROCESS MUST ENSURE COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT CONDUCTED IN AN ETHICAL AND TIMELY MANNER IN ORDER FOR THE CITY TO CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES. USE OF CITY RESOURCES FOR PERSONAL USE IS GROUNDS FOR TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT AND POSSIBLE CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.

PURCHASING GOODS AND SERVICES SUPPORTS THE BUSINESSES AND COMMUNITIES IN WHICH THE BUSINESSES RESIDE. ACCORDINGLY, WHEN FEASIBLE, IN TERMS OF QUALITY, COST, AND ACCESSIBILITY, THE CITY SHOULD MAKE GOOD FAITH EFFORTS TO PROCURE GOODS AND SERVICES FROM BUSINESSES WITH A PHYSICAL LOCATION WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS, AND IF NOT ABLE TO DO SO, TO MAKE SIMILAR EFFORTS WITH RESPECT TO BUSINESSES PHYSICALLY LOCATED IN GENESEE COUNTY AND/OR SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES.

§ 18-21.1 ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY.

THE FLINT CITY COUNCIL SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PERIODICALLY REVIEWING AND UPDATING THIS ORDINANCE, FOR MONITORING PURCHASING ACTIVITIES AS DESCRIBED WITHIN THIS ORDINANCE, AND APPROVING PURCHASES AS DESCRIBED WITHIN THIS ORDINANCE TO ASSURE THAT GOODS AND SERVICES OBTAINED BEST MEET THE NEEDS OF CITY DEPARTMENTS AND ARE OBTAINED IN A COMPETITIVE, TRANSPARENT, ETHICAL AND TIMELY MANNER THAT PERMITS THE CITY TO CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES.

THE MAYOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR EXECUTIVE OVERSIGHT OF THE PURCHASING OF ALL GOODS AND SERVICES FOR THE CITY, FOR APPROVING PURCHASES AS PROVIDED IN THIS ORDINANCE, AND FOR ASSURING THAT CITY COUNCIL IS PROVIDED TIMELY INFORMATION TO ENABLE IT TO CARRY OUT ITS OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES.

THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR SHALL PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT OF THE PURCHASING FUNCTION, FOR APPROVING PURCHASES AS PROVIDED IN THIS ORDINANCE, AND FOR PROVIDING THE CITY COUNCIL TIMELY INFORMATION TO ENABLE IT TO CARRY OUT ITS OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES.

THE FINANCE DIRECTOR SHALL SUPERVISE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, AND SHALL WORK WITH THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT HEADS AND OTHERS TO ASSURE THAT PROPER BUDGETARY AUTHORITY EXISTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES.

THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF ALL GOODS AND SERVICES FOR THE CITY UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS ORDINANCE. THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL ASSURE THAT ALL GOODS AND SERVICES ARE OBTAINED IN A COMPETITIVE AND ETHICAL MANNER AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROCESSES ESTABLISHED IN THIS ORDINANCE. THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL ALSO APPROVE PURCHASES AS PROVIDED IN THIS ORDINANCE. THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL ALSO DEVELOP AND RECOMMEND TO THE MAYOR THE APPROPRIATE PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS ARTICLE.

DEPARTMENT HEADS AND PERSONNEL DESIGNATED BY DEPARTMENT HEADS SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO OBTAIN GOODS AND SERVICES AS AUTHORIZED IN THIS ARTICLE. THE DESIGNATED PERSONNEL SHALL ALSO PROVIDE THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR WITH THE INFORMATION NEEDED TO ASSURE THAT THE GOODS AND SERVICES TO BE OBTAINED ARE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CITY.

ALL PERSONS WHO ARE AUTHORIZED TO PURCHASE GOODS AND SERVICES FOR THE CITY SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSURING THAT PURCHASES MADE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CITY, ARE OBTAINED ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS AS REQUIRED BY THIS ARTICLE, AND ARE DONE IN AN ETHICAL MANNER.

#### § 18-21.2 DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY.

THERE MUST BE PROPER OVERSIGHT AND TRANSPARENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE PURCHASE OF



GOODS AND SERVICES, WITH A GOAL OF OBTAINING GOODS AND SERVICES THAT BEST MEET THE NEEDS OF CITY DEPARTMENTS. THE PROCESS MUST ENSURE COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT CONDUCTED IN A TIMELY AND ETHICAL MANNER IN ORDER FOR THE CITY TO CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES. ALL PARTIES DELEGATED AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO ALL PURCHASES OF GOODS AND SERVICES ARE CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MAKING PURCHASES IN A COMPETITIVE AND ETHICAL MATTER, AND FOR ADHERING IN ALL RESPECTS TO THE CITY OF FLINT CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY.

THE AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO THE PURCHASE OF ALL GOODS AND SERVICES IS DELEGATED AS PROVIDED HEREIN:

DEPARTMENT HEADS AND EMPLOYEES SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED BY DEPARTMENT HEADS, AND APPROVED BY THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO BE ISSUED PROCUREMENT CARDS, AND ARE AUTHORIZED TO PURCHASE GOODS AND SERVICES FOR CITY PURPOSES, PROVIDED FUNDS ARE APPROPRIATELY BUDGETED AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT HEAD OR DESIGNATED EMPLOYEE FORMALLY AGREE TO ALL PROVISIONS REGARDING THE USE AND RECONCILEMENT OF THE CARDS, AS PRESCRIBED BY THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR. THE AMOUNT OF GOODS AND SERVICES PURCHASED IN ONE MONTH MAY NOT EXCEED \$10,000, UNLESS SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATION IS APPROVED BY THE FINANCE DIRECTOR, CITY ADMINISTRATOR, AND MAYOR UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR. THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR MAY SUSPEND

USE OF PROCUREMENT CARDS FOR FAILURE TO FOLLOW ESTABLISHED PROCESSES AND PROTOCOLS. USE OF PROCUREMENT CARDS FOR PERSONAL OR OTHER NON-CITY USE IS A VIOLATION OF THE CITY'S CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY AND MAY BE GROUNDS FOR TERMINATION AND POSSIBLE CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.

DEPARTMENT HEADS AND EMPLOYEES AUTHORIZED BY DEPARTMENT HEADS MAY REQUEST THE PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES BY FILING A PROPERLY COMPLETED REQUISITION WITH THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR. UPON RECEIPT OF THE REQUISITION, AND DOCUMENTATION THAT FUNDS HAVE BEEN PROPERLY BUDGETED, THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL CAUSE THE SOLICITATION OF REQUESTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE GOODS AND SERVICES TO BE MADE, FOLLOWING THE APPROPRIATE PROCESSES.

THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL ADHERE TO THE FORMAT OF THE SELECTED PROCESS AS DETAILED IN THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS:

§ 18-21.3 COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDDING.

(1) *CONDITIONS FOR USE.* ALL PROCUREMENT REQUESTS FOR THE CITY SHALL BE AWARDED BY THE USE OF COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDDING EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SECTIONS 18-21.4 (COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS), 18-21.5 (QUALIFICATIONS BASED SELECTION), 18-21.6 (SMALL PURCHASES), 18-21.7 (PUBLIC ENTITY PROCUREMENTS), 18-21.8 (SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT), AND 18-21.9 (EMERGENCY PROCUREMENTS), OF THIS ARTICLE.

(2) *INVITATION FOR BIDS.* AN INVITATION FOR BIDS SHALL BE ISSUED AND SHALL INCLUDE SPECIFICATIONS AND ALL CONTRACTUAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO THE PROCUREMENT.

(3) *PUBLIC NOTICE.* ADEQUATE PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE INVITATION FOR BIDS SHALL BE GIVEN NOT LESS THAN TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE SET FORTH FOR THE OPENING OF BIDS. THE NOTICE MAY INCLUDE PUBLICATION ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE, ANY ELECTRONIC MEDIA SERVICE, OR NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS PRIOR TO BID OPENING. THE PUBLIC NOTICE SHALL STATE THE PLACE, DATE, AND TIME OF BID OPENING.

(4) *BID OPENING.* BIDS MAY BE OPENED PUBLICLY IN THE PRESENCE OF ONE OR MORE WITNESSES AT THE TIME AND PLACE DESIGNATED OR RECORDED AND PUBLISHED IN AN ELECTRONIC INVITATION FOR BIDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM. THE AMOUNT OF EACH BID, AND ALL OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION, AS THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR DEEMS APPROPRIATE, TOGETHER WITH THE NAME OF EACH BIDDER SHALL BE RECORDED. THE RECORD AND EACH BID SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

(5) *BID ACCEPTANCE AND BID EVALUATION.* BIDS SHALL BE UNCONDITIONALLY ACCEPTED WITHOUT ALTERATION OR CORRECTION, EXCEPT AS AUTHORIZED HEREIN. BIDS SHALL BE EVALUATED BASED ON THE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN THE INVITATION FOR BIDS, WHICH MAY INCLUDE CRITERIA TO DETERMINE ACCEPTABILITY SUCH AS INSPECTION,

TESTING, QUALITY, WORKMANSHIP, DELIVERY, AND SUITABILITY FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. THOSE CRITERIA THAT WILL AFFECT THE BID PRICE AND BE CONSIDERED IN THE EVALUATION FOR AWARD SHALL BE OBJECTIVELY MEASURABLE, SUCH AS DISCOUNTS, TRANSPORTATION COSTS, AND TOTAL OR LIFE CYCLE COSTS. THE INVITATION FOR BIDS SHALL SET FORTH THE EVALUATION CRITERIA TO BE USED.

(6) *CORRECTION OR WITHDRAWAL OF BIDS; CANCELLATION OF AWARDS.* CORRECTIONS OR WITHDRAWAL OF INADVERTENTLY ERRONEOUS BIDS BEFORE OR AFTER BID OPENING, OR CANCELLATION OF AWARDS OR CONTRACTS BASED ON BID MISTAKES, MAY BE PERMITTED WHERE APPROPRIATE. MISTAKES DISCOVERED BEFORE BID OPENING MAY BE MODIFIED OR WITHDRAWN BY WRITTEN OR ELECTRONIC NOTICE RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE DESIGNATED IN THE INVITATION FOR BIDS PRIOR TO THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE BID.

(7) *LOCAL PREFERENCE.* FROM THE BIDDERS DETERMINED TO BE RESPONSIBLE, THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT HEAD REQUESTING THE GOODS OR SERVICES, SHALL DETERMINE THE RECOMMENDED BID AWARD. FROM AMONG THE RESPONSIBLE BIDDERS, THE RECOMMENDED AWARD SHALL BE TO THE LOWEST BIDDER; PROVIDED, THAT IN DETERMINING THE LOWEST BID, THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL CONSIDER THE BONA FIDE BUSINESS LOCATION OF THE BIDDER. IF THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER IS NOT LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS, AND THE LOWEST BID OF THE RESPONSIBLE BIDDERS LOCATED

WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS DOES NOT EXCEED THAT OF THE LOWEST NON-LOCAL BIDDER BY MORE THAN SEVEN PERCENT (7%), THEN THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL BE ALLOWED TO REQUEST THE LOWEST LOCAL VENDOR MATCH THE PRICE OFFERED BY THE LOWEST NON-LOCAL VENDOR. ADDITIONALLY, IF THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER IS NOT LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS, AND THE LOWEST BID OF THE RESPONSIBLE BIDDER LOCATED WITHIN GENESEE COUNTY DOES NOT EXCEED THE BID OF THE LOWEST NON-LOCAL BIDDER BY MORE THAN THREE AND ONE-HALF PERCENT (3.5%), THEN THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL BE ALLOWED TO REQUEST THE LOWEST LOCAL VENDOR MATCH THE PRICE OFFERED BY THE LOWEST NON-LOCAL VENDOR.

(8) *APPROVAL THRESHOLDS.* THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT HEAD SHALL JOINTLY RECOMMEND THE AWARD OF A BID UNDER THIS SECTION. IF THE BID AWARD IS LESS THAN \$20,000, THE DECISION OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL BE FINAL. IF THE RECOMMENDED BID AWARD IS IN EXCESS OF \$20,000, IT SHALL ALSO BE APPROVED BY THE FINANCE DIRECTOR; IF IN EXCESS OF \$30,000, IT SHALL ALSO BE APPROVED BY THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR; AND, IF IN EXCESS OF \$50,000, IT SHALL ALSO BE APPROVED BY THE MAYOR. ANY RECOMMENDED BID AWARDS IN EXCESS OF \$75,000 SHALL ALSO BE APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL.

(9) *ADJUSTMENTS TO NEGOTIATED AWARDS.* IN THE EVENT THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WAS FOR A PROJECT THAT EXCEEDS AVAILABLE FUNDS AS CERTIFIED BY THE FINANCE

DIRECTOR, THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR IS AUTHORIZED, WHEN TIME OR ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS PRECLUDE RE-SOLICITATION OF WORK OF A REDUCED SCOPE, TO NEGOTIATE AN ADJUSTMENT OF THE BID PRICE WITH THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, IN ORDER TO BRING THE BID WITHIN THE AMOUNT OF AVAILABLE FUNDS. ANY NEGOTIATED ADJUSTMENT SHALL BE BASED ONLY UPON ELIMINATING INDEPENDENT DEDUCTIVE ITEMS SPECIFIED IN THE INVITATION FOR BIDS.

(10) *MULTI-STEP SEALED BIDDING.* WHEN IT IS CONSIDERED IMPRACTICAL TO INITIALLY PREPARE A PURCHASE DESCRIPTION TO SUPPORT AN AWARD BASED ON PRICE, AN INVITATION FOR QUALIFICATIONS MAY BE ISSUED REQUESTING THE SUBMISSION OF UN-PRICED OFFERS TO BE FOLLOWED BY AN INVITATION FOR BIDS LIMITED TO THOSE BIDDERS WHOSE OFFERS HAVE BEEN DETERMINED TO BE TECHNICALLY ACCEPTABLE UNDER THE CRITERIA SET FORTH IN THE FIRST SOLICITATION.

#### § 18-21.4 COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS.

(1) *CONDITIONS FOR USE.* WHEN THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR DETERMINES THAT THE USE OF COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDDING IS EITHER NOT PRACTICABLE OR NOT ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE CITY, A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF GOODS OR SERVICES MAY BE ENTERED INTO BY USE OF THE COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS METHOD.

(2) *REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS.* PROPOSALS SHALL BE SOLICITED THROUGH A WRITTEN AND

**PUBLICALLY NOTICED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FORMAT.**

**(3) PUBLIC NOTICE.** ADEQUATE PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SHALL BE GIVEN IN THE SAME MANNER AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 18-21.3(3) (COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDDING, PUBLIC NOTICE). THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR WILL DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF TIME IN WHICH REQUESTS WILL BE SOLICITED.

**(4) RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS.** PROPOSALS SHALL BE PREPARED CONTAINING THE NAME OF EACH RESPONDENT, THE NUMBER OF MODIFICATIONS RECEIVED, IF ANY, AND A DESCRIPTION SUFFICIENT TO IDENTIFY THE ITEM OFFERED. THE PROPOSALS SHALL BE OPEN FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION ONLY AFTER BEING PUBLISHED.

**(5) DISCLOSURE OF RESPONDENTS, CONTENTS.** THE CONTENTS OF ANY PROPOSAL SHALL NOT BE DISCLOSED TO COMPETING RESPONDENTS UNTIL AFTER BEING PUBLISHED.

**(6) EVALUATION FACTORS.** THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SHALL STATE THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF PRICE AND OTHER EVALUATION FACTORS.

**(7) DISCUSSION WITH RESPONSIBLE RESPONDENTS AND REVISIONS TO PROPOSALS.** AS PROVIDED IN THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS, DISCUSSIONS MAY BE CONDUCTED WITH RESPONSIBLE RESPONDENTS WHO SUBMIT PROPOSALS DETERMINED TO BE REASONABLY SUSCEPTIBLE OF BEING SELECTED FOR AWARD FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLARIFICATION TO

ASSURE FULL UNDERSTANDING OF, AND CONFORMANCE TO, THE SOLICITATION REQUIREMENTS. RESPONDENTS WHO SUBMITTED PROPOSALS DETERMINED TO BE REASONABLY SUSCEPTIBLE OF BEING SELECTED FOR AWARD SHALL BE ACCORDED FAIR AND EQUAL TREATMENT WITH RESPECT TO ANY OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSION AND REVISION OF PROPOSALS, AND REVISIONS MAY BE PERMITTED AFTER SUBMISSIONS AND PRIOR TO AWARD FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING BEST AND FINAL OFFERS.

**(8) LOCAL PREFERENCE.** UNLESS THE FUNDING SOURCE FOR THE CONTRACT PROHIBITS SUCH PREFERENCES, THE PREFERENCE FOR LOCAL VENDORS AS OUTLINED IN SECTION 18-21.3(7) SHALL BE CONSIDERED.

**(9) APPROVAL THRESHOLDS.** THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT HEAD, SHALL EVALUATE THE PROPOSALS AND RECOMMEND AWARD OF THE CONTRACT UNDER THIS SECTION. IF THE RECOMMENDED AWARD IS FOR LESS THAN \$20,000, THE DECISION OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL BE FINAL. IF THE RECOMMENDED AWARD IS IN EXCESS OF \$20,000, IT SHALL ALSO BE APPROVED BY THE FINANCE DIRECTOR; IF IN EXCESS OF \$30,000, IT SHALL ALSO BE APPROVED BY THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR; AND, IF IN EXCESS OF \$50,000, IT SHALL ALSO BE APPROVED BY THE MAYOR. ANY RECOMMENDED AWARD IN EXCESS OF \$75,000 SHALL ALSO BE APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL.

**§ 18-21.5 QUALIFICATIONS BASED SELECTION.**

(1) *CONDITIONS FOR USE.* THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR MAY DETERMINE, WHEN REQUISITIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED, THAT PRE-QUALIFYING VENDORS FOR CONSIDERATION IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CITY.

(2) IN SUCH CASE, THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT HEAD, SHALL DEVELOP A REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS THAT WILL DEFINE THE REQUEST TO BE SOUGHT AND THE NECESSARY QUALIFICATIONS A QUALIFIED RESPONDING ENTITY MUST HAVE IN ORDER TO BE QUALIFIED TO RESPOND TO A PROPOSAL REQUEST.

(3) *PUBLIC NOTICE.* ADEQUATE PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS SHALL BE GIVEN IN THE SAME MANNER AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 18-21.3(3) (COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDDING, PUBLIC NOTICE).

(4) *RECEIPT OF QUALIFICATIONS.* A REGISTER OF QUALIFICATIONS SHALL BE PREPARED CONTAINING THE NAME AND QUALIFICATIONS OF EACH RESPONDENT. THE REGISTER OF QUALIFICATIONS SHALL BE OPEN FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION ONLY AFTER READ PUBLICLY.

(5) *EVALUATION OF SUBMISSIONS.* THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT HEAD, SHALL EVALUATE THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE RESPONDENT AND SHALL PREPARE A LIST OF RESPONDENTS DESIGNATED AS QUALIFIED. THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL ALSO PREPARE AND MAINTAIN A LIST OF RESPONDENTS NOT DESIGNATED AS PRE-QUALIFIED, IDENTIFYING THE

REASONS WHY THEY WERE NOT DESIGNATED AS PRE-QUALIFIED.

(6) THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR WILL CAUSE TO BE PREPARED A REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 18-21.1, AND ISSUED TO THE QUALIFIED RESPONDENTS.

#### § 18-21.6 SMALL PURCHASES.

AS PROVIDED IN THIS ARTICLE, DEPARTMENT HEADS AND SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED EMPLOYEES MAY BE ISSUED PROCUREMENT CARDS AND MAY PURCHASE GOODS AND SERVICES NOT EXCEEDING \$10,000 PER MONTH. THE PURCHASES SHALL NOT BE ARTIFICIALLY DIVIDED SO AS TO CONSTITUTE A SMALL PURCHASE UNDER THIS SECTION.

FOR PURCHASES UNDER \$10,000 PER MONTH, INCLUDING PURCHASES UTILIZING PROCUREMENT CARDS, THE DEPARTMENT HEAD AND AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEE SHALL, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE AND PRACTICAL AND IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CITY, SOLICIT COMPETITIVE QUOTATIONS TO PROVIDE THE GOODS OR SERVICES SOUGHT. WHEN POSSIBLE AND PRACTICAL, A MINIMUM OF THREE (3) WRITTEN QUOTATIONS AND COPIES OF ALL QUOTATIONS SHALL BE PROVIDED TO THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR FOR SMALL PURCHASE REQUESTS. IN THE ABSENCE OF SUFFICIENT WRITTEN QUOTATIONS, THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR MAY ELECT TO SOLICIT ADDITIONAL QUOTATIONS. THEY SHALL ALSO GIVE CONSIDERATION, WHERE POSSIBLE AND PRACTICAL, TO BUSINESSES WITH A PHYSICAL LOCATION WITHIN THE CITY, OR IF

NOT POSSIBLE, WITHIN GENESEE COUNTY.

THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR MAY ASSESS THESE PURCHASES AS TO THE FEASIBILITY OF FUTURE FORMAL COMPETITIVE PROCESSES FOR THE GOODS AND SERVICES BEING PROCURED IN THIS MANNER.

**§ 18-21.7 PUBLIC ENTITY PURCHASES.**

THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR IS AUTHORIZED, IF DETERMINED TO BE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CITY, TO PURCHASE GOODS AND SERVICES FOR THE CITY, RELYING ON COMPETITIVE PROCESSES UNDERTAKEN BY OTHER PUBLIC ENTITIES, INCLUDING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, MUNICIPALITIES, SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICTS AND AUTHORITIES, AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR MAY APPROVE OR RECOMMEND THE APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH THE VENDOR WHO HAS A CONTRACT WITH ANOTHER PUBLIC ENTITY FOR GOODS OR SERVICES THAT THE CITY WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE, IF AT A MINIMUM:

(1) THE CONTRACT IS FOR THE SAME GOODS, SERVICES, OR CONSTRUCTION AND AT THE SAME PRICE, TERMS, AND CONDITIONS AS ARE IN THE CONTRACT WITH THE OTHER PUBLIC ENTITY; AND,

(2) THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE PERSON AND THE OTHER PUBLIC ENTITY WAS AWARDED IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH PROCUREMENT BEST PRACTICES

AS DETERMINED BY THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR.

**§ 18-21.8 SOLE SOURCE PURCHASES.**

A PURCHASE ORDER AGREEMENT OR FORMAL WRITTEN CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES MAY BE AWARDED IN THE DISCRETION OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, WITHOUT A FORMAL COMPETITIVE PROCESS WHEN, AFTER CONDUCTING A GOOD FAITH REVIEW OF AVAILABLE SOURCES AND EXISTING EQUIPMENT, THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR DETERMINES THAT:

(1) THERE IS ONLY ONE SOURCE FOR THE REQUIRED SUPPLY, SERVICE, OR CONSTRUCTION ITEM; OR

(2) THE CHOSEN SOURCE IS THE BEST CHOICE IN THE INTERESTS OF EQUIPMENT STANDARDIZATION AND EFFICIENT OPERATIONS. THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT HEAD, SHALL OBTAIN A FORMAL PROPOSAL FROM THE VENDOR SPECIFIC TO THE NEEDED GOODS AND SERVICES, AND SHALL MAKE ALL GOOD FAITH EFFORTS TO SECURE A PRICE THAT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CITY. THE REQUESTING DEPARTMENT SHALL PRODUCE A WRITTEN EVALUATION OF THE PROPOSED SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE, DETAILING THE RATIONALE FOR THE RECOMMENDATION.

(3) THE PURCHASE FOLLOWS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL THRESHOLDS

OF § 18-21.3 COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDDING - SECTION (8) AND § 18-21.4 COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS - SECTION (9).

**§ 18-21.9 EMERGENCY PURCHASES.**

NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THESE REGULATIONS, THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR MAY MAKE OR AUTHORIZE OTHERS TO MAKE EMERGENCY PURCHASES OF SUPPLIES, SERVICES, OR CONSTRUCTION ITEMS WHEN THERE EXISTS A THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, OR SAFETY; PROVIDED THAT THE EMERGENCY PROCUREMENTS SHALL BE MADE WITH SUCH COMPETITION AS IS PRACTICABLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES. THE REQUESTING DEPARTMENT SHALL PRODUCE A WRITTEN RATIONALE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE NEED FOR AN EMERGENCY PURCHASE, THE COST, AND ANY EFFORTS MADE TO SECURE COMPETITIVE PRICES.

IF THE AUTHORIZED PURCHASE IS FOR LESS THAN \$20,000, THE DECISION OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL BE FINAL, AND A NOTATION WILL BE MADE IN THE ELECTRONIC RECORD KEEPING FOR THE PURCHASE REQUEST. IF TIME PERMITS, THE PURCHASE SHOULD FOLLOW THE REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL THRESHOLDS OF § 18-21.3 COMPETITIVE SEALED BIDDING - SECTION (8) AND § 18-21.4 COMPETITIVE SEALED PROPOSALS - SECTION (9).

**§ 18-21.10 REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY.**

THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, ON A MONTHLY BASIS, SHALL PREPARE A REPORT THAT PROVIDES TOTAL

EXPENDITURES WITH SPECIFIC VENDORS TO DATE THAT HAVE EXCEEDED A TOTAL OF \$10,000.00. THIS REPORT SHALL INCLUDE THE PURCHASE ORDER NUMBER, THE AMOUNT OF THE PURCHASE, THE DEPARTMENT REQUESTING THE GOODS AND SERVICES, AND A DESCRIPTION OF THE GOODS AND SERVICES.

THE REPORT SHALL BE MADE PUBLICALLY AVAILABLE VIA ELECTRONIC MEANS ON A MONTHLY BASIS. THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL BE AVAILABLE TO REVIEW THE REPORT AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AS MAY BE REQUESTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, OR THEIR DESIGNATED COMMITTEE.

**§ 18-21.11 CONTRACTS.**

WHERE FINAL AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF GOODS OR SERVICES REQUIRES A CONTRACT BINDING THE CITY, OTHER THAN THE ISSUANCE OF A PURCHASE ORDER OR USE OF A PROCUREMENT CARD, THE AGREEMENT MUST BE APPROVED BY THE CITY ATTORNEY BEFORE PRESENTING IT TO THE PERSON AUTHORIZED TO BIND THE CITY.

A MODIFICATION OF A CONTRACT MUST BE APPROVED IN THE SAME MANNER THAT THE CONTRACT WAS APPROVED. ALL CONTRACT MODIFICATIONS MUST BE IN WRITING AND APPROVED IN ADVANCE BY THE CITY ATTORNEY.

DEPARTMENT HEADS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MONITORING THE TERMS OF ANY AGREEMENT APPROVED FOR GOODS AND SERVICES FOR THEIR AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR AND DEPARTMENT HEADS SHALL ASSURE

THAT A CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM IS DESIGNED AND IMPLEMENTED TO ENSURE THAT A CONTRACTOR IS PERFORMING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SOLICITATION UNDER WHICH THE CONTRACT WAS AWARDED AND THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACT, AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL REQUIREMENTS OF ANY APPLICABLE GRANTS.

**§ 18-21.12 DUE DILIGENCE.**

AS PART OF THE EVALUATION OF ANY VENDOR PROPOSING TO DO BUSINESS WITH THE CITY, THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR OR DESIGNEE MAY, AT REASONABLE TIMES, INSPECT THE PART OF THE PLANT, PLACE OF BUSINESS, OR WORKSITE OF A CONTRACTOR OR SUBCONTRACTOR AT ANY TIER THAT IS PERTINENT TO THE PERFORMANCE OF ANY CONTRACT AWARDED, OR TO BE AWARDED, BY THE CITY.

THE CITY MAY ALSO, AT REASONABLE TIMES AND PLACES, AUDIT THE BOOKS AND RECORDS OF ANY CONTRACTOR WHO HAS SUBMITTED COST OR PRICING DATA AS A PART OF ITS BID OR PROPOSAL, TO THE EXTENT THAT THE BOOKS, DOCUMENTS, PAPER, AND RECORDS ARE PERTINENT TO THE COST OR PRICING DATA FOR THREE (3) YEARS FROM THE DATE OF FINAL PAYMENT UNDER THE CONTRACT.

**§ 18-21.13 REPORTING OF ANTICOMPETITIVE PRACTICES.**

WHEN FOR ANY REASON COLLUSION OR OTHER ANTICOMPETITIVE PRACTICES ARE SUSPECTED AMONG ANY BIDDERS OR RESPONDENTS, A NOTICE OF THE

RELEVANT FACTS SHALL BE TRANSMITTED TO THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

**§ 18-21.14 DEBARMENT OR SUSPENSION.**

THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, WITH THE CONSENT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY AND THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL, IS AUTHORIZED TO DEBAR A PERSON FOR CAUSE FROM CONSIDERATION FOR AWARD OF CONTRACTS. THE DEBARMENT SHALL BE FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN THREE (3) YEARS. AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE CITY ATTORNEY, THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR IS AUTHORIZED TO SUSPEND A PERSON FROM CONSIDERATION FOR AWARD OF CONTRACTS IF THERE IS PROBABLE CAUSE TO BELIEVE THAT THE PERSON HAS ENGAGED IN ANY ACTIVITY THAT MIGHT LEAD TO DEBARMENT. THE SUSPENSION SHALL BE FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED THREE (3) YEARS. THE CAUSES FOR DEBARMENT INCLUDE:

(1) CONVICTION FOR COMMISSION OF A CRIMINAL OFFENSE AS AN INCIDENT TO OBTAINING OR ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE CONTRACT OR SUBCONTRACT, OR IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THE CONTRACT OR SUBCONTRACT;

(2) CONVICTION UNDER STATE OR FEDERAL STATUTES OF EMBEZZLEMENT, THEFT, FORGERY, BRIBERY, FALSIFICATION OR DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS, RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY, OR ANY OTHER OFFENSE INDICATING A LACK OF BUSINESS INTEGRITY OR BUSINESS HONESTY THAT



CURRENTLY, SERIOUSLY, AND DIRECTLY AFFECTS RESPONSIBILITY AS A CITY CONTRACTOR;

(3) CONVICTION UNDER STATE OR FEDERAL ANTITRUST STATUTES ARISING OUT OF THE SUBMISSION OF BIDS OR PROPOSALS;

(4) VIOLATION OF CONTRACT PROVISIONS, AS SET FORTH BELOW, OF A CHARACTER THAT IS REGARDED BY THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR TO BE SO SERIOUS AS TO JUSTIFY DEBARMENT ACTION:

(A) DELIBERATE FAILURE, WITHOUT GOOD CAUSE, TO PERFORM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFICATIONS OR WITHIN THE TIME LIMIT PROVIDED IN THE CONTRACT; OR

(B) A RECENT RECORD OF FAILURE TO PERFORM, OR OF UNSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF ONE OR MORE CONTRACTS; PROVIDED THAT FAILURE TO PERFORM OR UNSATISFACTORY PERFORMANCE CAUSED BY ACTS BEYOND THE CONTROL OF THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED TO BE A BASIS FOR DEBARMENT;

(5) ANY OTHER CAUSE THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR DETERMINES TO BE SO SERIOUS

AND COMPELLING AS TO AFFECT RESPONSIBILITY AS A CITY CONTRACTOR, INCLUDING DEBARMENT BY ANOTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY FOR ANY CAUSE LISTED IN THESE REGULATIONS; AND

(6) FOR VIOLATION OF THE ETHICAL STANDARDS AS SET FORTH IN THE CITY OF FLINT CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY.

THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL ISSUE A WRITTEN DECISION TO DEBAR OR SUSPEND. THE DECISION SHALL STATE THE REASONS FOR THE ACTION TAKEN AND INFORM THE DEBARRED OR SUSPENDED PERSON INVOLVED OF THEIR RIGHTS CONCERNING JUDICIAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW. ANY PERSON RECOMMENDED TO BE DEBARRED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE GIVEN ADVANCE WRITTEN NOTICE AND SHALL BE AFFORDED THE RIGHT TO CONTEST THE RECOMMENDATION BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL.

#### § 18-21.15 BID PROTESTS.

(1) *RIGHT TO PROTEST.* ANY ACTUAL OR PROSPECTIVE BIDDER, RESPONDENT, OR CONTRACTOR WHO IS AGGRIEVED IN CONNECTION WITH THE SOLICITATION OR AWARD OF A PURCHASE ORDER AGREEMENT OR CONTRACT MAY PROTEST THE ACTION TO THE CITY.

(2) *PROCESS FOR FILING A PROTEST.* A PROTEST WITH RESPECT TO AN INVITATION FOR BIDS OR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR. THE PROTEST MUST BE ENTITLED "BID PROTEST" AND MUST CLEARLY

IDENTIFY THE SOLICITATION AND AWARD UNDER PROTEST, AND MUST STATE THE GROUNDS FOR THE PROTEST. THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL PROVIDE A COPY OF ANY TIMELY BID PROTEST TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL WITHIN SEVEN (7) CALENDAR DAYS OF ITS SUBMISSION.

(3) *TIME LIMITS FOR FILING.* PROTESTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR NO LATER THAN SEVEN (7) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE AGGRIEVED PERSON KNEW OR SHOULD HAVE KNOWN OF THE FACTS GIVING RISE TO THE PROTEST, AND IN NO EVENT LATER THAN FOURTEEN (14) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER AWARD OF THE PURCHASE ORDER AGREEMENT OR CONTRACT. FAILURE TO FILE A BID PROTEST WITHIN THESE TIME LIMITS CONSTITUTES A WAIVER OF THE PROTEST.

(4) *STAY OF PROCUREMENTS DURING PROTESTS.* IN THE EVENT A TIMELY PROTEST IS SUBMITTED TO THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR UNDER THIS SECTION, THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL NOT PROCEED FURTHER WITH THE SOLICITATION, AWARD, OR PERFORMANCE OF THE PURCHASE ORDER AGREEMENT OR CONTRACT UNTIL THE PROTEST IS SUSTAINED OR DISMISSED, OR THE CITY COUNCIL MAKES A DETERMINATION ON THE RECORD THAT THE AWARD OR PERFORMANCE OF A PURCHASE ORDER AGREEMENT OR CONTRACT WITHOUT DELAY IS NECESSARY TO PROTECT SUBSTANTIAL INTERESTS OF THE CITY; PROVIDED HOWEVER THAT IF THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE PURCHASE OF GOODS OR SERVICES IMPAIRS THE ABILITY OF THE CITY TO CARRY OUT ITS SERVICES, THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR, WITH THE APPROVAL OF

THE MAYOR, MAY TAKE NECESSARY STEPS TO OBTAIN THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF GOODS AND SERVICES NECESSARY TO ENABLE CITY SERVICES TO CONTINUE.

(5) *DECISION BY THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR.* THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL ISSUE A WRITTEN DECISION SUSTAINING OR DENYING THE BID PROTEST WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF RECEIPT OF A WRITTEN AND TIMELY PROTEST. A COPY OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR'S DECISION MUST BE PROVIDED TO THE PROTESTING BIDDER OR PROPOSER, THE MAYOR, AND THE CITY COUNCIL.

(6) *APPEAL TO THE MAYOR.* A PROTESTING BIDDER OR PROPOSER MAY APPEAL THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR'S DECISION TO THE MAYOR BY FILING A WRITTEN APPEAL WITH THE MAYOR WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR'S DECISION. THE MAYOR SHALL CONDUCT THE INVESTIGATION AS DEEMED NECESSARY TO RESPOND TO THE APPEAL, AND SHALL PROVIDE HIS OR HER DECISION ON THE APPEAL WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS.

(7) *APPEAL TO CITY COUNCIL.* A PROTESTING BIDDER OR PROPOSER MAY APPEAL THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR'S DECISION TO THE CITY COUNCIL BY FILING A WRITTEN APPEAL WITH THE CITY CLERK WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE MAYOR'S DECISION. THE PROTESTING BIDDER SHALL BE AFFORDED AN OPPORTUNITY AT THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL AND STATE THE GROUNDS FOR THE APPEAL. NO LATER THAN THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING, CITY COUNCIL

SHALL MAKE ITS DECISION ON THE APPEAL.

**§ 18-21.16 CONTRACT CLAIMS.**

(1) *DECISION OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR.* ALL CLAIMS BY A CONTRACTOR AGAINST THE CITY RELATING TO A CONTRACT SHALL BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR FOR A DECISION. THE SUBMISSION MUST IDENTIFY THE GROUNDS FOR THE CLAIM. THE CONTRACTOR MAY REQUEST A CONFERENCE WITH THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR ON THE CLAIM. CLAIMS INCLUDE, WITHOUT LIMITATION, DISPUTES ARISING UNDER A CONTRACT, AND THOSE BASED UPON BREACH OF CONTRACT, MISTAKE, MISREPRESENTATION, OR OTHER CAUSE FOR CONTRACT MODIFICATION OR RESCISSION.

(2) *NOTICE TO THE CONTRACTOR OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR'S DECISION.* THE DECISION OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL BE ISSUED IN WRITING WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF SUBMISSION, AND SHALL BE IMMEDIATELY MAILED OR OTHERWISE FURNISHED TO THE CONTRACTOR. THE DECISION SHALL STATE THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION REACHED, AND SHALL INFORM THE CONTRACTOR OF ITS APPEAL RIGHTS UNDER SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION. THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL CONSULT WITH THE CITY ATTORNEY PRIOR TO MAKING A DECISION DENYING THE CONTRACTOR'S CLAIM IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

(3) *FINALITY OF PURCHASING DIRECTOR DECISION; CONTRACTOR'S RIGHT TO APPEAL.* THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR DECISION SHALL BE FINAL AND CONCLUSIVE UNLESS, WITHIN

SEVEN (7) CALENDAR DAYS FROM THE DATE OF RECEIPT OF THE DECISION, THE CONTRACTOR MAILES OR OTHERWISE DELIVERS A WRITTEN APPEAL TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR.

(4) *APPEAL TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR.* A PROTESTING CONTRACTOR MAY APPEAL THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR'S DECISION TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR BY FILING A WRITTEN APPEAL WITH THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR'S DECISION. THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR SHALL CONDUCT THE INVESTIGATION AS DEEMED NECESSARY TO RESPOND TO THE APPEAL, AND SHALL PROVIDE HIS DECISION ON THE APPEAL WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS.

**§ 18-21.17 AUTHORITY OF THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR TO SETTLE BID PROTESTS AND CONTRACT CLAIMS.**

THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR IS AUTHORIZED TO SETTLE ANY PROTEST REGARDING THE SOLICITATION OR AWARD OF A PURCHASE ORDER AGREEMENT OR CITY CONTRACT, OR ANY CLAIM ARISING OUT OF THE PERFORMANCE OF A PURCHASE ORDER AGREEMENT OR CITY CONTRACT, PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF AN ACTION IN A COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION.

**§ 18-21.18 CANCELLATION OF SOLICITATIONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES.**

AT ANY TIME THE CITY DETERMINES THAT A SOLICITATION FOR GOODS OR SERVICES SHOULD BE CANCELLED BECAUSE IT IS NOT IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CITY TO MAKE THE PROCUREMENT, THE

PURCHASING DIRECTOR SHALL IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY THE POTENTIAL VENDORS OF THE CITY'S DECISION. HOWEVER, THE CITY SHALL HAVE NO OBLIGATION OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY COSTS OR INCONVENIENCES INCURRED BY ANY POTENTIAL VENDOR, UNLESS AN AWARD HAS BEEN FORMALLY MADE AND ACCEPTED BY ISSUANCE OF A PURCHASE ORDER OR SIGNING OF A CONTRACT.

#### § 18-21.19 ETHICS IN PURCHASING.

THE PROCESS OF PURCHASING GOODS AND SERVICES IS DESIGNED TO ENSURE COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT CONDUCTED IN AN ETHICAL AND TIMELY MANNER IN ORDER FOR THE CITY TO CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES.

ALL EMPLOYEES DELEGATED AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO ALL PURCHASES OF GOODS AND SERVICES ARE CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MAKING PURCHASES IN A COMPETITIVE AND ETHICAL MANNER, AND FOR ADHERING IN ALL RESPECTS TO THE CITY OF FLINT CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY. VIOLATION OF THE CITY OF FLINT CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY, INCLUDING THE USE OF CITY RESOURCES FOR PERSONAL USE OR GAIN IS GROUNDS FOR TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT AND POSSIBLE CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.

LIKEWISE, PERSONS OR ENTITIES PROPOSING TO, OR ENGAGED IN, THE PROVISION OF GOODS AND SERVICES TO THE CITY ARE CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PROPOSING AND PROVIDING GOODS AND SERVICES IN A COMPETITIVE AND ETHICAL MANNER.

WHILE A PROCUREMENT IS PENDING, BIDDERS AND PROPOSERS

SHALL NOT COMMUNICATE ABOUT THE SOLICITATION WITH ANY CITY EMPLOYEE, AGENT, OR ELECTED OFFICIAL, OTHER THAN THE PURCHASING DIRECTOR OR OTHER CITY PERSONNEL IDENTIFIED IN THE SOLICITATION.

TO THE EXTENT THAT VIOLATIONS OF THE ETHICAL STANDARDS OF CONDUCT SET FORTH IN THIS ARTICLE CONSTITUTE VIOLATIONS OF THE MICHIGAN PENAL CODE, THEY SHALL BE PUNISHABLE AS PROVIDED THEREIN. THE PENALTIES SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO THE CIVIL SANCTIONS SET FORTH IN THIS ARTICLE. CRIMINAL, CIVIL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS AGAINST EMPLOYEES OR NON-EMPLOYEES THAT ARE IN EXISTENCE ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ARTICLE SHALL NOT BE IMPAIRED.

IT SHALL BE UNETHICAL AND GROUNDS FOR DEBARMENT AND POTENTIAL CRIMINAL PROSECUTION FOR ANY PERSON TO OFFER, GIVE, OR AGREE TO GIVE TO ANY CITY EMPLOYEE A GRATUITY, AN OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT, OR ANYTHING ELSE OF VALUE IN CONNECTION WITH ANY DECISION TO APPROVE, DISAPPROVE, OR RECOMMEND THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT, OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY DECISION WITH REGARD TO A BID PROTEST, OR WITH INTENT TO INFLUENCE THE CONTENT OF ANY SPECIFICATIONS OR PROCUREMENT STANDARDS, OR ADVICE, INVESTIGATION, AUDIT REPORT, OR ANY OTHER ADVISORY COMMUNICATION RELATED TO A PROCUREMENT OR CONTRACT UNDER THIS ARTICLE.

IT SHALL BE UNETHICAL AND A VIOLATION OF THE CITY OF FLINT CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY AND

GROUNDS FOR POSSIBLE  
 TERMINATION AND CRIMINAL  
 PROSECUTION FOR ANY CITY  
 EMPLOYEE TO SOLICIT, DEMAND,  
 ACCEPT, OR AGREE TO ACCEPT FROM  
 ANOTHER PERSON A GRATUITY, AN  
 OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT, OR  
 ANYTHING ELSE OF VALUE IN  
 CONNECTION WITH ANY DECISION TO  
 APPROVE, DISAPPROVE, OR  
 RECOMMEND THE AWARD OF A  
 CONTRACT, OR IN CONNECTION WITH  
 ANY DECISION WITH REGARD TO A BID  
 PROTEST, OR WITH INTENT TO  
 INFLUENCE THE CONTENT OF ANY  
 SPECIFICATIONS OR PROCUREMENT  
 STANDARDS, OR ADVICE,  
 INVESTIGATION, AUDIT REPORT, OR  
 ANY OTHER ADVISORY  
 COMMUNICATION RELATED TO A  
 PROCUREMENT OR CONTRACT UNDER  
 THIS ARTICLE.

IT SHALL BE UNETHICAL AND  
 GROUNDS FOR DEBARMENT AND  
 POTENTIAL CRIMINAL PROSECUTION  
 FOR ANY PAYMENT, GRATUITY, OR  
 OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT TO BE MADE  
 BY OR ON BEHALF OF A  
 SUBCONTRACTOR UNDER A CONTRACT  
 TO THE PRIME CONTRACTOR OR  
 HIGHER TIER SUBCONTRACTOR OR  
 ANY PERSON ASSOCIATED  
 THEREWITH, AS AN INDUCEMENT FOR  
 THE AWARD OF A SUBCONTRACT OR  
 ORDER.

§ 18-21.14 18-21.20 SALE OR LEASE OF  
 CITY OWNED PROPERTY.

No interest in real property of the City of  
 Flint shall be disposed of, transferred, or  
 otherwise alienated unless by ordinance or  
 resolution of the City Council.

Sec. 2. This ordinance shall become  
 effective the 10<sup>th</sup> day of  
MAY  
 2014.

Adopted this 10<sup>th</sup> day of  
April, 2015 A.D.

Gerald Ambrose, Emergency Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Peter M. Bade, City Attorney

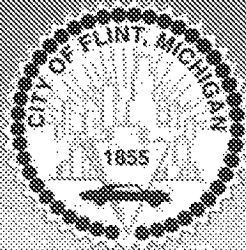
EM SUBMISSION NO.: EMA 1622015

PRESENTED: 4-9-15

ADOPTED: 4-10-15

S:\Ordinance Files\Purchasing Ordinance Final 04.02.15.docx

**Gerald Ambrose**  
Emergency Manager



**Dayne Walling**  
Mayor

**Jason Lorenz**  
Public Information Officer  
(810) 237-2039  
[jlorenz@cityofflint.com](mailto:jlorenz@cityofflint.com)

**For Immediate Release**

### **EM Updates Council, Requests support for Emergency Loan and District Court Consolidation; Adjusts Salaries for Mayor and Council**

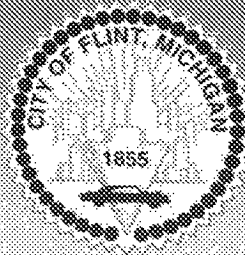
*Flint, Michigan – April 13, 2015* – By letter to City Council issued today, Emergency Manager Jerry Ambrose congratulated City Council for their recent actions committing to restoring and maintaining the City's financial solvency. Mr. Ambrose stated that recent actions to adopt a series of ordinances requiring commitment to establishing appropriate financial reserves and an improved planning and budgeting process indicate that the Council understands the need to restore and maintain Flint's financial solvency. "While there is much yet to do, these are positive steps in the right direction," said Mr. Ambrose. "The ongoing challenge will be to adhere to the requirements the City Council has adopted themselves."

Mr. Ambrose's letter also reiterated the priority issues currently facing the City – developing a long range financial plan, beginning with the upcoming FY16 and FY17 budget; continuing to address concerns with water safety, quality and affordability; and stabilizing resources for public safety. "These are clearly the top priority issues, and ones which require the cooperation of all if they are to be successfully addressed," stated Mr. Ambrose. "Unfortunately, resources are extremely limited, and we must make decisions which address the most critical issues in a financially sound manner – and that often means we cannot do everything everybody wants."

Some of the ingredients of restoring Flint's financial solvency on a sustainable basis, according to Mr. Ambrose, include obtaining a \$7 million loan to finance the accumulated

**–CONTINUE–**

**Gerald Ambrose**  
Emergency Manager



**Dayne Walling**  
Mayor

General Fund deficit and approving the consolidation of the 67th and 68th District Courts. Both issues are pending before City Council and Mr. Ambrose is hopeful for a quick positive response. "The terms and conditions offered with this loan equate to a good deal for the City and will enable it to begin to more quickly rebuild its financial solvency. Approving the court consolidation will reduce City expenses by \$8.4 million over the next 10 years and will help to provide some stability in funding other public safety services."

Mr. Ambrose also presented Council with actions he is taking to continue the progress towards transition, including an updated purchasing ordinance and an order officially defining the role of the new City Administrator as the chief administrative officer for the City. "Moving the City forward in today's environment requires professional managers, clear responsibilities, and modern practices," said Ambrose. "These actions move in that direction, and hopefully move the Council forward in truly becoming the governing body of the City, focused on policies and accountability for moving the City forward based on its vision, mission, and goals."

Recognizing the increasing role of the Mayor and Council as the City transitions to home rule with oversight by a Receivership Transition Advisory Board, Mr. Ambrose announced that he is reestablishing the salaries for Mayor and Council at the levels in place before the City was most recently placed into state receivership. He noted that Council meetings are now held twice per month, with committee meetings held once per month, and the Mayor is now much more engaged in a Chief Executive role. Continued receipt of the re-established salaries, however, will be contingent upon attainment of certain training levels. These training levels were established in prior orders of the Emergency Manager, and Councilmembers will have until November 1, 2015 to obtain it, or their salary will be reduced to the current level.

—END—

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**From:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2015 11:05 AM  
**To:** Hollins, Harvey (GOV)  
**Cc:** Muchmore, Dennis (GOV);Khoury, Nick (TREASURY);Saxton, Thomas (Treasury);Workman, Wayne (TREASURY);Lyon, Nick (DCH);Wyant, Dan (DEQ);Agen, Jarrod (GOV);Clement, Elizabeth (GOV);Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Re: Flint

Amen.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 15, 2015, at 11:00 AM, Hollins, Harvey (GOV) <[hollinsh@michigan.gov](mailto:hollinsh@michigan.gov)> wrote:

On the one hand, this is an infrastructure challenge that is not unique. A number of cities in Michigan, maybe not as pronounced, are dealing with water and sewage infrastructure challenges. Flint's problem is that it has 500 miles of iron piping that's over 60 years old, coupled with the fact that the city's population is half the size than it was at it's peak.

On the other hand, like roads, we need a broader state wide solution. Given the roads legislation, perhaps the solution is a fund that a city of a certain size or county can draw down with a required match that can be used to invest in roads, water or sewer.

Of course, Flint's residents are tapped out in terms of rates, taxes and fees, but in the end, they are still a municipality. Any solution the state provides needs to be available to other cities, and should function to assist the city, not total pay for their problem.

On Sep 15, 2015, at 10:26 AM, Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <[WurfelB@michigan.gov](mailto:WurfelB@michigan.gov)> wrote:

Caution that if Flint gets another allotment, we can expect every other large system in the state will be right on their heels. 15,000 homes in Flint is the estimate. That's a fraction of Detroit. ...

Perhaps this is an opportunity for Mott Foundation? Just a thought.

b

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 15, 2015, at 9:52 AM, Muchmore, Dennis (GOV) <[muchmored@michigan.gov](mailto:muchmored@michigan.gov)> wrote:

Nice of Dayne Walling to work with us before he called yesterday to tell me he was going to announce to City Council last night that Flint needs and deserves \$30M from the state for upgrades to their water system and a lead abatement program. Any thoughts on this?



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**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 3:54 PM  
**To:** Posthumus, Dick (GOV)  
**Cc:** Ackerman, Darin (GOV); Lange, Michelle (GOV); Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Flint Water  
**Attachments:** HB 4102 Flint amdts.pdf

Hi Dick,

Per your phone call with John, attached is what Nancy Vriebel gave me today. This is what she believes Sen. Ananich will offer to HB 4102 (FY 15 supplemental) when the bill is taken up on the floor next week.

2 amendments for the supplemental.

1. \$1.5 million to help get water filters in the homes of Flint residents. This amount will help 30,000 Flint residents get filters.

2. \$12 million to help expedite the goal of sourcing the public water supply from Lake Huron.

\*Switching back to the City of Detroit will cost the City of Flint \$1.5 million monthly. This money will be used to switch back to that source and/or expedite the construction of the KWA pipeline.

We are asking for money out of the Cleanup and Redevelopment fund. Bottle Deposit escheats (unclaimed deposits that revert to the state) are deposited into the Clean-up and Redevelopment Fund every year. Statute mandates that 80% of this revenue be deposited into the Cleanup and Redevelopment fund.

Fy 14'	\$13.6 million revenue
	\$16.1 Spent
	\$18.1 Balance
Fy 15'	\$13.6 million revenue
	\$16.6 Spent
	\$15.1 estimated balance

The fund will only continue to bring in more money. The percentage of bottles returned has dropped every year since 2007, meaning more money each year in the fund.

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**From:** GOV Newsroom <govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 02, 2015 1:58 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Rick Snyder: Comprehensive action plan will help Flint residents address water concerns



**Contacts:** [Sara Wurfel](#) or [Dave Murray](#)  
517-335-6397

[Brad Wurfel](#), 517-284-6713  
Department of Environmental Quality

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Friday, October 2, 2015

[Jennifer Eisner](#), 517-230-9804  
Department of Health and Human Services

**Editor's Note:** Click here for [infographic](#) and [action plan](#).

## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Comprehensive action plan will help Flint residents address water concerns**

*Collaborative effort with state, federal and city leaders focuses on testing, assistance*

FLINT, Mich. – Flint residents need to have access to safe, clean, water now and long into the future, Gov. Rick Snyder said, announcing a comprehensive action plan created with state, federal and city leaders to address concerns about drinking water.

The water leaving Flint's drinking water system is safe to drink, but some families with lead plumbing in their homes or service connections could experience higher levels of lead in the water that comes out of their faucets.

The action plan focuses on increasing water testing, offering additional precautions for families with lead plumbing in their homes, and providing long-term solutions to address the city's water infrastructure challenges. The plan was created at Snyder's direction by the Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Health and Human Services (DHHS), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the city of Flint.

“We are focused on helping ensure safe, clean, accessible drinking water and addressing and mitigating concerns and protecting public health,” Snyder said. “Today’s action plan builds upon ongoing work with local, state and federal agencies and our partnership with city and community leaders. Together, we are working to ensure that all Flint residents have accurate information and know that help is available to address potential problems.”

The city and the state also are working together to gather more data to ensure the water that leaves the treatment plant as well as the water that arrives in Flint homes is safe for all residents. The plan includes:

- Testing in Flint public schools immediately to ensure that drinking water is safe, with testing also available at no cost to any other school in Flint.
- Offering free water testing to Flint residents to assure their drinking water is safe.
- Providing free water filters to residents.
- Expanding health exposure testing of individual homes.
- Accelerating corrosion controls in the Flint drinking water system.
- Accelerating water system improvements to address replacing lead service lines.
- Expediting the completion of the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline.
- Expanding a Safe Drinking Water Technical Advisory Committee to ensure the best technology, practices and science are being followed by adding an expert from the Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of Research and Development to the group.
- Naming Dr. Eden Wells, chief medical executive for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, as the Flint drinking water public health adviser.
- Boosting a comprehensive lead education program to make sure residents have detailed information about how to protect themselves and their homes.

Residents can have their water tested by calling 810-787-6537 and pressing 1, or emailing [flintwater@cityofflint.com](mailto:flintwater@cityofflint.com). The DEQ is covering the cost of this testing.

State leaders have been working closely with state and federal lawmakers to tap resources at all levels of government to address concerns.

State health experts said there has been an increase in elevated childhood blood lead levels in some specific communities. Initial analysis of MDHHS data found that blood lead levels of children in Flint have followed an expected seasonal trend. While this analysis for Flint as a whole remains true, a comprehensive and detailed review breaking down data by ZIP codes with the city revealed that MDHHS data is consistent with a study presented recently by Hurley Children’s Hospital.

“While we cannot conclusively say that the water source change is the sole cause of the increase, this analysis supports our efforts as we take active steps to reduce all potential lead exposures in Flint,” MDHHS Director Nick Lyon said. “As part of this, we are working closely with our public and private partners to provide Flint residents on MDHHS assistance programs with free water filters and inform families about the steps they can take to reduce all lead exposures in their home.”

As a part of the action plan, National Sanitation Foundation certified water filters will be made available to Flint residents through emergency state funds and coordinated efforts with local community agencies and donors. Information about how to obtain the filters will soon be available.

“This action plan offers concrete steps we will take in a local, state and federal partnership to ensure all Flint residents have safe water to drink,” DEQ Director Dan Wyant said. “The DEQ will work closely with the city to gather further data to ensure the water that leaves Flint’s system as

well as the water that arrives in Flint homes is safe to drink.”

Additional information is available at [www.michigan.gov/flintwater](http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater).

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**From:** Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 2:02 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB);Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Subject:** FW: DRAFT City of Flint Solution

The requested number of staff can be revised down to 11. When I revised the staff total from 10 to 12, I didn't change the appropriation, so the dollar amount being requested is still \$1.5 M.

Thanks  
Maggie

---

**From:** Pohl, Allan (LARA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 7, 2015 1:42 PM  
**To:** Pallone, Maggie (DEQ) <[PalloneM@michigan.gov](mailto:PalloneM@michigan.gov)>  
**Cc:** Zimmer, Mike (LARA) <[zimmerm@michigan.gov](mailto:zimmerm@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: DRAFT City of Flint Solution

I only requested 1. Sorry I did not know Director Wyant was doing anything on our behalf. We are going to do this with existing staff plus one only if needed.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 7, 2015, at 1:15 PM, Pallone, Maggie (DEQ) <[PalloneM@michigan.gov](mailto:PalloneM@michigan.gov)> wrote:

Hi Al-

Is that in addition to the 2 staff we built into the proposal I sent to Mike an hour ago? Or do you only need 1 staff person?

---

**From:** Pohl, Allan (LARA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 7, 2015 1:03 PM  
**To:** Pallone, Maggie (DEQ) <[PalloneM@michigan.gov](mailto:PalloneM@michigan.gov)>  
**Cc:** Zimmer, Mike (LARA) <[zimmerm@michigan.gov](mailto:zimmerm@michigan.gov)>; Burton, Diane (LARA) <[BurtonD2@michigan.gov](mailto:BurtonD2@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: DRAFT City of Flint Solution

Hi, Maggie, please see below. What I failed to mention was 1 additional FTE. Thanks

Allan R. Pohl, Deputy Director, CFO  
Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs  
611 W. Ottawa, PO Box 30004  
Lansing, MI 48909  
(517) 335-1976

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**From:** Pohl, Allan (LARA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 12:58 PM  
**To:** Duncan, Nancy (DTMB) <[duncann1@michigan.gov](mailto:duncann1@michigan.gov)>  
**Cc:** Wyant, Dan (DEQ) <[WyantD@michigan.gov](mailto:WyantD@michigan.gov)>; Khouri, Nick (TREASURY) <[KhouriN@michigan.gov](mailto:KhouriN@michigan.gov)>; Saxton, Thomas (Treasury) <[SaxtonT@michigan.gov](mailto:SaxtonT@michigan.gov)>; Becker, Timothy (DHHS) <[beckert1@michigan.gov](mailto:beckert1@michigan.gov)>; Lyon, Nick (DHHS) <[LyonN2@michigan.gov](mailto:LyonN2@michigan.gov)>; Zimmer, Mike (LARA) <[zimmerm@michigan.gov](mailto:zimmerm@michigan.gov)>; Muchmore, Dennis (GOV) <[muchmored@michigan.gov](mailto:muchmored@michigan.gov)>; Hanley, Farah

(DHHS) <[hanleyf@michigan.gov](mailto:hanleyf@michigan.gov)>; McNeely, Jacques (DTMB) <[mcneelyj@michigan.gov](mailto:mcneelyj@michigan.gov)>; Harkins, Chris (DTMB) <[HarkinsC1@michigan.gov](mailto:HarkinsC1@michigan.gov)>; Fosdick, David (DTMB) <[FosdickD@michigan.gov](mailto:FosdickD@michigan.gov)>; Kimmith, Dean (DTMB) <[KimmithD@michigan.gov](mailto:KimmithD@michigan.gov)>; Shoemaker, Lisa (DTMB) <[shoemakerl@michigan.gov](mailto:shoemakerl@michigan.gov)>; Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB) <[harrisonj1@michigan.gov](mailto:harrisonj1@michigan.gov)>; Roberts, John (DTMB) <[RobertsJ9@michigan.gov](mailto:RobertsJ9@michigan.gov)>; Starr, Scott (DTMB) <[StarrS1@michigan.gov](mailto:StarrS1@michigan.gov)>; Peruchietti, Cindy (Treasury) <[PeruchiettiC@michigan.gov](mailto:PeruchiettiC@michigan.gov)>; Epkey, Amy (DEQ) <[epkeya@michigan.gov](mailto:epkeya@michigan.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: DRAFT City of Flint Solution

Hi Nancy, I discussed with Lisa earlier this morning that we are asking for \$200,000 Gross in a contingency fund transfer with Construction Code found revenue as the source.

Thanks

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 7, 2015, at 12:14 PM, Duncan, Nancy (DTMB) <[duncann1@michigan.gov](mailto:duncann1@michigan.gov)> wrote:

Colleagues,

Please find attached summary of where the State Budget Office believes we are based on this morning's meeting hosted by Director Wyant. This reflects the State commitment of resources towards provision of filters, reconnecting to Detroit Water & Sewage, and home/school/other inspections. Your quick review would be appreciated, since the Governor wants to share with legislative leaders yet today. I have included your budget officers to assist in the review.

Open issues are: (1) where to place the appropriation for the Flint re-connect and (2) whether (and what) boilerplate we may need/want.

Thanks.

*Nancy Duncan*  
Deputy State Budget Director  
517-373-0870

<City of Flint Water Funding Solution.pdf>

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**From:** GOV Newsroom <govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 6:13 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Snyder Media Advisory for Thursday, Oct. 8



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CONFIDENTIAL

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2015  
Contact: Sara Wurfel or Dave Murray  
Office: 517-335-6397

**Editor's Note: This advisory is for media planning purposes only and not for publication.**

**Thursday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m.**

Gov. Rick Snyder will make an announcement regarding the Flint water system. He will be joined by Flint Mayor Dayne Walling, Director of Environmental Quality, Dan Wyant, Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, Nick Lyon, Dr. Eden Wells, Chief Medical Executive at DHHS, and Ridgway White of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

A livestream option is also available at [www.michigan.gov/snyderlive](http://www.michigan.gov/snyderlive). If you wish to embed the event please visit <http://new.livestream.com/snyderlive> for more information.

Media must present valid press credentials on site.

**Location:**

Mott Foundation/Commerce Center Building – Conference Center, Ground Floor  
519 S. Saginaw St.  
Flint, MI

**Thursday, Oct. 8 at 7 p.m.**

Snyder will offer remarks at the Celebration of Life Gala supporting Magen David Adom (Israel's national 911 and emergency services).

Media must present valid press credentials on site.

**Location:**

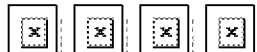
Adat Shalom Synagogue  
29901 Middlebelt Rd.



Farmington Hills, MI

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**From:** GOV Newsroom <govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 10:23 AM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Rick Snyder: Move back to Detroit water provides best protection for public health in Flint



**CONTACTS:**

Sara Wurfel or Dave Murray

Governor's Office: 517-335-6397

Brad Wurfel, 517-284-6713

Department of Environmental Quality

Jennifer Eisner, 517-230-9804

Department of Health and Human Services

Kathryn Thomas, 810-766-1734 Mott Foundation

Jason Lorenz, 810-237-2039 City of Flint

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015

## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Move back to Detroit water provides best protection for public health in Flint**

*State, city, Mott Foundation, join to fund switch until KWA is ready*

FLINT, Mich. – Flint families and children will be better protected by reconnecting with the Great Lakes Water Authority as the source of the city's drinking water until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed, Gov. Rick Snyder said.

Snyder said Thursday that he will request the state Legislature to provide half, or \$6 million, of the \$12 million needed to reconnect with the authority through next summer, when the KWA is expected to be completed. The Flint city government will provide \$2 million and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation has

committed \$4 million.

"All Flint residents need clean, safe drinking water," Snyder said. "The technical experts helping the city on its water advisory all agree this move back to the Great Lakes Water Authority provides the best public health protection for children and families. This effort today is the result of people coming together to solve a problem. I appreciate Detroit's willingness to reconnect with Flint, the Mott Foundation's generous commitment, and the dedication of all parties to come together to protect Flint families and children."

Flint city leaders requested the state's help to fund the reconnection and to assist with health and infrastructure issues. Flint's move to the Great Lakes Water Authority is expected to cost about \$1.3 million per month until the Karegnondi Water Authority is completed next summer.

"It's heartening to know so many people are working at so many levels to bring safe, clean water back to Flint," Mott Foundation President Ridgway White said. "We believe this transitional solution is the right and necessary thing to do, and we're glad we could help the state and the city make it happen."

The move to Detroit water, which is expected to carry, carries many public health benefits. As large bodies of water, the Great Lakes are naturally prone to fewer problems from large rain events and other runoff issues that can sometimes be present in shallower rivers. Additionally, the Great Lakes Water Authority water already has additional corrosion control, using phosphates to help coat the insides of pipes and limit lead from leaching into the water.

However, reconnecting with the authority will not completely resolve the city's problem with lead service lines or aging infrastructure. It will take time for pipes in Flint to become coated with the phosphate corrosion control. Additionally, some households in the city could experience lead in their drinking water until all lead pipes and plumbing are replaced.

"Reconnecting to Detroit is the fastest way to deliver clean, safe water to Flint and stabilize the infrastructure system," Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said. "I appreciate the state, the Mott Foundation, Detroit, and the county's participation in a solution for Flint's water problems. The health and safety of Flint's families, children and seniors is my top priority, and reconnecting to Detroit is a major step that the city could not take alone given budget constraints."

To best protect public health, Snyder said state and local authorities will continue to carry out steps outlined on Oct. 2 in a comprehensive action plan, including continued testing, the use of faucet filters and providing residents with accurate information about steps to eliminate lead exposure. The Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services today also committed an additional \$3.5 million for water filters, free lead testing through the state laboratory for Flint water customers, and hiring additional staff to conduct health exposure monitoring for lead in drinking water.

Free filters are available for current MDHHS clients at the 125 E. Union St. or 4809 Clio Road MDHHS office locations. For residents who are not currently enrolled in MDHHS assistance programs, free filters are available at the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department offices at 2727 Lippincott and 601 North Saginaw in Flint. Staff will be at all four locations from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, to distribute filters and assist residents who have questions about proper installation. At the Lippincott location only, extended hours will be offered this weekend, including until 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Other good practices for residents concerned about lead include turning on the cold water tap and running the water until it's as cold as it will go. Additionally, only use cold water for cooking, drinking and

especially mixing baby formula.

***School test results released; more investigation planned***

The state today also released the first results from its lead screening program in schools and homes. Of 37 total samples taken at 13 buildings, four samples spread over three buildings exceeded the federal action level of 15 parts per billion.

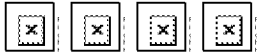
However, this sampling provides only an initial screen, and the state is committing to further testing water and inspecting plumbing at these schools. Until testing is complete, schools are advised to continue using bottled water and filtration as a precaution to protect children.

In addition, free testing is still available for any other Flint school, including daycares and Head Starts. Free testing is also available for any Flint resident.

Additional information, including more detailed lead screening results, is available at [www.michigan.gov/flintwater](http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater).

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**From:** GOV Newsroom <govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2015 4:55 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill authorizing funding for Flint to move back to Detroit water system



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COMB News Release

**Contacts:** [Sara Wurfel](#) or [Dave Murray](#)  
517-335-6397

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015

## Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill authorizing funding for Flint to move back to Detroit water system

*Temporary reconnection provides best protection for public health*



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Gov signs Flint water bill

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder has signed bipartisan legislation that will direct funding to the City of Flint's emergency water services to reconnect the city's water supply to the Great Lakes

Water Authority until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed.

“This funding is a coordinated response to a serious problem and I’m pleased so many parties came together to help deliver safe drinking water to the city of Flint,” Snyder said. “Reconnecting to the Great Lakes Water Authority is only the first step, as the state will continue testing and inspections to ensure Flint families and children have clean water in their homes and schools.”

House Bill 4102, sponsored by state Rep. Al Pscholka, authorizes \$6 million to move the city back to Detroit’s water system until the new pipeline is finished.

In addition to the \$6 million:

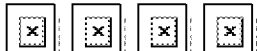
- \$300,000 goes to the Department of Environmental Quality’s drinking water and environmental health services;
- \$1 million will provide for DEQ to test drinking water samples;
- \$1 million allows the Department of Health and Human Services to purchase and distribute water filters to Flint residents;
- \$850,000 will aid in follow-up services for children, including testing, investigations, and case management for those with elevated blood lead levels;
- \$200,000 will fund state plumbing inspections for schools and health facilities.
- The City of Flint city government will provide \$2 million toward reconnecting the water supply and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation has committed \$4 million.

The bill was approved unanimously in both the House and Senate and is now Public Act 143 of 2015.

For more information on this and other legislation, please visit [www.legislature.mi.gov](http://www.legislature.mi.gov).

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**From:** GOV Newsroom <govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 21, 2015 2:07 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Rick Snyder announces Flint Water Task Force to review state, federal and municipal actions, offer recommendations



**Contacts:** [Sara Wurfel](#) or [Dave Murray](#)  
517-335-6397

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015

**Gov. Rick Snyder announces Flint Water Task Force to review state,  
federal and municipal actions, offer recommendations**

*Experts in public health, water management, environmental protection to focus on steps to  
protect residents*

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the creation of an independent advisory task force charged with reviewing actions regarding water use and testing in Flint and offer recommendations for future guidelines to protect the health and safety of all state residents.

Task force members include experts in public health and medicine, water management, and environmental protection from both sides of the aisle, and will be co-chaired by Ken Sikkema of Public Sector Consultants and Chris Kolb, of the Michigan Environmental Council. Also serving will be Dr. Matthew Davis of the University of Michigan Health System, Eric Rothstein, of the Galardi Rothstein Group and Dr. Lawrence Reynolds of Mott Children's Health Center in Flint.

"Transitioning back to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department-Great Lakes Water Authority is a good first step to protecting public health in Flint, but it's not the last step," Snyder said. "Bringing in outside experts to evaluate our actions and help monitor and advise on potential changes to law, procedures and practices will be key to continuing work on the comprehensive action plan and ensuring safe drinking water for all the residents in Flint and all of Michigan."

Snyder said the administration will fully cooperate with task force members, saying he wants an unbiased report focusing on steps taken in the past and recommendations that could improve practices to ensure all residents have access to safe, clean water.

**Ken Sikkema** is a senior policy fellow at Public Sector Consultants, where he specializes in public finance, environment, and energy policy. Prior to joining the firm, Sikkema served in both the Michigan House and Senate, culminating with four years as Senate majority leader. He has also served as both an adjunct and visiting professor at Grand Valley State University.

**Chris Kolb** is president of the Michigan Environmental Council, a statewide coalition of 70 environmental, public health and faith-based nonprofit groups. Before joining the MEC, Kolb represented Ann Arbor in the state House for six years and served six years on the Ann Arbor City Council. He has been president of the MEC for six years.

**Matthew Davis**, M.D., M.A.P.P., is professor of pediatrics and internal medicine at the University of Michigan Health System and professor of public policy at the Gerald R. Ford School at the University of Michigan, having joined the faculty in 2000. Davis also is a professor of health management and policy at the School of Public Health. He previously served as the chief medical executive of the Michigan Department of Community Health/Department of Health and Human Services.

**Eric Rothstein** is a national water issues consultant and principal at the Galardi Rothstein Group. He served as an independent advisor on the creation of the Great Lakes Water Authority. Rothstein also has served as Jefferson County, Alabama's rate consultant and municipal adviser for litigation related to the county's bankruptcy and issuance of \$1.7 billion in sewer warrants and led strategic financial planning for the City of Atlanta's Department of Watershed Management. He has more than 30 years of experience in water, wastewater and stormwater utility finance and rate-making assessments.

**Lawrence Reynolds**, M.D., is a pediatrician in Flint who serves as president of the Mott Children's Health Center. He received his medical degree from Howard University College of Medicine and has been in practice for 36 years. He has served as president of the Genesee County Medical Society and the Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. He has been honored for his humanitarian and advocacy efforts on behalf of children from the Community Foundation of Greater Flint.

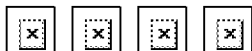
Snyder has said reconnecting with the authority is a critical step to resolving water quality issues and addressing related health concerns. It will not immediately resolve the city's problem with lead service lines or aging infrastructure. It will take time for pipes in Flint to become coated with the phosphate corrosion control.

To best protect public health, state and local authorities will continue to carry out steps outlined on Oct. 2 in a comprehensive action plan, including continued testing, the use of faucet filters and providing residents with accurate information about steps to eliminate lead exposure. The Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services are continuing to provide free water filters, free lead testing through the state laboratory for Flint water customers, and hiring additional staff to conduct health exposure monitoring for lead in drinking water.

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**From:** Bob Murphy <bmurphy@masu.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 03, 2015 7:02 AM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Stewardship - The State Universities of Michigan and the Public Good



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## Welcome to the First Edition of *Stewardship*

Welcome to the first edition of *Stewardship - The State Universities of Michigan and the Public Good*, brought to you by the Michigan Association of State Universities. Published monthly, *Stewardship* will serve as a media showcase for the tremendous outreach the state universities display in serving their students and communities as well as the State of Michigan and beyond. Covering issues as diverse as K-12 education, economic development, health care, environmental sustainability, and public safety, these media accounts will affirm that **Michigan's state universities are public universities serving the public interest.**

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## Civic Engagement & Civic Education

[Warming U.P. the Sault](#)

*The Sault Evening News* (Oct. 12, 2015)

[Bill Clinton to speak at MSU next month](#)

*Detroit Free Press* (Oct. 15, 2015)

[NMU shows off expanded archive](#)

*WLUC TV* (Oct. 15, 2015)

[Grand Valley State University announces speakers for 2016 MLK Commemoration Week](#)

*Holland Sentinel* (Oct. 19, 2015)

[Trayvon Martin lawyer talks to Central Michigan University on civil rights](#)

*USA Today* (Oct. 20, 2015)

[MSU debuts largest U.S. media collection in country](#)

*Detroit Free Press* (Oct. 20, 2015)

[Links between leadership and mental illness explored in Saginaw Valley State University Lecture](#)

Midland Daily News (Oct. 20, 2015)

Eight things to look out for at TEDx Oakland

The Oakland Post (Oct. 22, 2015)

NMU celebrates Make a Difference Day

WLUC TV (Oct. 24, 2015)

CMU students making Christmas brighter for vets

Midland Daily News (Oct. 25, 2015)

Presidential Candidate Martin O'Malley Comes to UM-Dearborn

The Michigan Journal (Oct. 27, 2015)

Talking on racism

Ferris State Torch (Oct. 28, 2015)

Native American Elder speaks at NMU

WLUC TV (Oct. 28, 2015)

## **Economic Development**

### ***Innovation and Entrepreneurialism***

White House honoring University of Michigan scientist

Detroit Free Press (Oct. 9, 2015)

Automation Alley opens Innovation Lab at Oakland University

The Oakland Press (Oct. 15, 2015)

Erickson: NMU committed to innovation

The Mining Journal (Oct. 20, 2015)

Central Michigan University Unveils MakerBot Innovation Center, First in Midwest

9 and 10 News (Oct. 22, 2015)

What can a city hall do for a business? [UMD]

Crain's Detroit Business (Oct. 29, 2015)

### ***Research, Development & Technology Transfer***

MSU celebrates 50 years of cyclotron beams

Lansing State Journal (Oct. 9, 2015)

Michigan State to expand lab for diamond growing

Detroit Free Press (Oct. 14, 2015)

How Michigan helped map path to the Internet

The Detroit News (Oct. 15, 2015)

NMU professor contributes to first field description of whale species

WJMN TV (Oct. 15, 2015)

Woolly mammoths WERE wiped out by hunters: Tusks suggest that calves were forced to wean earlier because of human predators [UM]  
*Daily Mail* (Oct. 16, 2015)

U-M botanical garden displays clone of ancient redwood  
*Detroit Free Press* (Oct. 20, 2015)

UM's \$150M biosciences initiative to add 30 faculty  
*The Detroit News* (Oct. 23, 2015)

Michigan State gets \$5.8M grant to improve potato production  
*WTOL TV* (Oct. 27, 2015)

## **Environmental Sustainability**

Oakland University to host symposium on climate change  
*The Oakland Press* (Oct. 8, 2015)

Michigan State researchers studying algae on Torch Lake  
*The Detroit News* (Oct. 12, 2015)

Grand Valley State University, Hastings Township complete sustainable rural recycling prototype  
*Holland Sentinel* (Oct. 14, 2015)

Invasive species conference held at NMU  
*WJMN TV* (Oct. 22, 2015)

Tech Green Enterprise recycles, hosts seminar  
*The Mining Gazette* (Oct. 22, 2015)

University of Michigan boosts biosciences, sustainability  
*WTOL TV* (Oct. 23, 2015)

WMU Prof.: Get ready for more-frequent, more-intense storms after Patricia  
*WTVB AM* (Oct. 29, 2015)

Permaculture garden holds Halloween block party [NMU]  
*WLUC TV* (Oct. 31, 2015)

## **Health Care**

University of Michigan study explores social relationships, well-being in Detroit area  
*The Tribune (IN)* (Oct. 12, 2015)

New \$93M Wayne State center to study health disparities  
*The Detroit News* (Oct. 13, 2015)

GVSU student: breast cancer can't stop me  
*WOOD TV* (Oct. 20, 2015)

CMU faculty performs breast cancer research  
*The Morning Sun* (Oct. 22, 2015)

Wayne State doctor: Women pass lead damage to grandkids  
*Detroit Free Press* (Oct. 24, 2015)

Let's talk about health care: All have stake in deciding resource allocation, experts say [GVSU]  
*MLive* (Oct. 27, 2015)

Blood lead clinic to be held for Flint children in Burton  
*MLive* (Oct. 29, 2015)

## **K-12 Outreach**

Students, teachers gain research experience from Saginaw Valley, Dow Foundation STEM program  
*Midland Daily News* (Oct. 19, 2015)

Iron Range STEM Showcase Offers Hands-on Science for All Ages [MTU]  
*WDIO TV* (Oct. 20, 2015)

Central Michigan University receives \$5 million STEM donation from Midland Foundation  
*Midland Daily News* (Oct. 21, 2015)

Blueberry program triples with 1,000 Genesee students, new scholarships [UM-E]  
*MLive* (Oct. 22, 2015)

U-M college prep program to offer full scholarships  
*Detroit Free Press* (Oct. 23, 2015)

Michigan Tech's residence halls to host Halloween Safe House  
*WLUC TV* (Oct. 23, 2015)

Grand Valley State, other colleges to host science demonstrations at Grand Rapids mall  
*Daily Journal (Indiana)* (Oct. 24, 2015)

Teaching Teachers To Teach: It's Not So Elementary [UM]  
*NPR*, (Oct. 24, 2015)

Trick-or-treat at the U-M Museum of Natural History  
*MLive* (Oct. 26, 2015)

## **Global Outreach**

International University Officers to Visit Zimbabwe  
*Voice of America - Zimbabwe* (Oct. 17, 2015)

## **Public Safety**

WMU student non-profit looks to bring awareness to domestic violence  
*WWMT TV* (Oct. 9, 2015)

Keenan: Wayne State police chief says campus is safe  
*The Detroit News* (Oct. 20, 2015)

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**From:** Bob Murphy <bmurphy@masu.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2015 2:45 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** This Week in Michigan Public Higher Education News - Dec. 18, 2015



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## December 13, 2015

This Week in Michigan Public Higher Education News will not publish again until January 2016. Happy holidays from all of us here at MASU!

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### In the News

#### Accountability

[MI Universities Show Compelling Growth \[Press release\]](#)  
*Business Leaders for Michigan* (Dec. 14, 2015)

#### Collaboration

[WMU weighs Battle Creek expansion](#)  
*Battle Creek Enquirer* (Dec. 15, 2015)

#### College Access & Affordability

[Poorest areas have low student debt, highest defaults](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 13, 2015)

[He's a college senior with a 3.4 GPA. And he's homeless. \[EMU\]](#)  
*Bridge Magazine* (Dec. 17, 2015)

[Update: Bridge readers open hearts, wallets for homeless college student \[EMU\]](#)  
*Bridge Magazine* (Dec. 18, 2015)

#### Diversity on Campus

[Pollack discusses campus diversity at Senate Assembly \[UM\]](#)  
*The Michigan Daily* (Dec. 14, 2015)

[Fixing faculty diversity: It's time we do more than just talk about it \[MSU\]](#)  
*Michigan Radio* (Dec. 15, 2015)

WSW: WMU President Says Campus Needs to Remain "Inclusive"  
*WMUK FM* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## **Economic Development**

Switch-ing off the brain drain [GVSU]  
*WOOD TV* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## **Educational Attainment**

More than 75 percent of seniors apply during Midland County College Application Week [SVSU]  
*Midland Daily News* (Dec. 13, 2015)

Study: Higher education is key to Michigan's future but comes with \$500M annual price tag  
*MLive* (Dec. 14, 2015)

Third generation UM-Flint student tours campus with grandpa, part of first class  
*MLive* (Dec. 16, 2015)

Congressman Dan Kildee, a CMU grad, to speak at daughter's CMU graduation  
*MLive* (Dec. 17, 2015)

Business, higher education partner to unveil "Keep Learning, Michigan" campaign  
*MLive* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## **Facilities Planning & Campus Improvement**

Western Michigan University selects design firms for Business Technology & Research Park expansion  
*MIBiz* (Dec. 11, 2015)

Medical school project at Western Michigan University receives honors  
*American School & University Magazine* (Dec. 11, 2015)

Canceled field trip prompts MSU to offer FRIB tour option  
*Lansing State Journal* (Dec. 11, 2015)

Wireless Internet lacking in most MSU dorm rooms  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 12, 2015)

City allocates funds for Washington/Bellows roundabout [CMU]  
*Central Michigan Life* (Dec. 14, 2015)

Repairs Of Eastern Michigan University's Athletic Dome Depends On The Weather  
*WEMU FM* (Dec. 15, 2015)

FRIB up for full \$100M in federal funding  
*Lansing State Journal* (Dec. 16, 2015)

U-M to build \$10M multicultural center  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 17, 2015)

Respect environment in developing WMU business park, public says at input session  
*MLive* (Dec. 18, 2015)

## **Governance**



[EMU's education faculty submits 'no confidence' vote in regents over EAA issue](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 15, 2015)

[EMU education faculty votes to censure regents' chairman after comments on EAA](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 18, 2015)

## Higher Education Finance - Institutional Dynamics

[NMU Board hears Students on Self-harm Policy, Approves Revised Budget, Property Sale](#)  
*WJMN TV* (Dec. 11, 2015)

[Schlissel: U-M shouldn't divest fossil fuel holdings](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 14, 2015)

[Appaloosa Protege to Manage Money for University of Michigan](#)  
*Bloomberg* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## Higher Education Finance - State Capital Outlay

[Lake Michigan College Gets State Help With Renovation Project](#)  
*WSJM FM* (Dec. 15, 2015)

## Higher Education Finance - State Operating Support

[State representatives face challenges in majority-GOP legislature](#)  
*The Michigan Daily* (Dec. 12, 2015)

## Higher Education Finance - State Student Financial Aid

[State's prepaid college plan opens 2016 enrollment](#)  
*The Macomb Daily* (Dec. 11, 2015)

## Institutional Leadership

[Wayne State president gets 2-year contract extension](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 15, 2015)

## Leadership Transitions

[EMU announces interim provost to replace departing Kim Schatzel](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 17, 2015)

[Board secretary Betty Kocher exits WMU after serving 7 presidents and dozens of board trustees](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 16, 2015)

[University of Michigan names Jack Hu V.P. for Research](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 17, 2015)

[Harvey Hollins tapped to lead Flint water effort](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## Philanthropic Support

OU student knows challenges of single parenthood, offers scholarship  
*The Oakland Press* (Dec. 11, 2015)

'World-class' \$7.5-million jazz hub set for Wayne State  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 13, 2015)

Novi schools get Japan Business Society donation [UM, EMU, JCMU]  
*Hometown Life* (Dec. 15, 2015)

House Family Foundation Gives \$2.3 Million to Michigan Tech  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 15, 2015)

WMU receives second grant for Fostering Success program  
*WWMT TV* (Dec. 15, 2015)

University of Michigan-Flint gets one of the largest donations in its history  
*MLive* (Dec. 17, 2015)

WMU president donates salary increase to school  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 18, 2015)

## Program Delivery

330-year-old violin granted to GVSU professor  
*Grand Valley Lanthorn* (Dec. 13, 2015)

CMU photojournalism students profile immigrants  
*WNEM TV* (Dec. 16, 2015)

## Recognitions & Awards

Sensible Explainer: Susan Dynarski [UM]  
*The Chronicle of Higher Education* (Dec. 13, 2015)

UF ranked second-best value for public universities [UM]  
*The Gainesville Sun (FL)* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## Safety & Health

Students address board members about wellness policies [NMU]  
*ABC 10 News* (Dec. 11, 2015)

Six takeaways from ASMSU's last meeting of the year [MSU]  
*The State News* (Dec. 11, 2015)

New law exempts young adults if they report drug abuse  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 16, 2015)

## Student Success

NMU graduates class of 2015  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 12, 2015)

Nearly 1,000 Grand Valley State graduates walk across stage

[MLive \(Dec. 12, 2015\)](#)

[Allegan man overcomes doctors' predictions, set to graduate from WMU](#)  
[WWMT TV \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

## Workforce Alignment

[Grant to fund police academy for Port Huron cadets \[FSU\]](#)  
[The Times Herald \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

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## Commentaries

[Some college, no degree, lots of debt: A burden for students, schools and communities](#)  
[Bridge Magazine \(Dec. 11, 2015\)](#)

[SVSU showing support to Muslims during critical time](#)  
[The Valley Vanguard \(Dec. 13, 2015\)](#)

[WMU has failed as Colony Farm Orchard steward \(Guest column\)](#)  
[MLive \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

[Is Southeast Michigan set to go over retirement cliff?](#)  
[Crain's Detroit Business \(Dec. 17, 2015\)](#)

[When it comes to talent, Michigan needs more of everything](#)  
[Bridge Magazine \(Dec. 17, 2015\)](#)

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## State & National Reports

### Michigan in Context

[REPORT: Current Term Enrollment Estimates - Fall 2015](#)  
[National Student Clearinghouse Research Center \(Dec. 15, 2015\)](#)  
Higher education enrollment for Fall 2015 in Michigan is down by 3.9% across all sectors of higher education providers.

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## The Dean's List

### The Lighter Side of the News

[SVSU coach, bowler, alum set national record one pin shy of perfection](#)  
[MLive \(Dec. 15, 2015\)](#)

[Watch this: U-M engineering dean's 'Star Wars' rap](#)  
[Detroit Free Press \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

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**From:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 29, 2015 8:56 AM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB); Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Flint Water

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/28/michigan-auditor-general-flint-water-debate/77982594/>

Kurt Weiss  
State Budget Office  
517-335-0050



**From:** GOV Newsroom <govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 29, 2015 2:45 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Rick Snyder takes action on initial findings from Flint Water Task Force



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**Contacts:** [Dave Murray](#), [Anna Heaton](#) or [Laura Biehl](#)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2015

517-335-6397

## **Gov. Rick Snyder takes action on initial findings from Flint Water Task Force**

*Changes to take place at DEQ, meeting planned with Mayor Karen Weaver*

In response to initial findings from the Flint Water Task Force, Gov. Rick Snyder today issued the following statement:

“When I became aware that the city of Flint’s water showed elevated lead levels and that the state’s handling of the situation was being questioned, I requested funding to switch the source back to the Great Lakes Water Authority and appointed an independent task force to identify possible missteps and areas for improvement.

“The task force has done an exceptional job, reviewing stacks of documents and interviewing scores of Flint, Genesee County, state and federal officials. Although the task force’s final report is not yet completed, members have made me aware of some interim findings and corrective steps that I have decided to take immediately in order to restore trust in how the state keeps its citizens safe and informed.

“We’ll continue to work with the community members to make sure we hear and respond to their concerns.

“In addition, MDEQ Director Dan Wyant has offered his resignation, and I’ve determined

that it's appropriate to accept it. I'm also making other personnel changes at MDEQ to address problems cited by the task force.

"But changes in leadership and staff are not enough. I understand there can be disagreements within the scientific community. That is why I have directed both the departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services to invite every external scientist who has worked on this issue to be our partners in helping us improve Flint water. Let's share research on water and blood lead level testing so we can arrive at accurate and mutually supported conclusions. Together, we should work to affirm that we're using the very best testing protocols to ensure Flint residents have safe drinking water and that we're taking steps to protect their health over the short and long term.

"I want the Flint community to know how very sorry I am that this has happened. And I want all Michigan citizens to know that we will learn from this experience, because Flint is not the only city that has an aging infrastructure.

"I know many Flint citizens are angry and want more than an apology. That's why I'm taking the actions today to ensure a culture of openness and trust. We've already allocated \$10 million to test the water, distribute water filters, and help in other ways. Last week, I called Flint Mayor Karen Weaver, and we're going to meet soon to discuss other ways the state can offer assistance.

"These are only initial steps - we fully expect to take more actions following the recommendations of our task force. When it comes to matters of health and quality of life, we're committed to doing everything we can to protect the well-being of our citizens."

# # #

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This email was sent to robertsj9@michigan.gov on behalf of: The Executive Office of the Governor - 111 South Capitol Avenue - Lansing, MI 48909 - 517-335-7858

December 29, 2015

Dear Governor Snyder:

The Flint Water Advisory Task Force, which you appointed on October 21, 2015, has devoted considerable effort and countless hours to our review of the contamination of the Flint water supply: what happened, why it occurred, and what is needed to prevent a recurrence in Flint or elsewhere in the state. We have also been assessing ongoing mitigation efforts to help assure that short- and long-term public health issues and water management concerns will be properly addressed to safeguard the health and well being of the Flint community.

Shortly after we began our work, we recognized the immediate need for better coordination of the state's response to the ongoing public health issues in Flint, and for assignment of a single person to provide this coordination. We addressed these concerns in a letter to you on December 7, 2015, and you responded with immediate adoption of these recommendations. We thank you for the commitment your response demonstrates.

In our continuing efforts, we have now interviewed numerous individuals at state and local levels; reviewed many documents, articles, and emails; and deliberated repeatedly as a group. Both individually and as a group, we have visited Flint several times during the past several weeks to meet with citizens, public health officials and healthcare providers, individuals who have water management responsibilities at the city and county levels, and other public officials.

It is clear to us, particularly as we listen to the people of Flint, that it is both critical and urgent to establish responsibility for what happened in their community and to ensure accountability. This is a first step in a long process to re-establish the trust they no longer have in their government and the agencies whose responsibility it is to protect their health. It is urgent because this deep distrust of government continues to compromise the effective delivery of protective services designed to address ongoing public health issues. It is for these reasons that we are sending this letter at this time.

**We believe the primary responsibility for what happened in Flint rests with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). Although many individuals and entities at state and local levels contributed to creating and prolonging the problem, MDEQ is the government agency that has responsibility to ensure safe drinking water in Michigan. It failed in that responsibility and must be held accountable for that failure.**

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) places responsibility for compliance with its requirements on the public water system. In this instance, the City of Flint had the responsibility to operate its water system within SDWA requirements, under the jurisdiction of the MDEQ. The role of the MDEQ is to **ensure** compliance with the SDWA through its regulatory oversight as the primary agency having enforcement responsibility for the Flint water system.

The MDEQ failed in three fundamental ways.

#### **Regulatory Failure**

We believe that in the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance (ODWMA) at MDEQ, a culture exists in which "technical compliance" is considered sufficient to ensure safe drinking water in Michigan.



This minimalist approach to regulatory and oversight responsibility is unacceptable and simply insufficient to the task of public protection. It led to MDEQ's failure to recognize a number of indications that switching the water source in Flint would—and did—compromise both water safety and water quality. The MDEQ made a number of decisions that were, and continue to be, justified on the basis that federal rules "allowed" those decisions to be made. ODWMA must adopt a posture that is driven not by this minimalist technical compliance approach, but rather by one that is founded on *what needs to be done to assure drinking water safety*.

A culture change must occur within ODWMA. It must be driven by a mission that is aspirational regarding the role of the MDEQ in ensuring the safety and the quality of Michigan's drinking water. We believe, and have expressed to MDEQ Director Dan Wyant, that as a Great Lakes State, Michigan should aspire to have the safest drinking water in the nation, rather than merely aiming for technical compliance with regulatory requirements.

### **Failure in Substance and Tone of MDEQ Response to the Public**

Throughout 2015, as the public raised concerns and as independent studies and testing were conducted and brought to the attention of MDEQ, the agency's response was often one of aggressive dismissal, belittlement, and attempts to discredit these efforts and the individuals involved. We find both the tone and substance of many MDEQ public statements to be completely unacceptable. In a real way, the MDEQ represents the public, including the very individuals it treated dismissively and disrespectfully in public statements. We recognize that the agency might disagree with the opinions of others on a variety of issues, including testing protocol, interpretation of testing results, the requirements of federal law and rules, and other matters. What is disturbing about MDEQ's responses, however, is their persistent tone of scorn and derision. In fact, the MDEQ seems to have been more determined to discredit the work of others—who ultimately proved to be right—than to pursue its own oversight responsibility.

### **Failure in MDEQ Interpretation of the Lead and Copper Rule**

The federal Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) is central to what happened in Flint, because that rule, at least theoretically, is designed to prevent lead and copper contamination of drinking water. The federal LCR calls for "optimized corrosion control treatment," which the MDEQ did not require in the switch to the Flint River. Prior to the switch, MDEQ staff instructed City of Flint water treatment staff that corrosion control treatment (CCT) was not necessary until two six-month monitoring periods had been conducted. The need for CCT would be evaluated after the results from those two monitoring periods were reviewed. The decision not to require CCT, made at the direction of the MDEQ, led directly to the contamination of the Flint water system.

The MDEQ seems to have taken different positions on whether it faithfully followed the LCR in the Flint situation. It first maintained that it followed the LCR, then stated that it did not follow the rule properly, and most recently claimed that a federal memorandum issued by the US EPA in early November 2015 suggests that the original MDEQ interpretation was possibly correct.

We are not convinced. Even the MDEQ's latest interpretation of the US EPA's November memorandum is overly legalistic and misunderstands the intent of the LCR, which is to minimize risks of lead and copper exposure for human health.

We believe ODWMA's single-minded legalistic focus is the heart of the problem, and it is part of the "technical compliance" culture described above. ODWMA should not be basing its actions solely on a

legally possible interpretation of the LCR. It should be focusing on how to protect Michigan's citizens from lead in drinking water.

We met with MDEQ Director Wyant on December 16, 2015, to discuss these issues, as well as many others. We note his substantial agreement with many of our conclusions, particularly as it relates to the regulatory failure and the abysmal public response of his agency. It is our understanding that he has drawn similar conclusions in his own evaluation of the MDEQ's role in the Flint water crisis. At the same time, it was disappointing to hear his weak defense of the CCT decision based on the EPA's November 2015 memorandum.

We are not finished with our work. Other individuals and entities made poor decisions, contributing to and prolonging the contamination of the drinking water supply in Flint. As an example, we are particularly concerned by recent revelations of MDHHS's apparent early knowledge of, yet silence about, elevated blood lead levels detected among Flint's children. We also feel it important to further review local government decision processes under emergency management. Our final report will highlight and discuss those concerns, among many others, to provide some context to a comprehensive series of recommendations. **As stated earlier in this letter, however, we believe that establishing responsibility is a critical and urgent need, and one that should not wait for our final report in 2016. Individuals and agencies responsible must be held accountable in a timely fashion.**

It is our hope that the heightened awareness of the dangers of lead poisoning can be an opportunity to make Michigan safer, particularly for its children. Drinking water must be recognized as a potential source of health risk exposure when water lines and fixtures containing lead are disturbed or compromised. Proper testing, not only in high-risk areas but also in facilities serving children (e.g., schools), must be considered. Facilitating long-term financing of a model public health program, and also replacement of lead-containing water service lines and fixtures, would enable Michigan to realize a positive lasting legacy from the tragedy of the Flint water crisis. Our final report will address some of these issues.

The City of Flint's water customers—fellow Michigan citizens—were needlessly and tragically exposed to toxic levels of lead through their drinking water supply. They deserve a commitment to properly assess responsibility and ensure accountability. They also deserve a commitment to needed mitigation in both the short and long term. The Flint water crisis never should have happened. Having failed to prevent it, state government should coordinate a sustained, public-health-focused response to remedy, to the fullest extent possible, the impacts on the Flint community.

Respectfully yours,

Flint Water Advisory Task Force:

Matt Davis  
Chris Kolb  
Larry Reynolds  
Eric Rothstein  
Ken Sikkema

**From:** Bob Murphy <bmurphy@masu.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 04, 2016 12:32 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Stewardship - The State Universities and the Public Good - Jan. 4, 2016



**January 4, 2016**

## **Civic Engagement & Civic Education**

[U-M Library lands papers of indie film producer](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 2, 2015)

[NMU Brings Holiday Cheer to Marquette](#)  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 2, 2015)

['Star Wars': WMU wants to know what the films have taught you about ethics](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 4, 2015)

[EMU student from Livonia launches campus food pantry](#)  
*Hometown Life* (Dec. 4, 2015)

[Muslim Student Association speaks out regarding San Bernardino attack \[MTU\]](#)  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 8, 2015)

[5 takeaways from Ben Carson's visit to Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti \[EMU, UM\]](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 9, 2015)

[UM-D students urge City Council to vote on Syrian refugee resolution](#)  
*Arab American News* (Dec. 10, 2015)

[LSSU Student Government seeks to create food pantry](#)  
*Sault Ste. Marie Evening News* (Dec. 11, 2015)

[University group works to organize shuttle bus service to help those who live downstate \[LSSU\]](#)  
*Sault Ste. Marie Evening News* (Dec. 12, 2015)

[NMU faculty, staff donate to Cheer Club](#)  
*The Mining Journal* (Dec. 13, 2015)

[Michigan student raises funds, hope for Humans of New York refugee scientist](#)

[USA Today \(Dec. 15, 2015\)](#)

[University forum discusses tactics about ISIS \[NMU\]](#)

[ABC 10 News \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

[Herrick Library to collect stories of Holland's Asian, Pacific Islander residents](#)

[Holland Sentinel \(Dec. 22, 2015\)](#)

[MSU creates center to help struggling Michigan local governments](#)

[Michigan Radio \(Dec. 29, 2015\)](#)

## **Culture & Placemaking**

[Concert caps off Native American Heritage Month \[UM\]](#)

[The Michigan Daily \(Dec. 1, 2015\)](#)

[Ferris State University Students to Put On Free Holiday Concert](#)

[9 & 10 News \(Dec. 8, 2015\)](#)

[National Endowment for the Arts awards Grand Rapids \\$50K in grants \[GVSU\]](#)

[MLive \(Dec. 8, 2015\)](#)

[University of Michigan students help fight blight in Detroit's Brightmoor neighborhood](#)

[WXYZ TV \(Dec. 11, 2015\)](#)

[GVSU music students to perform in national parks](#)

[WZZM TV \(Dec. 14, 2015\)](#)

## **Economic Development**

### **Innovation & Entrepreneurialism**

[Midland-based Map-N-Tour receives business accelerator funding \[OU\]](#)

[Midland Daily News \(Dec. 7, 2015\)](#)

[La. Tech faculty team selected for NSF Pathways to Innovation Program \[GVSU\]](#)

[The News Star \(LA\) \(Dec. 8, 2015\)](#)

[UM-Flint student starts bow tie business in his apartment](#)

[WJRT TV \(Dec. 8, 2015\)](#)

[Grand Rapids firm to begin trials on Alzheimer's drug that improves memory \[GVSU\]](#)

[MLive \(Dec. 9, 2015\)](#)

[Q&A: How clean-energy policies drive economic development \[OU\]](#)

[Midwest Energy News \(Dec. 10, 2015\)](#)

[A conversation with a queen of start-up innovation](#)

[The Detroit News \(Dec. 12, 2015\)](#)

[Grand Valley State University graduate students, alumni compete for \\$1M prize](#)

[Holland Sentinel \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

# Research, Development & Technology Transfer

Energy Department awards \$12.4 million to 4 Michigan projects [UM]  
*Crain's Detroit Business* (Dec. 1, 2015)

Simulation technology close imitation of fantasy films [CMU]  
*Central Michigan Life* (Dec. 6, 2015)

MSU helps to fight crime with CSI-style technology  
*Michigan Radio* (Dec. 7, 2015)

New software analyses words, gestures to detect lies [UM]  
*The Economic Times (India)* (Dec. 10, 2015)

10 Most Efficient Four-Wheel Drive Vehicles for Winter Weather [MTU, UM]  
*The Street* (Dec. 9, 2015)

WMU to hold first public input sessions on expansion of BTR Park  
*MLive* (Dec. 10, 2015)

Federal grant to help gather historical info on migrants [GVSU]  
*9&10 News* (Dec. 15, 2015)

MTU professor studies how to properly dispose of nano particles  
*The Mining Journal* (Dec. 15, 2015)

UM researchers win grant for protective gear research  
*Crain's Detroit Business* (Dec. 15, 2015)

Could Evolution Ever Yield a 'Perfect' Organism? [MSU]  
*Discover Magazine* (Dec. 16, 2015)

Humans Are Slamming Into Driverless Cars and Exposing a Key Flaw [UM]  
*Bloomberg* (Dec. 17, 2015)

The case of the sticky protein [MTU]  
*Phys.org* (Dec. 18, 2015)

Rare isotope accelerator takes shape on MSU's campus  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 22, 2015)

Cronyism Causes the Worst Kind of Inequality [UM]  
*Bloomberg View* (Dec. 24, 2015)

# Environmental Sustainability

Tech analysis backs dust charge  
*Mining Gazette* (Dec. 1, 2015)

[Limestone dumped in Lake Michigan aims to rehab reef \[CMU\]](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 2, 2015)

[Large solar dawns in Michigan, but residential incentives may sunset \[MSU\]](#)  
*Great Lakes Echo* (Dec. 4, 2015)

[Pollution sampling not so simple \[MTU\]](#)  
*Mining Gazette* (Dec. 5, 2015)

[EMU to hold State of the Strait conference](#)  
*Eastern Echo* (Dec. 5, 2015)

[Oil spill, high waves: A Great Lakes disaster scenario \[UM\]](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 6, 2015)

[Endangered or not? Scientists, lawmakers renew gray wolf debate \[MTU\]](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 13, 2015)

[New '2030 District' vows to slash downtown energy use by 50 percent \[GVSU, FSU\]](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 14, 2015)

## Faculty Perspective & Expertise

[WMU Professor: Progress made this week at Paris Climate Summit](#)  
*WNWN FM* (Dec. 4, 2015)

[Can you spot the crab? \[NMU\]](#)  
*The Straits Times [Singapore]* (Dec. 6, 2015)

[Michigan could soon part ways with straight-ticket voting \[NMU\]](#)  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 7, 2015)

[Flu Shots for Hospital Workers Save Lives \[UM\]](#)  
*The Wall Street Journal* (Dec. 13, 2015)

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[Northern Michigan Economists, Experts Reacts To US Interest Rate Uptick \[CMU\]](#)  
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[What does Federal interest rate hike mean for local consumers? \[OU\]](#)  
*The Oakland Press* (Dec. 16, 2015)

[Is a 'Star Wars' lightsaber possible? MSU profs explain](#)  
*Lansing State Journal* (Dec. 18, 2015)

[Q&A: Paul Isely, Associate Dean, Grand Valley State University Seidman College of Business](#)  
*MiBiz* (Dec. 20, 2015)

West Michigan doctor calls 'Concussion' movie an 'a-ha' moment for football players, coaches  
[GVSU, MSU]  
*MLive* (Dec. 22, 2015)

## Health Care

MSU Team Comes Up With Depression Plan  
*WILX TV* (Dec. 1, 2015)

RENEW-U exercise machine developed at Michigan Tech  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 4, 2015)

Water tests conducted at Flint homes by Wayne State University researchers  
*MLive* (Dec. 5, 2015)

UM survey: National teenage use of illegal drugs falls  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 16, 2015)

## K-12 Outreach

Students get hands-on introduction to STEM fields [OU]  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 2, 2015)

Hour of Code week [MTU]  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 8, 2015)

CMU mentoring program gives elementary kids a buddy during lunch  
*The Morning Sun* (Dec. 10, 2015)

'Shop With a Cop' brings holiday cheer to Ypsilanti area kids [EMU]  
*MLive* (Dec. 10, 2015)

Folk music camp coming to NMU  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## Global Outreach

See the world with fellow U-M, MSU, WSU alumni  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 12, 2015)

Indian-American Surgeon Aims to Save Lives on Indian Roads [MSU]  
*The New Indian Express [India]* (Dec. 20, 2015)

PUC partners international universities for research [SVSU]  
*STARR FM [Ghana]* (Dec. 30, 2015)

## Public Safety

Battle Creek base's new cyber unit to bring 70 new jobs  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 9, 2015)

Michigan Tech's ROTC comments on combat eligibility for women

*WLUC TV* (Dec. 10, 2015)

[New trial sought for man in Detroit girl's '96 murder \[UM\]](#)

*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 14, 2015)

[Saginaw approves \\$300K grant to help victims of crime \[SVSU\]](#)

*MLive* (Dec. 22, 2015)

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Michigan Association of State Universities | 101 S. Washington Square | Suite 600 | Lansing | MI | 48933



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**From:** GOV Newsroom <govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 05, 2016 4:28 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Snyder declares emergency for Genesee County



Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.  
COVER NEWS RELEASE

**Contacts:** [Dave Murray](#), [Laura Biehl](#), or [Anna Heaton](#)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2016

517-335-6397

**Editor's note: A copy of the official declaration is available at the link below.**

## **Gov. Snyder declares emergency for Genesee County**

*State Emergency Operations Center activated to assist with relief efforts*

LANSGING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today [declared a state of emergency for Genesee County](#) due to the ongoing health and safety issues caused by lead in the city of Flint's drinking water.

By declaring a state of emergency, Snyder has made available all state resources in cooperation with local response and recovery operations. The declaration authorizes the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) to coordinate state efforts.

"The health and welfare of Flint residents is a top priority and we're committed to a coordinated approach with resources from state agencies to address all aspects of this situation," Snyder said. "Working in full partnership with the Flint Water Advisory Task Force, all levels of government and water quality experts, we will find both short-term and long-term solutions to ensure the health and safety of Flint residents."

In addition to the emergency declaration, Snyder activated the State Emergency

Operations Center to coordinate state response and recovery activities. State agencies will report to the center to coordinate resources, assess the situation and begin providing assets to assist with local relief operations.

“Our staff recognizes the urgency of this situation and is already working closely with local officials,” said Capt. Chris A. Kelenske, Deputy State Director of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and commander of the MSP/EMHSD. “We will continue to collaborate with state, city and county leaders to coordinate relief efforts, streamline communication and use all available resources to help residents.”

On Jan. 4, Genesee County declared a “local state of emergency,” which activated local emergency response and recovery plans. By requesting a governor’s declaration, the county has determined local resources are insufficient to address the situation and state assistance is required to protect public health, safety and property to lessen or avert the threat of a crisis.

The city of Flint has been under a local emergency declaration since Dec. 14, 2015.

The SEOC is the emergency operations center for the state of Michigan. Located in Lansing, the center is overseen by the MSP/EMHSD and coordinates response and recovery efforts by state agencies and local government. The SEOC is staffed by members of state agencies and other partners for decision making and information coordination during disasters or emergencies in the state of Michigan.

#

STAY CONNECTED:



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This email was sent to robertsj9@michigan.gov on behalf of: The Executive Office of the Governor · 111 South Capitol Avenue · Lansing, MI 48909 · 517-335-7858

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**From:** Stibitz, Brom (Treasury)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 30, 2015 1:53 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Flint  
**Attachments:** FDCVT FY 15 - Preliminary Press Release Info 01 29 15.xlsx

The email you sent was referencing the new Financially Distressed Cities, Villages and Townships Grants (Pappageorge program).

See attached. Flint is the recipient of 2 grants. This is unrelated to CGAP funding. Treasury has been working with the Gov's comms teams for an announcement Monday.

---

**From:** Cole, Evah (Treasury)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 30, 2015 9:24 AM  
**To:** Stibitz, Brom (Treasury); Koryzno, Edward (Treasury)  
**Cc:** Kolka, Carolyn (Treasury)  
**Subject:** FW: FDCVT - Preliminary Press Release Info

Brom & Ed,

Attached for your information is the listing of FDCVT grant awardees. We will be announcing the grants on Monday.

Any questions, let us know.

Thank you.

Evah  
3-2864

---

**From:** Kolka, Carolyn (Treasury)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 29, 2015 4:58 PM  
**To:** Allard, Claire (GOV); Stanton, Terry A. (Treasury)  
**Cc:** Cole, Evah (Treasury)  
**Subject:** RE: FDCVT - Preliminary Press Release Info

We have tweaked the descriptions and one funding item.

Carrie

---

**From:** Kolka, Carolyn (Treasury)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 29, 2015 4:37 PM  
**To:** Allard, Claire (GOV); Stanton, Terry A. (Treasury)  
**Cc:** Cole, Evah (Treasury)  
**Subject:** FDCVT - Preliminary Press Release Info

Claire & Terry,

Attached is the preliminary press release for the Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Townships (FDCVT) Grant Program. The listing is sorted alphabetically by local unit.

We are awarding the full \$8.0 million that was appropriated.

The tentative plan is to make an announcement on Monday, February 2.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Carrie  
241-7417

	A	B	C
1			
2			
3			
4			
5	ID	Binder Tab Name	Primary Local Unit Name
6	1	Benton Harbor (Admin)	City of Benton Harbor
7	2	Benton Harbor (Water)	City of Benton Harbor
8	3	Ecorse	City of Ecorse
9	4	Flint (Incinerator)	City of Flint
10	5	Flint (Leak Detection)	City of Flint
11	6	Hamtramck (BS&A)	City of Hamtramck
12	7	Hamtramck (I&S Upgrades)	City of Hamtramck
13	8	Hamtramck (LED)	City of Hamtramck
14	9	Highland Park	City of Highland Park
15	10	Inkster (Assessor)	City of Inkster
16	11	Inkster (Infrastructure)	City of Inkster
17	12	Inkster (Justice Center)	City of Inkster
18	13	Inkster (Narcotic)	City of Inkster
19	14	Inkster (Police)	City of Inkster
20	15	Inkster (Road Patrol)	City of Inkster
21	16	Lincoln Park	City of Lincoln Park
22	17	Melvindale (Police)	City of Melvindale
23	18	Pontiac (Blight)	City of Pontiac
24	19	River Rouge	City of River Rouge

	D
1	<b>Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Townships (FDCVT) Grant Program</b>
2	<b>FY 2015 - Round 1</b>
3	<b>Preliminary Press Release Information</b>
4	
5	Project Title
6	City of Benton Harbor General Administration and Community Enhancement
7	City of Benton Harbor Water Distribution Infrastructure Enhancement
8	Revitalize Ecorse
9	Water Pollution Control Incinerator Shutdown
10	Water Main Leak Detection Survey and Condition Assessment
11	Reappraisal of All Parcels and Integration of Updated Data into the BS&A System
12	City Infrastructure & Public Safety Upgrade (Generator, HVAC, Security)
13	Convert 865 MV and 495 HPS Citywide Street Lights to 1,360 LED Lights
14	Water System Infrastructure Repairs and Billing System Remedies
15	Assessor Data Base Computerization
16	City of Inkster Infrastructure Repair Program
17	Justice Center Move
18	Inkster Narcotic Enforcement Team
19	Employee Development & Training for Inkster Police Department
20	Inkster Road Patrol
21	Protect Property Values Through Increased Efficiency and Enforcement
22	Critical Equipment and Operational Improvement - Police Department
23	Blight Management
24	Energy Efficiency Capital Improvements

	E	F
1		
2		
3		
4		
5	Project Description	Amount
6	Complete a property reappraisal to provide updated and accurate assessing records. Additionally, community enhancement through blight management and sidewalk replacement.	475,000
7	Water system enhancement through water main replacements and fire hydrant repairs.	434,960
8	Public safety enhancement through improved street lighting.	350,000
9	Water system enhancement through improved waste management.	1,100,000
10	Water system enhancement through leak detection and pipe assessments.	900,000
11	Complete a property reappraisal to provide updated and accurate assessing records.	167,860
12	Upgrade City Hall security.	50,000
13	Public safety enhancement through improved street lighting.	404,600
14	Water system enhancement through meter replacement, leak detection, and system repairs.	2,000,000
15	Complete a property reappraisal to provide updated and accurate assessing records.	73,460
16	Water system enhancement through fire hydrant repairs.	150,000
17	Provide a backup power source for public safety.	30,000
18	Public safety enhancement through the creation of a multi-jurisdictional narcotic team.	240,000
19	Public safety enhancement through police officer training.	41,970
20	Public safety enhancement through the deployment of an additional police officer.	320,000
21	Public safety enhancement through updated technology.	143,490
22	Public safety enhancement through fleet replacement of police vehicles and updated technology.	88,000
23	Community enhancement through blight management.	125,000
24	Public safety enhancement through improved street lighting. Additionally, infrastructure replacements to City Hall.	591,508

	A	B	C
25	20	Royal Oak (LED)	Charter Township of Royal Oak
26	21	Royal Oak (Police)	Charter Township of Royal Oak
27	Total		



	D
25	Conversion of High Pressure Sodium Street Lighting to LED Lighting
26	Proposal to Collaborate with Hazel Park for the Contractual Provision of Police Services
27	

	E	F
25	Public safety enhancement through improved street lighting.	86,559
26	Public safety enhancement of police services.	217,593
27		7,990,000

---

**From:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2015 4:53 PM  
**To:** Ackerman, Darin (GOV)  
**Cc:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Subject:** FW: Hamilton Dam

**Importance:** High

FYI

---

**From:** McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2015 4:25 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Cc:** Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)  
**Subject:** FW: Hamilton Dam  
**Importance:** High

Just spoke with the agency again, this is more of the Flint water system issue. Specifically, the Hamilton Dam has historically, been the secondary water source for the City, however, with the cancellation of the Detroit Water contract, this is now the primary water source, along with the Flint River. Hence the urgency . . .

Unfortunately, no state DEQ/DNR restricted or federal programs are available for dam repair/removal. Therefore, general fund support has been the default for years. According to a CRC report from 2007, ( see page 56 [here](#)) the City sought to utilize its sewer and water fund, however, learned it could not borrow from the State Revolving Fund to accommodate the \$7.5 million price tag. Given Flint's overall budget situation, and it's water challenges, this is just more of the same . . .

---

**From:** McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2015 4:13 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Cc:** Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Hamilton Dam

John,

DNR indicates this 100 year old structure, located outside of the U of M Flint campus, is rated as "unsatisfactory" by DEQ/DNR technical staff, with an estimated price tag to repair in the \$7.5 million range (2007 report). The City of Flint owns the structure, and State resources to address are simply non-existent.

Specifically, DNR has some \$350,000 GF/GP appropriated for dam management assistance statewide. One-time GF/GP support of \$2 million was provided in Fy13 for statewide efforts, however, we have been unable to add more monies to date.

[Note: DNR got off of my call to field an heavily anticipated incoming from a scientist knowledgeable about this project. I will provide further update once the agency calls back.]

Jacques

---

**From:** Root, Timothy (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 05, 2015 8:28 AM  
**To:** Root, Rhonda (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RE: NEWS UPDATE--State To Contribute \$1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix

Yes, I know. I agree. I would be moving ASAP. My parents are so stubborn though.

---

**From:** Root, Rhonda (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 05, 2015 8:27 AM  
**To:** Root, Timothy (DTMB)  
**Subject:** FW: NEWS UPDATE--State To Contribute \$1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix

All I can say is, I am so glad we no longer live in Flint. Yikes!! – this stuff is very scary!! You are messing with people's lives literally.

*Rhonda Root*

Senior Executive Management Assistant to  
DTMB General Manager  
Agency Services supporting Treasury, MIECC and Lottery  
Department of Technology, Management and Budget  
Austin Building  
430 West Allegan Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Lansing, Michigan 48933  
(517) 241-1634

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**From:** gongwerreports@gongwer.com [mailto:gongwerreports@gongwer.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 02, 2015 2:46 PM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_updates@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** NEWS UPDATE--State To Contribute \$1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix



Friday, October 2, 2015, 02:45 PM

## State To Contribute \$1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix

In the short term, Flint residents will have access to water filters, some purchased with state funds, and in the longer term the city will be improving its corrosion controls to keep lead out of water supplies, state and city officials said today in unveiling a plan to address recent water safety concerns in the city.

Moving Flint back to getting water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage System is also still on the table for both state and local officials, but will require negotiations, both sides said.

Both sides said the water itself is not the source of lead and the city will be working in the coming years to replace the lead service lines that are the source.

Environmental Quality Direct Dan Wyant acknowledged that testing shows increased lead levels in the water since the city moved from the Detroit system in 2014, but he argued the problem was the switch and not the water source. He said one of the state's efforts is to ensure the city has sufficient corrosion controls in place so when it switches sources again away from the Flint River, the problem does not recur.

Mr. Wyant said the state has continued quarterly testing of the city's water source and those tests have continued to show no lead.

Eden Wells, chief medical officer for the state, said blood tests for children in the city did not change after the water change, but she said tests of children in two high-risk ZIP codes did, as tests by Hurley Medical Center had shown earlier, show increased blood lead levels in those areas after the water change.

But she and others said it was still not confirmed that the water was the source of the additional lead exposure.

Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said the city was still considering switching back to Detroit water while efforts to finish an agreement with Karegnondi Water Authority are completed. But he said the switch would cost the city up to \$2 million a month it does not have.

Mr. Wyant, asked if the state would cover those costs, said only that the state had committed \$1 million already toward the problem but that Governor Rick Snyder had said he would be willing to mediate discussions between the city and the Detroit system.

Gongwer News Service will have more on this story in the full Michigan Report.

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**From:** Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 28, 2015 5:35 PM  
**To:** Ruff, Susan (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Monday, December 28, 2015  
**Attachments:** Dec28.htm; 151228plan.htm; 151228dayplan.htm



## Michigan Report for Monday, December 28, 2015

Auditor General Criticizes, Supports DEQ On Flint Water

Lyon: Flint Did Not Meet Lead Expectations, Wants Department More Preventative Oriented

Ananich Reflects On Rocky Year For Caucus, Hometown

Supreme Court To Hear Transmission Line Case

Campaign Finance Bill Presented, But No Signings Anticipated This Week

Dow Sues Treasury In New Tax Dispute

Snyder Activates Emergency Operations Center In Response To Winter Storm

## Calendars

Day Planner

Event Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #252 -- Monday, December 28, 2015

### Auditor General Criticizes, Supports DEQ On Flint Water

Democrats saw "serious failings" of the system in an { HYPERLINK "http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/finalpdfs/15\_16/1761032015.pdf" \t "blank" } released Monday from the Office of the Auditor General on the state's ability to adequately address a drinking water crisis in the city of Flint earlier this year.

The report primarily consisted of answers to questions posed by Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) in a letter he sent to the auditor general in October during the height of the water crisis, but Mr. Ananich and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said in a statement that some of those answers "confirmed that Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality failed to ensure proper corrosion control was used to treat Flint River water and that the state was responsible for the decision to use the river as the city of Flint's primary drinking water source."

Mr. Ananich also said the results suggest that legislative oversight of the situation was best and expected hearings on the situation to be "high on the agenda" when the Legislature returns.

"What's clear is that corrosion control should have been used and there are serious failings in our system that must be addressed," he said in the statement. "Between the FOIA emails released recently and these findings, it's obvious that legislative oversight is the best way to see how all of these pieces fit together."

But the administration saw the responses differently.

"The letter from the Office of the Auditor General includes some criticisms, but also reflects that state officials were following accepted protocols, or in one case, an interpretation of the corrosion control program that the EPA later clarified," Dave Murray, spokesperson for { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, said in a statement.

"But we need to do better in ensuring Flint residents have safe water and tracking children affected by elevated lead levels. We continue to work with the bipartisan task force that is reviewing all the actions at the state, local and federal level and is expected to offer recommendations in a month or so. Governor Snyder is committed to working with Flint Mayor Weaver and officials on these issues," Mr. Murray said.

And DEQ spokesperson Brad Wurfel said the department agreed with the findings in the AG's review.

"The findings align with our internal department review," he said. "We appreciate the auditor general's work to provide a fair and well considered look at some key issues."

One key finding was supporting the DEQ's decision to drop the two samples with the highest lead content in its second six-month sample. That decision has come under withering scrutiny, but the auditor general report set it was appropriate under federal rules.

The report answered questions on how the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance ensures the data it receives is accurate - to which the auditor general noted two potential improvements for the Flint water sampling process - and what accountability measures are in place for office staff who fail to follow data verification protocols.

"DEQ does not provide any direct oversight over the Flint Water Treatment Plant (Flint WTP) and, therefore, does not have any accountability measures over the Flint WTP's LTR (Lead Copper Rule) data verification protocols," the report indicated. "We did not identify any instances in which ODWMA staff failed to verify that submitted samples were certified by the Flint WTP."

On accountability measures in place for Drinking Water staff who lie or misrepresent information, the auditor general noted only one e-mail exchange between the DEQ and the Environmental Protection Agency that appeared to be a "significant contributor" to the concern that the DEQ misrepresented information to the EPA.

"The EPA requested clarification on February 26, 2015 regarding the type of optimized corrosion control **treatment** (their emphasis) the Flint WTP was using. DEQ responded on February 27, 2015 that the city had an optimized corrosion control **program** in place, but DEQ did not provide any program details," the report outlined. "DEQ informed us that the Flint WTP corrosion control **program** included performing lead and copper monitoring for two consecutive six-month periods to determine whether corrosion control **treatment** would be necessary in the future.

"However, it appears the EPA interpreted corrosion control **program** to mean that corrosion control **treatment** was being performed," the audit stated.

Still, based on its review of numerous e-mails, the auditor said it had no specific reason to believe the DEQ willfully misrepresented the information to the EPA.

But Democrats pointed out other issues: In response to the question about whether corrosion control treatment should have been maintained when the switch for the water source was made to the Flint River, the AG letter concludes, "We believe that corrosion control treatment should have been maintained," Democrats noted.

And with regard to how the decision was made about using the Flint River as the primary drinking water source, the letter states, "Although the Flint City Council voted in March 2013 in support of moving to the KWA (Karegnondi Water Authority) pipeline, the vote was silent on the use of Flint River water as a temporary drinking water source," Democrats said.



"This is another example of how the state failed initially, and continues to fail by not treating this situation like the emergency it is," Mr. Neeley said in a statement. "We need answers, we need action, and we need them sooner rather than later."

The full report on the ODWMA within the DEQ is not expected until late February.

Lyon: Flint Did Not Meet Lead Expectations, Wants Department More Preventative Oriented

Testing for childhood lead exposure has not typically included water tests, so when Flint-area physicians earlier this year reported children with higher concentrations of lead, the state had to look at what could cause it, Health and Human Services { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1) } said in an interview. And when it was clear the increased levels correlated with the city's switch to water from the Flint River, the state almost immediately took action, he said.

Mr. Lyon also said finding ways of reducing exposure to lead has been a priority of his and the department. The almost unique circumstances surrounding the Flint situation, "is not my issue," Mr. Lyon said. "My issue is how do I reduce the exposure to lead in children of Flint? That's the immediate concern, and then the next concern is, what sort of interventions are needed in the future?"

In one sense, trying to anticipate what future interventions are needed ties into a theme Mr. Lyon stressed repeatedly in the interview, which was how to make the Department of Health and Human Services more pro-active and preventative-oriented to help prevent issues from arising.

If, for example, the department can help a family that appears to have problems before a child is abused or neglected, then the child and the family both are spared traumas that could have dramatic effects years later, and the state will save the cost of the intervention system it has to go through, he said.

Mr. Lyon has also overseen the integration and adjustment of the department - a merger of the former departments of Community Health and Human Services - through 2015 and said it had forced him to "drink from the fire hose" as he familiarized himself with all the programs offered and the people who worked for the combined department.

And one of the things he found that impressed him most was the "trust and optimism the employees of both agencies displayed in a great period of uncertainty" that "really gave me a belief we could accomplish a lot," he said.

In looking back at the year, the Flint water situation was not initially something anticipated.

The city in 2014, then under an emergency manager, decided to switch its water system away from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department system as Flint worked on its own water system that would draw water from Lake Huron. As a cost savings measure, the city moved to have its water come from the Flint River in the interim.

Officials in the Department of Environmental Quality said the water had met requirements for safety. And while almost immediately residents complained about the taste, the smell and the appearance of the water, state officials insisted the water was safe.

But DEQ officials, speaking on background, have acknowledged that the department did not anticipate the effects the water could have on the antique plumbing systems, causing them to leach lead.

That was also not something DHHS had anticipated, Mr. Lyon said. DHHS was brought into the controversy late, and specifically because of the issue of whether children exposed to the water were seeing increased lead levels.

Typically, children are exposed to lead in houses with old lead-based paint that chips and flakes and is consumed by children. They are also exposed to lead in the overall environment. Mr. Lyon said typically lead levels rise in the summer when doors and windows are opened more, releasing chips of paint, and kids are playing outside more.

Plus, data on lead level exposure is kept on a county level.

DHHS did not anticipate an issue with lead in water due to antique pipes, Mr. Lyon said. And that proves to be a lesson to the state, he said: When issues of lead exposure come up it may mean the state will also have to check plumbing systems in older houses.

Nor did the state see any significant changes in lead exposure in county data from Genesee County, he said.

But Flint-area physicians were reporting higher lead levels in children from the area. "We are never dismissive of the data," Mr. Lyon said. "Data is data."

While saying that now, a department spokesperson told The Flint Journal in September the state had better data than Hurley Medical Center on the question of lead exposure. That spokesperson did say at the time the department was reviewing the Hurley data.

When the state got the reports of the higher lead levels in Flint, DHHS scientists had to look at it. That research showed higher levels in the ZIP Codes where the affected children lived.

And that evidence led to state action. Once he had spoken to the Executive Office about the findings, it began to take steps to reconnect the city to the Detroit system, ensure water filters were distributed and began doing additional testing of exposed children and adults.

In terms of better coordinating services a family or individual may be eligible for, local departments will also play a big role with the state in meeting individual needs, Mr. Lyon said. That will mean overall improved communications between the state and local departments, all with an eye towards recognizing that both agencies are serving the same people.

**PROACTIVITY AND COMPACT DEPARTMENT:** When the merger of DHS and DCH was announced a year ago, Mr. Lyon - then newly on the job as director of DCH - said he wanted to improve overall coordination to ensure a family had easier access to all the services it was entitled to. Some of that already was in the works because there is a large degree of overlap in people who need both food assistance and Medicaid.

But in terms of having the department take on a more proactive attitude, Mr. Lyon said he hopes to find a way "to use our caseworkers more like success coaches." That will take some work in both the state and local offices, as well as getting buy-in from the federal government "to say what can we do when those individuals walk in the door, what can we learn from them and what do they need a self-determination aspect to be successful and how do we craft that person's needs" with available programs.

In addition, given the state's budget situation which will likely prevent his being able to add personnel, finding ways of helping individuals off the system could go a long way to reducing what Mr. Lyon acknowledged were dramatic caseload levels. Caseworkers often find themselves with as many as 600 to 800 cases to handle.

And by helping those individuals work their way out of programs, that would eventually reduce the overall cost of the programs to the state, he said.

As currently structured, state programs are designed to be reactive, Mr. Lyon said. Taking the example of an abused child, Mr. Lyon said the state will get a report of an incident, investigate the incident, if needed put the child in a foster care situation, if needed search out a permanent placement and, again if needed, involve the courts. All those are reactions, Mr. Lyons said.

But if the state gets a tip of problems brewing, it can do nothing unless there is an actual incident of abuse or neglect. That means a child has to suffer a trauma that could have both dramatic effects on his or her physical and mental health in later years, as well as expose the family to trauma and stigma, he said.

Getting a more proactive approach will require federal government approval to shift funding - and Mr. Lyon said he is working on that - that would look at those at-risk families and try to see if there are services they need to help ensure that "initial mistake or event never happens. If you talk to most parents they don't want to abuse their children or neglect this child. I believe that to the core, and if we can find that family and teach them the skills necessary to prevent something bad from happening" again it will save money, he said, but more importantly prevent the trauma both the child and family can experience.

Asked if that would not draw criticisms of the state acting as Big Brother for these families, Mr. Lyon said he would hope the families would understand and accept why the help is being offered.

"If I can prevent something bad from happening to a child that will impact that child for the rest of their lives, that is something I am willing to save from happening," Mr. Lyon said.

Being proactive applies to other areas. Asked, for example, if the state would need to look at reopening the now closed Maxey juvenile justice center, Mr. Lyon said the state should have the capacity needed to deal with youth in legal trouble.

More importantly, he said, is to find ways to help those kids before they get in trouble. Many have behavioral health issues, Mr. Lyon said, "and what are we doing to make sure they are getting the treatment they need? ... Warehousing them in a jail or juvenile facility, I don't think that's right thing to do."

### Ananich Reflects On Rocky Year For Caucus, Hometown

It was a whirlwind of a 2015 for Senate { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1) }, who not only saw some ups and downs within his own caucus, but also had to deal with emergency appropriations for a Third World-like water emergency in his hometown this year.

And despite the last-minute push from legislative Republicans to pass major election-related reforms late at night during last two session days of the year, Mr. Ananich (D-Flint) said he remains optimistic that his caucus will be united and his relationship with Senate { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1) } (R-West Olive) will still be cordial in 2016.

The Senate adjourned late on December 17, passing very little legislation except a couple of major election-related bills and recessing most of the day otherwise. At one point, it seemed like the elimination of straight ticket voting ( { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB1301"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB1301) } ), one of those reforms, would be shelved until next year, as speeches of good holiday cheer and well wishes filled the Senate chamber. Both Mr. Ananich and Mr. Meekhof complimented their colleagues on their professionalism for the first year of the new term. And in an interview with Gongwer News Service, the tone was no different.

"The relationship between me and Arlan and our staffs is something that's very strong, and I want to continue that," Mr. Ananich said in an interview on December 17, prior to those controversial elections bills passing. "For 2016, I want to see the Democrats, my caucus and the chamber as a whole doing things in a bipartisan way."

Roughly four hours later, that couldn't have been further from reality, as predominately Republicans eliminated straight ticket voting and substituted what was previously a bipartisan bill ( { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB57101"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB57101) } ), for a more divisive one that opponents worry will significantly affect local government and its ability to communicate to citizens about ballot questions (See { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542460104"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542460104) } )

Asked after session if what he viewed as a good, professional relationship with the majority leader may have gone a bit awry with that legislation, Mr. Ananich seemed changed, but not entirely.

"We're going to stand up and have aggressive and robust debates about things and do it in a professional way. We're going to win some and we're going to lose some," he told reporters. "We think our values are right and their values are wrong, and this is one of those opportunities, but that doesn't change the fact we're going to do it in a professional way. We're still going to fight for what we think we're right, and that's what we did tonight."

And it wasn't the first adversity Mr. Ananich had faced, of course. Earlier in the year, Republicans passed legislation to repeal the state's prevailing wage law. Around the same time, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1) } (D-Detroit) was involved in an incident with his ex-wife that is still playing out in court with potentially felonious implications. Then the Flint clerk told candidates for the mayoral race the wrong deadline to submit their paperwork, requiring a very quick fix in the Legislature or else a costly write-in campaign for most candidates.

And another, more serious situation was developing in his hometown involving lead in the water that would spur numerous headlines in the fall.

To that end, Mr. Ananich said he was in contact with pastors and others working the water issues in Flint, but he was primarily working on the cost of the water initially.

"I heard of a lot of people that were having shutoffs, similar to Detroit, probably proportionally worse in Flint, because the costs are more expensive," Mr. Ananich said in his interview with Gongwer.

Then there was an E. Coli breakout, he said, and other issues, "but we were sure over and over again that this was it, we got it fixed," he said.

Then Mr. Ananich said he saw a report by the ACLU and read findings (sometimes in September) by Doctor Marc Edwards, a Virginia Tech professor who has been following the Flint water crisis and recently alleged the Department of Health and Human Services had data showing elevated lead levels in Flint's water but delayed releasing that data to others for review (See { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542490102"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542490102) } ).

"I really tried to get the administration and other folks to all come together and fix this problem, and then obviously we saw the administration's sort of denial at first, attacking individuals that were heroes really for trying to help solve this issue, and then they realized they were telling the truth and they started the ball rolling. I expected a lot more urgency," Mr. Ananich said. "I still think it's much more important to protect the citizens than to protect the reputation of certain departments, and I still see a little more of that than I do of making sure we're really addressing this issue, the urgency we need."

"But things are moving in the right direction. I'm going to keep pushing for more action and more tangible results for my citizens, but it's unfortunate it's something some of my citizens are going to have to deal with the ... generation maybe, depending on how bad it ends up being," he said.

In hindsight, Mr. Ananich said he couldn't really complain about the response from his colleagues in the House and Senate, but the administration and some state departments are a different story.

"I was very appreciative of the help with the money and switching back to Detroit, and now we're just going to keep working to make sure the kids get the nutrition they need and the services," he said. "The administration still, I think, seems to lack the sense of urgency that I expect, but they've done some positive steps in the right direction. They still have folks, Brad Wurfel for one, who are still making statements that aren't really true, I think, to the public.

"You can't say it's the faucets in the school. If it wasn't for the corrosive, poisonous water, we wouldn't have a problem. It's another example of trying to make it sound like it wasn't their fault as opposed to just fixing the problem," he said.

Mr. Wurfel, spokesperson for the Department of Environmental Quality, disputed Mr. Ananich's comment.

"The governor's 10-point plan includes an unprecedented look at lead levels in Flint schools, free testing around the community, free home water filters until we can be confident the system returns to acceptable levels, and a series of immediate, near-term and long-term steps to protect Flint families. We are doing the work and presenting the data as it comes forward," he said.

"I'm a department spokesman. I'm as good as the information I get to work with. And we've tried to do a very careful job of making sure folks in Flint get accurate information on this issue, because it is a very serious one for thousands of families. This administration acknowledged an error in October and has been working hard since then to partner with communities and deliver necessary resources to protect kids and families."

But Mr. Ananich did compliment the governor's task force - one of many groups reviewing the issue - whom he believes will come up with an "independent" analysis of the situation. The task force issued some early statements on what it saw as a "disturbing situation" (See { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542470102](\"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542470102\")" }).

And on Monday, Mr. Ananich and { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1](\"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1\")" } (D-Flint) got some answers they were seeking when the auditor general responded to Mr. Ananich's request for more information on what happened in Flint (see separate story). The auditor general's full response, specifically on the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance within the DEQ, is not expected until late February.

**BIPARTISANSHIP AND DPS:** Asked about his caucus goals for 2016, Mr. Ananich said they are similar to 2015: "to make sure we felt like a united caucus that stands up for the things we believe," he said. "I think we've done that. I think we showed a sense of professionalism and willingness to work together when we have agreement. I think the difference in the tenor and the differences in the House and Senate is obvious to pretty much everyone."

Mr. Ananich said he is hopeful his caucus and Senate Republicans can do more together, and there will be plenty of opportunities to do that, he said.

Among the policy issues are finding a resolution to the crippling debt of Detroit Public Schools, workforce development, skilled trades funding, education funding and energy law overhaul, the minority leader said.

"I think those are the kinds of things that would be best if they came out of the chamber with bipartisan support, and that's what I want to see us do," he said.

He said he genuinely believed Mr. Meekhof wanted to find a bipartisan solution on DPS, and putting { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1>" } (R-Hart) in charge of the matter "is a very good step in that direction," Mr. Ananich said.

Democrats, especially within his caucus, will be looking for some form of an elected school board, he said, as well as ensuring that when all the debt is retired that there are resources available to provide a quality education for the students in the district and that the Legislature does not have to revisit such a situation again.

And he said he does not believe current teachers, staff or students should be punished in any way for the actions of others that led DPS into this situation.

"There's going to be a lot conversation going forward, and we'll find some things we want, some things they want ... but I think overall the package, if it's going to be successful, will have those elements in it and won't adversely affect other districts to the point that we're hurting other children to help DPS," Mr. Ananich said.

Though Mr. Hansen has kept talks about the DPS legislation tight-lipped, one thing that has so far been cited about DPS talks is a debate over governance. Mr. Ananich said some of those questions are about whether the governor, the mayor, or others should do the appointing officials to fix DPS, or whether they should be elected.

The minority leader said the Legislature needs to get "very serious" about resolving the matter around the first of the year because it will only become more distant and complicated when the state begins determining its next budget in February.

**ELECTIONS:** Though the Senate is not up for re-election until 2018, Mr. Ananich said his caucus will continue to help the House with its fundraising and candidate recruitment efforts for their 2016 election.

"The relationship between the House and Senate Democrats is the best it's been in a long time," he said.

But he isn't putting off 2018 for long either.

"Like I said before, the relationship between me and Arlan is very good, but we have a fun competition and we plan on being competitive in 2018," he said.

### Supreme Court To Hear Transmission Line Case

The Supreme Court has ordered arguments in a case where a Kalamazoo County township has challenged an award by the Public Service Commission for an electric transmission line across its property.

The Supreme Court agreed to hear the case, *Oshtemo Township v. Michigan Electric Transmission Company* (SC docket No. 150695), more than 13 months after the Court of Appeals upheld a 2013 order issued by the PSC allowing for the construction of the line in both Oshtemo and Almena Township in Van Buren County.

In calling for arguments, the Supreme Court said the parties should issue briefs on whether the state's Electric Transmission Line Certification Act of 1995 is consistent with the "first sentence" of Article 7, Section 29 of the Constitution.

That sentence reads: "No person, partnership, association or corporation, public or private, operating a public utility shall have the right to the use of the highways, streets, alleys or other public places of any county, township, city or village for wires, poles, pipes, tracks, conduits or other utility facilities, without the consent of the duly constituted authority of the county, township, city or village; or to transact local business therein without first obtaining a franchise from the township, city or village."

A date for the arguments has not been set.

### Campaign Finance Bill Presented, But No Signings Anticipated This Week

The last remaining bill awaiting presentation to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, a hotly controversial one involving campaign finance issues, was formally presented Monday.

That means the last two remaining bills to win approval from the Legislature prior to adjourning for the year are now on Mr. Snyder's desk. Those bills would end the ability for voters to select a party's slate of candidates with a single mark on the ballot ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB1301" }<sup>3</sup>) and enact a wide variety of campaign finance changes, notably barring local governments and school districts from issuing any communication regarding local ballot proposals ({ HYPERLINK



"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB57101](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB57101)" }  
[4]).

Mr. Snyder is out of state vacationing with his family this week, press secretary Dave Murray said Monday. Mr. Murray said he does not anticipate any bills being signed or vetoed this week.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1>" } could make the signing or veto decision with Mr. Snyder out of state, but typically Mr. Calley has signed noncontroversial bills in which he has personally worked the issue.

Mr. Snyder has until January 5 to sign or veto the end of straight ticket voting. He has until January 11 to sign or veto the campaign finance bill, which also would prohibit corporations from collecting contributions to political action committees not affiliated with the corporation via employee payroll deduction.

### Dow Sues Treasury In New Tax Dispute

The Dow Chemical Company is disputing how the Department of Treasury calculated its tax credit under the Michigan Business Tax, { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/public/Dowsuit.pdf>" } in the Court of Claims on how the department applied tax credits.

In September, the department issued a notice of adjustment to Dow regarding its 2008 Michigan Business Tax return, decreasing its tax credit carryover from the 2008 tax year to the 2009 tax year by about \$1.6 million.

The dispute concerns the order in which a business applies its credits.

Dow applied its credits "in a specific order," the company said in its lawsuit, including applying its compensation credits, investment tax credits and research and development credits before applying its Single Business Tax carryover credits.

The department, however, applied the carryover credits first.

Dow pointed to an unpublished November 2015 Court of Appeals ruling (*Ashley Capital v. Department of Treasury*) holding that compensation credits and investment credits take priority. Dow also pointed to a Court of Claims ruling earlier this month involving Dow Corning.

### Snyder Activates Emergency Operations Center In Response To Winter Storm

A winter storm forecast to coat much of the Lower Peninsula with ice, potentially as much as a half-inch in some locations, prompted { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } to activate the State Emergency Operations Center on Monday.

The major concern with the projected ice storm is the potential loss of electrical power. A half-inch of ice, coupled with the strong winds expected to accompany the winter storm, would likely lead to considerable tree damage and subsequent damage to electrical lines.

Mr. Snyder also ordered all state offices in the Lower Peninsula to close at 1 p.m. to enable employees to leave early with road conditions deteriorating.

The Supreme Court and Court of Appeals closed their offices early. The House closed its offices at noon.

The worst icing was expected to take place on the west side of the state with between 0.4 to 0.5 inches of ice forecast between an area roughly bounded by I-96, U.S. 127, M-55 and the Lake Michigan shoreline. The state's freeways were littered with traffic crashes by early afternoon.

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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**From:** Ryal, Kelley (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Monday, September 21, 2015 4:41 PM  
**To:** Piggott, Jeremy (DTMB) (piggottj@michigan.gov)  
**Subject:** FW: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Hopefully the link still works!

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**From:** gongwerreports@gongwer.com [mailto:gongwerreports@gongwer.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2015 8:35 AM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_clips@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips



## Michigan News & Opinion For September 15, 2015

### News

Flint asks Snyder for \$30M to upgrade water system (Associated Press, 9/15/2015)

Schuetzle touts success of school safety hotline (Associated Press, 9/14/2015)

Orange barrels: Should there be lights? (Detroit Free Press, 9/12/2015)

Jim Storey, Allegan County commissioner, announces candidacy for Gamrat seat (MLive, 9/14/2015)

FCA, UAW negotiate through the night with no new deal (The Detroit News, 9/15/2015)

Fields of candidates grow for seats of Courser, Gamrat (The Detroit News, 9/14/2015)

John Oliver rips Courser, Gamrat scandal on HBO show (The Detroit News, 9/14/2015)

Wage repeal group submits 390,000 petition signatures (The Detroit News, 9/14/2015)

### Editorials

Mackinac pipeline helps power Michigan's industrial comeback (MLive, 9/14/2015)

Susan J. Demas: Why did the Courser-Gamrat scandal dominate headlines? (MLive, 9/15/2015)

Editor's Note: Get facts on right to work and pay (The Detroit News, 9/15/2015)

Editorial: Bring them here (The Detroit News, 9/14/2015)

Lund: Unions are Chicken Little on prevailing wage (The Detroit News, 9/14/2015)

## Blogs

John Oliver Picks Up Courser, Gamrat Scandal (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 9/14/2015)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 18, 2014 6:59 AM  
**To:** Schwartz, Ruth (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **April floods: Gov. Rick Snyder seeks disaster declaration for 11 West Michigan counties**

*"NEWAYGO COUNTY, MI -- Gov. Rick Snyder requested a disaster declaration from the U.S. Small Business Administration for 11 West Michigan counties following last April's flooding."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/06/gov\\_snyder\\_seeks\\_physical\\_disa.html#incart=river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/06/gov_snyder_seeks_physical_disa.html#incart=river_default)

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### **Dem cries foul on flier for rival**

*"Americans for Prosperity Michigan has circulated a flier touting Brighton Township Treasurer Lana Theis' conservative views on road funding."*

**Source:** Livingston County Daily Press & Argus **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:** <http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20140618/NEWS01/306180013/Dem-cries-foul-flier-rival>

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### **Ex-Livingston lawmakers, other GOP figures back gay marriage**

*"A brief signed by 25 leading Republicans, including three former legislators representing Livingston County, was among 31 briefs filed Monday supporting throwing out Michigan's ban on same-sex marriage."*

**Source:** Livingston County Daily Press & Argus **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:** <http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20140618/NEWS01/306180009/Ex-Livingston-lawmakers-other-GOP-figures-back-gay-marriage>

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## Dianda opposes deregulation of forestry in Michigan

"

*LANSING State Rep. Scott Dianda, D-Calumet, has announced his opposition to a package of legislation aimed at deregulating the forestry industry.*

"

**Source:** Iron Mountain Daily News **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.ironmountaindailynews.com/page/content.detail/id/546600/Dianda-opposes-deregulation-of-forestry-in-Michigan.html?nav=5002>

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## 3 Democrats endorsed by Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Incumbent Republicans in the state House and Senate should get another term in office, says the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce's political action committee. So should three incumbent Democrats on the Kent County Commission."*

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/06/3_democrats_endorsed_by_grand.html#incart_river_default#incart_m-rpt-2)

[rapids/index.ssf/2014/06/3\\_democrats\\_endorsed\\_by\\_grand.html#incart\\_river\\_default#incart\\_m-rpt-2](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/06/3_democrats_endorsed_by_grand.html#incart_river_default#incart_m-rpt-2)

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## Betsy DeVos threatens libel suit against Michigan Education Association president over right-to-work claim

*"LANSING – Betsy DeVos, the former chairwoman of the Michigan Republican Party, is threatening a libel suit against the president of the Michigan Education Association over claims about DeVos' role in the 2012 passage of Michigan's right-to-work law."*

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/06/betsy_devos_threatens_libel_su.html#incart_river_default#incart_m-rpt-2)

[news/index.ssf/2014/06/betsy\\_devos\\_threatens\\_libel\\_su.html#incart\\_river\\_default#incart\\_m-rpt-2](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/06/betsy_devos_threatens_libel_su.html#incart_river_default#incart_m-rpt-2)

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## Flint emergency manager says firefighters union has been 'devious, disrespectful and unfair' to chief

*"FLINT, MI – Flint emergency manager Darnell Earley says he is "disturbed and disappointed" by a city firefighters vote of "no confidence" in Chief David Cox Jr."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/06/flint\\_emergency\\_manager\\_tells.html#incart\\_m-rpt-2](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/06/flint_emergency_manager_tells.html#incart_m-rpt-2)

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## Michigan companies promote their bio-based products in Washington

"

*Washington — Michigan companies specializing in bio-based manufacturing flocked to Capitol Hill Tuesday to shine a spotlight on new financial incentives for businesses to go green."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140617/BIZ/306170100/Michigan-companies-promote-their-bio-based-products-Washington>

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## Dems criticize Land for D.C. fundraisers

*"Washington — As Michigan U.S. Senate candidate Terri Lynn Land began airing a new TV ad Tuesday comparing Congress to two youngsters getting into trouble, she is here in Washington raising tens of thousands of dollars with Republican leaders."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140617/POLITICS03/306170090/Dems-criticize-Land-D-C-fundraisers>

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## 3 Michigan mayors at White House for innovation event

"

*Washington — Three Michigan mayors will be at the White House today for an event with President Barack Obama that highlights American ingenuity and innovation."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140617/POLITICS03/306170136/3-Michigan-mayors-White-House-innovation-event>

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## Levin: U.S. must make treatment for painkillers, heroin more available

"

*Washington — U.S. Sen. Carl Levin is urging the Obama administration and Congress to make it easier for addicts to wean themselves from heroin and opium-based painkillers such as Vicodin and Oxycontin."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140618/POLITICS03/306180029/Levin-U-S-must-make-treatment-painkillers-heroin-more-available>

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## Creditors: Bankruptcy judge's tour of Detroit could be dangerous t

"

*Holdout creditors want to block Detroit's lawyers from taking U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Steven Rhodes on a tour of the city, arguing security could be jeopardized if the route through one of the country's most dangerous cities is publicized in advance."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140617/METRO01/306170099/Creditors-Bankruptcy-judge-s-tour-Detroit-could-dangerous>

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## Students brace for news on U-M, MSU, WSU tuition increases

"

*One of the most anticipated and feared decisions affecting Michigan students comes next week as the state's Big Three universities set tuition costs for next year."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140617/SCHOOLS/306170110/Students-brace-news-U-M-MSU-WSU-tuition-increases>

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## EAA's adviser appointed to serve as interim chancellor

"

*Detroit — A former New York City educator will lead the Education Achievement Authority as its interim chancellor."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140617/SCHOOLS/306170068/EAA-s-adviser-appointed-serve-interim-chancellor>

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## Detroit's M-1 rail project in jeopardy without millions in new fed funding

"

*Washington— Detroit's planned 3.3-mile \$137 million Woodward Avenue streetcar project faces a \$12 million funding shortfall, and Michigan members of Congress warn the project could be in jeopardy unless the Transportation Department gives it more money."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140618/METRO01/306180024/Detroit-s-M-1-rail-project-jeopardy-without-millions-new-fed-funding>



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## New EAA head Conforme to appear at press conference today

*"The new interim chancellor of the Education Achievement Authority will meet with reporters during a press conference at 10 a.m. today at Mumford High School."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140618/NEWS01/306180049/veronica-conforme-EAA-education-achievement-authority>

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## Michigan pays convicted felons as caregivers, audit shows

*"The State of Michigan improperly paid \$160 million in a 29-month period for services provided to vulnerable, low-income adults in a program designed to keep them out of more expensive, long-term care, according to a report released earlier today by the state's Auditor General."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140617/NEWS06/306170101/medicaid-home-help-Michigan>

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## GM CEO Barra to testify again on ignition-switch crisis amid new recall

**"WASHINGTON** — General Motors CEO Mary Barra heads back before congressional investigators this morning armed with an internal report on what led to the recall of 2.6 million cars for a deadly defect but facing tough new questions about just how pervasive safety problems are at GM."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140618/BUSINESS01/306170106/General-Motors-GM-CEO-Mary-Barra-Valukus-ignition-switch-recall>

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## Michigan still looking to recover jobs lost in the Great Recession

*"Two weeks ago, the U.S. government released jobs data showing the nation had finally recovered all the jobs it had lost during the Great Recession five years ago."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140618/BUSINESS06/306180035/Michigan-jobs-unemployment-recession>

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## Audit: Michigan improperly spent \$160M on Medicaid

**"LANSING** — Michigan improperly spent \$160 million over three years caring for Medicaid recipients

needing in-home services primarily because it failed to obtain invoices and other required documentation from service providers, a damning state audit found Tuesday."

**Source:** Associated Press **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/viewart/20140617/NEWS/306170023/Audit-Michigan-improperly-spent-160M-Medicaid>

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## Michigan residents to get \$4.6 million in SunTrust settlement over improper mortgages

**"LANSING** — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette says that state residents will be getting \$4.6 million as part of a \$968 million national settlement of improper mortgage complaints against SunTrust Mortgage."

**Source:** Associated Press **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/viewart/20140617/NEWS/306170022/Michigan-residents-get-4-6-million-SunTrust-settlement-over-improper-mortgages>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Republican took their eyes off roads

"

Last month, I wrote about the need for bipartisan cooperation to fix Michigan's crumbling transportation infrastructure. Now with the Legislature largely out for the summer, the failure to fix our roads in a timely manner is official. Thanks to Republican politics as usual, Michiganians will be stuck navigating a crisis situation for another year, as evidenced by crumbling roads, potholes and dangerous bridges"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140618/OPINION01/306180002/Republican-took-their-eyes-off-roads>

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## Fixing Michigan roads can give our economy a smoother ride, too (guest column)

"The roads in Michigan are a real mess. They are also a metaphor for the state's economy."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140618/OPINION01/306180018/Fixing-Michigan-roads-can-give-our-economy-smoother-ride-too-guest-column->

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## Legislators Should Look To Oklahoma To Address Pension Change

## **'Transition Costs'**

*"The unfunded liabilities for Michigan's school pension fund increased to \$25.8 billion this year. Legislators may feel that there is nothing to be done to prevent these liabilities from racking up, but they're wrong."*

**Source:** *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20188>

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## **State Budget Shifts Extra Revenue Sharing Funds To Detroit**

*"Fresh off the Michigan Legislature approving a \$195 million bailout for Detroit, some elected state officials and the governor are looking to favor the city again, but this time with the statutory revenue sharing."*

**Source:** *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20190>

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## **Press Releases**

### **FORMER FBI AGENT SPEAKS TO COOLEY LAW SCHOOL'S HOMELAND AND NATIONAL SECURITY LAW LL.M. STUDENTS**

*"**LANSING, Mich.** – June 17, 2014 – Former FBI agent and author of *Black Banners*, Ali Soufan, spoke to Cooley Law School's Homeland and National Security Law LL.M.'s Law of Counter-Terrorism class on June 11."*

**Source:** *Thomas M. Cooley Law School* **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403041000\\_fbi.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403041000_fbi.pdf)

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## **Knezek Bill Would Re-Establish Sentencing Guidelines Commission**

*"**LANSING** – State Representative **David Knezek** (D-Dearborn Heights) introduced House Bill 5692 today, legislation that reinstates a sentencing commission responsible for proposing reforms to the Legislature on the guidelines used by judges when determining prison sentences for criminals."*

**Source:** *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403036562\\_knezek.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403036562_knezek.pdf)

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## **Schuetz Announces \$550 Million National Settlement with SunTrust Mortgage Inc.**

*"**LANSING** - Attorney General Bill Schuetz today announced a \$550 million joint state-federal*

settlement with SunTrust Mortgage Inc. to address mortgage-related abuses. The settlement is expected to bring millions of dollars' worth of additional foreclosure-relief benefits to thousands of Michigan homeowners."

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403036503\\_schuette2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403036503_schuette2.pdf)

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## **Snyder seeks physical disaster declaration for Newaygo and Osceola counties**

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today requested a physical disaster declaration for Newaygo and Osceola counties from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) that would pave the way for financial assistance for western Michigan residents and business owners impacted by severe storms and flooding."

**Source:** Gov Newsroom **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403036420\\_disaster.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403036420_disaster.pdf)

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## **Dems' Legislation Would Increase Transparency, Equity in Schools**

"LANSING – State Representatives **Terry Brown** (D-Pigeon), **Charles Brunner** (D-Bay City) and **Rashida Tlaib** (D-Detroit) have introduced legislation they are calling the "SEE" bills, short for School Efficiency and Equitability. The lawmakers introduced the bills in response to the recently passed education budget for fiscal year 2014-15, which funds some public school districts at \$50 per pupil while giving some charter and cyber schools \$175 per pupil, despite not incurring many of the same costs."

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403036359\\_dems.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403036359_dems.pdf)

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## **Proof that Michigan is ready for marriage equality**

"Today, 31 unique amicus briefs were submitted urging the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals to strike down Michigan's marriage ban. Scores of Republican leaders, multiple Fortune 500 companies, military, faith leaders and religious institutions, child advocacy organizations, as well as numerous legal scholars joined together with one central message: Michigan is united for marriage equality."

**Source:** Michigan for Marriage **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403036296\\_marriage.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403036296_marriage.pdf)

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## **Meredith Willey to Grassroots Midwest**

"Lansing, MI- Grassroots Midwest, Inc., Michigan's fastest growing political consulting firm, is excited to announce its latest expansion. Meredith Willey, a graduate of Michigan State

University with a degree in Public Policy and Public Administration, has been hired as the newest addition to the Grassroots team. Ms. Wiley brings expertise in election campaigns, constituent and media relations, health care advocacy, and fundraising to Grassroots Midwest."

**Source:** Grassroots Midwest **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403036164\\_grassroots.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403036164_grassroots.pdf)

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## **Attorney Grievance Commission Administrator Position Open**

"The Michigan Supreme Court is looking for qualified applicants to serve as Grievance Administrator for the Attorney Grievance Commission. The position is appointed by the Michigan Supreme Court, supervised by the Commission, and is responsible for oversight of administrative and legal actions necessary to facilitate the Commission's role."

**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403036038\\_supreme.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403036038_supreme.pdf)

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## **Mackinac Bridge Authority mourns passing of Charles "Chick" Fisher III**

"June 17, 2014 – Flags will be flown at half-staff through sunset Thursday at the Mackinac Bridge in honor of long-time former chairman and authority member Charles T. "Chick" Fisher III, who died Sunday, June 15."

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403035955\\_bridge.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403035955_bridge.pdf)

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## **Welcome to the New Michigan Sandbox Pary**

"Election turnouts are typically dismal in summer primaries. Often, as few as one in 10 registered voters cast a ballot in an August primary, even though some races are decided in partisan primaries. With the 2014 election season upon us, the Michigan Sandbox Party has joined with Michigan's Children to urge more people who care about kids to get excited and involved in August primaries and help elect candidates who make children and family issues a top priority."

**Source:** Michigan Sandbox Party **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403035879\\_sandbox.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403035879_sandbox.pdf)

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## **Virgil Smith announces more major endorsements**

"Today, State Senator Virgil Smith announced seven major endorsements for his re-election bid to the Michigan Senate. The following major unions have announced that they are endorsing Senator Virgil Smith ..."

**Source:** Senator Virgil Smith **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403031263\\_smith.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403031263_smith.pdf)

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## **On a Roll: Lottery Players from Northern Michigan Claim Big Prizes**

*"LANSING, June 17, 2014 – Michigan Lottery claim centers in the northern part of the state handled an influx of large prize winners last week."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403031210\\_roll.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403031210_roll.pdf)

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## **Continued work on US-23 Ocqueoc River bridge starts Monday**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be performing bridge deck maintenance on the US-23 bridge over the Ocqueoc River."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403031167\\_23.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403031167_23.pdf)

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## **Michigan AFL-CIO Endorses McKenzie in 11th District Race**

*"The Michigan AFL-CIO has endorsed Democrat Bobby McKenzie in his race for Michigan's 11th Congressional District. The AFL-CIO has over 1,000,000 active and retired members in Michigan. McKenzie is running for the seat held by Rep. Kerry Bentivolio, who Roll Call, the D.C. based newspaper, named one of the 10 most vulnerable House members."*

**Source:** Bobby McKenzie for U.S. Congress **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403031118\\_afcio.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403031118_afcio.pdf)

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## **NEWS RELEASE: Snyder makes appointments, reappointments**

*"Announcement of appointments and reappointments."*

**Source:** Gov Newsroom **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403031064\\_task.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403031064_task.pdf)

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## **Audit: Mich. Paying Convicted Felons, Wasting Taxpayer Dollars on Care for Medicaid Recipients**

*"LANSING - Today Michigan Democratic Party Chair Lon Johnson slammed Republican Gov. Snyder after the state's Office of the Auditor General released a report saying the state has been paying over*

500 violent felons and 285 convicted of sex crimes to work as care providers for Medicaid clients - one of many reasons the state is violating state and federal law through the program."

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403030989\\_audit.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403030989_audit.pdf)

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## **Facebook Shuts Down Skull Bound TV Page for 24-Hours for Ethical Harvest Photo**

"(Columbus, OH) – Skull Bound TV, a popular hunting and fishing show on The Sportsman Channel, has been shut out of their Facebook page for 24-hours with no access to add new content after a standard post was said to not follow "Facebook Community Standards."

**Source:** U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403030146\\_hunters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403030146_hunters.pdf)

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## **EXPOSED: IRS kept secret for months, more than just Lerner emails lost**

"Washington, DC – Today, Congressman Dave Camp (R-Midland), Ways and Means Committee Chairman, and Oversight Subcommittee Chairman Charles Boustany Jr., M.D. (R-LA) revealed that the Committee's early work into "lost" IRS emails show the problem is much bigger than the IRS initially admitted to. "

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Dave Camp **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403029963\\_irs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403029963_irs.pdf)

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## **Statement from Michigan Democrats on New Snyder TV Ad**

"LANSING - Today Michigan Democratic Party Chair Lon Johnson released the following statement on Republican Gov. Snyder's newest TV ad ..."

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403029803\\_statement.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403029803_statement.pdf)

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## **Legislative round-up: June 2014**

"Michigan Education Legislative Round Up"

**Source:** The Education Trust-Midwest **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403029603\\_ed\\_trust.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403029603_ed_trust.pdf)

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## Republicans, Businesses, Military, Religious and Child Advocacy Groups Support Same-Sex Couples

*"DETROIT – In 31 unique amicus briefs submitted today to the U.S. Court of Appeals in the 6th Circuit, a significant number of Republican leaders, businesses, military, faith leaders and religious institutions, child advocacy organizations, as well as numerous legal scholars, urged the court to put an end to Michigan's laws that deny same-sex couples the freedom to marry. The 6th Circuit, which has pending cases from all four of the states within its jurisdiction - MI, OH, TN and KY - will hear arguments in those cases on August 6, 2014."*

**Source:** Equality Michigan **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403029135\\_equality.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403029135_equality.pdf)

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## Six Mich. counties receive state transportation economic development grants to help support 939 jobs

*"June 17, 2014 -- The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding state transportation economic development grants that will support 939 jobs to six Michigan counties. The six Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grants totaling \$6,853,929 will leverage \$329,287,000 in private investment at a private/public ratio of 48 to 1. The total estimated cost of the projects is \$23,532,876, including \$16,678,947 (71 percent) in matching funds from private developers, local agencies and a university."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403028945\\_grants.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403028945_grants.pdf)

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## CYMI: ObamaCare Cited As Cause For Closure Of Residential Hospice Program in Holland

*"HOLLAND, MI - Hospice of Holland is closing its residential hospice program because of cuts in payments under the Affordable Care Act, the organization announced Tuesday, June 17."*

**Source:** Mlive **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403028672\\_hospice.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403028672_hospice.pdf)

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## Hypocrisy Alert: Despite New Ad, Land Is in D.C. Today Cashing In with Special Interests

*"LANSING - Former Republican National Committeewoman Terri Lynn Land is determined to buy this election with her special interest backers, the Koch Brothers, rather than actually meeting with Michiganders to defend her anti-middle class agenda. But with the last six polls showing her down and her Mackinac disaster, it's clear Michiganders know she can't be trusted."*



**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403028764\\_alert.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403028764_alert.pdf)

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## County Commissioners throw support behind leuter

*"Midland, MI - Three Midland County Commissioners from the 98th Michigan House of Representatives district, joined together to pen the following Opinion Editorial endorsing Karl leuter for State Representative."*

**Source:** leuter for State Rep **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403027768\\_leuter.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403027768_leuter.pdf)

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## Schuetzte Approves Safeguards for DIA Art In City's Bankruptcy Plan

*"LANSING – Attorney General Bill Schuetzte today announced his approval of the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) settlement, fully preserving the DIA art collection for the People of Michigan. The settlement, which is a necessary element of the city of Detroit's bankruptcy Plan, requires that the DIA assets be transferred to the DIA Corporation, the charitable corporation that originally founded the museum, where they will "be held in perpetual charitable trust."*

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuetzte **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403027691\\_schuetzte.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403027691_schuetzte.pdf)

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## Geiss, Candidate for HD 12 Earns AFSCME Council 25, UAW Endorsements

*"June 17, 2014, Taylor, Mich.—Erika Geiss, Democratic candidate for State House District 12, has received two more major endorsements. The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Council 25 and the International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW) have endorsed Erika Geiss as the best person to represent the 12<sup>th</sup> House District, which includes Romulus, Taylor and precincts 4 and 5 of Van Buren Twp."*

**Source:** Erika Geiss **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403027640\\_geiss.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403027640_geiss.pdf)

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## Byrum Declares Need for Election Inspectors

*"MASON – Ingham County Clerk **Barb Byrum** (D-Onondaga) is looking for people to continue the time-honored tradition of working the polls throughout the County on upcoming Election Days. The Primary Election is Tuesday, August 5, 2014 and the General Election is Tuesday, November 4, 2014."*

**Source:** Byrum Fisk **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403027562\\_byrum.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403027562_byrum.pdf)

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## Michigan Physicians Offer Summer Safety Tips for Families

**"Lansing** —With the school year ending and days growing longer, the physicians of the Michigan State Medical Society today provided top ten tips for keeping summertime healthy for children."

**Source:** Research Strategies **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403026979\\_summer.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403026979_summer.pdf)

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## United Automobile Workers Endorse Rudy Hobbs in the race for Michigan's 14th Congressional District

**"Detroit, MI (Tuesday, June 17, 2014)** – Today, Rep. Rudy Hobbs (D-Southfield) earned the endorsement of the United Automobile Workers (UAW) in race for Michigan's 14th District Congressional seat. "

**Source:** Rudy Hobbs for Congress **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403026918\\_hobbs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403026918_hobbs.pdf)

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## Police Chiefs Line Up Behind Trott

**"Commerce, MI** – The Trott for Congress campaign today announced the endorsement of the Southeast Association of Chiefs of Police, the Oakland County Association of Chiefs of Police and the Wayne County Association of Chiefs of Police. "

**Source:** Trott for Congress **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403026884\\_police.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403026884_police.pdf)

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## Right Start report focuses on 15 Michigan cities with the most births

**"LANSING, Mich.** – Michigan's cities have the most work to do in order to give infants a "Right Start" in life, a new report has shown, with maternal and infant well-being in 15 Michigan cities with the most births having worse outcomes on almost every measure compared with their out-county areas."

**Source:** Michigan League for Public Policy **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403026829\\_right.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403026829_right.pdf)

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## Continuing Education Changes for Real Estate Brokers and Salespersons Effective January 1, 2015

**"June 17, 2014 - A new law which becomes effective January 1, 2015, impacts real estate brokers and salespersons, and real estate education sponsors by removing continuing education preapproval and reporting requirements. Gov. Rick Snyder signed Senate Bill 641 into law on April 7, 2014, which became Public Act 106 of 2014. All continuing education courses must be preapproved through the end of 2014 and reported to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) by the sponsor."**

**Source:** Michigan Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403026565\\_cont.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403026565_cont.pdf)

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## **Michigan Chamber Endorses John Moolenaar for U.S. House**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Chamber of Commerce today announced its endorsement of John Moolenaar for U.S. House. Moolenaar is seeking election to represent Michigan's 4th Congressional District, which includes the counties of Clare, Clinton, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Mecosta, Midland, Missaukee, Ogemaw, Osceola, Roscommon, Shiawassee, Wexford, and parts of Montcalm and Saginaw counties."*

**Source:** Michigan Chamber of Commerce **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403026490\\_chamber.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403026490_chamber.pdf)

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## **I-75 resurfacing in Cheboygan County starts Monday**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be resurfacing 8.5 miles of I-75 from north of Webb Road (County Road 58) to M-68."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403022431\\_75\\_2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403022431_75_2.pdf)

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## **Levin Opening Statement, U.S. Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations Hearing**

*"Most Americans' image of the U.S. stock market is shaped by a single room: the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange, where traders await a ceremonial bell to kick off the day's activity, then trade shares worth millions on scraps of paper."*

**Source:** U.S. Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403022368\\_levin.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403022368_levin.pdf)

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## **National Court Experts Say Transformation of 36th District is "Remarkable"**

*"DETROIT, MI, June 17, 2014 – In a report released today, experts from the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) hailed improvements made over the past year in the operation of Detroit's*

36th

District Court. "The implementation of comprehensive reforms to the operation of the 36th

District Court over the past 12 months and the court's transformation has indeed been remarkable," the report said."

**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403022162\\_courts.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403022162_courts.pdf)

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## **Log Cabin Republicans Blasts Ugandan Minister's Election as President of United Nations**

"Washington, D.C. — Last week Sam Kuesta, the anti-gay Ugandan Minister to the United Nations, was quietly elected President of the U.N. General Assembly. Kuesta is on-record both supporting and defending the controversial Ugandan policy that allows for lifetime imprisonment of gay citizens and harsh sentences for anyone helping gay Ugandans to avoid detection."

**Source:** Log Cabin Republicans **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403022059\\_log.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403022059_log.pdf)

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## **Lucky Oakland County Player wins \$777,777 on Michigan Lottery's Diamond 7's Instant Game!**

"LANSING, June 17, 2014 – A lucky player from New Hudson has claimed the first top prize of \$777,777 in the Michigan Lottery's newest instant game, Diamond 7's!"

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403021978\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403021978_lottery.pdf)

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## **Sparrow Clinton Hospital Foundation hosts 30th annual Stroke for Life Golf Scramble**

"ST. JOHNS, Mich. – Sparrow Clinton Hospital Foundation hosts its annual Stroke for Life Golf Scramble on Wednesday, July 9."

**Source:** Sparrow Hospital **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403021579\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403021579_sparrow.pdf)

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## **Congressional District 3 top-line frequency results and cross tabs**

"WOOD TV 8 commissioned the attached automated survey of Congressional District 3 certain or likely voters in the August GOP primary. One attachment is the frequency report of top-line results, and the other is the cross tabs. It was also an exclusive for our other media clients (Free Press, WLNS TV 6, WXYZ TV 7 and WJRT (ABC) TV 12). The results were released by our media clients at 6 P.M. last

night. "

**Source:** EPIC-MRA **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403021490\\_top.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403021490_top.pdf)

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## **Terri Lynn Land Launches New Ad, "Stop Fighting, Start Listening"**

*"(GRAND RAPIDS, MI) June 17, 2014 – Today, Republican candidate for U.S. Senate and former Michigan Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land released her latest television ad, "Stop fighting. Start listening." The 30-second ad will be seen in multiple markets statewide."*

**Source:** Terri Lynn Land **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403021287\\_land.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403021287_land.pdf)

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## **Change Agent Consortium Calls for EAA to be Shutdown in light of Chancellor Covington's Resignation**

*"(DETROIT) – Yesterday the EAA announced the resignation of John Covington as chancellor. Under Covington the turnaround district had an academic focus on computer based blended learning and student center models. It is not clear if the district's model will change under new leadership. The EAA was created in 2012 to turn around the worst performing schools in the state starting with 15 Detroit schools. In April the EAA came under fire for firing a teacher who broke up a fight between two students in her classroom with a broom after not having the proper equipment in the classroom to contact security. The Detroit News reported last week that the district spent \$52,000 on travel for school administrators and teachers to attend conferences in cities around the country – the district has spent a total of \$286,000 on travel in two years."*

**Source:** Change Agent Consortium **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403021230\\_change.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403021230_change.pdf)

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## **Deck work on I-75 overpass in Cheboygan County starts Monday**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be performing deck maintenance on the Riggsville Road overpass over I-75."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 06-18-2014 **Link:** <http://mirsnews.com/pdf>

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*GroupWise Users Note: If an underlined link does not work, highlight the entire link, then right-click on it and select "Go to".*

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 24, 2014 7:02 AM  
**To:** Schwartz, Ruth (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **State and city officials hail opening of immigrant professional aid office in Detroit**

*"DETROIT, MI – A new Detroit office to help skilled, legal immigrants enter the professional workforce is not about finding work for some sets of Detroiters over others, according to city officials."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/business/detroit/index.ssf/2014/06/state\\_and\\_city\\_officials\\_hail.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/business/detroit/index.ssf/2014/06/state_and_city_officials_hail.html#incart_river_default)

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### **Snyder signs laws targeting drive-by shootings**

*"LANSING — Gov. Rick Snyder has signed laws stiffening criminal penalties for drive-by shooters and people who shoot into buildings."*

**Source:** Associated Press **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.thetimesherald.com/viewart/20140623/NEWS05/306230013/Snyder-signs-laws-targeting-drive-by-shootings>

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### **Michigan gets 'F' on report card for working parents as President Obama talks workplace flexibility**

*"LANSING, MI -- Michigan is one of 17 states that earned a failing grade for policies that support new working mothers and fathers, according to a report released ahead of Monday's White House Summit on Working Families."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/06/michigan\\_gets\\_f\\_for\\_supporting.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/06/michigan_gets_f_for_supporting.html#incart_river_default)

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## **April floods: Gov. Rick Snyder's disaster declaration approved for 11 West Michigan counties**

*"NEWAYGO COUNTY, MI -- Gov. Rick Snyder's request for a physical disaster declaration from the U.S. Small Business Administration for 11 West Michigan counties was approved on Monday after a week of consideration."*

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/06/april\\_floods\\_gov\\_rick\\_snyders.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/06/april_floods_gov_rick_snyders.html#incart_river_default)

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## **Flint emergency manager tells City Council: 'We have accomplished a lot' with two-year budget**

*"FLINT, MI -- Emergency manager Darnell Earley says he's signed an order adopting a two-year budget and says the City Council did critical a job in finance hearings it held."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/06/flint\\_emergency\\_manager\\_tells\\_1.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/06/flint_emergency_manager_tells_1.html#incart_river_default)

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## **Lobbyists, hospitals oppose repeated efforts to pass infection reporting laws**

*"LANSING -- Michigan hospitals have stymied several attempts to pass laws that would require them to report hospital-acquired infections."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2014/06/post\\_27.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2014/06/post_27.html#incart_river_default)

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## **Metro Detroit hospitals merging to form Beaumont Health**

"

*A merger of three area health systems will capture about a third of Metro Detroit's hospital revenue, without layoffs or closures, if the deal wins federal approval."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140623/BIZ/306230072/Metro-Detroit-hospitals-merging-form-Beaumont-Health>



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## Hundreds of Detroit workers face decision: Wait or retire

"

*Should they stay or should they go?"*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140624/BIZ/306240020/Hundreds-Detroit-workers-face-decision-Wait-  
retire](http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140624/BIZ/306240020/Hundreds-Detroit-workers-face-decision-Wait-<br/>retire)

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## Supreme Court suspends Wayne County Judge Bruce Morrow for 60 days

*"LANSING — The Michigan Supreme Court imposed a 60-day unpaid suspension on Wayne County Circuit Judge Bruce Morrow today — 30 days less than the Judicial Tenure Commission recommended for his misconduct."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140623/NEWS06/306230154/bruce-morrow-judicial-misconduct-suspension>

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## Beaumont, Botsford and Oakwood systems merging to form Beaumont Health

*"The three-way merger of Beaumont Health System, Oakwood Healthcare and Botsford Hospital moved a big step forward on Monday and could be a done deal by fall — creating the largest hospital system in the region."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.freep.com/article/20140623/BUSINESS06/306230139/Hospital-merger-beaumont-botsford-  
oakwood](http://www.freep.com/article/20140623/BUSINESS06/306230139/Hospital-merger-beaumont-botsford-<br/>oakwood)

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## Board members say they got no support in fight for financial disclosure

*"When Gary Sands joined the board of Detroit Enterprise Academy in January 2009, the charter school was paying its landlord, National Heritage Academies, nearly \$1 million a year in rent for a building on the city's east side."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140624/NEWS06/306240026/>

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## **Board members sought financial details but were forced out**

*"The founders of Three Oaks Public School Academy thought they represented what state legislators had in mind for charter schools in Michigan — grassroots people with innovative ideas."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140624/NEWS06/306240027/>

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## **Charter school board members found themselves powerless**

*"As president of the board of the Detroit Enterprise Academy, Sandra Clark-Hinton was pressing hard for detailed financial records from a representative of the charter school's management company."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140624/NEWS06/306240042/charter-school-boards>

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

### **Tim Skubick: Gay rights advocates push for civil rights inclusion is 'insulting' to blacks, pastor says**

*"This is getting downright ugly as a group of African-American pastors is taking on LGBT rights advocates for using the "civil rights" mantle to push for gay marriage."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/06/tim_skubick_black_pastor_lgbt.html#incart_river_default)

[news/index.ssf/2014/06/tim\\_skubick\\_black\\_pastor\\_lgbt.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/06/tim_skubick_black_pastor_lgbt.html#incart_river_default)

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## **Legislators leave town, leave voters in their dust**

"

*Just when it looked as though the Michigan Legislature had learned the wisdom of heeding clear-cut citizen majorities on critical issues, there they were, backsliding again.*

"

**Source:** Escanaba Daily Press **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.dailypress.net/page/content\\_detail/id/548431/Legislators-leave-town--leave-voters-in-their-dust.html?nav=5052](http://www.dailypress.net/page/content_detail/id/548431/Legislators-leave-town--leave-voters-in-their-dust.html?nav=5052)

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## **Calabrese: Only thing worse than Detroit 'grand bargain' was every other option**

*"Much ballyhooed "grand bargains" struck by politicians are almost never good public policy. It is the nature of*

*compromise between those who think clearly and those who do not, and between those with suspect agendas and those without."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2014/06/23/thing-worse-detroit-grand-bargain-every-option/>

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## **Editorial: Detroit is troubled, but on the rise**

"

*Detroit's population continued to decline in 2013, despite revitalization efforts within and outside the city."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140624/OPINION01/306240001/Editorial-Detroit-troubled-rise>

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## **Detroit is our home, so let's work together to solve its problems**

*"How many of us have ever questioned why we are here? And when I say "here," I mean Detroit, MI."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://blogs.detroitnews.com/dvoice/2014/06/23/why-am-i-here-2/>

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## **Grand Valley accused of being NHA's 'muscle' against school board**

*"When board members of Metro Charter Academy in Romulus tangled with National Heritage Academies, the school's landlord and for-profit management company, they say Grand Valley State University was quick to defend NHA"*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/article/20140624/NEWS06/306240026/>

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## **Michigan Future Misses the Mark**

*"A new report by Michigan Future Inc. focuses on Minnesota, claiming to show how Minnesota has maintained a high level of economic prosperity despite being a high-tax state."*

"

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20215>

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## 'He's Just Making That Up' — No Shortage of Attacks In 3rd Congressional District GOP Primary

*"Kent County business owner Brian Ellis denies that he's the "establishment" candidate in Michigan's 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District Republican Primary race, which pits him against two-term incumbent U.S. Rep. Justin Amash."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20217>

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## JACK SPENCER: Thinking outside the school box

"

*When Republicans control the state's purse strings Michigan's per-pupil spending rank among the states remains at least as high as when the Democrats are in charge; but the public's perception rarely lines up with that reality. So why do the Republicans continue to play what is – politically speaking – a losers' game?"*

**Source:** Big Rapids Pioneer **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2014/06/23/jack-spencer-thinking-outside-school-box/>

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## What Michigan voters (really) want

*"Maybe it's the kid in me – but I think it's just great whenever the political "experts" get their election predictions wrong. I was 10 years old on Election Night 1948 when the Chicago Tribune famously ran the headline blaring "Dewey Defeats Truman.""*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2014/06/what-michigan-voters-really-want/>

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## Benchmark: Livability

*"Detroit's motto – Speramus meliora; resurget cineribus – gets trotted out a lot these days. The Latin, first written by Father Gabriel Richard in 1805, works well for what seems to be going on in the city lately: "We hope for better things; it will arise from the ashes.""*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2014/06/benchmark-livability/>

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## Benchmark: City services

*"Lights, blight and buses – the Big Three when it comes to ways in which Detroiters have been disappointed over the years. When Mike Duggan became mayor in January, he vowed to demonstrate progress on each of these fronts in his first six months, part of an effort to keep more residents from leaving the beleaguered city."*

*How has Detroit done?"*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2014/06/benchmark-city-services/>

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## **Benchmark: Jobs**

*"In its first six months, Mayor Mike Duggan's administration is building confidence that more jobs are on the horizon, though experts say hard evidence is sketchy and that much of the growth so far continues to bypass the city's struggling neighborhoods."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2014/06/benchmark-jobs/>

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## **Even with limited powers, Duggan in control**

*"In his first major address as Detroit mayor, Mike Duggan did not say in his first six months he'd solve the city's problems..."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2014/06/duggan-in-control/>

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## **Benchmark Detroit: Six months later**

*"Hurry up.*

*"*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2014/06/benchmark-detroit-six-months-later/>

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## **Press Releases**

### **U.S. Supreme Court Rules Against EPA Overreach, Burdensome Greenhouse Gas Regulations**

*"**LANSING** - Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today praised a 5-4 decision by the U.S. Supreme Court striking down burdensome Environment Protection Agency (EPA) regulations that would have imposed new permitting requirements on large manufacturing facilities and power plants. The regulation would have ultimately required a multitude of smaller facilities, including hospitals, churches, schools, apartment buildings and retailers, to comply with complicated greenhouse gas emission permitting requirements. The 5-4 ruling authored by Justice Antonin Scalia declared that the regulation exceeded the authority granted to the EPA by Congress and violated the federal Clean Air Act."*

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403557677\\_epa.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403557677_epa.pdf)

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## **Driver education partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters expands to SW Michigan**

*"NILES, Mich. – A pilot program launched by Secretary of State Ruth Johnson and Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) to help at-risk teens gain practical driving experience has expanded to Southwest Michigan and, for the first time, driver education scholarships are being provided."*

**Source:** Secretary of State Ruth Johnson **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403557591\\_driver.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403557591_driver.pdf)

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY: Reps. Conyers, Wilson, & Kaptur to Host Panel, TOMORROW, June 24th at 1 PM**

*"(WASHINGTON) – In the United States today, there are more than 34 million unemployed workers who have been searching for a job for longer than six months. While lawmakers on both sides of the aisle and across the political spectrum consistently rank addressing unemployment as a top priority, there has been little bipartisan action to spur job creation in recent years."*

**Source:** U.S. Congressman John Conyers, Jr. **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403557531\\_conyers.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403557531_conyers.pdf)

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## **GLEP Statement In response to Detroit Free Press Attack on Charter Public Schools**

*"It's abundantly clear the real purpose of the 'investigative' report undertaken during the last 20 months by the Detroit Free Press is intended to support a partisan political agenda in opposition to charter public schools. In the end, the Michigan model of chartering is working, and it's leading to significant improvements for children, especially at-risk children who are historically underserved," said Gary Naeyaert, Executive Director of The Great Lakes Education Project. "*

**Source:** Great Lakes Education Project **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403555406\\_glep.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403555406_glep.pdf)

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## **Levin, Stabenow Announce \$25 Million Grant for Michigan Coastal Management Program**

*"WASHINGTON – The Michigan Coastal Management Program will receive more than \$2.5 million from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to address protection of shore lands and coastal ecosystems, public access and recreation, and coastal community development, Sens. Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow announced today."*

**Source:** U.S. Senator Carl Levin **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

## **Snyder's request for West Michigan physical disaster declaration approved**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved his request for a physical disaster declaration for Newaygo and Osceola counties, paving the way for financial assistance for western Michigan residents and business owners impacted by severe storms and flooding."*

**Source:** Gov Newsroom **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403555243\\_snyder2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403555243_snyder2.pdf)

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## **Rep. Jeff Irwin: June Budget Update**

*"It is an honor and a pleasure to contact you once again as the state representative for the 53<sup>d</sup> Michigan House District. Throughout the year, I will send regular updates to keep you informed about issues that affect the Ann Arbor area and our state."*

**Source:** Rep. Jeff Irwin **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403555181\\_irwin.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403555181_irwin.pdf)

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## **SELWESKI: Snyder's 'comeback state' slogan wearing thin**

*"ICYMI: Today's column from Chad Selweski provided another reminder that Republican Gov. Snyder's agenda just isn't working. Because of the Republican tax hikes on seniors and middle class families, personal income is down, job growth is slowing, and the state revenue surplus vanished. "*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403555033\\_thin.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403555033_thin.pdf)

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## **Michigan Supreme Court Opinions**

*"Attached, please find opinions in #145557, Andrie Inc v Dep't of Treasury"*

**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403554860\\_supreme.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403554860_supreme.pdf)

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## **DEQ taps Air Chief to lead federal carbon rule planning**

*"The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality today announced the department's current Air Quality Division Chief will assume the lead role of implementing Michigan's response to the federal carbon reduction*

rule proposed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency early this month. "

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403551672\\_deg.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403551672_deg.pdf)

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## **MDOT traffic alert: One lane of US-2 closed in Brevort**

**"June 23, 2014** -- One westbound lane of US-2 is closed in Brevort, Mackinac County, due to sinkhole repair work."

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403551612\\_2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403551612_2.pdf)

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## **American Federation of Teachers Michigan and MEA host joint endorsement event for Rudy Hobbs**

**"DETROIT (Monday, June 23, 2014)** -- The Michigan Education Association and American Federation of Teachers Michigan will hold a joint endorsement event in support of Rep. Rudy Hobbs (D-Southfield) tomorrow, on Tuesday June 24 at 10:30 a.m. at the Lathrup MEA Offices, 17500 W. 11 Mile Road, Lathrup Village."

**Source:** Rudy Hobbs for Congress **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403551561\\_teachers.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403551561_teachers.pdf)

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## **Geiss, Candidate for HD 12 Receives MNA, M-PACE Endorsements**

**"June 17, 2014, Taylor, Mich.**—Erika Geiss, Democratic candidate for State House District 12, has received endorsements from the Michigan Nurses Association and M-PACE, the political action committee for the Michigan Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW)."

**Source:** Erika Geiss for State Representative **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403551345\\_geis2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403551345_geis2.pdf)

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## **AFL-CIO and Teamsters Endorse Erika Geiss for House District 12**

**"June 23, 2014, Taylor, Mich.**—Two more endorsements, in a growing list, have been announced in support of Erika Geiss, Democratic candidate for State House District 12. Both the Michigan State American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) and the Michigan Teamsters Joint Council No. 43 have endorsed Ms. Geiss."

**Source:** Erika Geiss for State Representative **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403551208\\_geiss.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403551208_geiss.pdf)



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## Summer Kick-Off: Schauer Belly Flops on Education

*"LANSING, Mich., June 23, 2014 – It's officially summer, and the Michigan Republican Party is diving in with a list of Mark Schauer's belly flops on education. In case you need a refresher on his record as Jennifer Granholm's right-hand man in the State Senate, Schauer was quick to cut education funding – yet criticizes Governor Snyder for increasing funding today (see below). Sounds like a total wipe out..."*

**Source:** Michigan Republicans **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403551102\\_summer.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403551102_summer.pdf)

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## Ramp closure Tuesday 6/24 - Parnell Rd off NB US-127

*"Starting Tuesday, June 24, the northbound US-127 exit ramp to Parnell Road will be closed. The ramp will remain closed for 28 days."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403550974\\_127.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403550974_127.pdf)

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## Totten Calls on Schuette To Launch Investigation, Aggressively Enforce Laws

*"KALAMAZOO — Today Mark Totten, a Democrat running for Michigan Attorney General, called on Atty. Gen. Bill Schuette to take immediate action in the wake of an investigative report the Detroit Free Press published on Sunday detailing broad conflicts of interest, steering of contracts, and wasteful spending among many of Michigan's nearly 300 charter schools. Specifically, Totten called on Schuette to launch an investigation; aggressively enforce state laws; and issue a formal opinion making clear that charter management companies are subject to the state FOIA law."*

**Source:** Mark Totten for AG **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403550904\\_totten.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403550904_totten.pdf)

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## SATURDAY: Build The Movement for Sentencing and Parole Reform

*"Join the Citizens Alliance on Prisons and Public Spending (CAPPS) to **BUILD THE MOVEMENT** for sentencing and parole reform!"*

**Source:** Brandon A. Jessup for State Representative **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403549866\\_prisons.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403549866_prisons.pdf)

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## Wendy Day Endorsed for Life, Guns, & Education

*"Wendy Day, candidate for state representative for the 47th District recently earned several endorsements confirming her conservative views regarding Education, Life, and Guns. The Great Lakes Education Project, a non-partisan group promoting school choice has endorsed Day based on her strong stance for Education Freedom."*

**Source:** Elect Wendy Day **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403549539\\_day.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403549539_day.pdf)

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## New Study Shows Soaring ObamaCare Costs In West Michigan

*"Last week, The Manhattan Institute for Policy Research compiled a county by county break down on the financial impact of ObamaCare on Americans from coast to coast. The study found on average that both men and women across Michigan are forced to contend with soaring costs and serious sticker shock."*

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403546400\\_study.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403546400_study.pdf)

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## Share ideas on forest plans for Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Manistee counties

*"The Department of Natural Resources will host open houses July 22 in Traverse City and July 23 in Kalkaska to provide information and receive public comment on proposed forest management treatments for 2016 in the Traverse City management unit, which includes Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau and Manistee counties. The open houses are set for the following times and locations ..."*

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403545377\\_forest.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403545377_forest.pdf)

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## Media Advisory: Statewide Protests Call on President Obama to Immediately Stop Deportations

*"MICHIGAN - A statewide coalition of groups has joined a national call for demonstrations on June 28th. Michigan United, Action of Greater Lansing and the West Michigan Immigration Reform Coalition are demanding that President Obama use his executive powers to stop deportations and keep immigrant families together. Though Congress may continue to stall immigration reform, the President has the authority and responsibility to stop many of the 1100 daily deportations."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403545312\\_protest.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403545312_protest.pdf)

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## Call It A Comeback: A Detroit Milestone

"

*Monday, June 23, 2014: 134 days until election - Governor Snyder showed once again this week that he works in dog years.*

"

**Source:** Rick for Michigan **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403545041\\_comeback.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403545041_comeback.pdf)

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## When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors; Lightning Safety Awareness Week is June 22-28

*"LANSING. The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) reminds Michiganders to think about lightning safety during Lightning Safety Awareness Week from June 22 to 28."*

**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403544634\\_thunder.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403544634_thunder.pdf)

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## Snyder Officials, Mayor Duggan Attend Opening of Detroit Office for Skilled Immigrants

*"June 23, 2014 — Michigan has become a leader in skilled immigrant workforce integration, providing resources for legal foreign-trained individuals to obtain employment within their chosen profession. Snyder Administration Officials and Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan today attended the opening of an office in Detroit that will provide new Americans with face-to-face customized training to help them integrate into Michigan's workforce. The new office is a continued partnership with Upwardly Global, a national, nonprofit organization that helps legal skilled immigrants and refugees rebuild their careers."*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403544751\\_snyder.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403544751_snyder.pdf)

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## Lane closures this week on I-75 in Monroe County

*"Starting today, June 23, there will be overnight, double lane closures each night on southbound I-75 between North Dixie Highway and LaPlaisance Road between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. The closures are needed for concrete pavement repairs and will last through Thursday, June 27. "*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403544592\\_752.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403544592_752.pdf)

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## Glastender Inc. Receives Renewed MIOSHA Recognition of their Workplace

## Safety and Health Excellence

*"June 23, 2014 - Glastender Inc., recently received renewal of its prestigious Michigan Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (MSHARP) Award certification from the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA). MIOSHA established the MSHARP Award to recognize employers that have achieved workplace safety and health excellence far beyond their peers. The MIOSHA program is part of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)."*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403544545\\_safety.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403544545_safety.pdf)

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## I-75 public meeting scheduled in Saginaw County

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) invites the public to attend an informational open house regarding proposed improvements, including a sound wall, on I-75 from Dixie Highway to just north of Hess Road in Saginaw County. This meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to meet with MDOT staff, ask questions and vote on the aesthetics of the proposed sound wall."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403544472\\_75.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403544472_75.pdf)

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## Sparrow successfully reverified as Level 1 trauma center

*"LANSING, Mich. – Sparrow Hospital has again earned the highest level of trauma center certification and remains mid-Michigan region's only Verified Level 1 Trauma Center for adult and pediatric Patients."*

**Source:** Sparrow Hospital **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403544163\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403544163_sparrow.pdf)

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## Rep. Singh: Budget Update and Summer Coffee Hours

*"I will continue to host community coffee hours throughout the summer, I hope you will be able to join me. Community coffees allow for an informal setting where you can share your thoughts and concerns, and also hear an update about Michigan's Legislature from me. The details for the summer coffee hours are as follows ..."*

**Source:** Representative Sam Singh **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403544012\\_singh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403544012_singh.pdf)

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## Detroit Free Press series on charter public schools is irresponsible and misleading

*"The Detroit Free Press series on charter public schools is irresponsible and absolutely misleading. Members*

*of the Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers are accountable and provide strong oversight. A study from Stanford University shows that the Michigan model of authorizing is unique and effective as shown by the individual year to year growth of individual students. Charter schools in Michigan follow the same laws and rules as traditional schools and authorizers ensure these laws are followed. Members of the Council of Charter School Authorizers have been recognized across the country for strong oversight and holding schools accountable. Our members provide an extra layer of oversight where we intervene to provide support for struggling schools and close schools that show no improvement. Over 70 charter schools have been placed under a plan of intervention in the last year along with 5 more who faced closure."*

**Source:** Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403535137\\_charter.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403535137_charter.pdf)

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## **Michigan Education Association Recommends Jon Hoadley for State Representative**

*"KALAMAZOO – Jon Hoadley, candidate for State Representative in the 60<sup>th</sup> District, has been endorsed by the Michigan Education Association (MEA), which represents 150,000 teachers, education support professionals and higher-education employees throughout the state."*

**Source:** Jon Hoadley for State Representative **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403535004\\_mea.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403535004_mea.pdf)

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## **Schuette Fights to Protect Pensioners' Privacy**

*"LANSING - Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced he has filed a formal statement opposing Syncora's proposed probe into the personal financial information of retired Detroit police and firefighters. Schuette joins the City of Detroit in requesting that Judge Rhodes reject Syncora's request as an invasion of privacy in the city's federal bankruptcy case. "*

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403534902\\_fights.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403534902_fights.pdf)

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## **The Michigan AFL-CIO Endorses Moss for State Representative**

*"Southfield Councilman Jeremy Moss picked up major support in his bid to become State Representative from Michigan's 35th House District. The Michigan AFL-CIO endorsed Moss for the August 5 Democratic primary election."*

**Source:** Michigan AFL-CIO **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403534851\\_moss.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403534851_moss.pdf)

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## **Poll: Dr. Anil Kumar in Lead for U.S. Congress 11th District Cong. Seat in**

## Democratic Primary

*"FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN—Dr. Anil Kumar, according to a Target Insyght Poll released today would win the United States Congressional Seat for the 11th District in the Democratic Primary Kumar, who is a well-known Urologist, has been a tireless champion for Women's Rights and Health Care Reform will be taking to the airwaves next week with an aggressive TV and Radio Campaign to further his efforts in getting his message out. Ads supporting his candidacy will also appear in Major Daily and weekly newspapers."*

**Source:** Mort Meisner Associates **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403534799\\_kumar.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403534799_kumar.pdf)

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## Michigan Chamber Endorses Wayne Schmidt

*"The Michigan Chamber of Commerce endorsed Wayne Schmidt in the 37th Senate District race, it was announced Thursday."*

**Source:** Wayne Schmidt for State Senate **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403534625\\_schmidt.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403534625_schmidt.pdf)

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## Heartland Institute Experts React to Louisiana Gov. Jindal's Plan Exit Common Core

*"Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal (R) this week issued an executive order pushing the state to replace the national Common Core public education standards with tests and standards created by the state. "We want out of Common Core," Jindal said, adding that Common Core does not comply with state law."*

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403534522\\_heartland.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403534522_heartland.pdf)

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## Michigan Nurses, People For American Way, & New American Leaders Endorse Chang

*"Detroit, Mich. – Democratic candidate Stephanie Chang received major endorsements from the Michigan Nurses Association, the People for the American Way Action Fund and the New American Leaders Initiative this month. This adds to the growing list of supporters for the Michigan House District 6 candidate."*

**Source:** Stephanie Chang for State Representative **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403534442\\_nurses.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403534442_nurses.pdf)

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## Michigan Nurses, People For American Way, & New American Leaders Endorse Chang

*"Detroit, Mich. – Democratic candidate Stephanie Chang received major endorsements from the Michigan Nurses Association, the People for the American Way Action Fund and the New American Leaders Initiative this month. This adds to the growing list of supporters for the Michigan House District 6 candidate."*

**Source:** Stephanie Chang for State Representative **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403534236\\_nurses.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403534236_nurses.pdf)

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## **The Streak: Fantasy 5 Player Wins \$215,655 Jackpot; Two Players Claim Top Prizes Friday**

*"LANSING, June 20, 2014 – The incredible hot streak for the Michigan Lottery's Fantasy 5 players continues with a lucky player hitting the game's 27th jackpot in 11 weeks."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403534129\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403534129_lottery.pdf)

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## **WILX: With No Primary, It's Unclear Why Land Wants to Wait on Debates**

*"Don't miss this report from Lansing's WILX about Former National Committeewoman Terri Lynn Land's refusal to even start talking about scheduling debates. WILX rightly points out that since there is no primary and Land and Peters are the only two candidates running for U.S. Senate, it makes next to no sense why Land won't accept the three non-partisan debate invitations Peters did this week."*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403534066\\_wilx.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403534066_wilx.pdf)

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## **MDOT's excess property auction is June 25**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will auction 11 excess properties on Wednesday, June 25. The properties available for public purchase are no longer needed for transportation purposes and are located throughout Michigan. The auction will be held at the Sterling Heights Library Programming Center at 40255 Dodge Park Road in Sterling Heights. Registration begins at 10 a.m., with the auction scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. The public is invited."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 06-24-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1403533945\\_auction.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1403533945_auction.pdf)

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## **Energy Department Invests \$3.2 Million to Support Clean Energy Small Businesses and Entrepreneurs**

*"CHICAGO, IL - Secretary Moniz today announced \$3.2 million to launch the National Incubator Initiative for Clean Energy, which will create a national support network to serve the clean energy small business and entrepreneur community, providing critical technical assistance and training services in order to bring these businesses and entrepreneurs closer to market readiness. The Initiative will establish a suite of technological*

and

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### **Bankruptcy judge tells Detroit to present more options for residents who can't pay water bills**

*"DETROIT, MI — U.S. District Judge Steven Rhodes on Tuesday told a water department official to return to court next week and present more options for residents who can't pay their water bills."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2014/07/bankruptcy\\_judge\\_tells\\_detroit.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2014/07/bankruptcy_judge_tells_detroit.html#incart_river)

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### **House candidates display range - Four Republican contenders present four approaches to leadership**

*"Michigan's term-limits law opened up a wide field of Republican candidates to fill the shoes of outgoing Rep. Cindy Denby, R-Handy Township."*

**Source:** Livingston County Daily Press & Argus **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.livingstondaily.com/article/20140716/NEWS01/307160002/House-candidates-display-range-Four-Republican-contenders-present-four-approaches-leadership>

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### **New poll gives Rep. Justin Amash largest lead against challenger Brian Ellis ahead of primary**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — With three weeks to go before the August primary, challenger Brian Ellis faces an upward battle against U.S. Rep. Justin Amash, should new poll numbers verify."*

**Source:** *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/07/new\\_poll\\_gives\\_rep\\_justin\\_amas.html#incart\\_m-rpt-2](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/07/new_poll_gives_rep_justin_amas.html#incart_m-rpt-2)

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## **Emergency manager to state: Flint 'still experiencing an ongoing financial emergency'**

*"FLINT, MI – Substantial progress has been made, but Flint is still in the midst of an on-going financial emergency, according to a new report from emergency manager Darnell Earley."*

**Source:** *Flint Journal* **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/07/flint\\_emergency\\_manager\\_tells\\_2.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/07/flint_emergency_manager_tells_2.html#incart_river)

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## **State Sen. Jim Ananich suggests a way for workers to find time to vote at the polls**

*"FLINT, MI – State Sen. Jim Ananich said he plans to introduce legislation that would ensure workers have time to make it to the polls on Election Day. "*

**Source:** *Flint Journal* **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/07/state\\_sen\\_jim\\_ananich\\_suggests.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/07/state_sen_jim_ananich_suggests.html#incart_river)

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## **Retired police lieutenant appointed special investigator for Flint emergency manager**

*"FLINT, MI – Emergency manager Darnell Earley has appointed a retired, high-ranking Flint Police Department official as an investigator reporting directly to him."*

**Source:** *Flint Journal* **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/07/retired\\_flint\\_cop\\_hired\\_as\\_inv.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/07/retired_flint_cop_hired_as_inv.html#incart_river)

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## **Senators urge U.S. Labor chief to intervene in Delphi pension issue**

"

*Washington —A group of Congress members asked U.S. Secretary Thomas Perez to intervene and require the government's pension insurer to quickly make determinations on the value of pensions for 20,000 Delphi Corp. salaried retirees."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140715/AUTO01/307150089/Senators-urge-U-S-Labor-chief-intervene-Delphi-pension-issue>

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## Snyder leads Schauer by 8.6 percentage points in statewide poll

"

*Gov. Rick Snyder continues to lead Democratic challenger Mark Schauer in a new statewide poll, but one political handicapping publication has deemed the race more competitive than expected."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140715/POLITICS02/307150081/Snyder-leads-Schauer-by-8-6-percentage-points-statewide-poll>

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## Visiting Dems to boost Peters

"

*Detroit— U.S. Rep. Gary Peters' Senate campaign will get a national boost this week when 3,000 liberal and Democratic activists descend on Detroit for an annual forum designed to fire up the troops for the fall election."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140716/POLITICS01/307160035/Visiting-Dems-boost-Peters>

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## Detroit residents plead with judge to keep pensions, benefits intact

"

*Detroit — Almost four dozen retirees and Detroit residents urged the city's bankruptcy judge Tuesday to spare pensions and health care benefits from being cut, as one accused Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr of "slitting our throats and letting us bleed out."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140715/METRO01/307150055/>

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## Bankruptcy judge urges help with Detroiters' water bills

"

*A bankruptcy judge says thousands of Detroit water shut-offs are "bad publicity" for the city and told the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Tuesday to devise more ways to help residents pay their bills."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140715/METRO01/307150093/Bankruptcy-judge-urges-help-Detroiters-water-bills>

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## State official says report misstates Michigan's approach to Rainy Day Fund

**"LANSING** — A national report released today by the Pew Charitable Trusts gives Michigan credit as one of only 12 states that use growth data to determine how much to add to its Rainy Day Fund."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140715/NEWS06/307150136/state-rainy-day-funds-pew>

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## Trott holds 22-point lead on Bentivolio, poll says

**"WASHINGTON** — Having largely ceded the airwaves to his challenger, U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio's re-election campaign is showing signs of trouble as a new poll shows him trailing lawyer David Trott in the Aug. 5 primary by 22 percentage points."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140715/NEWS06/307150144/Trott-Bentivolio-Congress-election-primary-poll>

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## Poll: Hansen Clarke takes big lead in 14th District U.S. House race

**"Former U.S. Rep. Hansen Clarke** has taken a substantial lead over rivals Southfield Mayor Brenda Lawrence and state Rep. Rudy Hobbs, D-Southfield, in the race to replace U.S. Rep. Gary Peters, D-Bloomfield Township."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140715/NEWS06/307150145/clarke-lawrence-hobbs-foster-primary-election-congress-poll>

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## Congress to grill top GM lawyer, Delphi CEO on faulty ignition switches

**"General Motors' top lawyer and the CEO of the supplier that made the faulty ignition switch will absorb some of the political fire previously directed at CEO Mary Barra when a Senate subcommittee reopens hearings Thursday on the automaker's delayed recall."**

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140716/BUSINESS0101/307160030/GM-General-Motors-Mary-Barra-Michael-Milikin-testimony>

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## Michigan lawmaker's bill would douse purchases of bigger fireworks

*"Saying he and his wife are fed up with high-powered fireworks in their neighborhood, the only state senator to vote in 2011 against expanding Michigan's range of legal fireworks said today he wants to rescind the law"*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140716/NEWS01/307160044/fireworks-skyrockets>

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## DIA expected to announce \$26 million toward grand bargain today

*"The Detroit Institute of Arts is expected to announce \$26 million in additional gifts today toward its \$100 million contribution to the grand bargain, according to a high-ranking executive at one of the companies making a donation."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140716/ENT05/307160042/detroit-institute-of-arts-grand-bargain-gilbert>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Whitmer: Yes on Proposal 1

"

*As with any major change in Michigan tax policy, I had questions about Proposal 1 when the legislation to put it on the Aug. 5 ballot came up for a vote in the Senate this spring."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140716/OPINION01/307160001/Whitmer-Yes-Proposal-1>

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## Editorial: Retirees' vote hastens Detroit's return to normalcy

"

*Detroit's path to more normal governance got quite a bit clearer this week with the apparent acceptance by the city's retirees of the proposed bankruptcy plan."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140716/OPINION01/307160002/Editorial-Retirees-vote-hastens-Detroit-s-return-normalcy>

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## **Peters, Schauer aid Obama's wasteful behavior**

*"Last week, the Government Accountability Office released a report estimating that in 2013 over \$107 billion dollars were improperly paid out by federal agencies. To make matters worse, auditors say reporting errors by many federal agencies means that number will likely increase."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:** <http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2014/07/15/peters-schauer-aid-obamas-wasteful-behavior/>

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## **Michigan 8th Congressional District GOP Primary Getting Feisty**

*"When it comes to major federal issues such as health care, energy plans and the role the government should have in banking and housing, Republicans Tom McMillin and Mike Bishop have very similar views."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20277>

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## **Press Releases**

### **Macomb County Pilot Project to Better Serve Michigan Veterans Wins National Recognition**

*"Lansing, Mich. July 3, 2014 – A pilot project by the Michigan Department of Human Services and Macomb County Veterans Affairs Services was recently recognized by the National Association of Counties with a 2014 achievement award for a first-of-its-kind effort to better serve veterans by connecting them to all services and benefits for which they are eligible "*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Human Services **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405460101\\_dhs2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405460101_dhs2.pdf)

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### **Michigan Department of Human Services, Partners Assisting Detroit Water Customers**

*"Lansing, Mich. July 15, 2014 – Qualifying low-income Detroit residents who need help paying late water bills can seek assistance from the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) and its community partners, DHS said today. "*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Human Services **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405460004\\_dhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405460004_dhs.pdf)

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## **Dr. Benishek's Statement on Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Funding**

*"WASHINGTON, DC: Dr. Dan Benishek (MI-01) released the following statement in response to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) making up to \$27.5 million available for the 2014 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI):"*

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405459941\\_funding.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405459941_funding.pdf)

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## **MUCC Announces Daniel Eichinger as New Executive Director**

*"LANSING- Michigan United Conservation Clubs announced that it has hired Daniel Eichinger as its new Executive Director. Eichinger returns to MUCC, where he began his career, with extensive legislative, agency, executive and nonprofit experience."*

**Source:** Michigan United Conservation Clubs **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405459896\\_mucc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405459896_mucc.pdf)

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## **Peters Statement on Short-Term Extension for Highway Funding**

*"WASHINGTON – Today, U.S. Representative Gary Peters (MI-14) released the following statement on the Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014, which temporarily extends funding to highway and transit programs covered by the Highway and Transit Trust Fund through May 2015:"*

**Source:** U.S. Representative Gary Peters **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405459846\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405459846_peters.pdf)

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## **Day 2: Snyder, Land Still Hiding from Michigan Voters**

*"LANSING - For the second time this week, a statewide nonpartisan voter guide was released for voters in Michigan, and for the second time, neither Republican Gov. Rick Snyder nor Republican Terri Land answered even a single question asked by the League of Women Voters."*

**Source:** Michigan Dems **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405459785\\_day2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405459785_day2.pdf)

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## **McKenzie Releases Latest Round of Endorsements**

*"Democrat Bobby McKenzie announced several new endorsements, including the **Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union, Michigan Postal Workers Union, Laborers Local 1191**, former*

Livonia Mayor **Bob Bennett** and "**Friday Musings**," published by **Bill Joyner**. The **Northville Democratic Club** has also named McKenzie its preferred candidate in the 11th Congressional District. "

**Source:** Bobby McKenzie for U.S. Congress **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405459626\\_mckenzie.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405459626_mckenzie.pdf)

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## **Wildlife Habitat Grant writing workshop offered July 21 via conference call**

*"The Department of Natural Resources will host a Wildlife Habitat Grant writing workshop via conference call Monday, July 21, from 1 to 3 p.m. The workshop will give potential applicants the information they need to help with the grant-writing process. "*

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405459574\\_grant.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405459574_grant.pdf)

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## **CANCELLED: "PDF Connections" and "Finding the Missing Magic in Microsoft Office" seminars**

*"The State Bar of Michigan Practice Management Resource Center has now cancelled two seminars that were to be held Monday, July 28 in Room 404 of the Cooley Center, located at 303 S. Capitol Ave. on the Thomas M. Cooley Law School Lansing campus."*

**Source:** State Bar of Michigan **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405455152\\_sbm2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405455152_sbm2.pdf)

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## **Michigan's driver education program praised by NHTSA**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan's driver education program received high praise from a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration-sponsored panel of national experts, Michigan Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announced today."*

**Source:** Secretary of State Ruth Johnson **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405447438\\_driver.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405447438_driver.pdf)

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## **Governor Snyder to Tour Farms in Michigan's Thumb**

*"**LANSING** – On Wednesday, Michigan Farm Bureau's political action committee, AgriPac, will host Governor Rick Snyder as he tours two farms in Michigan's thumb. AgriPac, the state's largest general farm organization endorsed the Governor in April. "*

**Source:** Gov Newsroom **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**



## **Moolenaar Endorsed by Tea Party Express and Local Tea Party Leaders**

*"MIDLAND, MI - John Moolenaar was joined today in Midland by Tea Party Express' Executive Director Taylor Budowich, National Grassroots Director Kay Rivoli and local Tea Party activists. The group came together for the announcement that Tea Party Express has endorsed the Moolenaar for Congress campaign."*

**Source:** John Moolenaar for Congress **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405447168\\_Moolenaar.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405447168_Moolenaar.pdf)

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## **Huizenga Endorses Daniela Garcia for State Representative**

*"Zeeland, Mich. - Today, U.S. Representative Bill Huizenga endorsed Daniela Garcia for State Representative for the open seat in the 90th District. Huizenga represented the 90th District from 2003-2008 and was succeeded by current State Representative Joe Haveman who is term-limited. "*

**Source:** Daniela Garcia for State Representative **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405446623\\_garcia.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405446623_garcia.pdf)

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## **Schauer Still Plan-less**

*"LANSING, Mich., July 15, 2014 – Once again, Mark Schauer took to the media spotlight Tuesday with only plan-less criticisms of Governor Snyder. Appearing on MSNBC with Chuck Todd, the architect of the Lost Decade continued to mislead families about Michigan's comeback, without providing a clear path forward."*

**Source:** Michigan Republicans **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405446579\\_plan.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405446579_plan.pdf)

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## **US-127 BR signal removal scheduled on Wednesday, July 16, in Alma**

*"Crews are scheduled to remove the traffic signal on US-127 BR (Superior Street) at Woodworth Avenue to improve intersection operations. The change is the result of a nine-month study to determine if the signal was warranted. Stop signs will be installed on Woodworth Avenue. Additional intersection improvements will be made in spring 2015."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405443681\\_127.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443681_127.pdf)

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## Michigan Supreme Court Opinion Final for the Term

*"Final opinion release for this term - RAMA MADUGULA V BENJAMIN A. TAUB (Washtenaw Circuit Court)."*

**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405443638\\_court.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443638_court.pdf)

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## MDOT schedules US-23 bridge improvements over Rifle River

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will make improvements on the US-23 bridge over the Rifle River in Omer. This project will improve road quality and increase motorist safety."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405443555\\_23.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443555_23.pdf)

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## MI Career & Tech. Institute and Michigan Works! Deliver Certified Nursing Assistant Training Program

*"Benton Harbor, Mich. July 8, 2014 – The Michigan Career and Technical Institute (MCTI) will graduate 12 students in its certified nursing assistant program tomorrow Wednesday, July 9, in Benton Harbor. "*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Human Services **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405443509\\_nursing.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443509_nursing.pdf)

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## Op/Ed: Serving Michigan's Veterans Better

*"As we celebrate the Fourth of July holiday, many of us pause and think of the men and women who have bravely fought on our behalf to keep this the "land of the free and the home of the brave." "*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Human Services **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405443367\\_oped.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443367_oped.pdf)

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## M-15 signal removal scheduled this week in Davison

*"Crews are scheduled to remove the traffic signal on M-15 (State Road) at Colonial Boulevard to improve intersection operations. The change is the result of a 10-month study to determine if the signal was warranted. Stop signs will be installed at Colonial Boulevard. Additional intersection improvements will be made in spring 2015."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405443289\\_15.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443289_15.pdf)

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## **Antlerless deer license applications on sale now through Aug. 15**

*"The Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that the application period for antlerless deer licenses is now open through Aug. 15. Hunters may apply for one license in any open Deer Management Unit (DMU) statewide; a nonrefundable \$5 fee is charged at the time of application. Drawing results and leftover license availability may be viewed at [www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings](http://www.michigan.gov/huntdrawings) beginning Sept. 4."*

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405443246\\_deer.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443246_deer.pdf)

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## **ABC Appeals Lansing Prevailing Wage Ruling To Supreme Court**

*"Lansing, Mich. – ABC of Michigan today announced that it has filed an appeal to the Michigan Supreme Court to overturn a lower court ruling upholding Lansing's Prevailing Wage ordinance."*

**Source:** Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405443204\\_abc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405443204_abc.pdf)

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## **"PDF Connections" and "Finding the Missing Magic in Microsoft Office" scheduled for July 28**

*"The State Bar of Michigan Practice Management Resource Center will host two seminars on Monday, July 28 in Room 404 of the Cooley Center, located at 303 S. Capitol Ave. on the Thomas M. Cooley Law School Lansing campus."*

**Source:** State Bar of Michigan **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405438099\\_sbm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405438099_sbm.pdf)

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## **Terri Lynn Land Still Refuses to Clarify Net Neutrality Position**

*"LANSING - Former Republican National Committeewoman Terri Lynn Land hasn't developed a position on net neutrality, weeks after reporters criticized her "dreadful" response at Mackinac for being "unsure of the policy details." Land had a disastrous performance at the Detroit Regional Chamber's policy conference, where she was deemed "not ready for prime time" and couldn't answer simple questions about everything from net neutrality to opposing the auto rescue."*

**Source:** Michigan Dems **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405438021\\_land.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405438021_land.pdf)

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## Senator Anderson to Introduce Legislation Regulating Fireworks

*"LANSING— After another July 4th resulting in countless complaints, injuries and outcry from local officials and citizens across the state, State Senator Glenn S. Anderson (D-Westland) will introduce legislation this week to restore Michigan's fireworks law back to its pre-2011 regulations, prohibiting the sale of Class C fireworks. This would reinstate the ban on aerial and explosive fireworks, which account for the vast majority of noise complaints and serious injuries."*

**Source:** Senator Glen S. Anderson **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405437981\\_fireworks.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437981_fireworks.pdf)

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## ICYMI: Real Clear Politics Moves MI-GOV Race to Toss Up

*"I wanted to make sure you saw that Real Clear Politics changed their rating on the race for governor from "Leans GOP" to "Toss Up" following the NBC/Marist poll that was released today."*

**Source:** Mark Schaurer for Governor **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405437909\\_schauer.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437909_schauer.pdf)

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## Skinner Campaign goes up on TV in "Really Terri!" Land Spoof AD on War on Women

*"Birmingham, MI – NANCY SKINNER, the proven Democrat and true Progressive running in Michigan's 11th Congressional District Democratic Primary, took a jab at the Republican's U.S Senate candidate, with a TV spot spoofing Terri Lynn Land's widely-panned first ad, "Really?" which begins airing today. At the time, Land was fending off blowback from women across America about her outrageous comments in 2010 that women have "different lifestyles" and are thus "more interested in flexibility in a job than pay.""*

**Source:** Nancy Skinner for Congress **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405437790\\_skinner.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437790_skinner.pdf)

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## The Streak: Detroit Man Wins \$183,826 Jackpot Playing Michigan Lottery's Fantasy 5 Game

*"LANSING, July 15, 2014 – A 59-year-old Detroit man gave his bride of just one month quite a gift on Monday: a \$183,826 Fantasy 5 jackpot."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405437717\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437717_lottery.pdf)

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## **Ananich Bill Would Make Sure Workers Have Time to Vote**

"

LANSING – With just three weeks left before Michiganders head to the polls for the August 5th primary, Senator Jim Ananich (D- Flint) is set to introduce another measure tomorrow to help make it easier to vote. This bill would help Michigan workers who want to vote but find it difficult or impossible because of their work schedule."

**Source:** Senator Jim Ananich **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405437670\\_vote.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437670_vote.pdf)

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## **Michigan waterfowl hunters can buy Federal Duck Stamp online starting July 17**

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources, in cooperation with the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service's Federal Duck Stamp Office, will offer the federal migratory bird hunting stamp – also known as the Duck Stamp – for purchase online at [www.mdnr-elicense.com](http://www.mdnr-elicense.com) starting Thursday, July 17."

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405437588\\_duck.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437588_duck.pdf)

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## **Ted Cruz endorses Amash in radio ad**

"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Tex.) endorsed Rep. Justin Amash (R-Mich.) in a radio ad that will air across West Michigan starting on Tuesday."

**Source:** justin Amash for Congress **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405437531\\_amash.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437531_amash.pdf)

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## **Michigan DEQ Holds Public Hearings on Proposed Fracking Rules**

"ANN ARBOR — The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will hold two public hearings to solicit feedback on a proposal released earlier this year to update Michigan's rules governing hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking." The hearings will be held today, July 15th in Gaylord and tomorrow, July 16th in Lansing, both at 6:30 PM EDT."

**Source:** Michigan League of Conservation Voters **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405437485\\_deq.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437485_deq.pdf)

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## **Call It A Comeback: Facts Matter**

*"More than 250,000 new private sector jobs, the lowest unemployment rate in six years, the highest investment in education in state history, and Detroit's Grand Bargain? It's clear that Governor Snyder is focused on the reinvention of Michigan and the Comeback City, Detroit."*

**Source:** Rick for Michigan **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405437432\\_comeback.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437432_comeback.pdf)

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## **Ingham County Judges Young and Nichols Honored at Oakland County Bar Association's Awards Ceremony**

*"Oakland County, MI (July 15, 2014) – Recently the Oakland County Bar Association (OCBA) held its 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony at Shenandoah Country Club in West Bloomfield."*

**Source:** Oakland County Circuit Court **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405437377\\_judges.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437377_judges.pdf)

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## **Consumers Energy Focusing on Forestry Projects Across Michigan to Deliver Electricity More Safely**

*"JACKSON, Mich., July 15, 2014 – As part of its commitment to delivering energy safely and reliably, Consumers Energy is increasing its work to keep trees away from electric lines in communities across Michigan."*

**Source:** Consumers Energy **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405437253\\_consumers.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437253_consumers.pdf)

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## **At Hearings Citizens To Challenge Proposed Fracking Rules**

*"LANSING—As state environmental regulators hold two days of public hearings this week on new rules to regulate natural gas fracking, Sierra Club today said the proposals fall far short of what's needed and will put Michigan's waterways at continued risk unless the state halts the controversial practice. "*

**Source:** Michigan Sierra Club **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405437130\\_sierra.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437130_sierra.pdf)

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## **Ottawa County Farm Recognized by MAEAP**

*"The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's (MDARD) Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) is recognizing two farms for implementing appropriate pollution prevention practices. The program assists farmers to comply with state and federal environmental regulations and with Right to Farm practices. The local MAEAP program is coordinated by the Ottawa Conservation District and covers Ottawa County."*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405437078\\_maeap2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405437078_maeap2.pdf)

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## **Environmental Assurance Program Verifies Local Farms**

*"The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's (MDARD) Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) is recognizing four farms in Ingham County for implementing appropriate pollution prevention practices. The program assists farmers to comply with state and federal environmental regulations and with Right to Farm practices. The local MAEAP program is coordinated by the Eaton Conservation District and covers Eaton and Ingham Counties."*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405436988\\_maeap.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436988_maeap.pdf)

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## **Endorsed by Planned Parenthood!**

*"Curtis Hertel Jr. has received the endorsement of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan, in his bid for the Michigan State Senate 23rd District."*

**Source:** Curtis Hertel Jr. for State Senate **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405436852\\_hertel.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436852_hertel.pdf)

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## **Michigan Realtors Primary Endorsements**

*"Michigan Realtors® announced their Primary Endorsed candidates running for positions on both the state and federal levels. "*

**Source:** Michigan Realtors PAC **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405436780\\_mirpac.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436780_mirpac.pdf)

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## **US-31 resurfacing in Mason County starts July 21**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be resurfacing 12.2 miles of US-31 in Mason County, from south of Hansen Road to north of Hoague Road."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405436688\\_31.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436688_31.pdf)

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## Schuetzte Announces Felony Charges in Southeast Michigan Unlicensed Doctor Scam

*"LANSING – Michigan Attorney General, Bill Schuetzte, today announced felony charges against two Southeast Michigan men alleged to have been involved in a health care fraud scheme. Schuetzte has charged Golden Higgwe, 62, of Dearborn Heights, with 20 felony charges related to the scheme, and physician, Dr. Timothy Whiteus, 60, of Oak Park, with 19 felony charges."*

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuetzte **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405436651\\_scam.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436651_scam.pdf)

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## Endorsement

*"I have attached a press release from the Michigan Township Association. I was also notified today that I have received the endorsement from the Michigan Pork Producers Association."*

**Source:** James Wencel for State Rep **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405436602\\_wencel.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436602_wencel.pdf)

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## House Adopts Huizenga Amendment Enacting Over \$788 Million In Cuts To IRS Budget

*"Washington, DC – Tonight, the House adopted an amendment to H.R. 5016, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act for 2015 by Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) cutting over \$788 million from the IRS Enforcement Budget. The amendment was introduced as a response to the Internal Revenue Service's targeting of Americans based on their political beliefs, as well as, the targeting of adoptive families across the nation. When combined with the \$341 million in cuts made by the underlying bill, the total reduction to the IRS budget would exceed \$1 billion."*

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405436492\\_cut.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436492_cut.pdf)

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## Snyder, Land Still Hiding from Michigan Voters

*"LANSING - Michigan voters hoping that Republicans Rick Snyder and Terri Land would finally publicly answer for their records were no doubt disappointed by MLive's voter guide, which was released today. Neither Snyder nor Land answered even a single question asked by MLive, skipping questions as basic as "Why are you running for office?" and "Why do you identify with your political affiliation?"*

**Source:** Michigan Dems **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405436432\\_snyder.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436432_snyder.pdf)



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## Stand up for clean water. Get Michigan's fracking rules right

*"Mark your calendar for two key dates this week because it is your opportunity to **tell the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) that we need stronger safeguards against fracking** in the Great Lakes State. The DEQ is holding public hearings in Lansing and Gaylord, and we need as many Michigan LCV members in the room as possible to carry one message: **Michigan's lakes, rivers and streams deserve top notch protections, and right now our safeguards are not up to snuff.**"*

**Source:** Michigan League of Conservation Voters **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405436386\\_lcv.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436386_lcv.pdf)

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## GLEP Files Complaint for Courser Campaign Finance Violation

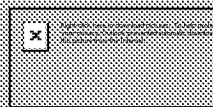
*"**Lansing, MI** – Today, the Great Lakes Education Project (GLEP) filed an official complaint with the Michigan Department of State alleging that Todd Courser's campaign for State Representative violated state law."*

**Source:** Great Lakes Education Project **Date:** 07-16-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1405436300\\_glep.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1405436300_glep.pdf)

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Lansing, MI 48915



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**From:** MacKenzie, Connie (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Monday, November 02, 2015 9:20 AM  
**To:** Budd, Virgil (DTMB); Shaffer, Randy (DTMB); Hobson, Daphne (DTMB)  
**Subject:** FW: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

There is an article in this Gongwer about our boss.

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**From:** gongwerreports@gongwer.com [mailto:gongwerreports@gongwer.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 2, 2015 8:52 AM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_clips@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips



## Michigan News & Opinion For November 2, 2015

### News

Courser, Gamrat seek 2nd chance after affair scandal (Associated Press, 11/2/2015)

Asian carp found 12 miles closer to Lake Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Auto insurance, liquor sales are subjects of new bills (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Ballot committee forms for LGBT constitutional amendment (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Courser-Gamrat special elections to cost thousands (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Michigan political odd couple join forces at NYC marathon (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

No roads fix, but more than 70 bills are now Mich. law (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Online vehicle registration system at risk, state says (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Senator Ananich says water woes will have lasting impact on Flint community (Flint Journal, 11/2/2015)

The auditor, the bureaucrat: A push for lean government (Lansing State Journal, 11/2/2015)

Forlini's bill to help families care for the disabled signed into law (Macomb Daily, 11/2/2015)

Bill introduced to manage digital assets after death or incapacity (Michigan Radio, 11/2/2015)

'Fiscal time bomb' or welcome relief? Income tax rollback linked to Michigan roads plan (MLive, 11/2/2015)

Cindy Gamrat says she is 'confident' going into Tuesday's election (MLive, 11/2/2015)

Michigan DEQ audit expanded to include Flint water response (MLive, 11/2/2015)

Michigan Political Points: Money flows to judges, gov prospects and Courser/Gamrat opponents (MLive, 11/2/2015)

No more money: Michigan autism fund runs dry as its architect calls for reconsideration (MLive, 11/2/2015)

Anti-prevailing wage group starts over on ballot issue (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

Bipartisan group seeks gay rights plan on 2016 ballot (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

DPS unions: Include labor contracts in Snyder overhaul (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

Mich. lawmakers pledge to save crop insurance program (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

## **Editorials**

Help college students get their money's worth (Bridge Magazine, 11/2/2015)

Detroit schools plan shows lack of faith in democracy (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Education in Michigan can improve, if it's done right (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Coy: Michigan energy law needs competitive bidding (Lansing State Journal, 11/2/2015)

Pardee: Prevailing wage law supports families, service (Lansing State Journal, 11/2/2015)

McCann: Energy policy should be fair to everyone (Midland Daily News, 11/2/2015)

We're all too fond of solutions in pill form (Port Huron Times Herald, 11/2/2015)

Blueprint for fixing Detroit schools (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

Finley: Gov. Snyder — break a leg, or several (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

Pannebecker: Prevailing wage bad for Michigan (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

Leading on juvenile justice (Toledo Blade, 11/2/2015)

George Weeks: Dark money and the Michigan Supreme Court (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 11/2/2015)

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**Subject:** This Week in Michigan Public Higher Education News - Dec. 18, 2015



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Third generation UM-Flint student tours campus with grandpa, part of first class

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*MLive* (Dec. 15, 2015)

[Watch this: U-M engineering dean's 'Star Wars' rap](#)

*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 16, 2015)

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**From:** Shoemaker, Lisa (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 4:11 PM  
**To:** Colosimo, Beth (MEDC)  
**Cc:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB); Thelen, Janell (MSHDA)  
**Subject:** RE: City of Flint

We are assuming no additional authorization is needed??? We may have a supplemental for Flint going out the door as early as tomorrow.

---

**From:** Beth Colosimo (MEDC) [<mailto:colosimob1@michigan.org>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 3:56 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB); Shoemaker, Lisa (DTMB)  
**Subject:** FW: City of Flint

Information from MSHDA. Hope this helps.

Beth

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**From:** Sykes, Jeffrey (MSHDA) [<mailto:sykesj@michigan.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 7, 2015 11:24 AM  
**To:** Janell Thelen (MSHDA); Michele Wildman (MSHDA); Beth Colosimo (MEDC)  
**Subject:** RE: City of Flint

I just spoke with Kevin. MSHDA is in fact making a \$249,900 grant available to deal with Flint's water issue. We do have to make sure that the request or uses are related to housing. Given that this water issue will have a direct impact on Flint housing and housing values, it shouldn't be too difficult to make the connection. We don't know yet what the grant will be used for, but are happy to help by looking at Flint's request and identify where the MSHDA grant can be used.

Jeffrey J Sykes  
Director of Finance  
Michigan State Housing Development Authority  
735 East Michigan Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48909  
517/335-4893  
[sykesj@michigan.gov](mailto:sykesj@michigan.gov)

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**From:** Thelen, Janell (MSHDA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 11:00 AM  
**To:** Sykes, Jeffrey (MSHDA) <[sykesj@michigan.gov](mailto:sykesj@michigan.gov)>; Wildman, Michele (MSHDA) <[WildmanM@michigan.gov](mailto:WildmanM@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: City of Flint

Can either of assist with the question below?

Janell M. Thelen, CPA  
Chief Accountant, Finance  
Michigan State Housing Development Authority  
ph. 517.335.2040 • fx. 517.373 2450

For information about MSHDA and social networking, visit <http://www.michigan.gov/mshdasocialnetwork>

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**From:** Beth Colosimo (MEDC) [<mailto:colosimob1@michigan.org>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 9:49 AM  
**To:** Thelen, Janell (MSHDA)  
**Subject:** City of Flint

Janell:

Can you check to see what kind of support and dollars are being offered by your agency for the Flint water issue? SBO just said something about \$250,000 coming from your funds but we don't know what is being used. They are trying to clarify this for the Governor.

Thanks,  
Beth

Beth D. Colosimo, CGFM  
Budget Director  
Michigan Economic Development Corporation/Department of Talent and Economic Development  
300 N. Washington Square | Lansing, MI 48913  
Office: 517.241.1725 | Mobile: 517.574.8571  
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**Sent:** Tuesday, November 03, 2015 7:02 AM  
**To:** Smith, Nicole (CEPI)  
**Subject:** Stewardship - The State Universities of Michigan and the Public Good



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## Welcome to the First Edition of *Stewardship*

Welcome to the first edition of *Stewardship - The State Universities of Michigan and the Public Good*, brought to you by the Michigan Association of State Universities. Published monthly, *Stewardship* will serve as a media showcase for the tremendous outreach the state universities display in serving their students and communities as well as the State of Michigan and beyond. Covering issues as diverse as K-12 education, economic development, health care, environmental sustainability, and public safety, these media accounts will affirm that **Michigan's state universities are public universities serving the public interest.**

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## Civic Engagement & Civic Education

[Warming U.P. the Sault](#)

*The Sault Evening News* (Oct. 12, 2015)

[Bill Clinton to speak at MSU next month](#)

*Detroit Free Press* (Oct. 15, 2015)

[NMU shows off expanded archive](#)

*WLUC TV* (Oct. 15, 2015)

[Grand Valley State University announces speakers for 2016 MLK Commemoration Week](#)

*Holland Sentinel* (Oct. 19, 2015)

[Trayvon Martin lawyer talks to Central Michigan University on civil rights](#)

*USA Today* (Oct. 20, 2015)

[MSU debuts largest U.S. media collection in country](#)

*Detroit Free Press* (Oct. 20, 2015)

[Links between leadership and mental illness explored in Saginaw Valley State University Lecture](#)

Midland Daily News (Oct. 20, 2015)

Eight things to look out for at TEDx Oakland

The Oakland Post (Oct. 22, 2015)

NMU celebrates Make a Difference Day

WLUC TV (Oct. 24, 2015)

CMU students making Christmas brighter for vets

Midland Daily News (Oct. 25, 2015)

Presidential Candidate Martin O'Malley Comes to UM-Dearborn

The Michigan Journal (Oct. 27, 2015)

Talking on racism

Ferris State Torch (Oct. 28, 2015)

Native American Elder speaks at NMU

WLUC TV (Oct. 28, 2015)

## **Economic Development**

### ***Innovation and Entrepreneurialism***

White House honoring University of Michigan scientist

Detroit Free Press (Oct. 9, 2015)

Automation Alley opens Innovation Lab at Oakland University

The Oakland Press (Oct. 15, 2015)

Erickson: NMU committed to innovation

The Mining Journal (Oct. 20, 2015)

Central Michigan University Unveils MakerBot Innovation Center, First in Midwest

9 and 10 News (Oct. 22, 2015)

What can a city hall do for a business? [UMD]

Crain's Detroit Business (Oct. 29, 2015)

### ***Research, Development & Technology Transfer***

MSU celebrates 50 years of cyclotron beams

Lansing State Journal (Oct. 9, 2015)

Michigan State to expand lab for diamond growing

Detroit Free Press (Oct. 14, 2015)

How Michigan helped map path to the Internet

The Detroit News (Oct. 15, 2015)

NMU professor contributes to first field description of whale species

WJMN TV (Oct. 15, 2015)

Woolly mammoths WERE wiped out by hunters: Tusks suggest that calves were forced to wean earlier because of human predators [UM]

*Daily Mail* (Oct. 16, 2015)

U-M botanical garden displays clone of ancient redwood

*Detroit Free Press* (Oct. 20, 2015)

UM's \$150M biosciences initiative to add 30 faculty

*The Detroit News* (Oct. 23, 2015)

Michigan State gets \$5.8M grant to improve potato production

*WTOL TV* (Oct. 27, 2015)

## **Environmental Sustainability**

Oakland University to host symposium on climate change

*The Oakland Press* (Oct. 8, 2015)

Michigan State researchers studying algae on Torch Lake

*The Detroit News* (Oct. 12, 2015)

Grand Valley State University, Hastings Township complete sustainable rural recycling prototype

*Holland Sentinel* (Oct. 14, 2015)

Invasive species conference held at NMU

*WJMN TV* (Oct. 22, 2015)

Tech Green Enterprise recycles, hosts seminar

*The Mining Gazette* (Oct. 22, 2015)

University of Michigan boosts biosciences, sustainability

*WTOL TV* (Oct. 23, 2015)

WMU Prof.: Get ready for more-frequent, more-intense storms after Patricia

*WTVB AM* (Oct. 29, 2015)

Permaculture garden holds Halloween block party [NMU]

*WLUC TV* (Oct. 31, 2015)

## **Health Care**

University of Michigan study explores social relationships, well-being in Detroit area

*The Tribune (IN)* (Oct. 12, 2015)

New \$93M Wayne State center to study health disparities

*The Detroit News* (Oct. 13, 2015)

GVSU student: breast cancer can't stop me

*WOOD TV* (Oct. 20, 2015)

[CMU faculty performs breast cancer research](#)  
*The Morning Sun* (Oct. 22, 2015)

[Wayne State doctor: Women pass lead damage to grandkids](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Oct. 24, 2015)

[Let's talk about health care: All have stake in deciding resource allocation, experts say \[GVSU\]](#)  
*MLive* (Oct. 27, 2015)

[Blood lead clinic to be held for Flint children in Burton](#)  
*MLive* (Oct. 29, 2015)

## **K-12 Outreach**

[Students, teachers gain research experience from Saginaw Valley, Dow Foundation STEM program](#)  
*Midland Daily News* (Oct. 19, 2015)

[Iron Range STEM Showcase Offers Hands-on Science for All Ages \[MTU\]](#)  
*WDIO TV* (Oct. 20, 2015)

[Central Michigan University receives \\$5 million STEM donation from Midland Foundation](#)  
*Midland Daily News* (Oct. 21, 2015)

[Blueberry program triples with 1,000 Genesee students, new scholarships \[UM-E\]](#)  
*MLive* (Oct. 22, 2015)

[U-M college prep program to offer full scholarships](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Oct. 23, 2015)

[Michigan Tech's residence halls to host Halloween Safe House](#)  
*WLUC TV* (Oct. 23, 2015)

[Grand Valley State, other colleges to host science demonstrations at Grand Rapids mall](#)  
*Daily Journal (Indiana)* (Oct. 24, 2015)

[Teaching Teachers To Teach: It's Not So Elementary \[UM\]](#)  
*NPR*, (Oct. 24, 2015)

[Trick-or-treat at the U-M Museum of Natural History](#)  
*MLive* (Oct. 26, 2015)

## **Global Outreach**

[International University Officers to Visit Zimbabwe](#)  
*Voice of America - Zimbabwe* (Oct. 17, 2015)

## **Public Safety**



WMU student non-profit looks to bring awareness to domestic violence  
*WWMT TV* (Oct. 9, 2015)

Keenan: Wayne State police chief says campus is safe  
*The Detroit News* (Oct. 20, 2015)

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## The Dean's List

### The Lighter Side of the News

[SVSU coach, bowler, alum set national record one pin shy of perfection](#)

*MLive* (Dec. 15, 2015)

[Watch this: U-M engineering dean's 'Star Wars' rap](#)

*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 16, 2015)

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**From:** Bob Murphy <bmurphy@masu.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 04, 2016 12:32 PM  
**To:** Smith, Nicole (CEPI)  
**Subject:** Stewardship - The State Universities and the Public Good - Jan. 4, 2016



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**January 4, 2016**

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## **Civic Engagement & Civic Education**

[U-M Library lands papers of indie film producer](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 2, 2015)

[NMU Brings Holiday Cheer to Marquette](#)  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 2, 2015)

['Star Wars': WMU wants to know what the films have taught you about ethics](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 4, 2015)

[EMU student from Livonia launches campus food pantry](#)  
*Hometown Life* (Dec. 4, 2015)

[Muslim Student Association speaks out regarding San Bernardino attack \[MTU\]](#)  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 8, 2015)

[5 takeaways from Ben Carson's visit to Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti \[EMU, UM\]](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 9, 2015)

[UM-D students urge City Council to vote on Syrian refugee resolution](#)  
*Arab American News* (Dec. 10, 2015)

[LSSU Student Government seeks to create food pantry](#)  
*Sault Ste. Marie Evening News* (Dec. 11, 2015)

[University group works to organize shuttle bus service to help those who live downstate \[LSSU\]](#)  
*Sault Ste. Marie Evening News* (Dec. 12, 2015)

[NMU faculty, staff donate to Cheer Club](#)  
*The Mining Journal* (Dec. 13, 2015)

[Michigan student raises funds, hope for Humans of New York refugee scientist](#)



[USA Today \(Dec. 15, 2015\)](#)

[University forum discusses tactics about ISIS \[NMU\]](#)

[ABC 10 News \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

[Herrick Library to collect stories of Holland's Asian, Pacific Islander residents](#)

[Holland Sentinel \(Dec. 22, 2015\)](#)

[MSU creates center to help struggling Michigan local governments](#)

[Michigan Radio \(Dec. 29, 2015\)](#)

## **Culture & Placemaking**

[Concert caps off Native American Heritage Month \[UM\]](#)

[The Michigan Daily \(Dec. 1, 2015\)](#)

[Ferris State University Students to Put On Free Holiday Concert](#)

[9 & 10 News \(Dec. 8, 2015\)](#)

[National Endowment for the Arts awards Grand Rapids \\$50K in grants \[GVSU\]](#)

[MLive \(Dec. 8, 2015\)](#)

[University of Michigan students help fight blight in Detroit's Brightmoor neighborhood](#)

[WXYZ TV \(Dec. 11, 2015\)](#)

[GVSU music students to perform in national parks](#)

[WZZM TV \(Dec. 14, 2015\)](#)

## **Economic Development**

### **Innovation & Entrepreneurialism**

[Midland-based Map-N-Tour receives business accelerator funding \[OU\]](#)

[Midland Daily News \(Dec. 7, 2015\)](#)

[La. Tech faculty team selected for NSF Pathways to Innovation Program \[GVSU\]](#)

[The News Star \(LA\) \(Dec. 8, 2015\)](#)

[UM-Flint student starts bow tie business in his apartment](#)

[WJRT TV \(Dec. 8, 2015\)](#)

[Grand Rapids firm to begin trials on Alzheimer's drug that improves memory \[GVSU\]](#)

[MLive \(Dec. 9, 2015\)](#)

[Q&A: How clean-energy policies drive economic development \[OU\]](#)

[Midwest Energy News \(Dec. 10, 2015\)](#)

[A conversation with a queen of start-up innovation](#)

[The Detroit News \(Dec. 12, 2015\)](#)

[Grand Valley State University graduate students, alumni compete for \\$1M prize](#)

[Holland Sentinel \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

# Research, Development & Technology Transfer

Energy Department awards \$12.4 million to 4 Michigan projects [UM]  
*Crain's Detroit Business* (Dec. 1, 2015)

Simulation technology close imitation of fantasy films [CMU]  
*Central Michigan Life* (Dec. 6, 2015)

MSU helps to fight crime with CSI-style technology  
*Michigan Radio* (Dec. 7, 2015)

New software analyses words, gestures to detect lies [UM]  
*The Economic Times (India)* (Dec. 10, 2015)

10 Most Efficient Four-Wheel Drive Vehicles for Winter Weather [MTU, UM]  
*The Street* (Dec. 9, 2015)

WMU to hold first public input sessions on expansion of BTR Park  
*MLive* (Dec. 10, 2015)

Federal grant to help gather historical info on migrants [GVSU]  
*9&10 News* (Dec. 15, 2015)

MTU professor studies how to properly dispose of nano particles  
*The Mining Journal* (Dec. 15, 2015)

UM researchers win grant for protective gear research  
*Crain's Detroit Business* (Dec. 15, 2015)

Could Evolution Ever Yield a 'Perfect' Organism? [MSU]  
*Discover Magazine* (Dec. 16, 2015)

Humans Are Slamming Into Driverless Cars and Exposing a Key Flaw [UM]  
*Bloomberg* (Dec. 17, 2015)

The case of the sticky protein [MTU]  
*Phys.org* (Dec. 18, 2015)

Rare isotope accelerator takes shape on MSU's campus  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 22, 2015)

Cronyism Causes the Worst Kind of Inequality [UM]  
*Bloomberg View* (Dec. 24, 2015)

# Environmental Sustainability

Tech analysis backs dust charge  
*Mining Gazette* (Dec. 1, 2015)

[Limestone dumped in Lake Michigan aims to rehab reef \[CMU\]](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 2, 2015)

[Large solar dawns in Michigan, but residential incentives may sunset \[MSU\]](#)  
*Great Lakes Echo* (Dec. 4, 2015)

[Pollution sampling not so simple \[MTU\]](#)  
*Mining Gazette* (Dec. 5, 2015)

[EMU to hold State of the Strait conference](#)  
*Eastern Echo* (Dec. 5, 2015)

[Oil spill, high waves: A Great Lakes disaster scenario \[UM\]](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 6, 2015)

[Endangered or not? Scientists, lawmakers renew gray wolf debate \[MTU\]](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 13, 2015)

[New '2030 District' vows to slash downtown energy use by 50 percent \[GVSU, FSU\]](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 14, 2015)

## Faculty Perspective & Expertise

[WMU Professor: Progress made this week at Paris Climate Summit](#)  
*WNWN FM* (Dec. 4, 2015)

[Can you spot the crab? \[NMU\]](#)  
*The Straits Times [Singapore]* (Dec. 6, 2015)

[Michigan could soon part ways with straight-ticket voting \[NMU\]](#)  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 7, 2015)

[Flu Shots for Hospital Workers Save Lives \[UM\]](#)  
*The Wall Street Journal* (Dec. 13, 2015)

[Sensible Explainer: Susan Dynarski \[UM\]](#)  
*The Chronicle of Higher Education* (Dec. 13, 2015)

[Northern Michigan Economists, Experts Reacts To US Interest Rate Uptick \[CMU\]](#)  
*9&10 News* (Dec. 16, 2015)

[Genetically modified fish: coming to a store near you? \[NMU\]](#)  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 16, 2015)

[What does Federal interest rate hike mean for local consumers? \[OU\]](#)  
*The Oakland Press* (Dec. 16, 2015)

[Is a 'Star Wars' lightsaber possible? MSU profs explain](#)  
*Lansing State Journal* (Dec. 18, 2015)

[Q&A: Paul Isely, Associate Dean, Grand Valley State University Seidman College of Business](#)  
*MiBiz* (Dec. 20, 2015)

West Michigan doctor calls 'Concussion' movie an 'a-ha' moment for football players, coaches  
[GVSU, MSU]  
*MLive* (Dec. 22, 2015)

## Health Care

MSU Team Comes Up With Depression Plan  
*WILX TV* (Dec. 1, 2015)

RENEW-U exercise machine developed at Michigan Tech  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 4, 2015)

Water tests conducted at Flint homes by Wayne State University researchers  
*MLive* (Dec. 5, 2015)

UM survey: National teenage use of illegal drugs falls  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 16, 2015)

## K-12 Outreach

Students get hands-on introduction to STEM fields [OU]  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 2, 2015)

Hour of Code week [MTU]  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 8, 2015)

CMU mentoring program gives elementary kids a buddy during lunch  
*The Morning Sun* (Dec. 10, 2015)

'Shop With a Cop' brings holiday cheer to Ypsilanti area kids [EMU]  
*MLive* (Dec. 10, 2015)

Folk music camp coming to NMU  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## Global Outreach

See the world with fellow U-M, MSU, WSU alumni  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 12, 2015)

Indian-American Surgeon Aims to Save Lives on Indian Roads [MSU]  
*The New Indian Express [India]* (Dec. 20, 2015)

PUC partners international universities for research [SVSU]  
*STARR FM [Ghana]* (Dec. 30, 2015)

## Public Safety

Battle Creek base's new cyber unit to bring 70 new jobs  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 9, 2015)

Michigan Tech's ROTC comments on combat eligibility for women

*WLUC TV* (Dec. 10, 2015)

[New trial sought for man in Detroit girl's '96 murder \[UM\]](#)

*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 14, 2015)

[Saginaw approves \\$300K grant to help victims of crime \[SVSU\]](#)

*MLive* (Dec. 22, 2015)

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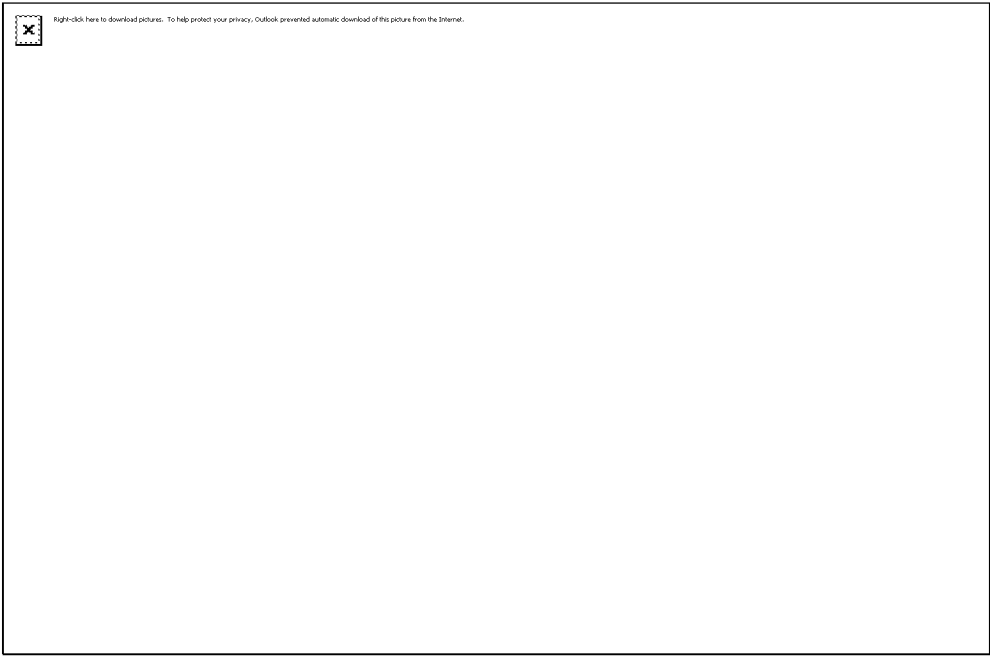
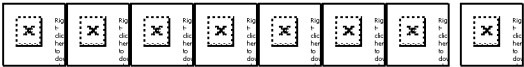


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**From:** Sherry Gay-Dagnogo <sherry4staterep@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 12, 2015 8:45 AM  
**To:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Without Apology I Support DFT!~ TUNE IN TODAY 11 a.m. to Bankole Thompson on WDET: The E.A.A. Was Doomed from the Inception!



*"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world!"*

*---Nelson Mandela*

## **Without Apology.... I Support DFT!**

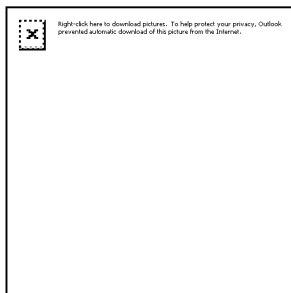


Although I've received push back, I was honored to host my former DFT colleagues and their new President Ivy Bailey, in Lansing, during their rally. I shared with WDIV news that teachers have been left out of the conversation for far too long and they have a right to know and to be a part of decisions that are impacting their lives and the children they are committed to. [view WDIV report here.](#)

I also met with DFT members this past Saturday to give them a better perspective of the bills that may be introduced early December and cautioned them from acting prematurely as

Detroit Caucus Members are working very hard to ensure the best package possible.

## **Live 11 AM TODAY: The E.A.A. Debate & Flint Water Crisis on**



**Redline with Bankole Thompson  
WDET.org 101.9 FM**

### **Round Table Panelist:**

Mayor Elect of Flint Karen Weaver

Political commentator Earl Ofari Hutchinson

Pennie Bailer, Former Exec. Dir. City Year

Rep. Sherry Gay-Dagnogo, M.Ed., 8th District

**Call in (313) 577-1019**

## **E.A.A. in the News:**

DetNews:Thompson: E.A.A. Doomed from Day One, Critics Say

Freep: E.A.A. gave \$1.7 M contract to the higher bidder

Eclectablog: EM's Were Suppose to Fix DPS

MetroTimes: Former EAA Principal Cuts Deal with FBI  
Freep: Top Officials, Bank Records Focus on School Probe  
DetNews: Feds Look at Bank Records EAA, DPS  
DetNews: Fed Corruption Probe Targets EAA, DPS Officials

**Throwback:** MetroTimes: Investigative Report on the E.A.A.

## **The E.A.A. was a Failure from the Inception!**

--Sherry Gay-Dagnogo, M.Ed.

From the inception of the announcement of the EAA, I knew that it would be problematic. As a former teacher with DPS, serving on United Way's Educational Preparedness team, I remember rushing over to Renaissance High School that sunny afternoon to hear the announcement. It was one of Governor Snyder's earlier visits to the city of Detroit.

The entrance was manned by one of the local communications firms hired by EM Roy Roberts, who selected those that could and who could not attend the announcement. On the inside were those that were either civically credentialed, cleared by the EM or foundation community.

My DPS colleagues were calling me asking what the hell is going on. How can they take DPS schools and shift them to this new experiment. And an experiment it was. Everyone at United Way was trying to shift gears as the Ed Team had been working very closely with Clark Hill to develop new legislation that would allow a new authorizing paradigm and partnership for charter and traditional public schools. This was on the backdrop of their turnaround work of which GM had infused a historical 27 million dollar investment. The day of the announcement, United Way's Ed legislation halted.

The announcement began and the smiles on the faces of those in attendance was evidence that educating children was the furthest from their minds.



I left wondering how could they subject Detroit schools only to this interlocal agreement and why would Eastern Michigan University of all schools with a stellar College of Education program participate in creating a separate and unequal school district. That's when my advocacy began. I later learned they were hand selected as they one of the few universities in which Governor Snyder appoints the Board of Regents. Those that held scholarly positions at EMU would never consent to such absurdity.

I strapped my organizer cap on after hearing who the appointed board would be and begin lobbying to express my disdain. After a conversation with a noteworthy board member, I knew that this model would not work and I would do everything in my power to ensure I uncovered the layers of why it would fail.

I met with Chancellor John Covington in October 2010 to determine how the model would work and how our children would be given a fighting chance. I gave him a list of community stakeholders that he should consider meeting with to truly advance a model that would retool, reform, rebuild and return our schools to DPS. I even offered to help if indeed the aforementioned was the goal. However, after attending their focus groups, and learning of the various personal contracts with non educational leaders, I knew it was doomed to fail.

Investigating what was suppose to be individualized academic plans, was nothing short of placing children in front of computers with a software system "Buzz" with no prior testing. Further investigation and FOIA by then State Representative Ellen Cogen Lipton and Sen Hopgood revealed the blatant disregard for the federal IDEA Act for students with special needs, with more than 600 students IEPs were ignored or simply thrown out.

Organizing and advocacy efforts by community activist Helen Moore revealed lies on federal applications positioned this utter failure to receive race to the top funding until an article was placed in the Washington Post raising awareness of Covington lies on a federal application.

Bloated contracts continued to pass through a board that rarely met, many of which are non-Detroit residents with no commitment it accountability to the citizens of Detroit. Meetings were held during inconvenient hours to discourage parents and activist from attending.

As the layers of the EAA lies were uncovered, their student plummeted. Their finances suffered and secret loans were uncovered from the very district they were carved out from Detroit Public Schools, under the leadership of dual EM Roy Roberts and Chair of the Education Achievement Authority.

Their efforts to recruit students gained national attention when student enrollment letters his suburban districts where parents said

hell no.

Almost six years later the experiment is behind held together by threads with seemingly more FBI probes than students. As a professional educator committed to Detroit children, this is disheartening. As I anticipate the impact of the legislative process to address our Detroit Public Schools crisis, I can't help but question the mindset of anyone that advanced this model to fail children from the onset.

## **#TogetherWeCan**



Sherry Gay-Dagnogo, M.Ed.

State Representative 8th District



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Sherry Gay-Dagnogo | P.O. Box 231141 | Detroit | MI | 48223

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**From:** Nancy Vreibel <NVreibel@senate.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 2:41 PM  
**To:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RE: Flint water issue  
**Attachments:** HB 4102 amdt MSP fundsource.pdf; HB 4102 Flint amdts.pdf

Here ya go. n

---

**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB) [<mailto:StarrS1@michigan.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 2:37 PM  
**To:** Nancy Vreibel <[NVreibel@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:NVreibel@senate.michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Flint water issue

Hey, can you send me the Hildenbrand amendment from committee today, too?

---

**From:** Nancy Vreibel [<mailto:NVreibel@senate.michigan.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 1:54 PM  
**To:** Starr, Scott (DTMB); Roberts, John (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Flint water issue

Hi: Is the Administration working with the city for some sort of assistance? We are likely to see a floor amendment on HB 4102 from Ananich appropriating cleanup funds for a couple big projects, and it would be lovely to see something announced before then, if there's something in the works....

September 30, 2015



Senator Hildenbrand offered the following amendments to House Bill No. 4102 (S-1) Draft 1:

1. Amend page 2, line 8, by striking out "0" and inserting "1,000,000".

2. Amend page 2, line 9, by striking out "7,775,000" and inserting "6,775,000".

3. Amend page 3, line 15, by striking out "0" and inserting "1,000,000".

4. Amend page 3, line 16, by striking out "7,725,000" and inserting "6,725,000".

5. Amend page 3, following line 20, by inserting  
" Special revenue funds:  
Risk management revolving fund . . . . . 1,000,000".

6. Amend page 3, line 21, by striking out "7,725,000" and inserting "6,725,000"

and adjusting the subtotals, totals, and section 201 accordingly.

2 amendments for the supplemental.

1. \$1.5 million to help get water filters in the homes of Flint residents. This amount will help 30,000 Flint residents get filters.

2. \$12 million to help expedite the goal of sourcing the public water supply from Lake Huron.

\*Switching back to the City of Detroit will cost the City of Flint \$1.5 million monthly. This money will be used to switch back to that source and/or expedite the construction of the KWA pipeline.

We are asking for money out of the Cleanup and Redevelopment fund. Bottle Deposit escheats (unclaimed deposits that revert to the state) are deposited into the Clean-up and Redevelopment Fund every year. Statute mandates that 80% of this revenue be deposited into the Cleanup and Redevelopment fund.

Fy 14'	\$13.6 million revenue
	\$16.1 Spent
	\$18.1 Balance
Fy 15'	\$13.6 million revenue
	\$16.6 Spent
	\$15.1 estimated balance

The fund will only continue to bring in more money. The percentage of bottles returned has dropped every year since 2007, meaning more money each year in the fund.

---

**From:** Underwood, Deliah (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 06, 2015 2:24 PM  
**To:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RE: Legislative Update 10/6

Thanks!

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**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 06, 2015 2:02 PM  
**To:** Budget 6th Floor Staff  
**Subject:** Legislative Update 10/6

Good afternoon,

Sorry for the delay in getting this out. I wanted to update the attached document before sending, so a couple items in the committee section already took place today. Here are some highlights of what's happening in the House and Senate this week:

**Session this Week:** The House and Senate will hold session Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

**School Aid Supplemental:** The House and Senate completed work on SB 134 (Pscholka) last week, and the Governor is expected to sign the bill this week.

**FY 15 Supplemental (HB 4102)Pscholka:** The Senate passed the bill by a 30-5 vote on Thursday, October 1 and added two amendments:

- \$100 placeholder intended to continue discussions on the Flint water crisis
- \$100 placeholder for potential funding to pay off the county portion of bonds related to the now-vacated DHHS Alger County lease

I expect discussions on both of these issues to continue this week, with potential House floor action likely held off until next week (Oct. 13-15)

- **FY 17 Legislator Outreach:** John and I have individual FY 17 budget outreach meetings with 8 members of the appropriations committees this week: Reps. McCready, Poleski, Santana, and VerHeulen and Sens. Green, Hertel, MacGregor and Schuitmaker.

**Legislation That Costs \$:** I attempt to maintain a list of bills getting some degree of traction in the Legislature that have a direct appropriation or a negative revenue impact. Just looking at the committee agendas for House Tax Policy, Senate Finance, and full sessions this week, I've added a number of bills to the list. Attached is what I've compiled. Please let me know if you're aware of any others.

**Committee Meetings:**

- New committee meeting notices are still being posted.
- House Appropriations Committee will be meeting on Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. and will likely vote to report SB 22 (H-2) This is the supplemental payment enhancement for low-income MSP troopers who retired before October 1, 1986. The H-2 version reflects an agreement we reached with Sen. Nofs on the issue. Senate Appropriations Committee will likely not meet this week.

- House State Police Subcommittee: Holding a joint meeting with the House Communications and Technology Committee on First Net. This hearing was today at Noon.
- House School Aid Subcommittee: Hearing on pupil membership counting was today at 10:30 a.m.
- Senate School Aid Subcommittee: MDE will be presenting on the GSRP formula. There will also be a presentation on the Early Learning Neighborhood Collaborative. This meeting is Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.
- House LARA and General Government subcommittees: There will be a joint hearing on Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. on the UIA claims process.

**Road Funding:** Discussions still ongoing.

**Legislation to Watch:** If you're aware of any others that pop up, please let me know:

- SB 22 (Nofs) Retirement enhancement for troopers retired before 1986. FY 16 target agreement holds \$400,000 in reserve. SB 22 now scaled back to provide a boost to 96 retirees whose pensions are below \$16,000—to \$16,000. SB 22 is in House Appropriations. We have agreement with Sen. Nofs on an alternative supplemental payment instead of direct pension enhancement. House likely to take up the bill this fall.
- SB 218 (Schmidt)—Fallen officer survivor benefits. Some legislators are looking at ways an individual policy can be purchased instead of adding to the state system, and ORS is working on a prefunding estimate. This bill could move at some point before the end of the year. The House Fiscal Agency estimates this cost at \$59,000 in the first year, growing to over \$700,000 annually after ten years.
- SB 343 (Schuitmaker) University MPSERS rate cap legislation. Currently in House Appropriations, and the committee is hoping to take the bill up on Wednesday, October 7. We are currently trying to determine whether amendments are needed to reconcile an issue related to state universities overpaying into the MSPERS system.
- SB 388-390 (Casperson, Kowall, Robertson) Local unfunded mandates. These bills could still see action this fall, but it sounds like things might be slowing down a bit. Will keep everyone posted.
- HB 4338 (Forlini) Allows school districts to contract with an alternative provider for DC plans. ORS is awaiting feedback and data from one of the financial advisor groups that is advocating for this legislation.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if you hear of anything that might be helpful for me to know. Have a great week!

---

**From:** Ruest, Karla (DHHS)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 11:04 AM  
**To:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Supplemental

Do you know the timetable for the Flint supplemental?

Sent from my iPad



---

**From:** Ackerman, Darin (GOV)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 11:11 AM  
**To:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Subject:** FW: NEWS UPDATE--Snyder Asks Legislature For \$6M To Reconnect Flint To Detroit Water

Have we already identified a funding source or do we have options? SML is asking. They mentioned the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, though I don't know that the current statutory language would allow for such.

Darin Ackerman, Deputy Director  
Legislative Affairs Division  
Office of Governor Snyder  
State Capitol  
Lansing, MI 48913  
Phone: (517) 241-3950

---

**From:** gongwerreports@gongwer.com [mailto:gongwerreports@gongwer.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 10:22 AM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_updates@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** NEWS UPDATE--Snyder Asks Legislature For \$6M To Reconnect Flint To Detroit Water



Thursday, October 8, 2015, 10:21 AM

## **Snyder Asks Legislature For \$6M To Reconnect Flint To Detroit Water**

FLINT – Governor Rick Snyder said today that Flint will reconnect to the Detroit water system and no longer draw water for its residents and businesses from the Flint River, a move that comes in response to insufficient corrosion treatment for the river water causing unsafe levels of lead to leach into the water.

The announcement follows one of the most serious environmental crises to confront the state and a major outcry that Mr. Snyder's administration, and the man he appointed to run the city when it was in a financial emergency, failed to assure the river water – more corrosive than the water from Lake Huron, where the Detroit system draws its water – was properly treated before making the switch to the river. Testing has shown rising levels of lead in the blood of some children in the city and pockets of the city with lead levels in the water that exceed recognized limits for safety.

Mr. Snyder said it will cost \$12 million to shift Flint to Detroit water through next summer, when a new pipeline to Lake Huron is expected to be completed to supply Flint and surrounding areas with its water. He said he is asking the Legislature to supply \$6 million. The Mott Foundation will contribute \$4 million and the city of Flint will chip in \$2 million.

Gongwer News Service will have more on this story in today's Michigan Report.

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**From:** Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2015 3:50 PM  
**To:** Starr, Scott (DTMB);Lange, Michelle (GOV)  
**Subject:** Pscholka

Director Wyant is meeting with Rep Pscholka at 9:30 tomorrow regarding Flint water. Just a head's up for you.

Maggie

**Maggie Pallone**  
Deputy Director  
Policy and Legislative Affairs  
Department of Environmental Quality  
517-599-6190 (cell)  
[PalloneM@michigan.gov](mailto:PalloneM@michigan.gov)

---

**From:** Pohl, Allan (LARA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 13, 2015 1:32 PM  
**To:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RE: HB 4102 Floor Substitute

LARA's is ok. We were getting a lot of questions from Paul H. in HFA on Friday though.

Allan R. Pohl, Deputy Director, CFO  
Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs  
611 W. Ottawa, PO Box 30004  
Lansing, MI 48909  
(517) 335-1976

---

**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 13, 2015 1:29 PM  
**To:** Pallone, Maggie (DEQ) <[PalloneM@michigan.gov](mailto:PalloneM@michigan.gov)>; Ruest, Karla (DHHS) <[RuestK@michigan.gov](mailto:RuestK@michigan.gov)>; Hertel, Elizabeth (DHHS) <[HertelE@michigan.gov](mailto:HertelE@michigan.gov)>; Hanley, Farah (DHHS) <[hanleyf@michigan.gov](mailto:hanleyf@michigan.gov)>; Ryan, Howard (Treasury) <[RyanH1@michigan.gov](mailto:RyanH1@michigan.gov)>; Waters, Frank (LARA) <[WatersF@michigan.gov](mailto:WatersF@michigan.gov)>; Pohl, Allan (LARA) <[pohla1@michigan.gov](mailto:pohla1@michigan.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lange, Michelle (GOV) <[LangeM3@michigan.gov](mailto:LangeM3@michigan.gov)>; Ackerman, Darin (GOV) <[ackermamd3@michigan.gov](mailto:ackermamd3@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** HB 4102 Floor Substitute

Hi everyone,

Attached is the House floor sub for HB 4102, the supplemental, which includes the Flint water portion. This bill could move in the House as soon as today, so please let me know if your teams see any problems.

Also, please do not share with the outside, since it's my understanding this has not been introduced or made public yet. Thanks.

---

**From:** Rep. Pam Faris (District 48) <PamFaris@house.mi.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 13, 2015 3:59 PM  
**To:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RE: Flint water funding breakdown

Thank you, Scott.

Pam Faris

---

**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB) [<mailto:StarrS1@michigan.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 13, 2015 3:57 PM  
**To:** Rep. Pam Faris (District 48) <[PamFaris@house.mi.gov](mailto:PamFaris@house.mi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Lange, Michelle (GOV) <[LangeM3@michigan.gov](mailto:LangeM3@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** Flint water funding breakdown

Representative Faris,

Per our conversation at House session today, please see the attached breakdown of the proposed state portion for the Flint water situation. Please let me know if you need additional information.

Scott Starr, Legislative Liaison  
State Budget Office  
(517) 373-6741

---

**From:** Hanley, Farah (DHHS)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 13, 2015 5:18 PM  
**To:** Starr, Scott (DTMB); Pallone, Maggie (DEQ); Ruest, Karla (DHHS); Hertel, Elizabeth (DHHS); Ryan, Howard (Treasury); Waters, Frank (LARA); Pohl, Allan (LARA)  
**Cc:** Lange, Michelle (GOV); Ackerman, Darin (GOV)  
**Subject:** RE: HB 4102 Floor Substitute

It did not so with that included we are good.

Thanks Scott

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**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 13, 2015 3:39 PM  
**To:** Hanley, Farah (DHHS); Pallone, Maggie (DEQ); Ruest, Karla (DHHS); Hertel, Elizabeth (DHHS); Ryan, Howard (Treasury); Waters, Frank (LARA); Pohl, Allan (LARA)  
**Cc:** Lange, Michelle (GOV); Ackerman, Darin (GOV)  
**Subject:** RE: HB 4102 Floor Substitute

Is that taking into account the Alger Co. placeholder?

---

**From:** Hanley, Farah (DHHS)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 13, 2015 3:29 PM  
**To:** Starr, Scott (DTMB); Pallone, Maggie (DEQ); Ruest, Karla (DHHS); Hertel, Elizabeth (DHHS); Ryan, Howard (Treasury); Waters, Frank (LARA); Pohl, Allan (LARA)  
**Cc:** Lange, Michelle (GOV); Ackerman, Darin (GOV)  
**Subject:** RE: HB 4102 Floor Substitute

Small potatoes but the DHHS portion says \$850,100 for the GF on page 7 but should be just \$850,000 even. The totals carry the \$100 as well.

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**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 13, 2015 1:29 PM  
**To:** Pallone, Maggie (DEQ); Ruest, Karla (DHHS); Hertel, Elizabeth (DHHS); Hanley, Farah (DHHS); Ryan, Howard (Treasury); Waters, Frank (LARA); Pohl, Allan (LARA)  
**Cc:** Lange, Michelle (GOV); Ackerman, Darin (GOV)  
**Subject:** HB 4102 Floor Substitute

Hi everyone,

Attached is the House floor sub for HB 4102, the supplemental, which includes the Flint water portion. This bill could move in the House as soon as today, so please let me know if your teams see any problems.

Also, please do not share with the outside, since it's my understanding this has not been introduced or made public yet. Thanks.

---

**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 2:57 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB) (RobertsJ9@michigan.gov);Duncan, Nancy (DTMB);Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Flint Water  
**Attachments:** HB 4102 Flint amdts.pdf

John,

When you have time, I would like to discuss this with you. I've been told that Sen. Ananich plans to offer an amendment to the supplemental on the Senate floor next week to use \$13.5 million from the unclaimed bottle deposit fund to address the Flint water issue (please see the attachment).

2 amendments for the supplemental.

1. \$1.5 million to help get water filters in the homes of Flint residents. This amount will help 30,000 Flint residents get filters.

2. \$12 million to help expedite the goal of sourcing the public water supply from Lake Huron.

\*Switching back to the City of Detroit will cost the City of Flint \$1.5 million monthly. This money will be used to switch back to that source and/or expedite the construction of the KWA pipeline.

We are asking for money out of the Cleanup and Redevelopment fund. Bottle Deposit escheats (unclaimed deposits that revert to the state) are deposited into the Clean-up and Redevelopment Fund every year. Statute mandates that 80% of this revenue be deposited into the Cleanup and Redevelopment fund.

Fy 14'	\$13.6 million revenue
	\$16.1 Spent
	\$18.1 Balance
Fy 15'	\$13.6 million revenue
	\$16.6 Spent
	\$15.1 estimated balance

The fund will only continue to bring in more money. The percentage of bottles returned has dropped every year since 2007, meaning more money each year in the fund.



---

**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 3:54 PM  
**To:** Posthumus, Dick (GOV)  
**Cc:** Ackerman, Darin (GOV); Lange, Michelle (GOV); Roberts, John (DTMB) (RobertsJ9@michigan.gov)  
**Subject:** Flint Water  
**Attachments:** HB 4102 Flint amdts.pdf

Hi Dick,

Per your phone call with John, attached is what Nancy Vriebel gave me today. This is what she believes Sen. Ananich will offer to HB 4102 (FY 15 supplemental) when the bill is taken up on the floor next week.

2 amendments for the supplemental.

1. \$1.5 million to help get water filters in the homes of Flint residents. This amount will help 30,000 Flint residents get filters.

2. \$12 million to help expedite the goal of sourcing the public water supply from Lake Huron.

\*Switching back to the City of Detroit will cost the City of Flint \$1.5 million monthly. This money will be used to switch back to that source and/or expedite the construction of the KWA pipeline.

We are asking for money out of the Cleanup and Redevelopment fund. Bottle Deposit escheats (unclaimed deposits that revert to the state) are deposited into the Clean-up and Redevelopment Fund every year. Statute mandates that 80% of this revenue be deposited into the Cleanup and Redevelopment fund.

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	\$16.6 Spent
	\$15.1 estimated balance

The fund will only continue to bring in more money. The percentage of bottles returned has dropped every year since 2007, meaning more money each year in the fund.

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**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 01, 2015 1:07 PM  
**To:** Roberts, John (DTMB) (RobertsJ9@michigan.gov);Duncan, Nancy (DTMB);McNeely, Jacques (DTMB);Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB);Harkins, Chris (DTMB);Kimmith, Dean (DTMB)  
**Subject:** 2 amendments added to the supplemental  
**Attachments:** DOC000.pdf

Good afternoon,

Attached are the two amendments added by the Senate to the supplemental, HB 4102:

- \$100 placeholder for Flint emergency water services
- \$100 Placeholder for Alger County HHS Facility—County bond pay-off

The bill passed the Senate today 30-5 vote. Now back to the full House for more fun.

September 30, 2015

Senator Ananich offered the following amendments to House Bill No. 4102 (S-1):

1. Amend page 5, following line 9, by inserting:

"SEC 152. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY:

Full-time equated classified positions ..... 0.0  
GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$100  
Interdepartmental grant revenues:  
Total interdepartmental grants and  
Intradepartmental transfers..... 0  
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$100  
Federal revenues:  
Total federal revenues: ..... 0  
Special revenue funds:  
Total local revenues: ..... 0  
Total private revenues: ..... 0  
Total other state restricted revenues: ..... 0  
State general fund/general purpose: ..... 100

(2) RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Full-time equated classified positions ..... 0.0  
City of Flint emergency water services ..... \$100  
GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$100

Appropriated from:

State general fund/general purpose ..... \$100"

and adjusting the subtotals, totals, and section 201 accordingly.

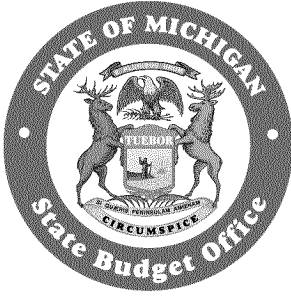
2. Amend page 5, line 10, by striking out "152" and inserting "153".

September 30, 2015

Senator Casperson offered the following amendment to House Bill No. 4102 (S-1):

1. Amend page 6, following line 8, by inserting:  
" (4) DEPARTMENTWIDE ADMINISTRATION  
Rent and state office facilities . . . . . \$100  
GROSS APPROPRIATION . . . . . \$100  
Appropriated from:  
State general fund/general purpose . . . . . \$100"

and adjusting the subtotals, totals, and section 201 accordingly.



**State Budget Office  
Legislative Update Meeting  
October 8, 2015  
9:00 a.m.**

**AGENDA – Sen. Hildenbrand’s Office**

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1. Roads
2. Supplementals
3. Flint Water
4. Risk List
5. Hepatitis C
6. Bills with Revenue Impact
7. Miscellaneous

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**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 1:19 PM  
**To:** Adam Carlson;Ken Osborne;Josiah Kissling;Mary Ann Cleary;Kyle Jen;Nancy Vreibel;Fred Schaible;Tom Davis;Rachel Hoekstra;Ellen Jeffries;Steve Angelotti  
**Subject:** Proposed agenda  
**Attachments:** 10.8.15.docx

Hi everybody,

Attached is a proposed agenda for tomorrow. Any additions?



**State Budget Office  
Legislative Update Meeting  
October 8, 2015  
9:00 a.m.**

**AGENDA – Sen. Hildenbrand’s Office**

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1. Supplementals
2. Flint Water
3. Risk List
4. Bills with Revenue Impact
5. Miscellaneous



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**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 2:12 PM  
**To:** Ackerman, Darin (GOV);Lange, Michelle (GOV)  
**Subject:** Flint Water \$ Breakdown  
**Attachments:** City of Flint Water Funding Solution (3).pdf

Darin,

Per your request, attached is a breakdown on the Flint water funding request.

**City of Flint Water - Funding Solution**  
**State of Michigan Commitment**

(Items in green do not require supplemental appropriations)

Agency	GF/GP	Gross	Comments
<b>Filters:</b>			
Health & Human Services	\$1,016,000	\$1,016,000	AYIS work project
Health & Human Services	\$0	\$1,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Funds provided to HHS Emergency Services local office (FY16 appropriation).
<b>Subtotal Filters:</b>	<b>\$1,016,000</b>	<b>\$2,016,000</b>	
<b>Reconnect to DSW:</b>			<b>Reconnection costs ~\$1.3m/month x 9 mos. to be shared by state &amp; Flint</b>
Environmental Quality	\$5,000,000	\$6,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Fund of \$1m; balance GF/GP
<b>Subtotal Reconnect:</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>	<b>\$6,000,000</b>	
<b>Testing Costs:</b>			
Environmental Quality	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	Additional tests at state lab; cost per sample: \$26
<b>Subtotal Testing:</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	
<b>Additional Agency Support:</b>			
LARA	\$0	\$200,000	Support for inspectors to do schools (public and parochial) and health facilities (hospitals, Long Term Care, etc.).
MSHDA	\$0	\$249,900	Sufficient spending authority already exists.
Health & Human Services	\$850,000	\$850,000	Follow-up on children with elevated blood levels
Environmental Quality	\$300,000	\$300,000	Home and school inspections.
<b>Subtotal Additional Support:</b>	<b>\$1,150,000</b>	<b>\$1,599,900</b>	
<b>Total Commitment</b>	<b>\$8,166,000</b>	<b>\$10,615,900</b>	
<b>Total Supplemental Appropriations</b>	<b>\$7,150,000</b>	<b>\$9,350,000</b>	

---

**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Friday, October 09, 2015 8:53 AM  
**To:** Ackerman, Darin (GOV)  
**Subject:** RE: Flint Water \$ Breakdown

Good morning,

I have not shared that particular document with his office, but the fiscal agencies have it—so no reason for you not to share it you want. Also, the formal supplemental request went to the Legislature (including his office) late yesterday afternoon, and that would include the breakdown as well, along with more detail than this sheet.

---

**From:** Ackerman, Darin (GOV)  
**Sent:** Friday, October 09, 2015 8:47 AM  
**To:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RE: Flint Water \$ Breakdown

Do you know if Ananich's office has this yet? I've only sent it to Bob and Pete so far since they asked...

Darin Ackerman, Deputy Director  
Legislative Affairs Division  
Office of Governor Snyder  
State Capitol  
Lansing, MI 48913  
Phone: (517) 241-3950

---

**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 2:12 PM  
**To:** Ackerman, Darin (GOV) <[ackermamd3@michigan.gov](mailto:ackermamd3@michigan.gov)>; Lange, Michelle (GOV) <[LangeM3@michigan.gov](mailto:LangeM3@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** Flint Water \$ Breakdown

Darin,

Per your request, attached is a breakdown on the Flint water funding request.

---

**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2015 9:27 AM  
**To:** Adam Carlson  
**Subject:** HB 4102

Good morning,

Hope you enjoyed the weekend. Still on track for the supplemental on Tuesday or Wednesday? Do you think the Flint portion will reflect what we transmitted in our request, or are you looking at any modifications?

---

**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 13, 2015 1:29 PM  
**To:** Pallone, Maggie (DEQ);Ruest, Karla (DHHS);Hertel, Elizabeth (DHHS);Hanley, Farah (DHHS);Ryan, Howard (Treasury);Waters, Frank (LARA);Pohl, Allan (LARA)  
**Cc:** Lange, Michelle (GOV);Ackerman, Darin (GOV)  
**Subject:** HB 4102 Floor Substitute  
**Attachments:** H01133'15 (H-2).pdf

Hi everyone,

Attached is the House floor sub for HB 4102, the supplemental, which includes the Flint water portion. This bill could move in the House as soon as today, so please let me know if your teams see any problems.

Also, please do not share with the outside, since it's my understanding this has not been introduced or made public yet. Thanks.

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 4102

A bill to make, supplement, and adjust appropriations for various state departments and agencies for the fiscal years ending September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016; to provide for the expenditure of the appropriations; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

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PART 1

LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the various state departments and agencies to supplement appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, from the following funds:

APPROPRIATION SUMMARY



1	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	7,775,000
2	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
3	transfers.....		0
4	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	7,775,000
5	Total federal revenues .....		0
6	Total local revenues .....		0
7	Total private revenues .....		0
8	Total other state restricted revenues .....		1,000,000
9	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	6,775,000
10	<b>Sec. 102. LEGISLATURE</b>		
11	<b>(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY</b>		
12	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	50,000
13	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
14	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
15	transfers.....		0
16	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	50,000
17	Federal revenues:		
18	Total federal revenues .....		0
19	Special revenue funds:		
20	Total local revenues .....		0
21	Total private revenues .....		0
22	Total other state restricted revenues .....		0
23	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	50,000
24	<b>(2) LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL</b>		
25	Criminal justice policy commission .....	\$	<u>50,000</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	50,000



1 Appropriated from:

2 State general fund/general purpose ..... \$ 50,000

3 **Sec. 103. DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE**

4 **(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY**

5 GROSS APPROPRIATION ..... \$ 7,725,000

6 Interdepartmental grant revenues:

7 Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental

8 transfers ..... 0

9 ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION ..... \$ 7,725,000

10 Federal revenues:

11 Total federal revenues ..... 0

12 Special revenue funds:

13 Total local revenues ..... 0

14 Total private revenues ..... 0

15 Total other state restricted revenues ..... 1,000,000

16 State general fund/general purpose ..... \$ 6,725,000

17 **(2) ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS**

18 Legal settlement ..... \$ 7,725,000

19 GROSS APPROPRIATION ..... \$ 7,725,000

20 Appropriated from:

21 Special revenue funds:

22 Risk management revolving fund ..... 1,000,000

23 State general fund/general purpose ..... \$ 6,725,000

24 **Sec. 104. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY**

25 **(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY**





1	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	0
2	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
3	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
4	transfers.....		0
5	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	0
6	Federal revenues:		
7	Total federal revenues .....		0
8	Special revenue funds:		
9	Total local revenues .....		0
10	Total private revenues .....		0
11	Total other state restricted revenues .....		0
12	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	0
13	(2) ONE-TIME BASIS ONLY APPROPRIATIONS		
14	MSF, special grants .....	\$	(500,000)
15	MSF, special grants .....		<u>500,000</u>
16	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	0
17	Appropriated from:		
18	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	0

## PART 1A

## LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

Sec. 151. There is appropriated for the various state departments and agencies to supplement appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the following funds:

## APPROPRIATION SUMMARY



1	Full-time equated classified positions .....	3.0	
2	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....		\$ 9,350,100
3	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
4	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
5	transfers.....		0
6	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....		\$ 9,350,100
7	Federal revenues:		
8	Total federal revenues .....		0
9	Special revenue funds:		
10	Total local revenues .....		0
11	Total private revenues .....		0
12	Total other state restricted revenues .....		2,200,000
13	State general fund/general purpose .....		\$ 7,150,100
14	<b>Sec. 152. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY</b>		
15	<b>(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY</b>		
16	Full-time equated classified positions .....	2.0	
17	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....		\$ 7,300,000
18	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
19	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
20	transfers.....		0
21	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....		\$ 7,300,000
22	Federal revenues:		
23	Total federal revenues .....		0
24	Special revenue funds:		
25	Total local revenues .....		0
26	Total private revenues .....		0



1	Total other state restricted revenues .....	1,000,000
2	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 6,300,000
3	<b>(2) RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION</b>	
4	Full-time equated classified positions .....	2.0
5	City of Flint emergency water services .....	\$ 6,000,000
6	Drinking water and environmental health--2.0 FTE	
7	positions.....	<u>300,000</u>
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 6,300,000
9	Appropriated from:	
10	Special revenue funds:	
11	Settlement funds .....	1,000,000
12	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 5,300,000
13	<b>(3) REMEDIATION AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION</b>	
14	Laboratory services .....	\$ <u>1,000,000</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 1,000,000
16	Appropriated from:	
17	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 1,000,000
18	<b>Sec. 153. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</b>	
19	<b>(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY</b>	
20	Full-time equated classified positions .....	0.0
21	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 1,850,100
22	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
23	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental	
24	transfers.....	0
25	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 1,850,100
26	Federal revenues:	



1	Total federal revenues .....	0
2	Special revenue funds:	
3	Total local revenues .....	0
4	Total private revenues .....	0
5	Total other state restricted revenues .....	1,000,000
6	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 850,100
7	<b>(2) DEPARTMENTWIDE ADMINISTRATION</b>	
8	Rent and state office facilities .....	\$ <u>100</u>
9	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 100
10	Appropriated from:	
11	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 100
12	<b>(3) CHILDREN'S SERVICES AGENCY - JUVENILE JUSTICE</b>	
13	In-home community care .....	\$ (400,000)
14	In-home community care .....	<u>400,000</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 0
16	Appropriated from:	
17	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
18	<b>(4) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE</b>	
19	Emergency services local office allocations .....	\$ <u>1,000,000</u>
20	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 1,000,000
21	Appropriated from:	
22	Special revenue funds:	
23	Total other state restricted revenues .....	1,000,000
24	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
25	<b>(5) FIELD OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES</b>	
26	Full-time equated classified positions .....	0.0
27	Michigan rehabilitation services--(526.0) FTE	



1	positions .....	\$	(130,927,900)
2	Michigan rehabilitation services--526.0 FTE positions		<u>130,927,900</u>
3	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	0
4	Appropriated from:		
5	Federal revenues:		
6	Social security act, temporary assistance for needy		
7	families.....		0
8	Capped federal revenues .....		0
9	Total other federal revenues .....		0
10	Special revenue funds:		
11	Local vocational rehabilitation match .....		0
12	Private funds - gifts, bequests, and donations .....		0
13	Rehabilitation service fees .....		0
14	Second injury fund .....		0
15	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	0
16	<b>(6) FAMILY, MATERNAL, AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH</b>		
17	<b>SERVICES</b>		
18	Childhood lead program .....	\$	<u>850,000</u>
19	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	850,000
20	Appropriated from:		
21	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	850,000
22	<b>Sec. 154. DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY</b>		
23	<b>AFFAIRS</b>		
24	<b>(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY</b>		
25	Full-time equated classified positions .....		1.0
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	200,000



1	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
2	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
3	transfers.....		0
4	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	200,000
5	Federal revenues:		
6	Total federal revenues .....		0
7	Special revenue funds:		
8	Total local revenues .....		0
9	Total private revenues .....		0
10	Total other state restricted revenues .....		200,000
11	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	0
12	<b>(2) OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION</b>		
13	Full-time equated classified positions .....		1.0
14	Bureau of construction codes--1.0 FTE position .....	\$	<u>200,000</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	200,000
16	Appropriated from:		
17	Special revenue funds:		
18	Construction code fund .....		200,000
19	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	0

20 PART 2

21 PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

22 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

23 **GENERAL SECTIONS**

24 Sec. 201. In accordance with the provisions of section 30 of

25 article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending



1 from state resources in this appropriation act for the fiscal year  
2 ending September 30, 2015 is \$7,775,000.00 and state appropriations  
3 paid to local units of government are \$0.00.

4 Sec. 202. The appropriations made and expenditures authorized  
5 under this act and the departments, commissions, boards, offices,  
6 and programs for which appropriations are made under this act are  
7 subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101  
8 to 18.1594.

9 **DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

10 Sec. 301. (1) From unexpended and unencumbered funds  
11 appropriated in 2010 PA 191 for branch and central operations,  
12 \$6,000,000.00 is appropriated for a business application  
13 modernization project and shall be reappropriated for the fiscal  
14 year ending September 30, 2015 in an appropriation line entitled  
15 information technology services and projects.

16 (2) The funds described in subsection (1) shall remain  
17 available for expenditure to implement provisions of business  
18 application modernization ongoing costs. The unexpended funds  
19 reappropriated into the information technology services and  
20 projects line item are considered work project appropriations, and  
21 any unencumbered or unallotted funds are carried forward into the  
22 succeeding fiscal year. The following is in compliance with section  
23 451a(1) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL  
24 18.1451a:

25 (a) The purpose of the projects is to modernize the technical  
26 infrastructure to support the business needs of the department.



1 (b) The projects will be completed by contract staff and state  
2 employees.

3 (c) The total estimated cost of all projects is \$6,000,000.00.

4 (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2019.

5 Sec. 302. (1) Unexpended and unencumbered amounts of funding  
6 remaining in accounts appropriated in section 301 of 2011 PA 83,  
7 for implementation of the help America vote act of 2002, 42 USC  
8 15031 to 15545, for the secretary of state, shall be reappropriated  
9 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015 in an appropriation  
10 line item entitled help America vote act.

11 (2) The funds described in subsection (1) shall remain  
12 available for expenditure to implement provisions of the help  
13 America vote act of 2002, 42 USC 15031 to 15545, section 37 of the  
14 Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.37, and other election  
15 reforms. Consistent with the help America vote act of 2002, 42 USC  
16 15031 to 15545, the unexpended funds reappropriated into the help  
17 America vote act line item are considered work project  
18 appropriations and any unencumbered or unallotted funds are carried  
19 forward into succeeding fiscal years. The following is in  
20 compliance with section 451a(1) of the management and budget act,  
21 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

22 (a) The purpose of the projects is to implement provisions of  
23 the help America vote act of 2002, 42 USC 15031 to 15545, section  
24 37 of the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.37, and other  
25 election reforms.

26 (b) The projects will be completed by state employees, by  
27 contracts with private vendors, or by grants to local units of





1 government.

2 (c) The total estimated cost of these projects is identified  
3 in each line-item appropriation.

4 (d) The tentative completion date for these projects is  
5 September 30, 2019.

6 **STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**

7 Sec. 401. Unexpended and unencumbered amounts of DOT, federal  
8 railroad administration (ARRA) funds appropriated in 2011 PA 157  
9 for high-speed intercity passenger rail (ARRA) shall not lapse  
10 pursuant to section 451a(1) of the management and budget act, 1984  
11 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a, but instead are reappropriated for  
12 expenditure as originally intended and are a work project meeting  
13 the following criteria:

14 (a) The purpose of the project to be carried forward is to  
15 preserve and invest in transportation infrastructure of the state  
16 of Michigan.

17 (b) The projects will be accomplished by state employees and  
18 by contract.

19 (c) The total estimated cost of the project is \$26,711,800.00.

20 (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2017.

21 **DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY**

22 Sec. 501. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
23 special grants, the fund shall allocate \$500,000.00 for the purpose  
24 of funding the cost of GED testing and certification as provided by  
25 this section. The workforce development agency shall administer a



1 Michigan GED-to-school program, which shall cover the cost of  
2 providing the GED test free of charge to individuals who meet all  
3 of the following requirements:

4 (a) The individual has not previously been administered a GED  
5 test free of charge under this section.

6 (b) The individual meets at least 1 of the following  
7 requirements:

8 (i) Prior to taking the GED test, the individual successfully  
9 completed a WDA-approved GED preparation program.

10 (ii) Prior to taking the GED test, the individual completed  
11 the official GED practice test and the individual's score indicated  
12 that he or she is likely to pass.

13 (2) A WDA-approved GED preparation program shall include all  
14 of the following:

15 (a) Instructional and tutorial assistance.

16 (b) GED test practice.

17 (c) Required attendance at program instructional sessions.

18 (d) A curriculum that prepares students for opportunities in  
19 postsecondary education and the job market.

20 (e) Information on potential postsecondary and career  
21 pathways.

22 (f) Counseling on preparing for and applying to college.

23 (g) Personal and job readiness skills development.

24 (h) Comprehensive information on college costs and financial  
25 aid.

26 (i) College and career assessments.

27 (j) Computer-based instruction, practice, or remediation.



1 (3) By January 1, 2016, the workforce development agency shall  
2 post online an announcement of the Michigan GED-to-school program,  
3 minimum standards for GED preparation program approval, and  
4 approval procedures.

5 (4) By April 1, 2016, the workforce development agency shall  
6 do all of the following:

7 (a) Develop procedures consistent with this section under  
8 which individuals can take the GED test without charge.

9 (b) Provide program information for educators and students on  
10 the workforce development agency website, including explanations of  
11 the procedures developed under this subsection, and contact  
12 information for questions about the program.

13 (c) Provide an estimate of the full-year cost of the program  
14 to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on general  
15 government, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state  
16 budget director.

17 (5) By September 30, 2016, the workforce development agency  
18 shall report to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees  
19 on general government, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and  
20 the state budget director on utilization of the GED incentive  
21 program, including numbers of GED certifications issued by  
22 location, year-to-date expenditures, and numbers of participants  
23 qualifying under subsection (1)(b)(i) or (ii), or both.

24 (6) The unexpended funds appropriated for the GED-to-school  
25 program are designated as a work project appropriation, and any  
26 unencumbered or unallotted funds shall not lapse at the end of the  
27 fiscal year and shall be available for expenditure for projects



1 under this section until the projects have been completed. The  
2 following is in compliance with section 451a(1) of the management  
3 and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

4 (a) The purpose of the project is to fund the cost of GED  
5 testing and certification for certain individuals as provided by  
6 this section.

7 (b) The projects will be accomplished by utilizing state  
8 employees or contracts with private vendors, or both.

9 (c) The total estimated cost of the project is \$500,000.00.

10 (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2019.

11 PART 2A

12 PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

13 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

14 **GENERAL SECTIONS**

15 Sec. 1201. In accordance with the provisions of section 30 of  
16 article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending  
17 from state resources in this appropriation act for the fiscal year  
18 ending September 30, 2016 is \$9,350,100.00 and state appropriations  
19 paid to local units of government are \$6,000,000.00.

20 Sec. 1202. The appropriations made and expenditures authorized  
21 under this act and the departments, commissions, boards, offices,  
22 and programs for which appropriations are made under this act are  
23 subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101  
24 to 18.1594.



1 **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

2       Sec. 1251. From the funds appropriated for the city of Flint  
3 emergency water services, the department is authorized to pay up to  
4 \$6,000,000.00 for reconnection services to the Detroit water and  
5 sewerage department or its successor. The payments shall only be  
6 made once a legally executable agreement has been reached between  
7 the parties and a successful reconnection has occurred to the Flint  
8 water system. These funds are intended to pay reconnection costs  
9 through June 30, 2016.

10 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

11       Sec. 1301. From the funds appropriated in part 1A for Michigan  
12 rehabilitation services, the department shall allocate  
13 \$6,100,300.00, including federal matching funds, to service  
14 authorizations with accredited, community-based rehabilitation  
15 organizations for job development and other community employment-  
16 related support services.

17       Sec. 1302. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1A for in-  
18 home community care programs, \$400,000.00 shall be used to expand  
19 or create new in-home care and community-based juvenile justice  
20 services to rural counties through a grant making process. Counties  
21 that received funds for the purpose described in section 587 of  
22 article X of 2013 PA 59 are not eligible to receive the funds in  
23 this section. The department shall have contracts in place for the  
24 full amount of funds for the purpose described in this section by  
25 January 15 of the current fiscal year.

26       (2) By June 30 of the current fiscal year, the department



1 shall submit a report that describes the program expansion and  
2 expenditures in detail to the senate and house appropriations  
3 subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house fiscal  
4 agencies, and the senate and house policy offices.

5 **REPEALERS**

6 Enacting section 1. Sections 587 and 806 of article X of 2015  
7 PA 84 are repealed.

8 Enacting section 2. Section 1069 of article VIII of 2014 PA  
9 252 is repealed.



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**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 13, 2015 3:57 PM  
**To:** pamfaris@house.mi.gov  
**Cc:** Lange, Michelle (GOV)  
**Subject:** Flint water funding breakdown  
**Attachments:** City of Flint Water Funding Solution (2).pdf

Representative Faris,

Per our conversation at House session today, please see the attached breakdown of the proposed state portion for the Flint water situation. Please let me know if you need additional information.

Scott Starr, Legislative Liaison  
State Budget Office  
(517) 373-6741

**City of Flint Water - Funding Solution**  
**State of Michigan Commitment**

(Items in green do not require supplemental appropriations)

Agency	GF/GP	Gross	Comments
<b>Filters:</b>			
Health & Human Services	\$1,016,000	\$1,016,000	AYIS work project
Health & Human Services	\$0	\$1,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Funds provided to HHS Emergency Services local office (FY16 appropriation).
<b>Subtotal Filters:</b>	<b>\$1,016,000</b>	<b>\$2,016,000</b>	
<b>Reconnect to DSW:</b>			<b>Reconnection costs ~\$1.3m/month x 9 mos. to be shared by state &amp; Flint</b>
Environmental Quality	\$5,000,000	\$6,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Fund of \$1m; balance GF/GP
<b>Subtotal Reconnect:</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>	<b>\$6,000,000</b>	
<b>Testing Costs:</b>			
Environmental Quality	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	Additional tests at state lab; cost per sample: \$26
<b>Subtotal Testing:</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	
<b>Additional Agency Support:</b>			
LARA	\$0	\$200,000	Support for inspectors to do schools (public and parochial) and health facilities (hospitals, Long Term Care, etc.).
MSHDA	\$0	\$249,900	Sufficient spending authority already exists.
Health & Human Services	\$850,000	\$850,000	Follow-up on children with elevated blood levels
Environmental Quality	\$300,000	\$300,000	Home and school inspections.
<b>Subtotal Additional Support:</b>	<b>\$1,150,000</b>	<b>\$1,599,900</b>	
<b>Total Commitment</b>	<b>\$8,166,000</b>	<b>\$10,615,900</b>	
<b>Total Supplemental Appropriations</b>	<b>\$7,150,000</b>	<b>\$9,350,000</b>	



# **Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document 2014**

**Prepared by the Governor's Office of  
Urban and Metropolitan Initiatives**

# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

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# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Background and Methodology

The purpose of this document is to establish the parameters for urban economic and community development, to align public and private resources, and to create policies resulting in the restoration of Michigan cities. The implementation and adjustment of initiatives and policies against the indicators outlined in this document create the “Michigan Urban Agenda”.

More than simply restoring Michigan cities, stakeholders who worked on this project want vibrant urban cores; they want Michigan cities to become destinations for employment and quality of life.

The Office of Urban and Metropolitan Initiatives (OUMI) initiated discussions across the state using *The Global Cities Indicators Facility* (an initiative of The World Bank) report as a starting point build the parameters outlined in this document. Stakeholder groups convened in Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, and Kalamazoo to recommend areas for state focus. The composition of the stakeholder groups reflected the full, diverse spectrum of individuals and entities in Michigan urban core areas. Participants represented: business, philanthropy, local government non-profits, neighborhood associations, education, advocacy groups, health care, and several others. A full list of participants is included in the attached spreadsheet. Each stakeholder group was charged with identifying a vision statement for the Urban Agenda and defining key areas important to the revitalization of their cities. Some groups went on to identify specific indicators and strategies, while others discussed the implementation of the statewide urban agenda.

At the conclusion of the stakeholder input process, we convened all local participants in December 2012 in Lansing for a statewide discussion to establish consensus on the information produced from the stakeholder groups. The consensus information was then organized into the 13 focus areas.

OUMI then assembled an Analytical Group made up of researchers, professors, subject matter experts (SMEs) and practitioners in each focus area to identify indicators and best practices critical to achieve success in the focus area. The SMEs provided each focus area with an overarching goal, key objectives, indicators and best practices from which to shape future strategies.

While the Analytical Group met, OUMI convened a few meetings with more than 20 of the state’s Mayors and city managers to recommend the prioritization and direction of each focus area. Discussions with the Mayors centered on state investment and policy, and each focus area was measured by its overall impact within the urban core, and the potential level of impact of state interventions.

The result of the above input reduced the number of focus areas from 13 to 12, and established for each focus area goals, objectives, recommended best practices and indicators. Final revisions and adjustments to this document are pending.

# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Primary Indicators by Focus Area

### **Arts and Culture**

- ✓ Number of students with access to arts education in school
- ✓ Economic activity, income, and jobs generated by arts and cultural organizations and creative industries, both direct and indirect

### **Civic Engagement**

- ✓ Registered voter turnout
- ✓ Number of Neighborhood Associations (active, paid crime prevention staff)

### **Economic Development**

- ✓ Percentage of the population employed
- ✓ Median household income
- ✓ Percentage population that live and work in the city
- ✓ Private-public investment in contaminated/blighted/vacant land and buildings

### **Education**

- ✓ Percentage of children kindergarten-ready
- ✓ 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading proficiency (percentage)
- ✓ Percentage of students college-ready

### **Energy and Environment**

- ✓ Percentage of residents with access to curbside recycling and compost service
- ✓ Energy expenditures as a percentage of household income
- ✓ Percentage of homes meeting 100% of Healthy Homes Principles

### **Health**

- ✓ Infant Mortality rate
- ✓ Percentage of residents within ¼ mile of grocery with full scale produce department
- ✓ Number of primary care providers per capita

### **Housing**

- ✓ Quality of housing (condition of structure)
- ✓ Percentage of Land Zoned for Mixed use
- ✓ Number of abandoned or blighted houses as a percentage of total housing stock
- ✓ Number of people per acre in city overall (equivalent to total population)

### **Mobility**

- ✓ Percentage of roads deemed "complete streets"
- ✓ Percentage of streets in good or fair condition (see PASER method)
- ✓ Annual number of public transit trips per capita

### **Municipal Government**

- ✓ Unrestricted general fund balance is stable or increasing over a 5-year period
- ✓ Cities have paid actuarially-determined annual required contribution (ARC) for legacy benefits for 5 years
- ✓ Cities pass Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements (AMAR)
- ✓ Percentage of tax delinquent properties: commercial, residential, industrial
- ✓ Percentage of cities with asset management plans in place for: streets, water, sewer, storm water infrastructure.
- ✓ Annual cost savings achieved through partnerships, collaboration, and joint service agreements

### **Placemaking**

- ✓ Investment in downtown and neighborhood building areas (including new construction, historic and infill projects)
- ✓ Population and household density
- ✓ Percentage of communities adopting MSHDA Place Plans

### **Public Safety**

- ✓ Incidences Property Crime per capita
- ✓ Incidences of Violent Crime per capita
- ✓ Response Time: Police, Fire, EMS
- ✓ % of streets that meet minimum lighting standards

### **Talent Attraction and Retention**

- ✓ Per capita income of 18 to 35 year olds
- ✓ Net migration rate
- ✓ Percentage of population holds a post-secondary degree or certificate



## DETAIL FOCUS AREA REVIEW

# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Focus Area: Arts and Culture

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### Arts and Culture



**STATE GOAL:** Arts, culture, arts education, and creative industries are viewed as essential assets and transformational forces in economic development and community placemaking at the state, regional, and local levels.

#### A. OBJECTIVES

- A. State economic development plans and initiatives engage the arts, culture and creative industries in goals, priorities and strategies, maximizing the growth sector potential of Michigan's creative economy at the local, regional and statewide levels.
- B. Michigan communities develop strategic plans to cultivate vibrant and thriving arts, culture and creative industries that generate economic activity locally and statewide.
- C. Ensure creative sector business incubation and talent development are incorporated into existing business and economic development hubs, and where feasible establish and engage specialist creative industries incubators.
- D. Michigan's arts, culture and creative industries are strategically positioned and promoted as significant state and local assets – heightening awareness, audiences, support and investment in the sector.

#### B. BEST PRACTICES

- \* Artplace - Collaboration of 13 leading national/regional foundations and 6 of the nation's largest banks that is investing in art and culture at the heart of a portfolio of integrated strategies that can drive vibrancy and diversity so powerful that it transforms communities. Six projects have been funded in Michigan – Cultural Living Room at the Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit FAB Lab, Flint Public Art Project, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (MOCAD), Skate House/Squash House/Play House led by Design 99, and the Sugar Hill Arts District in Detroit.
- \* ArtPrize – An international art competition, open to any artist and decided by public vote, promoting critical dialogue and collaboration throughout the year, attracting over 1 million visitors to Grand Rapids, featuring 4,557 artists in 515 venues, and \$1.428 million in awards in the first three years, and generating \$15.4 million economic impact in 2011.
- \* Collingwood/Waterloo District, Cleveland, OH - This former blue-collar and ethnic neighborhood is emerging as one of Cleveland's latest comeback stories. Anchored by one of the country's top live-music venues, the Beachland Ballroom and one of the city's most robust arts organizations, Arts Collinwood, this lakeside community is experiencing a resurgence. The combination of affordable housing, a burgeoning arts community, and easy access to downtown Cleveland has been attracting out-of-state artists hungry for a higher quality of life.
- \* Colorado Creative Industries - In July 2010, Colorado's new Creative Industries Division merged the former Council on the Arts and Art in Public Places program to capitalize on the immense potential for our creative sector to drive economic growth in Colorado. Detroit Creative Corridor Center - Organization supporting the growth of Detroit's creative economy by delivering business

# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Focus Area: Arts and Culture

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acceleration and attraction services and developing signature programming tailored specifically to creative professionals' needs.

- Detroit Future Schools (DFS) - DFS partners graduates from Detroit Future Media with K-12 teachers to design and implement digital media arts-integrated curriculum
- Dlectricity - Inspired by nighttime arts festivals from around the world, this new nighttime, contemporary light art festival in Detroit, hosted 35 local, national and international artists whose cutting edge works of art, lighting design and performance illuminated the historic architecture of Midtown.
- Gordon Square District, Cleveland, OH - The Gordon Square Arts District is the economic cornerstone of Cleveland's West Side where a powerful combination of housing, new businesses, the arts and neighborhood beautification are sparking the development of new jobs for residents. Already well underway, the Gordon Square Arts District is helping to infuse more than \$500 million in economic development in the surrounding community.
- Massachusetts Creative Industries – Under the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, the agency defines the creative industries to include without limitation the many interlocking industry sectors that center on providing creative services such as advertising, architecture or creating and promoting intellectual property products such as arts, film, computer games, multimedia, or design.

### C. INDICATORS

#### PRIMARY:

- Number of students with access to arts education in school
- Economic activity, income, and jobs generated by arts and cultural organizations and creative industries, both direct and indirect

#### SECONDARY:

- Per-pupil investment in arts education in K-12 schools and districts
- Number of Michigan high schools meeting arts credit requirement for graduation
- Number (and variety) of 501c3 arts/cultural organizations
- Dollars raised in local arts-related capital campaigns
- Number of visits to/attendance at arts institutions
- Number of students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate programs in art and design
- Number of creative jobs, creative businesses, and creative industries clusters, including sector growth trends and comparison against leading models nationally.
- State dollars invested in arts, culture, and creative economy support and promotion.



# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Focus Area: Civic Engagement

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### Civic Engagement

**STATE GOAL:** Michigan and the communities within will encourage all residents to become civically engaged by providing equitable access to opportunities for involvement and decision-making.

#### A. OBJECTIVES

- A. Cities will encourage engagement from all sectors of local population
- B. Civic engagement will be embedded in K-12 education
- C. Create a Civic Health Index Report for 4 Michigan Cities: Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo
- D. Increase registrations and voter turnout at all levels of elections
- E. Increase opportunities for and awareness of volunteering

#### B. BEST PRACTICES

- California's "My Vote" program- Statewide voter resource center
- Nebraska Student Vote- Statewide mock elections for high school and middle school students designed to foster understanding of civics and promote voter turnout as adults
- In Maryland and Nebraska, student registrars are trained and certified to run voter registration programs in the high schools they attend.
- registration at graduation ceremonies, as many schools do in New Mexico and Vermont
- Age4Action- Program seeking to engage citizens over the age of 50 and harness their talents in community-building volunteer efforts
- Anchor Institutions Task Force- Loosely affiliated network of organizations working to develop and disseminate knowledge to help create and advance democratic, mutually beneficial anchor institution-community partnerships.
- Civic Change Inc. (formerly Pew Partnership for Civic Change) - consulting and program support to communities, governments, foundations, and nonprofit agencies focused on identifying and implementing solutions and strategies crucial to making communities stronger
- Minnesota Active Citizenship Initiative- Organization working through the civic organizing approach to implement a civic policy agenda. The civic policy agenda produces the civic capacity and civic infrastructure needed for institutions to achieve their particular purpose and foster economic and environmental sustainability while addressing the complex problems that threaten the common good
- Arlington, Virginia Neighborhood College- A series of eight three-hour sessions designed to teach citizens how various County departments operate and what services the county government provides, as well as gain and sharpen communication, coalition-building, and networking skills that will help them become more effective community activists and leaders.
- Leadership Atlanta- The nation's oldest sustained community leadership academy
- Leadership Washington- Organization that works to identify and connect diverse leaders and stimulate their collaborative efforts through dynamic education and membership programs that promote dialogue, cooperation and involvement enabling area leaders to find effective solutions to regional challenges.
- City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program- Program that has produced over 3,000 murals in the city of Philadelphia, resulting in increased civic pride, significant investment in nearby areas and employment opportunities for at-risk youth and recently released prisoners.

#### C. INDICATORS

##### PRIMARY:

- Registered voter turnout
- Number of Neighborhood Associations (active, paid crime prevention staff)

##### SECONDARY:

- Number of Opportunities/Access for residents of an area to volunteer or engage
- Use of/variety of Forms of Communication (old and new) to inform residents and make them aware of meetings and events in the community: Facebook, Twitter, local apps, phone calls, texts, public meeting notices, church, television, newspapers
- A city's involvement with Civic Health Index (CHI) for ongoing measure and awareness
- Number of school districts offering voter registration opportunities for high school seniors



# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

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## Economic Development



**STATE GOAL:** The State will create an environment favorable to investment and business growth in urban core cities with opportunity for economic advancement among all citizens

### A. OBJECTIVES

- A. Cities have access to a diverse portfolio of revenue sources to fund economic development activities on a local and/or regional basis
- B. Incentivize collaborative economic development policies and strategies, preferably on a regional basis, rather than inter-jurisdictional competition
- C. Michigan's cities will take part in a statewide strategy to become global trade centers and logistics hubs
- D. Increase private investment in core cities

### B. BEST PRACTICES

- The Greater University Circle Initiative (GUCI), Cleveland, OH: anchor institution local procurement strategy
- Live Midtown-Residential incentive program offered by anchor institutions aimed to increase residential occupancy and neighborhood vibrancy. Residential occupancy in target area has increased from 67% to 98% in first two years of project.
- D2D Initiative- Detroit based initiative designed to increase purchasing between local businesses
- Southwest Michigan First Kalamazoo-based regional economic development agency
- Northwest Side Community Development Corporation Milwaukee-based entity utilizing neighborhood economic development model
- Mid-South Minority Business Council Memphis, TN based minority business development agency connecting minority and women-owned businesses to the largest corporations in the Mid-South Region (Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi)
- Planned Manufacturing Districts (PMDs) in Chicago
- Boston Innovation District- Project seeking to revitalize large section of Boston's waterfront by casting it as an "urban laboratory" seeking creative approaches to design, collaboration, and entrepreneurship.

# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

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- Pittsburgh Energy Innovation Center- Project located in historic neighborhood that bridges downtown central business district to university campuses. Focus is energy innovation research, spurring job creation, entrepreneurship and urban economic revitalization
- Fairfax County (Virginia) Economic Development Authority- Countywide economic development agency focusing on international business attraction with offices in India, South Korea, United Kingdom, Germany, and Israel.
- Texas 4a/4b economic development sales tax- The Development Corporation Act of 1979 authorizes cities to adopt a sales tax to fund economic development activities.

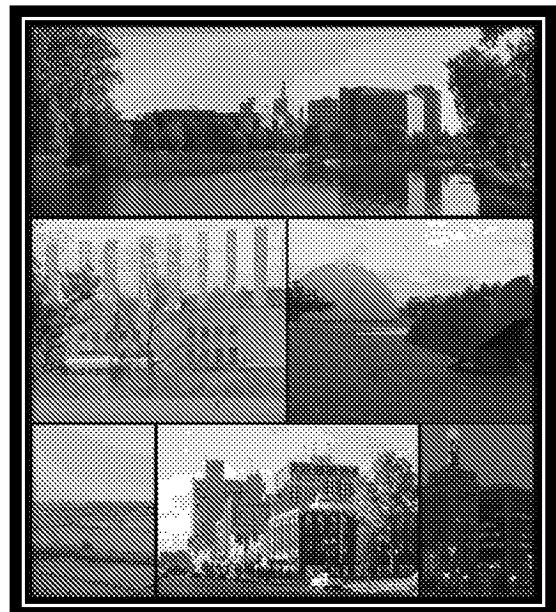
## C. INDICATORS

### PRIMARY:

- Percentage of the population employed
- Median household income
- Percentage population that live and work in the city
- Private-public investment in contaminated/blighted/vacant land and buildings

### SECONDARY:

- Percentage of small businesses start-ups in existence after 5 years
- State resources allocated locally to Economic Development programs/incentives
- Percentage of Small Business Administration loans approved/denied
- Average FICO score (Fair Isaac Corporation – the company that created and computes this credit score) in census tract
- Number of jobs created through incentives
- Cost per incentivized job created
- Percentage of jobs added above the minimum wage
- Correlation between businesses started + patents held and those successful in STEM



# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

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## Education

**STATE GOAL:** Urban communities support schools through partnerships that allow urban students to receive a seamless P-20 education that prepares them for lifelong success.

### A. OBJECTIVES

- A. Students will be prepared for kindergarten
- B. Students will attend school regularly
- C. Students will read at grade level by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade
- D. Students will perform math skills at grade level in 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- E. Students will be college-ready
- F. Students will complete post-secondary degree or certificate programs

### B. BEST PRACTICES

- **Kent School Services Network:** “community school” concept; brings health & human services into the school building, removing many barriers families have in finding services, helps keep students in class.
- **Minnesota Reading Corps:** initiative to help every Minnesota child become a successful reader by the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade
- **Kalamazoo Promise:** pledge by a group of anonymous donors to pay up to 100% of tuition at any of Michigan's state colleges or universities for graduates of the public high schools of Kalamazoo, MI
- **STRIVE Partnership/Network:** outlines opportunity for collective impact and way for communities to come together (Cincinnati(OH), Covington(KY), Newport(KY)) – a way to look at school systems to generate better outcomes and ways for corporations to partner with the community/schools
- **Excellent Schools Detroit** - non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring that every child in Detroit has an excellent education
- **Louisiana Recovery School District:** an initiative chartering new schools, giving greater autonomy to improving schools; has made more academic progress in its schools than schools in the local school district and statewide; has also attracted many students back into the public school system.
- **Ypsilanti High Scope:** Study re early childhood programs.
- **Grand Rapids Challenge Scholars:** Grand Rapids Community Foundation-Grand Rapids Public Schools partnership designed to ensure that first generation, low income students successfully complete a degree or obtain a high quality credential.

### C. INDICATORS

#### PRIMARY:

- Percentage of children kindergarten-ready
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading proficiency (percentage)
- Percentage of students college-ready

#### SECONDARY:

- Graduation rates in higher education
- Percentage of students earning a post-secondary degree or certificate
- Percentage of 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade students with early chronic absenteeism
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade math proficiency (percentage)
- Percentage of students working and going to school

# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Focus Area: Energy and Environment

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### Energy and Environment



**STATE GOAL:** Investment and development is concentrated in areas served by existing infrastructure and urban air, water, land, and indoor environmental contamination is reduced and remediated.

#### A. OBJECTIVES

- A. Urban air, water, land, and indoor environmental contamination will be reduced and remediated
- B. The cost and impact of energy inefficiency is reduced at the household, city, and environmental level
- C. State will establish a revolving fund for cities to implement elements of an approved Energy Efficiency Plan in municipal buildings.

#### B. BEST PRACTICES

- **City of Grand Rapids Sustainability Plan**: connects Grand Rapids' current sustainability initiatives with the goals of different city departments and incorporates ways to measure success.
- **Michigan Saves Energy Efficiency Financing Program**: helps MI businesses reduce costs by providing low-interest financing for energy efficient lighting, heating/cooling systems, insulation, equipment, etc
- **Greenprint Denver**: established in 2007 by executive order and housed in the City of Denver's mayor's office; centralized agency that oversees, implements, tracks and measures sustainability initiatives of the various city agencies.
- **Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority 'Green Initiative'**: In 2005 the Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority (Authority) revised its Mission Statement and added "*environmentally appropriate*" as a guiding principle. Applying this principle in its daily operations has enabled the Authority to reduce its annual operating budget from \$15 million to \$8.6 million including a 50% reduction in utility expenses (resulting in three Energy Star designations).
- **US Conference of Mayors, Energy & Environment Best Practices**: Outlines best practices and costs savings for a wide variety of municipal projects throughout the United States.

#### C. INDICATORS

##### PRIMARY:

- Percentage of residents with access to curbside recycling and compost service
- Energy expenditures as a percentage of household income
- Percentage of homes meeting 100% of Healthy Homes Principles
  - ✓ Percentage of children with blood lead levels of >10µg/dL (micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood)

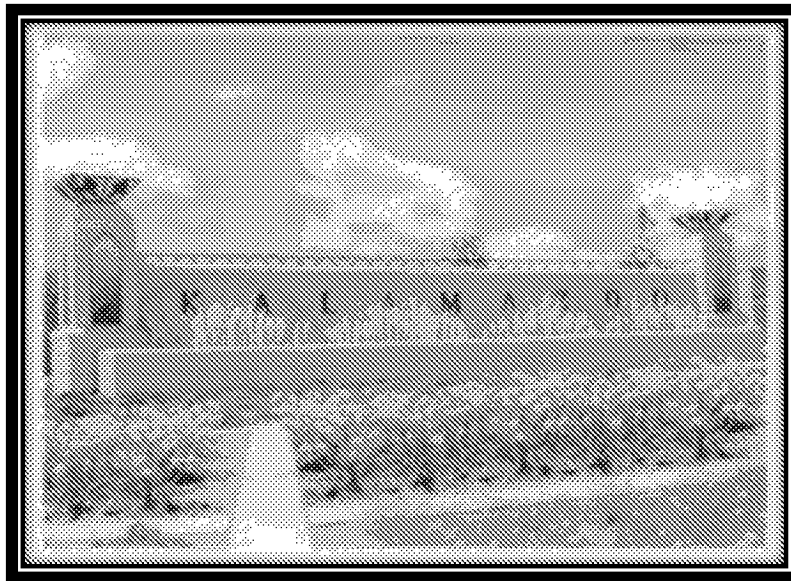
# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Focus Area: Energy and Environment

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### SECONDARY:

- Percentage of monitored beaches with no closures or unsafe advisories
- Percentage of waste recycled (industrial, office, residential)
- Energy use per dollar of Gross Domestic Product
- Percentage of stream miles or lakes listed on the MDEQ 303d Report as not attaining water quality standards
  - ✓ Water quality
- Number of participants in Michigan Saves Energy Efficiency Program
- Percentage of brownfield-eligible acres remediated
- Dollars spent on retrofits of municipal properties, incl. windows, entry points/foyers, and energy systems (such as furnaces, air-conditioning, installation of solar panels, green roofs, etc) relative to building operating costs



# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Focus Area: Health

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### Health

**STATE GOAL:** Residents in urban communities live healthier lives due to an improved built environment and newly implemented health policies.

#### A. OBJECTIVES

- A. Family and community wellness is enhanced
- B. Cities offer residents high quality and sufficient health care
- C. Barriers to accessing healthy lifestyles are removed
- D. Strong local public health networks are established

#### B. BEST PRACTICES

- CDC: Community Health Needs Assessment -- best practices related to community engagement in health
- The Guide to Community Preventative Services: The community guide serves as a collection of all Community Preventive Services Task Force findings and the systematic reviews on which they are based. Identifying previous interventions targeting community Health.
- The Kresge Foundation Healthy Environments: built environment assessment gauging environmental characteristics of health
- Federally Qualified Health Centers in schools (see Center for Family Health in Jackson, MI CEO Molly Kaiser )
- CMH's partnership with the court system SED care
- County Integration-Regional Strategy...local public health funding possible indicator connecting to energy and environment

#### C. INDICATORS

##### PRIMARY:

- Infant Mortality rate
- Percentage of residents within ¼ mile of grocery with full scale produce department
- Number of primary care providers per capita

##### SECONDARY:

- Obesity rate per capita
- Incidences of Lead Poisoning
- Mental Health treatments
  - ✓ Number of Mental Health Cases
  - ✓ Cases of PTSD due to dangerous environments (18 years and younger in top 100 crime cities)
  - ✓ Number of psychiatrists or psychiatric beds per capita
- Chronic disease deaths
  - ✓ Cardiovascular
  - ✓ Cancer
  - ✓ Diabetes
- Amount of green and recreation space within ¼ mi walk or bike ride
- Oral Health
  - ✓ Fluoride Treatments by age 3
  - ✓ Percentage of persons aged 2 and older that had a dental visit in the past year
  - ✓ Annual Incidences of Dental Disease
- Public Health Population Disease rates (diabetes, HIV, etc.)

# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Focus Area: Housing

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### Housing

**STATE GOAL:** Strategically support housing construction, conversion and renovation with the intention of preserving and building dense, diverse, thriving neighborhoods in Michigan's 14 core cities.

#### A. OBJECTIVES

- A. Encourage redevelopment of vacant/blighted and underutilized urban infill sites, especially proximate to employment, basic necessities and other amenities, compared to the continued development of land at the suburban/metropolitan fringe
- B. Enhance economic diversity in communities through diversity in the housing stock – low-, medium- and high-density residences, subsidized and unsubsidized dwellings, etc.
- C. More efficiently invest in and encourage use of existing transportation and utility infrastructure to support dense mixed use development with housing in core cities
- D. Preserve currently affordable properties that have expiring federal subsidies and are vulnerable to conversion to market rate units as their neighborhoods revitalize

#### B. BEST PRACTICES

- Master Plan or Municipal Development Plan with a Housing component; 2011 Burlington (Vermont) Municipal Development Plan is a good example
- Use of Community Development Financial Institutions, non-traditional housing lending sources including Michigan Magnet Fund, a new markets partnership between MEDC, MSHDA and GLCF
- Washington Area Housing Partnership: Toolkit for Affordable Housing – compilation of policies/ planning tools local governments can use to preserve and promote affordable housing development
- David Rusk, Inside Game-Outside Game: Winning Strategies for Urban America, Brookings Institution Press, 1999; discusses growth boundaries in Montgomery County, MD and Portland, OR and other best practices
- John Kromer, Fixing Broken Cities, Routledge 2010; focuses on Philadelphia
- Federal and State Historic Preservation Tax Credits for projects meeting certain thresholds for historic buildings
- Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA)

#### C. INDICATORS

##### PRIMARY:

- Quality of housing (condition of structure)
- Percentage of Land Zoned for Mixed use
- Number of abandoned or blighted houses as a percentage of total housing stock
- Number of people per acre in city overall (equivalent to total population)

##### SECONDARY:

- Average cost to tear down abandoned/neglected houses
- Number of mixed use building permits
- Percentage of people who can afford to live in the city based on rents
- Affordable Units lost to expired Tax Credits or other federal subsidies
- Total number of dwelling units, by renter and owner-occupied status; both categorized by respective tiers of rent and sales price
- Number of census tracts and block groups exceeding certain density thresholds (TBD)
- Percentage of low- and moderate-income people paying more than 30% of income for housing
- Dwelling vacancy rate, by specified rental- or owner-occupied status
- Assessed values per capita

### Mobility



**STATE GOAL:** Cities offer a variety of transportation options to residents that allow them to access their basic needs.

#### A. OBJECTIVES

- A. The urban transportation network allows individuals to get from point A to point B in many different ways in order to fully participate in society (work, daily travel)
- B. Individuals of differing values abilities, and financial situations are able to fully navigate the transportation system
- C. Cities provide a high-quality transportation network

#### B. BEST PRACTICES

- US-131 Kent County Transportation Needs Study: examines transit capacity and needs, anticipates growth and financial implications of future transportation.
- [Victoria Transport Policy Institute](#) independent research organization dedicated to developing innovative and practical solutions to transportation problems
- **PASER** Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating System. A system for visually rating the surface condition of a pavement from a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being a pavement in a failed condition and 10 being a pavement in excellent condition. Guidelines for rating the pavement surface using the PASER system have been developed by the [Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council](#).
- **Portland, Oregon "TriMet" public transportation system** – extensive and efficient public transit system that applies the concept of transit oriented development to meet housing and transport needs

#### C. INDICATORS

##### PRIMARY:

- Percentage of roads deemed "complete streets"
- Percentage of streets in good or fair condition (see PASER method)
- Annual number of public transit trips per capita

##### SECONDARY:

- Number of vehicle miles traveled per capita
- Transit Data
  - ✓ Timeliness of service (i.e. reliability)
  - ✓ Miles of bike facilities
  - ✓ Miles of Bus Rapid Transit route
  - ✓ Miles of transit routes
  - ✓ Number of households within a 1/2 mile of a transit stop
- Number of Rideshare/Carshare programs in urban areas



# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Focus Area: Municipal Government and City Finance

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### Municipal Government and City Finance

**STATE GOAL:** Cities are financially stable, plan for the long-term, and have budgets that allow operational outcomes that support high quality of life for residents.

#### A. OBJECTIVES

- A. On an ongoing basis operating expenditures will be in balance and sustainable over the long-term
- B. Cities will have access to a diverse portfolio of stable revenue sources to sustain operations
- C. Cities will maximize revenue collection
- D. Cities will have the capacity to develop and follow asset management strategies.
- E. Cities will have meaningful opportunities to improve services and efficiency through State policy that supports and rewards collaboration, consolidation, and use of technology as determined appropriate by local communities.
- F. City services will be accessible to all residents.

#### B. BEST PRACTICES

- Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) provides a variety of financial best practices
- Michigan Municipal Services Authority: created by inter-local agreement, the 12-member authority oversees the development of shared city services between Grand Rapids and Livonia. This is a recently developed mechanism for sharing services that may serve as a platform for testing best practices in Michigan.
- Lower Grand River Organization of Watersheds: an umbrella organization for sub-watershed groups throughout the region and coordinate activities designed to enhance water quality in the Lower Grand River and its tributaries
- New York State Shared Services Among New York's Local Governments: Best Practices and Tips for Success; outlines efforts, projections and results of various partnerships between local governments of towns and cities of various sizes in New York State.

#### C. INDICATORS

##### PRIMARY:

##### Finance\*

- Unrestricted general fund balance is stable or increasing over a 5-year period
- Cities have paid actuarially-determined annual required contribution (ARC) for legacy benefits for 5 years
- Cities pass Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements (AMAR)
- Percentage of tax delinquent properties: commercial, residential, industrial

##### Municipal Services

- Percentage of cities with asset management plans in place for: streets, water, sewer, storm water infrastructure.
- Annual cost savings achieved through partnerships, collaboration, and joint service agreements

##### SECONDARY:

- Funding gap, as measured by revenue and expenditure comparison
- Changes in bond rating or outlook
- 5-year average of days of general fund cash reserves on hand (GFOA best practice: 60 days for Government Finance, 45 days for enterprise funds)
- 5 –year unrestricted general fund balance
- Cities have a 5-year financial plan
- Percentage of FOIA requests met within legally required timeframe

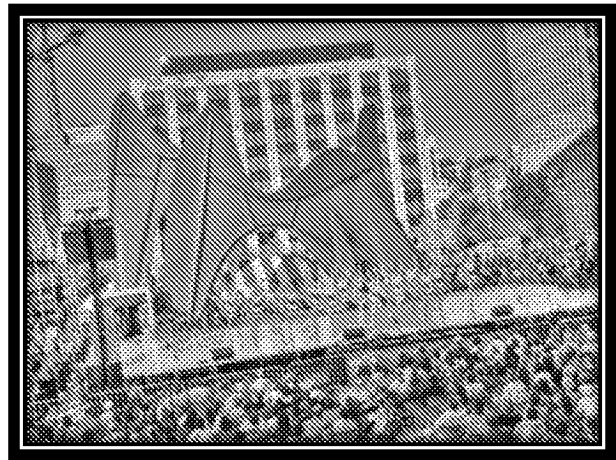
\*In these sections, trends are more important indicators of performance than annual numbers

# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Focus Area: Placemaking

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### Placemaking



**STATE GOAL:** Support and foster the creation and rebuilding of good urban “places” contributing to economic development, public safety, positive social interaction, creativity, and healthy living

#### A. OBJECTIVES

- A. Michigan and its communities will be national leaders in progressive placemaking programs and practices
- B. Cities will have dense populations in downtown cores and neighborhood districts
- C. The built environment will cater to a broad mix of uses and income levels
- D. Residents will have access to recreational opportunities and greenspace
- E. Cities will prioritize historic preservation, density retention, and reuse of existing building stock
- F. Make Michigan *the* Trail State, with increased connectivity between urban and rural trail systems

#### B. BEST PRACTICES

- WalkScore – a walkability index and company that promotes walkable neighborhoods.
- Project for Public Spaces- Nonprofit planning, design and educational organization dedicated to helping people create and sustain public spaces that build stronger communities. See link for project examples.
- High Line Park-Project converting abandoned elevated rail line in Manhattan to vibrant public space, creating recreational and business opportunities in an area with limited parks and open space
- Gordon Square Arts District (OH)- Consortium of non-profits, foundations, and arts institutions leading an effort based around a combination of housing, new businesses, the arts and neighborhood beautification to drive jobs and economic development for the west side of Cleveland
- Paducah Artist Relocation Program- Program offering city-owned properties to artists with approved business plans for as little as \$1. Program partners with local bank to offer loans of up to 300% of assessed value of properties for rehabilitation, generating \$30 million in investment and spurring revitalization of neighborhood and much of downtown.
- Smart growth and form-based codes- Examples of zoning ordinances designed to steer growth towards existing infrastructure and create good urban form
- Detroit Riverfront Conservancy - non-profit formed in Detroit in 2003 with the mission of bringing public access to Detroit's Riverfront and serving as a catalyst for economic development in the city.

# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Focus Area: Placemaking

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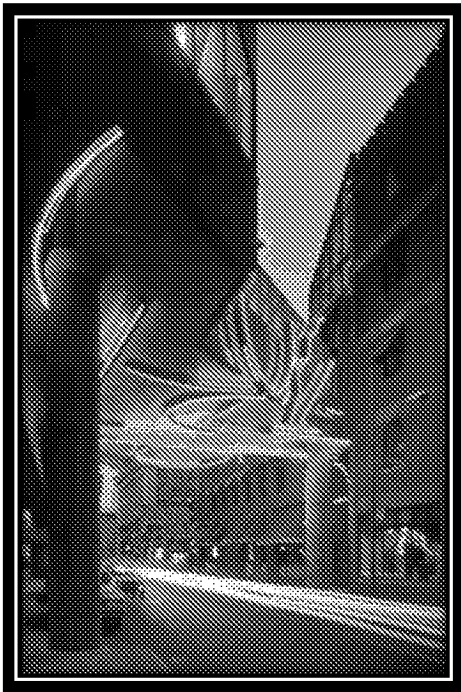
### C. INDICATORS

#### PRIMARY:

- Investment in downtown and neighborhood building areas (including new construction, historic and infill projects)
- Population and household density
- Percentage of communities adopting MSHDA Place Plans

#### SECONDARY:

- Miles of dedicated walking, biking paths/facilities
- Diversity of businesses in downtowns/neighborhoods
- Complete streets policies, ordinances and/or projects/plan multimodal transportation
- WalkScore
- Number of theatres, restaurants, cultural events
- Urban tree canopy
- Number and size of public gathering spaces in downtown/neighborhood areas



# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Focus Area: Public Safety

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### Public Safety

**STATE GOAL:** Cities are home to safe urban centers that attract businesses and allow for a high quality of life for individuals.

#### A. OBJECTIVES

- A. Cities will improve data collection, process efficiency, and use of technology in the area of public safety
- B. Individuals will have a positive perception of public safety within our cities
- C. Institutions with similar public safety goals have high levels of collaboration.
- D. Social, economic, and environmental conditions improve to decrease the likelihood of future offenders.

#### B. BEST PRACTICES

- COMPSTAT (used nationally) -- software used by WSU Police -- is effective if it is properly managed and reviewed; Potentially the program designers can come to Michigan and hold charettes across the state to establish comfort with the software
- DDACTS DATA DRIVEN APPROACHES TO CRIME AND TRAFFIC SAFETY- integrates location-based crime and traffic crash data to establish effective and efficient methods for deploying law enforcement and other resources
- Edmond, Oklahoma – cases solved – strict evaluation tools; State of MI could set up Edmond, OK-type process or hire a consultant to help set up a consortium to serve as a resource for citizens and cities
- *Focus on Forward* – Tampa, FL
- Novi Police and Fire Departments – regularly attend neighborhood board meetings
- MARVLIS™ – Motorola Location Intelligence Solution software used extensively by Emergency Medical Service
- New Jersey's "Safe and Clean Neighborhoods Program": uses police foot patrols to address quality of life issues, offering residents perception of safety; addresses "broken window" concept of crime
- Community Policing (find a best practice)
- Oakland County's CLEMIS (crime mapping and reporting)

#### C. INDICATORS

##### PRIMARY:

- Incidences of Property Crime per capita
- Incidences of Violent Crime per capita
- Response Time: Police, Fire, EMS
  - ✓ EMS vehicles per capita
- % of streets that meet minimum lighting standards

##### SECONDARY:

- Number of EMS vehicles per capita
- Per capita homicides
- Human Trafficking
- Police Efficiency
  - ✓ Calls being cleared by arrest (followed by prosecution)
  - ✓ Cases closed (clearance rate)
  - ✓ Closed Property Crimes
  - ✓ Closed Violent Crimes
- Percentage of families below poverty line
- Percentage of tax delinquent properties: commercial, residential, industrial
- Gang Activity

# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Focus Area: Public Safety

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- Auto thefts per capita
- Drug related crimes per capita
- Literacy rates
- Re-entry/2-year Recidivism rates



# Michigan Urban Agenda Reference Document

## Focus Area: Talent Attraction and Retention

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### Talent Attraction and Retention

**STATE GOAL:** Our Urban Centers are places where mobile young talent locates, the existing workforce is ready for the diverse jobs that are available and the next generation is being prepared for the jobs of tomorrow.

#### A. OBJECTIVES

- A. Cities have a trained, competitive workforce
- B. Cities are places where talented individuals choose to live and work
- C. Cities create, grow, and prepare for the next Michigan economy

#### B. BEST PRACTICES

- Talent 2025: tracks entrepreneurship and the number of employees resulting from patents and startups. Good case study is the Greater San Diego area because it has built out an ecosystem for entrepreneurs, universities, military and businesses and has been intentional about joining various parts of the ecosystem
- Rockefeller Foundation Redevelopment Fellowships (launched in 2007) in New Orleans, administered by the Center for Urban Redevelopment Excellence at the University of Pennsylvania, enabled key redevelopment organizations in New Orleans to recruit qualified professionals from across the country to work on the rebuilding process there.
- A practice that is paying off for some cities is that universities are partnering with employers for internships

#### C. INDICATORS

##### PRIMARY:

- Per capita income of 18 to 35 year olds
- Net migration rate
- Percentage of population holds a post-secondary degree or certificate
  - ✓ from Associate or 4yr program (broken down by age)
  - ✓ from Vocational/Skilled Trade training

##### SECONDARY:

- Foreign students enrolled at Universities
- Amount of certificate training offered
- Number of HB1 Visas in cities

---

**From:** DTMB Facilities <dtmb@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2015 8:17 AM  
**To:** Stevens, Tomia (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Facility Notification: Constitution Hall



Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.  
Security Notification

# Protest Activity

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## Date/Time:

Wednesday, October 28, 2015 from 12:00pm to 4:00pm

## Details:

Please be aware that there is a protest event planned for today, October 28, outside of the Constitution Hall from 12:00pm to 4:00pm. The event is being held in response to the water condition in Flint. Please plan your daily activities with this in mind as a large turnout for this event is anticipated. DTMB and MSP will be working together to monitor the situation.

## Contact:

DTMB Customer Service Center, [DTMB-Customerservice@michigan.gov](mailto:DTMB-Customerservice@michigan.gov) or 517-373-6227

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This email was sent to [stevens1@michigan.gov](mailto:stevens1@michigan.gov) using GovDelivery, on behalf of DTMB - Lewis Cass Building - 320 South Walnut Street - Lansing, MI 48933 517-373-1004

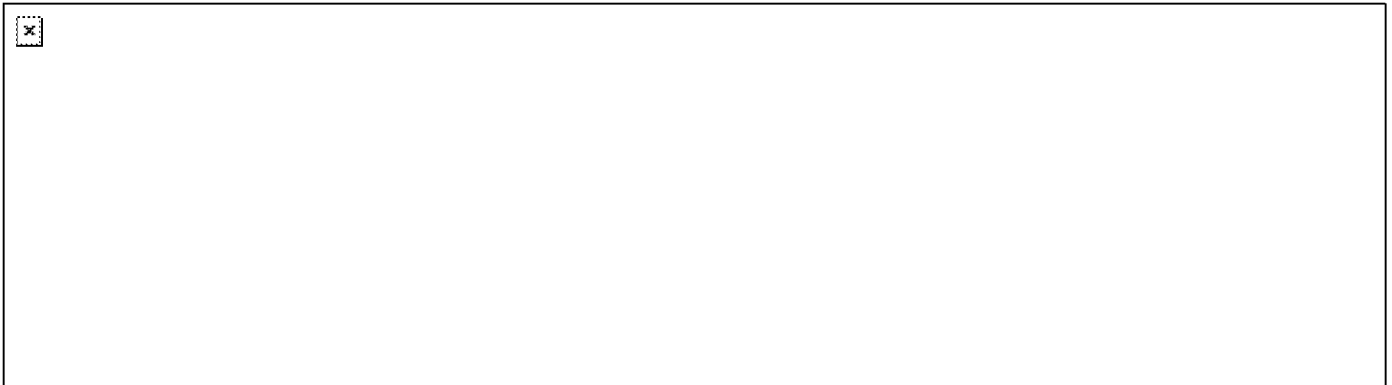
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**From:** Dept. Technology, Management & Budget <dtmb@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 07, 2015 11:48 AM  
**To:** Norlock, Linda (DTMB);Stoddard, Janine (DTMB);Philip, Brandon (DTMB);Herman, Christyn (DTMB);Barker, Shawn (DTMB);Lawson, Michelle (DTMB);Tefft, Niki (DTMB);Simon, Jennyl (DTMB);Good, Ken (DTMB);Link, Eunice (DTMB);Keilen, Elizabeth (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Courtesy Copy: Facility Notification: Flint State Office Building

**This is a courtesy copy of an email bulletin sent by Elizabeth Keilen.**

**This bulletin was sent to the following groups of people:**

Subscribers of Flint State Office Building (657 recipients)



## Flint Water Advisory

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### **Date/Time:**

Effective Wednesday, January 7, 2015

### **Details:**


The City of Flint recently sent out the attached notice regarding violations to the drinking water standards. While the City of Flint states that corrective actions are not necessary, DTMB is in the process of providing a water cooler on each occupied floor, positioned near the water fountain, so you can choose which water to drink. The coolers will arrive today and will be provided as long as the public water does not meet treatment requirements.



- [Flint Water.pdf](#)

## Contact:

DTMB Customer Service Center, [DTMB-Customerservice@michigan.gov](mailto:DTMB-Customerservice@michigan.gov) or (517) 373-6227

	<p>Since we spend about 40 hours a week at our workplaces, isn't the office the best place to try out some new energy-saving tricks? The Energy Information Administration estimates that if commercial and industrial buildings improved their energy efficiency by 10 percent, our economy could see yearly savings of nearly \$20 billion.</p>
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**From:** Daugherty, Cheryl (DNR)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 04, 2015 6:13 AM  
**To:** Sweatman, Brenda (DTMB)  
**Subject:** FW: Michigan Report, Tuesday, November 3, 2015  
**Attachments:** Nov3Senate.htm; 151103dayplan.htm; Nov3.htm; Nov3House.htm

FYI -- article about DHHS - Maxey

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**From:** Gongwer News Service [mailto:gongwerreports@gongwer.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 04, 2015 3:14 AM  
**To:** Daugherty, Cheryl (DNR) <daughertyc@michigan.gov>  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Tuesday, November 3, 2015



## Michigan Report for Tuesday, November 3, 2015

After Years Of Struggle, New Road Funding Set To Become Law

'Nightmare Over' As Gamrat, Courser Lose Comeback Attempts

Fevered Lobbying Underway Ahead Of Possible Energy Vote

Bonds, Millages Win, Two High-Profile Leaders Lose In Local Elections

Split Reaction To Roads Package Finally Passing

LaGrand Wins Dem Nomination In 75th House, Looks Forward To General

DHHS: Transfer From Maxey Traumatic For Youth

Robert VanderLaan, GOP Legislative Leader, Top Lobbyist, Dies

Motorists Acquiring Park Passports, Park Usage Up, Panel Told

House Panel Allows Corrections, Probation Officers To Carry In Gun-Free Zones

Snyder Signs Alert System To Track Fleeing Cop Killers

Capital Notebook: Recall Petition Filed On Snyder

Campaign Notes

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## **Activity Reports**

House

Senate

## **Calendars**

Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #218 -- Tuesday, November 3, 2015

### After Years Of Struggle, New Road Funding Set To Become Law

Governor Rick Snyder said Tuesday night he is ready to sign a road funding proposal that will generate \$1.2 billion for the state's roads and bridges by 2021 after the House and Senate gave the final green light to an amended package on Tuesday.

With House passage of the key components just before 10:30 p.m., on an extraordinary late evening legislative session taking place as everyone in and around the Capitol kept one eye on election results in three special House primary elections as well as local races, the road funding debate that has consumed the capital city for so long finally came to a crescendo.

"There is time it takes to review all the bills, but I'm ready," Mr. Snyder said at a press event following the House GOP giving the go-ahead to changes made by the Senate to a seven-bill package. "(The legislation) will lead to safer and better roads in our state and do it in a fiscally responsible way. This will not be done at the expense of other people."

Indeed, one of the chief criticisms, especially from Democrats in both chambers who vehemently opposed the package, is that the final proposal does not address a \$1.2 billion problem fast enough and not in a fiscally responsible way because it relies so heavily on General Fund money.

Officials in the governor's office had first expressed hesitation about the 600/600 proposal the House first considered in August, and when pressed on what changed his mind about trying to generate \$600 million in new revenue and find use \$600 million in existing revenue, Mr. Snyder said, "It was really having a good dialogue about talking through things."

He said he worked closely with the Department of Treasury to identify when and how the state might be able to absorb such an impact to the General Fund. He said ultimately, the package is phased-in in a fashion that works.

"I view this as positive progress," Mr. Snyder said.

Outside of the Legislature, the proposal was met with criticism from Democrats and some unions but optimism by most business groups (see separate story), the immediate concern being where some future legislatures might cut hundreds of millions of dollars from the General Fund when the plan is fully implemented in 2021. Mr. Snyder has insisted the General Fund will grow enough to accommodate the \$600 million from the General Fund to avoid cuts to other programs.

Meanwhile, House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant), after working his caucus for support for about eight hours from the time the Senate passed the package earlier in the day, agreed with a characterization after session that this was a momentous day.

"I think this is the single-largest issue that's evaded us for five years, and I feel this is a good fix to the problem that's going to be protected against time in the way of inflation, so I feel this is huge," Mr. Cotter told reporters after session. "This is one of a handful of items you look at and say, 'that's something that is going too far outlast my life in Lansing.'"

In his floor speech, Mr. Cotter deflected criticism that the proposal is fiscally irresponsible by saying instead that inaction would be such and "there's a huge cost of inaction," he said.

"Inaction is not acceptable. We've been debating numbers, the size of the problem, the source of the revenue. What we said with this plan ... is let's agree significant investment is needed."

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) also said the changes made by the Senate were "a good start" to fixing the state's infrastructure problems.

"We've been working on it for a number of years, ever since I've been in town, and many would say we were not quite adequate when we passed something 17 years ago," he told reporters after session. "So this is a step in that direction to keep that going, invest in our infrastructure, our economy is moving along quite well and this is another piece of that that's going to help our economy continue to grow."

He admitted that not everything the Senate sent over was perfect but said his caucus has more ideas "for some trailer bills that might make this even better," Mr. Meekhof said. One of the things he'd like to improve upon is getting to \$1.2 billion faster, he noted, but he did not go into further details about other potentials related to road funding.

Both Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) and House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) were sharply critical of the package's passage in their respective chambers.

"It's taking too long to implement. It will be years down the road, (and there are) \$600 million in cuts they won't identify. It's just not a real serious plan, and I think trying to get things done quickly is not the best way to do things," Mr. Ananich said. "It's just not responsible. Tell people they're going to raise tuition for their kids. Tell people they're going to cut money for their schools, cut their police and fire, have the courage to do that if you're going to pass a plan, and I think the Legislature flubbed up today a little bit."

He said his caucus would've been willing to support a plan that "fully supported" roads and could get passed in the House. But this was political plan, he said.

"(This is) checking a box, saying we got roads done. Next year, the year after that, the year after that, the roads are not going to get better," Mr. Ananich said. "I think when you look at all the reports, when it comes to the quality of the roads and what we need, it's just not enough."

Mr. Greimel said the proposal would further burden families and seniors who have suffered enough under the Snyder administration.

"This is the worst of all worlds. It raises taxes on families and seniors who have already seen their taxes go sky-high while draining funding from education and public safety, and still not

fixing the roads. The plan won't even be phased in until the year 2021," he said. "Michigan residents deserve their roads fixed now, not six years from now."

And he said it's always difficult politically for future legislators to undo tax relief, so when a future Legislature does have to deal with the General Fund cuts, the problem is complicated.

"What the majority voted for tonight is a snowballing budget deficit that will hit future generations, and it's very easy for the current legislators to not have the courage to identify where the cuts are going to come from, and rely on future legislators ... to make the tough decisions," Mr. Greimel said. "This is kicking the can further down the road both when it comes to making tough budgetary decisions and when it comes to actually fixing the roads."

Mr. Ananich also did not have confidence in the assertion by Sen. Dave Hildenbrand (R-Lowell), chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, that public safety, education and public health would be protected in upcoming budgets.

"Is he running for a third term? He'll be out of there by the time we have to make the cuts. It's easy to say that when you're not having to make the cuts," Mr. Ananich said. "I think it's important to make sure we pass things we have responsibility for, not other folks, and we just didn't do that today."

In the Senate, Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) was equally as critical of the proposal when it was being taken up on the floor.

"We all agree it takes money to fix the roads. In light of all the financial pressures upon our families due to increasing costs in all facets of their lives, don't you think it would be the responsible thing to do to find ways to fix the roads without taking more of their money?" he said in a statement on the floor. "They pay us to pinch the pennies of state government so they don't have to pinch their pennies at the kitchen table. Over the past five years, our state budget has increased from \$46.8 billion to \$54.5 billion, yet we are told we don't have enough money to fix the roads with existing funds. What is a higher priority than roads?"

He said the proposal was "politics as usual," and urged his colleagues to break the pattern of thinking that raising taxes was always the answer.

But Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit), the lone Democrat who joined Republicans in support of any (and all) of the bills, said he would support the package because, "It is an embarrassment that the Motor City, the heart and soul of the auto industry that produces the majority of our vehicles, is home to some of the worst roads in the country. Every day that we do nothing, we are threatening the economic security and even the physical safety of Detroiters, Michiganders and anyone who drives on our roads.

"I am tired of hearing about Detroit families having to sacrifice their budgets, not putting food on the table, and paying bills to sink money into their cars because they hit another one of the city's potholes," Mr. Smith said.

**THE VOTES:** The day in the Senate began as business-as-usual, though rumors had been swirling since Monday afternoon the chamber would take another shot at getting the package ([HB 4614](#), [HB 4616](#), [HB 4370](#), [HB 4736](#), [HB 4737](#), [HB 4738](#) and [SB 414](#)) back to the House for concurrence and enrollment.

Indeed, the chamber ran through General Orders on unrelated bills and recessed until 2 p.m., at which point they again recessed at the call of the chair. The Senate Republicans held an off-site caucus retreat, though sources close to them said the purpose was not to talk about road funding. By 2:30 p.m., the chamber began voting on amended versions of the bills sent to them by the House.

The biggest change in the new proposal is how much money is generated from registration fee increases. The Senate, when it passed its proposal in July, did not rely on registration fee increases at all except for an increase to hybrid and electric vehicles. But the House had hoped to get some \$400 million in new revenue from a 40 percent increase for passenger vehicles and trucks.

Ultimately, the substitute adopted by the Senate generates \$200 million from a 20 percent increase in HB 4736, which cleared the Senate 20-18. All Democrats except for Mr. Smith voted in opposition to the bill. Republicans Mr. Colbeck, [Sen. Jack Brandenburg](#) of Harrison Township, [Sen. Judy Emmons](#) of Sheridan, [Sen. Joe Hune](#) of Whitmore Lake, [Sen. Phil Pavlov](#) of St. Clair, [Sen. John Proos](#) of St. Joseph, [Sen. Tory Rocca](#) of Sterling Heights and [Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker](#) of Lawton also opposed its passage.

Upon arriving in the House, Republicans were about five votes short of the necessary minimum 54 votes needed. But as the hours passed, eventually the votes materialized.

The House concurred in the changes made by the Senate by a vote of 55-54 with three more individuals voting in opposition Tuesday than did the last time the House took the bill up. [Rep. Gretchen Driskell](#) (D-Saline) was absent the last time the House took the bill up but cast a no-vote this time, and [Rep. Peter Lucido](#) (R-Shelby Township) switched his vote to oppose it Tuesday.

The other major difference comes with the gas tax increase. The Senate proposal relied heavily on this aspect of the proposal to generate new revenue while the House did not. The Senate proposal would have eventually increased the gas tax by 17 cents on January 1, 2017 and the House proposal would've only upped the gas tax by 3.3 cents on October 1, 2018.

Instead, HB 4738 increases the gas tax from 19 cents per gallon to 26.3 cents per gallon, a 7.3 cents per gallon increase overall, beginning January 1, 2017. The bill was passed by the Senate 20-18, with all Democrats except Mr. Smith voting no and Republicans Mr. Brandenburg, Mr. Colbeck, [Sen. Mike Green](#) of Mayville, Mr. Hildenbrand, Mr. Hune, Mr. Pavlov, Mr. Proos, and Ms. Schuitmaker joining the opposition.

In the House, the bill was concurred in 55-52 (previously it cleared the House 56-50). Rep. Ray Franz (R-Onekama) switched from a no to a yes vote, and both Rep. Gary Glenn (R-Midland) and Rep. Henry Vaupel (R-Handy Township) switched from yes to no votes on Tuesday.

The diesel parity bill, HB 4616, cleared the Senate by the same margin and with the same individuals who opposed the gas tax increase opposed to it. The House passed the bill 56-51, the only change from previously coming from Ms. Driskell tallying a no vote.

The last time the Senate took up both the gas tax and the diesel tax increases, Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc) voted in opposition but he supported the measures on Tuesday. The reason for his switch was not immediately clear as he did not return a call for comment after session.

The two tax increases are intended to generate \$400 million in new revenue, according to an analysis of the updated bills handed out Tuesday. Inflationary increases are included in both gas tax bills and are indexed to the national Consumer Price Index. Under the compromise, they will begin January 1, 2022 (sooner than the House and later than the Senate proposal, respectively).

And HB 4737 allows the Michigan Transportation Fund to accept funds from any source, as well as adds provisions related to road construction warranties. The bill would also effectively allow, with approval from the director of the Department of Transportation, the city of Detroit to use up to 20 percent of its MTF distribution for public transit purposes. It also includes language creating the Roads Innovation Task Force to prepare a report no later than March 1, 2016 evaluating road materials and construction materials, and allowing MDOT to build roads that could last at least 50 years.

The Roads Innovation Fund created within the bill would collect \$100 million each fiscal year beginning in 2016-17 from the fuel taxes, and every year thereafter. That money is to be placed in a so-called "lock box" and can only be "unlocked" via a concurrent resolution indicating the funds will be used specifically for "higher quality, longer life cycle road construction purposes."

That bill cleared the Senate 27-11, with Mr. Smith in support and Ms. Emmons in opposition.

In the House, the bill passed 73-34 (previously it was 101-5, though the concept of a lock box did not exist then either). Only Democrats voted in opposition on Tuesday, though some lent their opposition to this bill, including Mr. Greimel.

**HYBRID/ELECTRIC REGISTRATION, INCOME TAX ROLLBACK:** Both the House and the Senate agreed, under HB 4614, to increase registration fees for hybrid electric vehicles and non-hybrid electric vehicles, so nothing about that proposal changed. The bill was passed 21-17 with Mr. Brandenburg, Mr. Colbeck, Mr. Hildenbrand, Mr. Hune, Mr. Pavlov, Mr. Proos and Mr. Rocca joining all Senate Democrats except Mr. Smith in opposition.

In the House, the bill passed 55-52, a difference from the previous vote of 56-50, though the changed votes were not immediately available.



And the income tax rollback policy the Senate needed to secure some Republican votes in its chamber for a tax hike was also maintained and only slightly modified. Under the amended version of SB 414, the rollback would occur when General Fund growth exceeds the rate of inflation times 1.425, the latter part being new to the mix. The compromise also holds the rollback off until January 1, 2023 (the Senate had proposed it begin January 1, 2018, and the House moved that up to 2019).

SB 414 was passed 28-10, Mr. Smith joining Republicans in support of the bill. In the House, the bill passed 61-46, Ms. Driskell again joining the opposition where she was absent previously.

**HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX:** HB 4370 to expand the Homestead Property Tax Credit - a proposal put forward by the House - did not see major changes. The household resources cap will remain at \$60,000, as the House proposed, but the income multiplier did change from 3.4 percent in tax year 2017 to 3.2 percent in tax year 2018. The maximum tax credit for tax year 2018 remains at \$1,500, but the compromise also increases the renter credit available. And the taxable value threshold, household resources cap and max credit amount will be indexed to inflation beginning tax year 2021 now instead of calendar year 2022.

The bill passed the Senate 28-10, with Mr. Smith joining all Republicans in support.

And the House gave the bill the go-ahead by a vote of 62-45, Ms. Driskell additional vote being the only difference from previously.

'Nightmare Over' As Gamrat, Courser Lose Comeback Attempts

Mary Whiteford and Gary Howell easily defeated former Reps. Cindy Gamrat and Todd Courser in special election primaries Tuesday in 80th House and 82nd House District primaries, respectively, ensuring that neither disgraced ex-legislator will return to the Capitol.

With 90 percent of precincts reporting late Tuesday, Ms. Whiteford of Casco Township had 5,065 votes, or 51.7 percent. Ms. Gamrat of Plainwell came in with 912 votes, or 9.3 percent of the vote. In second place was Allegan County Commissioner Jim Storey, with 2,380 votes, or 24.3 percent.

Mr. Howell defeated Mr. Courser with 3,070 votes compared to Mr. Courser's 415 votes. A total of 14,733 votes were cast. Jan Peabody lost to Mr. Courser in the 2014 primary. On Tuesday she came in second again with 2,418 votes. Chris Tuski of Hadley Township came in third with 2,396 votes.

Both will be heavily favored to win their traditionally Republican seats in the March 8 special elections, and Republican relief was palpable.

"Voters of these districts have spoken and are now one step closer to having the effective representation that is the right of every Michigan resident," Michigan Republican Party Chair Ronna Romney McDaniel said in a statement. "It is time to move forward. Most importantly, I would like to extend very special congratulations to Mary Whiteford in the 80th House District

and Gary Howell in the 82nd House District on their primary wins. I look forward to working with these exceptional candidates in an effort to get them elected this March."

Ms. Gamrat and Mr. Courser spent much of their terms surrounded in controversy, as first rumors swirled of an extramarital affair going on between the two, that was later proven when former staffers provided audio proof to The Detroit News. The audio also showed Mr. Courser wrote an over-the-top email accusing himself of having sex with a male prostitute and calling Ms. Gamrat a tramp in an attempt to taint any real information about the affair.

Mr. Courser also asked his former staffer to send out the email, the request resulted in the House Business Office opening an investigation into the two lawmakers. The internal investigation found the two misused taxpayer resources for attempted personal and political gain. Ms. Gamrat was expelled from the House and Mr. Courser resigned before the final vote could be taken.

Both accused lawmakers in Lansing of forcing them out without justification, and announced their bids for election almost immediately after leaving office.

Ms. Whiteford, the target of searing attacks from Ms. Gamrat, said she was grateful the voters chose her.

"I am just humbled and honored that the people of Allegan County have chosen me to represent them," she said. "I am just excited to hit the ground running."

Ms. Whiteford said between now and the general election on March 8 she will continue to work on the local committees she is a part of, and start to introduce herself to those in Lansing. She said she has already met a few representatives who came to help her campaign.

"I feel inspired because there are so many wonderful people that live here," she said of the district. "It is a passion for me to help my neighbors."

Mr. Howell said he was savoring the victory.

"I am gratified that the people of Lapeer County have placed their faith in me," he said. "I will live up to their expectations."

He said his main goal is to be an effective legislator, and he will spend his time between now and the general election on March 8th campaigning and becoming more familiar with the legislative process.

"I want to spend some time in Lansing, getting to know the other representatives so that I can be effective from the very first day," he said.

Ms. Gamrat said throughout the process the voters should have a voice instead of politicians in Lansing.

She said Tuesday after her loss she thought it was important to fight for the voice of the people.

"That is one of the reasons I ran for office, because of the disparity I saw between government the people," she said. "The people wanting one thing and the government doing another."

Ms. Gamrat said it was a tremendous honor to serve the people of the 80th District, and she did her best while in office.

"We worked really, really hard. I think I did everything I could do and at the end of the day you do your best and you have to allow the results to be what they are," she said.

Ms. Peabody and Mr. Courser did not return calls for comment late Tuesday, and Mr. Courser had yet to post anything on social media. Mr. Tuski said he was not watching the election results and would find out who won later.

House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) congratulated Ms. Whiteford and Mr. Howell in separate statements Tuesday. He described both as hard-working and solid advocates of sound policies for the state.

U.S. Rep. Fred Upton (R-St. Joseph) said in a statement following the special election, "this embarrassing nightmare now seems over."

"Allegan County has made a wise decision - they can again count on the GOP nominee as they were able to do in the past with folks like Paul Hillegonds, Patty Birkholz, Fulton Sheen and Bob Genetski," he said. "Service and leadership in Lansing will soon be restored under Mary Whiteford."

### Fevered Lobbying Underway Ahead Of Possible Energy Vote

A potential House committee vote Wednesday on long-anticipated legislation overhauling energy laws in Michigan set off a furious round of lobbying and vote counting and major questions about whether supporters could muster the votes needed to get the legislation to the House floor.

The House Energy Policy Committee will meet at 9 a.m. Wednesday on HB 4297, HB 4298 and HB 4575.

Substitutes were in circulation for the bills, and those favoring more choice in the electric market than the existing 10 percent cap fumed at a new provision that would prohibit a customer from choosing an alternative electric supplier for 20 years if they initially decline to sign up with one. Environmental groups were stepping up their attacks on the legislation's new definition for renewable energy that would allow waste incineration to count as a renewable source.

Sources following the issue closely said Rep. Aric Nesbitt (R-Lawton), the committee chair, and the state's major utilities, Consumers Energy and DTE Energy - the major backers of the legislation - face a problem of having both conservatives favoring more choice and environmentalists aiming daggers at the bill. Bill opponents were adamant late Tuesday that the committee was short of the necessary 13 votes to report the legislation to the full House.

Several committee Republicans were especially upset at the process, saying they had been given too little time to review the lengthy and detailed bills.

Mr. Nesbitt could be seen talking to various committee members during the lengthy session Tuesday, including Rep. Gary Glenn (R-Midland), the vice chair, and Rep. Bill LaVoy (D-Monroe), the minority vice chair.

Mr. Nesbitt said late Tuesday progress was being made and he was "hopeful we will be able to see movement this week." Mr. Nesbitt wouldn't say with certainty that the bills may move Thursday instead of at the committee's scheduled meeting Wednesday.

One possibility making the rounds Tuesday was that the committee would adopt substitutes Wednesday and discuss them but vote later in the week.

Mr. Glenn said he was "absolutely not" supportive of the draft H-3 substitute circulated to committee members late last week. He also said there was "widespread discomfort" among members that the substitute was being pushed quickly.

But Mr. Nesbitt said he has held 28 hours of hearings on the legislation. He asserted there are philosophical differences on some of the issues, including the 10 percent choice market.

"I have already made significant changes and compromises," on the choice piece of the legislation, he said.

Mr. LaVoy said Tuesday evening he was negotiating with Mr. Nesbitt, the administration and leadership on both sides to get some changes to the bills that would allow some Democrats to vote yes to report the bills.

He described talks as positive, but said an official agreement had not yet been reached.

Rep. Peter Pettalia (R-Presque Isle) said he felt comfortable with the package and did not believe it to be rushed.

Energy Choice Now, the group favoring elimination of the 10 percent cap on competition, said the new substitute in circulation contained troubling changes. It said the changes would ease the ability for utilities to hike rates and reduce transparency.

One of the major changes in the legislation would enable more proposed new plants and plant purchases to go through the state's certificate of necessity process. The current threshold of \$500 million for eligibility for that process would drop to \$100 million under the substitute.

Integrated resource plans that the utilities would file would have to include plans and options for meeting current and future energy needs as well as reserve margins. They would have to project the impact on customer rates. They would have to project the amount of customer self-generation and the amount of electric generating capacity in the utility's area even from sources not owned by the utility.

The integrated resource plans would have to include five-, 10- and 15-year capacity forecasts. The Public Service Commission would have 270 days to approve, modify or reject an integrated resource plan.

### Bonds, Millages Win, Two High-Profile Leaders Lose In Local Elections

Most of the communities asking for new funding or to borrow money got permission, but voters in two communities ousted their leaders in Tuesday's elections.

Of the results available Tuesday evening, the majority of local ballot issues were approved, including most of the requests for bonding authority and new millages, as well as all of the millage renewal requests.

Twenty-eight of the 35 school bond issues on the ballot won, including most of the biggest ones, such as those in the Rochester, Grand Rapids and Portage schools, all of which asked their voters to raise their property taxes to support borrowing more than \$100 million each for infrastructure improvements.

Sinking fund millage requests did well, passing in six of the nine districts where results were available.

Road millages fared poorly, losing in six of the nine proposals where results were available.

Descriptions of the various ballot proposals, as well as whether they were successful, are posted on the Gongwer News Service [website](#).

On the heels of reports of high lead levels in Flint's water, Flint Mayor Dayne Walling lost his seat to challenger Karen Weaver. A state appointed emergency manager made the decision to switch the city's water source to the Flint River while awaiting construction of a permanent new pipeline to Lake Huron, and insufficient corrosion controls allowed lead to leach into the water at levels requiring remediation.

But Mr. Walling, while he had no power at the time of the switch, gave it his blessing, pushing the button to change the water source and posing for photos with a glass of Flint River water.

East Lansing Mayor Nathan Triplett, who had three terms on the East Lansing City Council and has been a regular in Lansing-area politics for more than a decade, lost his seat as former East Lansing Mayor, and ex-House member, Mark Meadows, returned to the council. Shanna Draheim and Erik Altmann took the other two seats.

Results Tuesday showed that opinions on term limits appear to be shifting, at least in some communities. Both Keego Harbor and Lathrup Village handily defeated proposals that would have limited council members.

Prohibitions against marijuana continued to fall. Keego Harbor and Portage joined the list of communities approving possession of small amounts of the drug (one ounce) on private property.

Southfield eliminated its primary elections, so city officials will now all be selected at the general election, even if there are more than twice as many candidates as there are open seats. City officials noted on a fact sheet on the issue that Southfield was one of only five cities in the county still using primary elections, and said the change would save \$76,000 per election cycle.

Putnam Township (Livingston County) voters rejected a proposal to use a 1 mill tax increase to fight a proposed natural gas pipeline through the community.

Eaton Rapids Public Schools lost in its effort to develop a sinking fund, but barely. The 1 mill plan fell by three votes.

Even closer, one voter tipped the decision for New Buffalo to post its meetings on its website rather than in the local newspaper.

And Royal Oak revised its charter to eliminate all gender references.

Former Rep. Richard LeBlanc won the Westland clerk post. The Burton mayor, former Rep. Paula Zelenko, narrowly won re-election.

### Split Reaction To Roads Package Finally Passing

Business groups mostly hailed the Legislature completing action on a plan to raise \$600 million in new revenue for roads and commit \$600 million from the General Fund as well several years into the future, but other organizations decried the package as destabilizing funding for programs that rely on the General Fund and failing to solve the road funding shortage.

The Grand Rapids Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Michigan Chamber of Commerce and the Small Business Association of Michigan were among the groups praising the plan on its way to Governor Rick Snyder.

"Road and bridge repair is a key economic development issue of primary importance to small business owners, the communities in which they live and the economic recovery of the entire state," said SBAM President and CEO Rob Fowler in a statement. "The transportation and infrastructure funding package will provide the tools Michigan needs to fix our infrastructure, help our businesses grow and create jobs. It's an investment opportunity for Michigan's future."

Two business organizations that had sharply criticized the initial 600/600 plan from the House - Business Leaders for Michigan and the Detroit Regional Chamber - offered tepid praise. Both groups had criticized insufficient revenue from new taxes and raised worries about what the General Fund commitment would mean for higher education and other services.

"This road funding package provides substantial funding toward fixing our roads. While it doesn't meet all of our objectives for funding transportation - it meets many of them," said Doug Rothwell, BLM President and CEO, in a statement. "Moving forward, we will monitor the state's finances to ensure the goals of this multi-year funding plan are met and continue to encourage the state to prioritize investments to make college more affordable and to support job training

and economic development as these are also critical priorities that are important to growing jobs and our economy."

Brad Williams of the Detroit Regional Chamber criticized the lack of new revenue prior to January 1, 2017.

"Michigan motorists deserve to have their roads fixed before 2017, but this appears to be the best this Legislature can do," he said in a statement. "It's time to move on and hope the long-term sustainability issues with this plan can be addressed in the future."

Lance Binoniemi of the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association praised the plan and rejected criticism that the \$600 million from the General Fund - which will phase in starting in the 2018-19 fiscal year through the 2020-21 fiscal year - cannot be relied upon.

"It's a plan that's a long time coming," he said. "We obviously would have loved to see a quicker ramp up, and we will make efforts over the next few years to see if we can get more money in the next two or three construction seasons than this legislation allows for."

Nonetheless, Mr. Binoniemi said the General Fund money has the benefit of being enshrined in statute. He dismissed concerns that the next governor or future legislatures would vote to change that provision.

"We feel good there will still be demand from the public and there will still be demand from legislators that we continue to put more money into roads," he said.

The Michigan Municipal League cast the plan as underwhelming.

"It's an over-statement to say that a \$1.2 billion plan with \$600 million in new revenue and \$600 in General Fund dollars will fix Michigan's crumbling infrastructure," said MML Executive Director and CEO Dan Gilmartin in a statement. "This is especially true given that two-thirds of the new revenue will simply replace money already budgeted for roads in the current fiscal year and the plan doesn't fully phase in for almost a decade."

AFL-CIO President Ron Bieber said the numbers in the plan do not add up.

"This bill is based on fuzzy math and accounting gimmicks, and it won't do anything to actually fix our roads for at least two years," he said. "You don't fix the roads by cutting education, public safety, and health care, and you don't fix the roads by giving tax breaks to millionaires while raising taxes on working people."

Karen Holcomb-Merrill of the Michigan League for Public Policy said the proposal jeopardizes other key services.

"Our schools, public safety and local communities will all be put into jeopardy with \$600 million in unspecified future budget cuts and an income tax rollback that will further starve dollars available for many of the things Michigan residents value," she said in a statement. "This plan

doesn't get us where we need to be funding-wise for years, when our roads will be even worse than they are now. It perpetuates the problem instead of offering a true solution."

### LaGrand Wins Dem Nomination In 75th House, Looks Forward To General

After easily defeating his primary opponent in the special election for the 75th House District, Democrat David LaGrand of Grand Rapids pointed to the Republican candidate's "few" votes and said he is confident heading into the March 8 general election for the seat.

Mr. LaGrand won the nomination with 4,085 votes compared to 948 votes for Michael Scruggs of Grand Rapids, his primary opponent.

And Blake Edmonds, the sole Republican candidate in the district, received 1,289 votes, which Mr. LaGrand said made him confident heading into the general. The district is considered solidly Democratic.

"I feel grateful," Mr. LaGrand said. "Nobody owes me a vote, nobody owes me support. I am just really glad to be able to serve the community."

Mr. LaGrand said he will continue to campaign and also get to know more people current serving in Lansing.

"It is going to exponentially more difficult to get a consensus in 110-member body," Mr. LaGrand said, compared to smaller boards he has served on. "I understand that."

While Mr. LaGrand was not fazed by Republican Mr. Edmonds results Tuesday, House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) released a statement expressing the opposite view.

"Blake Edmonds is the best candidate to serve the people of Grand Rapids and to represent their views in the state Capitol," Mr. Cotter said. "I look forward to seeing him bring his plan for a stronger Michigan to the people of this community over the next few months and working with him to grow our strong legislative majority."

### DHHS: Transfer From Maxey Traumatic For Youth

A Department of Health and Human Services official told House members Tuesday closing the W.J. Maxey Training School for juvenile offenders was indeed traumatic for the 48 children who were transferred from the facility, but one lawmaker challenged that claim, saying some youth might be more comfortable with their new placements.

The transfer from the facility, which officially closed October 1 at the beginning of the 2015-16 fiscal year, was traumatic for the youth, and considered yet another failure from adults to support them, Herman McCall, director of the Juvenile Justice Programs within DHHS, told the House Appropriations Human Services Subcommittee of the Health and Human Services Subcommittee.



Mr. McCall said some youth transferred to other facilities had to completely start over in their treatment.

"Some of these youth had four-to-five previous placements that didn't work for them and now they experience, through no fault of their own, in their minds adults letting them down," he said.

But Rep. Robert VerHeulen (R-Walker) asked if Mr. McCall had spoken to all of the 48 inmates from Maxey after their transfer. Mr. McCall said he had not.

"You don't know if they would perceive if they were better or worse," in their new placements, Mr. VerHeulen said.

"I would hope most would say they were better," Mr. McCall said. "I am just merely identifying a transfer as a traumatic event."

However, two children transferred to a jobs corps program have not fared well, according to Mr. McCall. One is in jail on a weapons charge and another went AWOL after a weekend outing, Mr. McCall said after a question from Rep. Brian Banks (D-Detroit), the minority vice chair of the committee.

Mr. McCall said the department will track the youth transferred from Maxey for two years.

Of the remaining youth who were transferred, 18 went to a public facility, 16 went to private providers, eight went home to parents or grandparents, three went to supervised independent living and one to a county program.

In terms of the savings from the closure, Mr. McCall said the appropriation for Maxey was \$9 million when it was open, and \$1 million in the most recent budget to address the closure.

He said there is still a \$397.2 million bond out, with only a portion of that being for Maxey.

The 64 staffers at Maxey had an average of 23 years' experience and only six served for less than 12 years, Mr. McCall said.

He praised the staffers handling of the inmates when they discovered they would be transferred and potentially have to start their treatment over.

"I certainly want to report that the staff, who were also going through similar types of things, handled that very well," he said.

Mr. McCall said 26 of the staffers were eligible for retirement and 15 were laid off. He said, since the Department of Community Health and the Department of Human Services merged, some staffers were able to be transferred to mental health facilities.

And four elected to transfer to the state run Shawono facility.

## Robert VanderLaan, GOP Legislative Leader, Top Lobbyist, Dies

Robert VanderLaan, 85, who served as both majority and minority leader of the Senate, whose one election defeat showed the nation how serious the Watergate crisis was, and who helped found one of Lansing's best-known lobbying firms, died Sunday.

Funeral services for Mr. VanderLaan will be held on Thursday.

Mr. VanderLaan died a little more than one month after his wife of 64 years, Millie, died.

Mr. VanderLaan was one of a group of moderate Republicans - whose numbers included former Governors George Romney and William Milliken - who came into state office in the 1960s, sweeping out older, harder conservatives who had helped push the state to the brink of financial disaster in 1950s. Affable, steady, hardworking, never given to histrionics and extremes, Mr. VanderLaan was in the middle of many of the critical decisions that helped shape the state to its governing structure today.

He was born in Dutton, and attended a one-room school until the ninth grade. He graduated high school from Grand Rapids Christian High School and then graduated from Calvin College. He later earned a master's degree in political education from the University of Michigan and pursued a doctorate in education from Michigan State University.

He was a teacher to begin his professional life, teaching at Christian high schools in the Grand Rapids area and also at Calvin College.

He also was involved in local and state politics. In a biographical statement in the 1970s he was proud that he had been a delegate to every Republican state convention since 1952.

He served in the Legislature from Kentwood, but he served Kentwood before it was Kentwood. He was a Paris Township trustee, clerk and supervisor. The township eventually became Kentwood.

He was elected to the Senate in 1962. During the 1960s, Mr. VanderLaan was an ally to Mr. Romney's push to modernize the state's administrative structure and financial basis.

In a 2007 story about the 40th anniversary of the passage of Michigan's income tax, Mr. VanderLaan was among those lawmakers present at the time who recalled the action was not filled with the same stress and drama that would overshadow virtually every other tax increase.

The state's economy was one of the strongest in the nation, the population had grown, businesses and politicians both wanted to avoid the public relations fiascos Michigan had endured during the payless paydays of the 1950s.

The income tax passed just before the Independence Day holiday in 1967, and legislators were largely unmolested by critics during the parades that weekend.

It was the last time lawmakers could enjoy such peace over tax issues, as with Mr. VanderLaan leading Senate Republicans through most of the 1970s the state endured several recessions and an ongoing spate of budget crises.

The election of 1970 left the Senate equally divided between Democrats and Republicans, but with Republican Lt. Governor Jim Brickley in the chair, the Republicans claimed the majority and Mr. VanderLaan was the caucus leader.

For several years, however, the focus politically was more on Washington and the Watergate scandal and Mr. VanderLaan played a role in that pivotal era.

After then-Vice President Spiro Agnew resigned following criminal allegations, former President Richard Nixon chose the House minority leader, U.S. Rep. Gerald Ford of Grand Rapids, as the new vice president.

Mr. VanderLaan was the consensus Republican candidate to succeed Mr. Ford in Congress. He had already been elected from essentially the same district several times to Lansing, it was the Grand Rapids area, Mr. VanderLaan was a Republican. In any other election Mr. VanderLaan's victory was as certain as the sun rising in the east.

But not in 1974. Almost from the first, the election was a problem for the GOP, and surprisingly so. National figures came in to help with the election, but it was clear the Republican everyone was voting on was not named VanderLaan. The real Republican on the ballot was Richard Nixon.

And when the voters shockingly elected Democrat Richard VanderVeen to Congress, it was arguably the first hard slap in the face the Nixon administration took realizing the depth of American anger at the ongoing scandal. (Mr. Nixon himself campaigned in the Thumb region that spring during another special congressional election, and was directly rebuked when the voters chose Democrat Bob Traxler. Some four months later, Mr. Nixon resigned.)

Though disappointed, Mr. VanderLaan was stoic about his loss, recognizing that he was a victim of history. He never sought a spot in Congress again, though. He was re-elected twice more to the Senate, and returned as GOP leader, though now minority leader.

Much of the remaining 1970s was dedicated to keeping the state's budget balanced during two of the worst recessions the state had seen. The years saw Mr. VanderLaan working with the administration of Mr. Milliken on a series of maneuvers, including tax increases and shifting the state's fiscal year, to maintain balance. His last three years in office were marked by on-going struggles to keep the budget balanced as the economy went into near collapse and the state's unemployment rate, in 1982, averaged more than 15 percent.

He himself, however, would list a series of other bills that he was proud of. He sponsored campaign reform legislation, helped raise the minimum wage and sponsored the Fair Bus Act, which allowed public school buses to carry children to parochial schools.

Mr. VanderLaan decided against running for re-election in 1982, and he and then Democratic House Speaker Bobby Crim (who also decided to step down in 1982) formed Governmental Consultant Services, Incorporated, which became one of the better known lobbying firms in Lansing. He retired from the firm in the 1990s.

Once retired, Mr. VanderLaan essentially walked away from politics, splitting his time between Pentwater and Florida, playing golf and travelling.

Visitation will be 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Zaagman Memorial Chapel, 2800 Burton Street, SE, Grand Rapids.

Funeral services will be 11 a.m., Thursday at the Millbrook Christian Reformed Church, 3661 Poinsettia Avenue SE, Grand Rapids.

#### Motorists Acquiring Park Passports, Park Usage Up, Panel Told

More Michigan motorists are acquiring park state park passports with their vehicle registration and more people are using the state parks, the House Appropriations Natural Resources Subcommittee was told Tuesday.

Ron Olson, chief of the parks division in the Department of Natural Resources, told the subcommittee that owners of some 30 percent of the passenger vehicles in the state - nearly 7 million vehicles - acquire the passport when updating the vehicle's registration.

In 2011, 24.7 percent of the vehicles had the passport, and in September, 31 percent of the vehicles that renewed registration. In September 2014, 26.6 percent had added the passport.

A major source of the growth has been the success in rehabilitating Belle Isle in Detroit. Before the park went under state supervision, just 7.22 percent of Detroit vehicle has the passport. Now more than 30 percent do.

And passport registrations in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties are especially critical to the revenues the passport produces. Each 1 percent of the vehicles with a passport in those three counties generates \$319,455. For the entire rest of the state, each 1 percent generated \$531,101.

At those levels, the passport is running well above the former vehicle stickers that were sold for park entry, Mr. Olson said. When the passports were introduced, the state calculated it would need to sell passports to 17 percent of all vehicles to match the stickers.

That increase comes as more than 25 million people visited state parks in fiscal year 2014-15, nearly 3 million alone to Belle Isle.

And the state is now the second most visited in terms of camping nights, topping more than 1 million camping nights, he said. Camping nights are up by 8.9 percent in state parks and by 16 percent in state forest campgrounds, he said.

## House Panel Allows Corrections, Probation Officers To Carry In Gun-Free Zones

Current and former corrections officers and parole and probation officers would be able to carry concealed pistols in gun-free zones under legislation approved Tuesday by the House Judiciary Committee.

The bill ([SB 516](#)), reported on a nearly party-line vote, would require the officers to show they had law enforcement weapons training.

In addition to most of the Democrats on the panel - [Rep. Vanessa Guerra](#) (D-Bridgeport) joined Republicans supporting the bill - gun rights groups also opposed the legislation.

Greg O'Neil with Michigan Gun Owners Incorporated and Jason Gillman with Michigan Open Carry both urged that the chamber amend the bill to allow all trained concealed pistol license holders to carry in gun-free zones.

"It's the only realistic way to protect the public at large," Mr. O'Neil said.

Mr. Gillman said one of the arguments in favor of the bill is that the officers and their families are targets.

The bill was reported with no discussion from committee members.

**ELECTRONIC FILING:** The committee began discussions Tuesday on a package of bills that would allow a statewide electronic filing system for court documents.

The bills ([SB 531](#), [SB 532](#), [SB 533](#), [HB 5028](#), [HB 5029](#) and [HB 5030](#)) would add a \$25 fee to certain court documents. The \$42 million the new fee is projected to raise would be used to create the new filing system.

The goal of the system, Supreme Court [Justice David Viviano](#) told the committee, is to allow courts that already have their own case management systems to share files and for litigants to electronically add files to those cases.

The system would be an expansion of e-filing systems already in place as pilot programs in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Ottawa counties as well as the 13th Circuit Court in the Grand Traverse County area.

Mr. Viviano said the plan is for a system that would allow the counties to still select their own vendor for case management, and for litigants to log into the system they prefer to file documents anywhere in the state.

The new system should save money for those in the pilot areas because it changes how the fees are charged, Mr. Viviano said. "It moves from a transaction-based system to one that's free any time any place," he said.

To questions from Rep. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) and Rep. Klint Kesto (R-Commerce Township), who both live in counties that have already implemented e-filing systems, Mr. Viviano said it was not the intention for those counties to subsidize development of the system for other counties, but he said it would be easier for them to join the system.

Some of the funds collected by the new fees would be dedicated to infrastructure for counties that have not moved far in electronic case management, but Joseph Baumann, chief legal counsel for the Supreme Court, said there would be limits to those funds. He noted, for instance, that there would not likely be funds to install fiber optic cable between courts in the Upper Peninsula, an example Mr. Irwin had offered in asking how the funds would be used.

The bill would sunset in five years, allowing the Legislature to determine if the new fee is still needed.

Mr. Viviano said the change should save enough in reduced work for local clerks that the additional funds would not be needed long-term.

Bruce Timmons, retired policy analyst, urged the committee to ditch the new fee and merely increase existing fees. He said the new fee would mean added bookkeeping work for local clerks.

"Simply change that filing fee and all that headache would not be there," he said.

#### Snyder Signs Alert System To Track Fleeing Cop Killers

A notification system would alert the state of any identifying characteristics of a person suspected of harming or killing a police officer who has fled the crime scene under a bill signed into law Tuesday by Governor Rick Snyder.

Under SB 336 (PA 167, effective February 1), the Department of State Police will establish and maintain a notification system to disseminate the name, physical description and vehicle type of such suspects.

Mr. Snyder also signed:

SB 22, POLICE RETIREMENT (Casperson) Provide one-time increase in monthly  
PA 168 retirement allowance for certain retirants to provide cost-of-living adjustment.

Signed: November 3, 2015; Effective: November 3, 2015


SB 195, PHARMACY FINGERPRINTS (Hune) Removes fingerprint requirement for  
PA 169 application of a new pharmacy, manufacturer, or wholesale distributor licenses.

Signed: November 3, 2015; Effective: December 3, 2015


SB 309, CONDO SUBDIVISION PLANS (Stamas) Modifies survey condominium

PA 170      subdivision plan signature and cover sheet content requirements.

Signed: November 3, 2015; Effective: February 1, 2016

HB 4464  PA MEDICATION SALES TAX (Lyons) Exempts over-the-counter medications  
PA 171      sold by prescription from sales tax.

Signed: November 3, 2015; Effective: March 14, 2014

HB 4465  PA MEDICATION SALES TAX (Lyons) Exempts over-the-counter sold by  
172      prescription from use tax.

Signed: November 3, 2015; Effective: March 14, 2014

Capital Notebook: Recall Petition Filed On Snyder

A recall petition has been filed against Governor Rick Snyder by Angelo Scott Brown. The Board of State Canvassers will meet at 10 a.m. November 13 to consider whether the petition states factually and clearly the reasons for recall. Only after meeting that threshold could Mr. Brown attempt the monumental task of collecting the necessary signatures to put a recall election on the ballot.

**LONGTIME UNION LOBBYIST HUGHES RETIRES:** Tim Hughes, one of the most well-known figures around the Capitol from his time as a lobbyist for the Michigan AFL-CIO, Governor Jennifer Granholm and most recently the United Auto Workers, has retired.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION ACTIVIST DIES:** Patrick Clawson, a sometimes journalist and sometimes activist and always tenacious in his pursuits, died last week at the age of 60. Mr. Clawson was a regular visitor to legislative committees to testify on bills, usually ones addressing access to public records. Just recently, he tangled with Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), the Senate Judiciary Committee chair, on holes Mr. Clawson said legislation before the committee had in making court records public.

Mr. Clawson also was a key figure in exposing one of the more embarrassing episodes a governor has faced when he uncovered the fact that a con man had tricked the Michigan Economic Development Corporation into thinking he had a legitimate business seeking an incentive. The con man wound up sharing a stage with then-Governor Jennifer Granholm at an announcement of business incentives for several companies at which point Mr. Clawson and others figured out who he was.

Campaign Notes

**PAVLOV ENDORSEMENTS:** Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-Saint Clair) announced a number of endorsements from local leaders in his run for the 10th U.S. House District to succeed retiring U.S. Rep. Candice Miller (R-Harrison Township).

Among his latest endorsements are Rep. Dan Lauwers (R-Brockway), Port Huron Mayor Pauline Repp, Mayor Pro Tem Sherry Archibald and Police Chief Mike Reaves; St. Clair County Commissioners Jeffrey Bohm, Bill Gratopp, Greg McConnell, Tom Reilly, David Rushing, and Karl Tomion; St. Clair County Sheriff Tim Donnellon; St. Clair County Clerk Jay DeBoyer; and former Rep. Terry London.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## **Tuesday, November 10**

**Board of Residential Builders and Maintenance and Alteration Contractors, Upper Level, Conference Room 3, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 9 a.m. (Agenda)**

## **Thursday, November 12**

**Aeronautics Commission, Aeronautics Auditorium, 2700 Port Lansing Road, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Agenda)**

## **Friday, November 13**

**Board of Athletic Trainers, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Agenda; Disciplinary Subcommittee canceled)**

**Board of State Canvassers, Room 426, Capitol, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Consideration whether a recall petition filed November 2 by Angelo Scott Brown states factually and clearly each reason for recalling Governor Rick Snyder.)**

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**Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.**

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**Subject:** Michigan Report, Thursday, December 3, 2015  
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## Michigan Report for Thursday, December 3, 2015

Tax Breaks For Switch, Data Centers, Clear Senate Amid Growing Criticism

Bill Would End Most Weekend In-Person Absentee Voting

Deficit Districts Decline; 11 Headed For Preliminary Review

Senate Panel Told Reform Office Has Tools To Pursue School Improvements

Midwives Bill Clears House Despite Physician Opposition

Flint Blood Lead Survey Results Released By State

Senate Passes Aviation Fuel Tax Changes

House Panel Considers Requiring Civics Test For High School Students

Hansen Still Hopeful On DPS Solution

House Republicans Sign Letter Urging Disapproval Of Planned Parenthood Grant

Former Aramark Worker Convicted In Assault For Hire Plot With Inmate

Senate Remembers Rosetta Ferguson

House Committee Votes To Change Electrician-Apprentice Ratio

Regional Unemployment Rates Mostly Unchanged

Canvassers Reject Snyder Recall Petition

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## Volume #54, Report #237 -- Thursday, December 3, 2015

### Tax Breaks For Switch, Data Centers, Clear Senate Amid Growing Criticism

Although the agreement on just how much of a sales/use tax exemption colocation centers such as Switch, a company out of Nevada looking to expand in Michigan, should receive varied from Thursday morning to Thursday afternoon, the Senate ultimately decided to allow such entities to receive the full extent of an exemption on a 21-15 vote.

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"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61601](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61601)" }

and { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61701](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61701)" }

on the sales and use tax exemptions saw minimal discussion on the Senate floor, but outside of the Capitol, the debate roared, especially among traditional allies for Republicans.

The House, although it was widely expected to, did not vote on similar legislation in its chamber on Thursday.

Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House Republicans, said members still have a lot of questions on the issue and want to take more time to discuss the legislation before making decisions.

Sources familiar with the situation speaking on background said the caucus is struggling - ideologically - with the concept of providing a tax break for one industry. There are also questions about existing data centers, which have operated in the state without the exemptions being proposed now.

Leading the charge of conservatives against the legislation was the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. Rich Studley, the chamber president and CEO, lambasted the legislation repeatedly on Twitter. And it was the strong opposition from his organization that sources said had slowed efforts to pass the bills in the House.

"We are very disappointed with the Michigan Senate's decision to hastily grant hundreds of millions of dollars in sales and use tax breaks to an out-of-state company without the guarantee of a single job," Mr. Studley said a statement. "It's time for state lawmakers to stop the bait-and-switch approach to tax policy. From failed state battery credits to ineffective Hollywood film subsidies, we've seen this movie before, and it ends badly for Michigan taxpayers."

Besides Mr. Studley, the National Federation of Independent Business-Michigan ripped the bills, hitting them with criticism sure to sting usual legislative Republican allies that the legislation was Granholmian. And then prominent Republican strategist Greg McNeilly called legislation "corporate cronyism" and "sad" on his Twitter feed and made sure to mention the House and

Senate Republican caucus Twitter accounts to be sure they got the message. { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1) } (R-Cascade Township) said the legislation would "destroy" jobs.

The bills would provide a 15-year exemption from the sales tax and the use taxes at the full rate of 6 percent - a version that cleared the Senate Michigan Competitiveness Committee earlier in the day permitted only exempted 4 percent - for collocated data centers.

Senate { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1) } (R-West Olive) said the change from 4 percent to 6 percent was a result of their belief of what the House would end up doing as well.

The bills go on to specifically define "internet data center," "data center equipment," and a "collocated business." The bills were expected to apply only to collocated data centers, a relatively small number, not captive data centers, of which there are more.

But they do not include another provision the Chamber sought to have included, Tricia Kinley, senior director of tax and regulatory reform for the Chamber, said.

"In their rush to pass this legislation, senators declined to protect businesses already located in Michigan by refusing to adopt a simple amendment to close the door on the Treasury Department's relentless effort to impose the sales tax on cloud computing and data services," she said in a statement.

And Charlie Owens with the National Federation of Independent Businesses-Michigan likened the proposal to Democratic former Governor Jennifer Granholm's "failed economic development policies" that are "still haunting our state with more than \$9 billion in unclaimed credits," he said, likely referring to the now defunct Michigan Economic Growth Authority tax credits.

"While we appreciate attempts to broaden the focus of the bills to include all data center operations, the legislation is still a narrowly targeted proposal," Mr. Owens said. "We offered, in both House and Senate committees, an opportunity to make changes to these bills to broaden their scope by increasing the current small business Personal Property Tax exemption of \$80,000 of True Cash Value to \$160,000. Since more than 90 percent of all businesses in the state are small businesses ... this change would have made the proposed legislation a more broad-based economic development proposal."

But without that change, he said, NFIB Michigan cannot support their passage.

And { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1) } (R-Cascade Township) tweeted that the "corporate welfare deal" would "result in higher taxes on everyone down the road, harm Michigan's economy and destroy jobs." He later sent followers to { [HYPERLINK "https://t.co/4kCxToZ3cG"](https://t.co/4kCxToZ3cG) } for a more detailed explanation on why the "targeted tax breaks" were a bad idea.

But contrary to those opinions, the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce said it supports the legislation, recognizing that its views differ from the state chamber.

"(Our members are) excited about the potential of supporting and growing this industry in Michigan," Andy Johnston, vice president of government and corporate affairs, told Gongwer News Service in a phone interview. "Our board has been extremely supportive of the legislative package."

In committee and on the Senate floor, some senators, especially { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor), took issue with the potential loss of revenue for schools.

"(The legislation) doesn't bind us to any future payments to these companies, but it shortchanges our School Aid Fund and our General Fund and funds to our local communities that they would otherwise be getting. That's a concern," she said. "We have gone through this process many times where we have considered tax policy that makes carve-outs and special exemptions to a particular industry or a particular industry that has made it very difficult for our budget. And we have found too often in the past that the promises in the press releases don't end up being honored on the ground here."

An amendment by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1" } (D-Dearborn Heights) was adopted on the Senate floor to SB 616 that assures the appropriation of money from the General Fund to the School Aid Fund if any SAF funds were lost as a result of the legislation.

And Mr. Johnston said the GRCC's members hadn't really raised such a concern on schools.

"The question before policymakers is whether or not we want to have a competitive tax structure in order to grow this industry in Michigan. It's about making sure we do it in a way that's best for Michigan," Mr. Johnston said. "We're happy to see the Senate take action today and move the process forward."

Ms. Warren said she and the rest of her caucus wanted to get to a "yes" vote, but "we need assurances the taxpayers' monies are going to be protected, these jobs are going to be protected, that those investing in our state aren't going to be harmed by a competitor ... that doesn't have to play by the same rules."

She continued, "I can't assure my colleagues we've done our due diligence. I can't assure my constituents we're being good stewards of the taxpayer money, and I can't assure them this company is even going to come, let alone spend a dollar or hire one employee, because we have no assurances of that at this time."

To that end, Mr. Meekhof said such requirements are worth discussing, and they may become part of the final product, but for now, "It's kind of like a poker game - we have to put the ante in to be able to compete, and we put the ante in, so now we're ready to compete."

**PERSONAL PROPERTY EXEMPTION:** The chamber also passed on a 21-15 vote {  
HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61801" }<sup>[9]</sup>, which provides a 10-year exemption for eligible internet data center property if the local governments approved the exemption no later March 31 of the first year the eligible Internet data center property would be subject to the collection of those taxes, or if the local governments did not reject the exemption via resolution or ordinance by April 1, 2016.

Mr. Knezek and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) broke with the majority of their party to support the bills while Republicans { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301&locid=1" } of Sheridan, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901&locid=1" } of Whitmore Lake, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } of Grand Ledge, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80001&locid=1" } of Troy, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } of St. Clair and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } of Sterling Heights voted in opposition against the majority of their party. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301&locid=1" } (R-Midland) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) were absent.

#### Bill Would End Most Weekend In-Person Absentee Voting

Clerks could no longer be open during most weekends to process or issue absentee voter ballots, nor could they issue absentee ballots from a satellite office under a bill introduced Thursday in the Senate.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB63901" }<sup>[9]</sup>, sponsored by { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001&locid=1" } (R-Grand Blanc), the chair of the Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee, is sure to create a fury among Democrats as the latest potential salvo from Republicans to skew the electoral playing field to the GOP's advantage, coming as the Legislature also moves on a separate bill to end straight ticket voting and change the schedule for electing the Oakland County executive.

The prohibition on weekend hours to process absentee ballots or issue those ballots would begin 45 days before the election and run through Election Day, although the existing requirement that clerk offices remain open until 2 p.m. the Saturday before the election to receive absentee ballots would remain.

The bill also would prohibit city, township and village clerks from processing or issuing absentee voter ballots at satellite locations and mandate such activities only occur at the clerk's main office.

Mr. Robertson said the bill is about equal protection regarding election laws. The state should not have a patchwork of communities with some clerks opening during the weekends and having satellite offices and some not having those options.

"We want to make certain that the equal protection concerns are addressed," he said. "If you operate a satellite office in one place and not another, aren't you putting your thumb on the scale in favor of one municipality making it different than another."

But Angela Wittrock, spokesperson for the Senate Democratic Caucus, said the state should be making it easier for registered voters to cast their ballots.

"This bill, as written, appears to be nothing but another attempt to limit access to the ballot box. That's not something Senate Democrats will ever support," she said.

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope, past president of the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks and a member of the association's legislative committee, said the bill "would be a catastrophe for voters."

Lansing uses a city building on the city's south side as an additional location for voters to obtain an absentee ballot that Mr. Swope said is more convenient than the clerk's main office at City Hall in downtown Lansing. There is free, close parking, unlike City Hall.

"Taking that away doesn't seem to benefit voters in any way," he said.

The loss of weekend and non-regular hours also would cause problems, Mr. Swope said. Besides the Saturday before the election (required now by law and maintained as an exception in the bill), the Lansing clerk office also opens two Sundays before the election to handle absentee ballots.

If voters work far from their home municipality, getting to the clerk's office during regular 9 to 5 hours will be difficult, Mr. Swope said.

"Eliminating the ability to have extra hours in jurisdictions that need it to accommodate their voters just seems punitive to voters," he said. "I'm kind of flabbergasted."

Mr. Robertson said he expected his committee to take up the bill soon.

### **Straight-Ticket Voting Elimination Stalls In House Committee**

The House Elections Committee on Thursday did not report a bill that would end voters' ability to choose a party's slate of candidates with a single selection on the ballot after listening to nearly 2 hours of testimony, mostly in opposition of the legislation.

The committee met for about an hour and 15 minutes, and then went at recess for House session. At 4:30 p.m., the committee reconvened for another half an hour but did not adopt amendments nor vote to report it.

"We are going to discuss this with the committee members. There were several amendments put before us. I want to take some time to look at several of those," said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1" } (R-Alto), chair of the committee. "And take some time to digest a lot of the information we heard today and do some research on my own and come back next week and see where we go from there."

Ms. Lyons is also pushing for her bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB472401" } on "no-reason" absentee voting. Under the bill, a person would have to come show their ID to get their ballot for each election. Many testifying Thursday called for the bills to be formally linked via a tie-bar. Ms. Lyons said that is an option she is considering.

"Secure no-reason is something I am pushing, so we will continue to talk about what the best procedure and the best strategy to move forward on all of our election policy over the next ... week," she said.

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive) has said he opposes no-reason absentee legislation, but Ms. Lyons said the two are discussing the issue and will continue to do so.

She said next week is the last week bills originating in the House can pass for the first time, so she will be advocating a floor vote on the bill.

Rumors have been swirling that Ms. Lyons will run for Kent County clerk when she is term-limited out of the House next year. She said Thursday she is actually "tempted to go off the grid."

"I've got 13 months left in the House. I don't know where that will take me. It's something I have looked at, but we have an incumbent clerk there who I think has done a good job. ... I've got a lot of options," she said.

The Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks, Michigan Association of County Clerks and the Michigan Townships Association all expressed opposition to the straight-ticket elimination bill, saying it would likely create longer lines, confusion and frustration at the polls.

Sarah Bydalek, the Walker city clerk, told the committee eliminating straight-ticket voting would take the last tool out of the toolbox for clerks to help run election days more smoothly. She did say pairing the bill with HB 4724, no-reason absentee voting, would help.



However, the House bill would require a voter to come into the clerk's office each election to show ID and get their ballot in person, which she said still disenfranchises the voter. Ms. Bydalek said true no-reason absentee voting would be better.

Ms. Bydalek said the average wait time in the state is 22 minutes to vote, and that would likely double under { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB1301" }<sup>4</sup>.

"It will be chaos," she said.

Ms. Lyons said anecdotal evidence was presented by both sides of the issue, and she could not say for certain if the "chaos" described is an exaggeration or not.

Both { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=271501&locid=1" } (R-Oxford)

and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=359301&locid=1" } (R-Hillsdale) said they had never seen long lines at the polls.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=274601&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) said if rural communities and more affluent suburbs are not waiting in line at the polls, that means those who do wait are waiting much longer than 22 minutes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80001&locid=1" } (R-Troy), sponsor of SB 13, dodged questions on if he would be willing to couple the legislation with other reforms to shorten lines, such as no-reason absentee and online voter registration.

"I am focused on this particular bill," he said to questions from Democrats on the panel.

He said voters would still be able to vote for all Republicans or all Democrats if they chose to, and if voters had to wait longer so they could read all the names, that is a good thing, he said.

While Mr. Knollenberg said the bill makes elections about the actual candidates instead of political parties, Mr. Irwin countered it shouldn't be about the candidates, but the actual voters.

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318101&locid=1" } (D-Saline) said SB 13 "puts the cart before the horse" because other measures, like no-reason absentee voting, that would reduce wait times at the polls, should be implemented as well.

The bill also includes a \$1 million appropriation, which would make it referendum-proof.

Mr. Knollenberg said that could be used to educate elections workers, new voting equipment or other things. He said it was left open for the Department of State and local clerks to decide.

However, the bill stipulates the funding should be used for the following:

- Assess the impact of eliminating straight party ticket voting;
- Assist in ongoing compliance and fraud prevention in elections;
- Conduct thorough post-election audits of selected precincts after each election;
- Provide remedial follow-up with local election officials to correct any election errors and to correct any compliance issues;
- Audit file maintenance by local election officials; and
- Provide equipment to facilitate the integrity of the election process.

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope said the appropriation in the bill would provide no additional funds for clerks to address the additional cost that would come from the legislation.

Tom Frazier, with the Michigan Townships Association, said the group would remove their opposition if no-reason absentee voting was tie-barred to SB 13.

He said the state already has one of the longer ballots in the country and moving people through polling lines quickly is important. He said eliminating the option to vote straight party will make voting take longer.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316701&locid=1>" } (R-Commerce Township) also suggested during the committee that more polling precincts in communities might help move lines along faster.

However, Mr. Frazier said that is not an option because many schools are hesitant to let the general public into their buildings given various shootings that have taken place in recent years.

W. Paul Mayhue, representing the Grand Rapids group Voices Not Heard in Michigan, said the bill had "racist" undertones. And Frank Lynn, a Grand Rapids man advocating for senior citizens and people with disabilities, said the bill would disenfranchise those voters as well.

Ms. Lyons said she will thoughtfully consider those comments going forward.

Eric Doster also testified in support of the bill. Mr. Doster serves as general counsel for the Michigan Republican Party, but said he was representing himself and "democracy."

"By reducing the influence of the candidates' political parties in elections, this legislation represents an important step in helping Michigan turn the page on partisanship," he said.

Ms. Lyons said she does not think eliminating straight-ticket voting would necessarily benefit one party more than the other.

"I am from west Michigan, I have a very high Republican seat, I don't necessarily think that is the case statewide," she said of Republicans having the disadvantage when it comes to straight-ticket voting. "I think straight-ticket voting can cut both ways, which is why I don't want to view this as a party issue."

And the Michigan AFL-CIO wrote a { HYPERLINK "<http://miaflcio.org/2015/12/eliminating-straight-party-voting-could-hurt-republican-reps-like-klint-kesto-holly-hughes/>" \t "blank" } post saying two Republicans, { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219601&locid=1>" } of White River Township and { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316701&locid=1>" } of Commerce Township, benefited from straight-ticket voting.

The post notes Mr. Kesto won his seat in the 39<sup>th</sup> House District with 51.4 percent of his 16,740 total votes from straight-party ballots, and his Democratic opponent, Sandy Colvin, only received 43.3 percent of his 15,300 votes from straight-party tickets.

"Kesto defeated Colvin by a margin of 1,440 votes. His 1,984-vote margin among straight-party ballots was more than enough to put him over the top," the blog said.

Ms. Hughes' close election tells a similar story, the blog said, as she received 47.5 percent of her 12,734 total votes from straight-party ballots, while her opponent - former Rep. Colleen Lamonte (D-Montague) - received 45 percent of her 12,681 total votes from straight-party tickets.

"Hughes defeated Lamonte by a margin of just 53 votes, which made her 343-vote advantage among straight-party tickets decisive," the blog said.

#### Deficit Districts Decline; 11 Headed For Preliminary Review

The number of deficit districts has declined for the first time since 2002-03 and 20 districts emerged from deficit at the end of the most recent school year, { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393401&locid=1>" } reported Thursday, but 11 deficit districts are also now slated for preliminary review by the Department of Treasury under the new early warning system for financially distressed schools.

Only five new deficit districts - the Bay City Academy in the Bay-Arenac ISD, Tahquamenon Area Schools in the Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD, Sarah J. Webber Media Arts Academy in Oakland Schools, Posen Consolidated School District #9 in the Cheboygan-Otsego-Presque Isle ESD, and Gaudior Academy in the Wayne RESA - joined the list in 2014-15, the fewest since 2002-03.

Twenty-one districts were able to reduce their deficits in 2014-15.

All told, the state dropped from 56 deficit districts in the 2013-14 school year to 41 at the end of June. Under the new structure of the early warning system, 24 of those deficit districts will stay

with the Department of Education while the other 17 will be under the oversight of the Department of Treasury.

And 11 of those districts have deficit elimination plans projected to take longer than five years, subjecting themselves to the preliminary review. The highest projected end balance of those schools goes to Hazel Park City School District, part of Oakland Schools, which projects to have a 25.1 percent deficit based on revenue as of June 30, 2016.

Following Hazel Park is Mackinaw City Public Schools (24 percent deficit), Flint Community Schools (14.9 percent), Westwood Community Schools in the Wayne RESA (12.4 percent), Mount Clemens Community School District (10.9 percent), Lincoln Consolidated Schools (3.3 percent), Bridgeport Spaulding Community School District (2.5 percent), Vanderbilt Area Schools (0.2 percent) and Southgate Community School District at 0 percent deficit.

Also on that list of 11 is New Haven Community Schools, which projects to come out of its deficit with a 0.4 percent fund balance at the end of this school year, and Clintondale Community Schools, which projects a 1.1 percent fund balance.

While most of the members of a joint committee of the House and Senate Appropriations School Aid subcommittees were pleased with the progress, some were still cautious.

"It's discouraging to see that schools under our watch are growing deficits," { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401&locid=1>" } (R-Saginaw Township), chair of the House subcommittee, said.

But Mr. Whiston said he will continue to work with the administration to ensure all districts, especially those in deficit, will not fall by the wayside. One key to that, he said, will be to ensure those schools losing students and thus putting themselves at further risk of financial instability can at least maintain, or even attract, students based on their academic offerings.

"If you're losing kids on a constant basis and you're making cuts, you're losing programs parents want. We have to improve educational offering so more kids come back," Mr. Whiston said. "We have to find that balance between balancing budgets and offering an education program that entices people to stay or come back to that district."

And he said he is working with various school officials on such issues.

But { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1>" } (R-Saint Clair) still had some concerns. He questioned how some schools getting substantially more in a foundation allowance could continue to have performance issues if finances are following quality as Mr. Whiston and { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393601&locid=1>" } suggested.

"There are additional dollars going into the school buildings that have poor academic performance, yet that performance isn't following the dollars," Mr. Pavlov said.

"In these days with limited resources, we look for ways to provide economies of scale, to provide the services more efficiently," Mr. Khouri said, but that doesn't always work out, Mr. Whiston added.

"And that's okay," Mr. Whiston said, noting that the state will be in a continual process of development with these schools and, consequently, their students.

And { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=207001&locid=1>" } (D-Saint Clair Shores) suggested it might be worth reviewing schools of choice, especially the way in which a charter school, for example, can open a new building whenever it wants for whatever reason, which then draws students out of other buildings and increases the financial distress for districts, she said.

### Senate Panel Told Reform Office Has Tools To Pursue School Improvements

Since being moved to the Executive Office earlier this year from the Department of Education, the state's School Reform Office has the tools it needs to help drive Michigan's worst schools to improve, the Senate Education Committee was told Thursday, as the office can focus now on working with district superintendents and use data to better drive improvements.

Committee members pressed Karen McPhee, { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" }'s education policy director, and Natasha Baker, the state's school reform officer, to say if the strategy the state was pursuing now to deal with Michigan's worst performing schools means the strategies used since 2010 had failed.

"We are refocusing the effort," Ms. McPhee said to chair { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1>" } (R-St. Clair). The state cannot solve the problems of its lowest performing schools without fully understanding what the dynamics are that drive problems, she said, and "it takes tremendous capacity to do that."

And the state was somewhat caught during those previous years trying to improve its poorest schools while also competing with other states for promises of major federal funding for school improvement efforts, she and Ms. Baker said.

The state now has 214 schools designated as priority schools. While the largest number is in southeast Michigan, the schools are spread across the state. Most tend to be in urban districts. A total of 100,000 students attend those schools.

Since the state began identifying in 2010 the lowest performing schools - those in the lowest 5 percent of all schools - there have 331 marked as priority schools. Of those, 73 closed and 44 released after improving.

Earlier in 2015, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } issued an executive order moving the school reform office out of the Department of Education into the Executive Office. The move was greeted with some controversy, especially as Mr. Snyder has promoted efforts such as the Education Achievement Authority in Detroit that has been under ongoing fire and has been investigated by law enforcement.

But Ms. Baker said since the move, the office has been better able to customize its efforts to work with districts and the individual schools.

One step she has taken is to work with the district superintendents more than the individual school buildings. "We are more triage, more like an emergency room," she said.

While the department can work with the specific building personnel, her office sends the superintendent data on a variety of factors, including attendance, every six to eight weeks.

"We can customize intervention based on data," Ms. Baker said.

She and Ms. McPhee also said that while other states have had greater success in terms of turning schools around, it was important for Michigan to develop its own plan to fix low performing schools.

Even so, one of the primary elements of making that fix will be to focus on actual instruction, they said.

### Midwives Bill Clears House Despite Physician Opposition

A bill establishing licensing criteria for midwives in Michigan passed the House on Thursday despite the two physicians currently serving in the House opposing the legislation.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB459801" }

☐ cleared the House 79-25. Both { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=333201&locid=1" } (R-Sebewaing) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355401&locid=1" } (R-Battle Creek) voted in opposition. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=205001&locid=1" } (R-Gaines Township) also voted no and was originally a co-sponsor.

During the committee process, Mr. Yonker said he may remove his support on the floor because of concerns about cost.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan), the bill's sponsor, said he would continue to work with stakeholders in the Senate,

including those in the medical profession. He said many stakeholders came to him at the final hour asking him to wait on the bill.

Mr. Canfield said he does not want to limit a person's choice, but he is hesitant to license someone "who has a very limited education."

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs would license a person for midwifery if they paid the posted fees and met the following criteria:

- Received a high school diploma or passed the general educational development diploma test or any other high school graduate equivalency examination approved by the board;
- Completed an educational program or pathway accredited by the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council or a successor organization;
- Holds the credential of certified professional midwife from the North American Registry of Midwives or holds an equivalent credential from another accredited midwifery training program approved by the Michigan Board of Licensed Midwifery created in the bill; and
- Successfully passes an examination approved by LARA in consultation with the board.

The fee for the license under the bill is \$200. There is also a \$450 one-time, start-up fee to get the program going. However, that fee is expected to drop to \$75 after the department covers its costs to start the licensure program.

#### Flint Blood Lead Survey Results Released By State

Since October 1, data indicates that 30 adults and children of 1,361 tested in Flint had elevated blood lead levels, the state said Thursday in releasing its first report as part of the state's efforts to assist in resolving the Flint water crisis.

The state called on helping the city deal with health issues as part of its efforts to restore safer drinking water to the city.

In October, after more than a year of the city getting its drinking water from the Flint River - it ended a contract with the Detroit Water and Sewerage System largely over cost issues and is working on a new water system that will draw from Lake Huron - and after more than a year of complaints on taste, smell and safety of the water, the city switched back to Detroit water when it was discovered lead levels in some children were elevated because of the water system.

In the { HYPERLINK "[http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3313\\_3675\\_73946---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3313_3675_73946---,00.html)" \t "blank" }, the Department of Health and Human Services said 969 children were tested and 21 showed elevated lead levels. Another 392 adults were tested and nine had elevated levels.

The report also showed the number of Flint children with higher lead levels declined during the summer months this year - lead levels tend to be higher in the summer, the report said - to 6.4 percent from 7.5 percent a year ago.

However, in 2013, before the city switched from Detroit water to the Flint River, the percentage stood at 4.1 percent. That was down from percentages as high as 8.3 percent in 2010.

### Senate Passes Aviation Fuel Tax Changes

Airports in the state would receive state funding to help with repair and maintenance costs under legislation approved by the Senate on Thursday.

The bills ({ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB41801" }<sup>[9]</sup>,  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB42501" }<sup>[9]</sup>,  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB42601" }<sup>[9]</sup>,  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61201" }<sup>[9]</sup>,  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61301" }<sup>[9]</sup>  
and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61401" }<sup>[9]</sup>)  
would dedicate 2 percent of the sales tax on aviation fuel with to aviation purposes and split  
those funds, as well as the current 3 cents per gallon tax, between the Aeronautics Fund,  
overseen by the Aeronautics Commission, and the Qualified Airport Fund, which provides for  
capital projects at certain airports.

"This is a matter of fairness," { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201&locid=1" } (R-Traverse  
City), sponsor of most of the legislation, said in a statement. "The legislation makes sure  
Michigan's airports - including those in Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula - receive the  
needed funding for routine maintenance and repairs."

The new fund would appropriate to the state's airports via a formula based on volume of air  
traffic and resources used.

"As chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, I've fought to  
secure additional dollars in this year's budget for the airport improvement program to help  
support projects at our local airports," { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" } (R-Hart),  
sponsor of SB 613, said. "Passage of this legislation will create a reliable, dedicated funding  
source for the State Aeronautics Fund that will ensure the continued safety and efficiency of  
Michigan's aviation system."



## House Panel Considers Requiring Civics Test For High School Students

Students would be required to take a civics test similar to the test taken for immigrants to become citizens under a bill the House Education Committee debated Thursday.

Under { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413601](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413601)" }  
all Michigan students would have to take the test and pass with 60 percent in order to receive their high school diploma. The test must include only identical questions to some or all of the civics portion of the naturalization test.

If a student does not receive 60 percent, they could retake the test as many times as necessary. Local school districts are permitted under the bill to determine when and how to administer the test, and what questions to use.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=351701&locid=1>" } (R-Shelby Township), sponsor of the bill, said students should be required to know the information on the test, as they are "privileged" enough to be born in the United States and will eventually be the ones working in state and federal government.

"We are trying to accomplish the basic elements that a non-citizen has to perform," he said. "If we are going to have a real dear desire and appreciation of American government, we should be able to pass basic questions that an immigrant, who so proudly and privileged wants to be a member of this country, (can pass)."

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371701&locid=1>" } (R-Holland), vice chair of the Education Committee, said social studies standards in the state already include a civics component. She also noted the lack of civics understanding among students is one of many crises in education, including reading proficiency.

She also said there is a fundamental problem about civics understanding and told the committee her own retired government teacher called her "congresswoman" the last time they spoke.

"If we expect our students to know, we first and foremost need our teachers to understand," she said.

Bob Kefgen, with the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals, said the group is opposed to the bill. Mr. Kefgen said the naturalization test does not represent what they want students to know.

He said the questions on the test would mostly involve students memorizing facts, and they would like to see students analyzing and critiquing concepts.

But { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1>" } (R-Levering) countered students cannot analyze and critique what they do not know.

"You can only analyze something that you know. You can only critique something that you know," he said. "Before we teach kids how to read, normally we make them memorize the alphabet. Before kids can analyze their government and how it operates, and critique it ... they have to know it. And the fact is, they don't."

The committee did not act on the bill.

### Hansen Still Hopeful On DPS Solution

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1) } on Thursday said he remained optimistic about introducing legislation to resolve Detroit Public Schools' \$715 million debt problem even as a legislative week passed without the introduction of any such legislation.

"We're hoping to do it before the first of the year. I think we're close on that with some changes that were made, and I think by the first of the year we should be able to put it in," Mr. Hansen (R-Hart) said. "We're waiting for some drafts right now. I want to see how it's written and then shop it with some of my colleagues."

Mr. Hansen said there seems to be consensus on the number at hand - estimated by { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) } to be \$715 million over 10 years - but there are other "ancillary things" like governance where discussions are still being had.

"Somewhere in there," Mr. Hansen said on the number by Mr. Snyder. "It's like when we got to the point with the road funding that all the sudden \$1.2 billion was the number and ... then we worked on how we get there."

He said he was first able to present some of his ideas to the caucus earlier this week but has otherwise been very tight-lipped with only a handful of relevant players like Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan, legislators, emergency managers, the school board president and various foundations, among others.

Mr. Hansen said there were a lot of questions from his caucus, but "I think people are willing to be part of the solution," he said. "But it has to be the right solution. We have to make sure we have things in place to make sure it doesn't go way back into the same issues."

And ensuring it is the right solution will remain paramount throughout the process, he said.

"We're trying to be very sensitive to my Detroit colleagues, working with them, trying to make sure that this is Detroit's solution," Mr. Hansen said. "It's not Lansing's solution. It has to be Detroit's solution."

### House Republicans Sign Letter Urging Disapproval Of Planned Parenthood Grant

About 30 House Republicans on Thursday signed a letter asking the State Administrative Board not to approve a \$1.2 million grant increase to Planned Parenthood because it goes against the "spirit" of a budget amendment adopted this year.

On December 8, the Finance and Claims Committee of the State Administrative Board will take up a grant increase for Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan. The increase will come from the restricted dollars in the Maternal Children's Health Fund (8 percent); federal funding (35 percent); fees generating through the clinic (49 percent) and local dollars (8 percent).

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306001&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306001&locid=1) } (R-Midland), joined by { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=280701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=280701&locid=1) } (R-Byron Center), who sponsored the budget amendment saying the state will not allocate funding to Planned Parenthood, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201&locid=1) } (R-Pottersville), { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1) } (R-Levering) and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358801&locid=1) } (R-Livonia), among others, are urging the grant to not be increased.

"We believe this is a clear violation of the spirit of the budget amendment that was voted on and passed by the Legislature during the last appropriations process," the letter reads.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1) } (R-Stevensville), chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said the grant increase does not go against the budget.

When the amendment was adopted, House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1) } (R-Mount Pleasant) said no clinics would lose money because of the amendment. He said during the last two budgets Planned Parenthood had not received any state dollars (See { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=540840103"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=540840103) } ).

The committee is scheduled to meet at 11 a.m. on December 8.

#### Former Aramark Worker Convicted In Assault For Hire Plot With Inmate

An ex-employee of Aramark, the state's former prison food service provider, has been convicted of trying to recruit an inmate to orchestrate the assault of another inmate.

A statement from the Department of Attorney General said Michael Robert Young, 27, of Kincheloe, was convicted in the 91<sup>st</sup> District Court on one felony charge of Solicitation to Commit Assault with Intent to Cause Great Bodily Harm.

Mr. Young was an employee of Aramark at the Kinross Correctional Facility at the time of the crime. The inmate he wanted assaulted was housed in a different prison.

The inmate whom Mr. Young was convicted of trying to have assaulted was in prison for murdering one of Mr. Young's family members. But the inmate Mr. Young asked to arrange the incident instead reported the conversation to prison officials.

"No matter the situation, our system of justice demands that individuals not take the law into their own hands, for revenge or any other reason," { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } said in a statement.

Mr. Young faces up to five years in prison. No sentencing date has been set.

### Senate Remembers Rosetta Ferguson

Days after her funeral, the Senate briefly memorialized former Rep. Rosetta Ferguson, who became known for one of the most controversial incidents in legislative history during her 10 years in the House.

The House is planning to memorialize Ms. Ferguson, who died on November 18 aged 95, at a later time. The Senate acted after { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1" } (D-Southfield) asked to remember her.

Ms. Ferguson was born in Florence, Mississippi, and will be buried there. She attended schools in Mississippi, New Orleans and Detroit, and spent much of her career in business. She was politically active for the Democratic Party before being elected to the House in 1968.

Among the issues Ms. Ferguson was proudest of was legislation requiring that textbooks purchased and used in Michigan schools fairly recognize the history and accomplishments of all ethnic groups.

But she became best known for her ferocious opposition to drugs, especially the legalization of marijuana, and abortion.

Her intensity against the two was so strident, she said in a long speech on the House floor in the 1970s - when the House debated legislation imposing just a civil fine on the use of marijuana - that if she could find a way to let white people have drugs and abortion but save African-Americans from them she would do it.

It was during those debates on marijuana that Ms. Ferguson became known for the "ashtray incident."

The debates took place over an intense series of days. The late former Rep. Perry Bullard of Ann Arbor - who everyone acknowledged was brilliant but extremely short-tempered - was leading

the effort to loosen penalties on marijuana. He was a controversial figure who had taken part in Ann Arbor's notorious hash bashes.

During one of the debates, former Rep. Matthew McNeely, also now gone, gave an impassioned speech against marijuana, focusing on his son who had died following drug addictions. Ms. Ferguson sobbed so loudly during the speech that she was led from the chamber to compose herself.

On one day, the House approved the marijuana measure. On the next, after reconsideration, it defeated the bill.

After the bill failed, a furious Mr. Bullard stormed over to Ms. Ferguson and accused her of lying in one of her speeches on the issue. He turned to leave and Ms. Ferguson - who was a heavy smoker in the days when smoking was allowed on the floor - grabbed her glass ashtray and threw it at Mr. Bullard, hitting him in the head, while she screamed he was a drug user.

Of course, the House exploded in an uproar. Mr. Bullard turned to charge back at her, and Ms. Ferguson was ready for him. Other members intervened, blocking the two. Mr. Bullard regained his composure as he was led away, but other members had to restrain Ms. Ferguson.

A famous photograph of the aftermath shows Mr. Bullard, head slightly bowed, being led away by former Rep. Gil DiNello (who died in the 1990s) while others hold on to Ms. Ferguson who was continuing to shout.

Both lawmakers later apologized to the House. Some months later, the last reconsideration vote on the bill was held - around much joking that the House had ordered all ashtrays glued to the desks - and while the debate was pointed, it never reached the fever pitch it had earlier. The bill failed in that attempt, and until the passage of the state's medical marijuana act in 2008, there were no serious efforts to change marijuana laws following the 1977 debates.

Ms. Ferguson decided not to seek re-election in 1978 but remained active in the anti-abortion movement.

### House Committee Votes To Change Electrician-Apprentice Ratio


The ratio of apprentices to master or journeyman electricians on jobsites would go from one-to-one to three-to-one under a bill reported Thursday by the House Workforce and Talent Development Committee.

As originally introduced, the bill would have gone with a two to one ratio and only allowed three to one if one of the apprentices met certain training thresholds.

{ HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB481301](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB481301)" }

☐ cleared the committee on an 8-6 party-line vote.

Also winning approval on a party-line 8-6 vote was { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB455201" } , which would require school counselors to receive at least 25 hours of professional development on college preparation and selection and another 25 hours on career counseling prior to having their credentials renewed since the credential was last authorized.

The professional development courses would have to be approved by the Department of Education.

### Regional Unemployment Rates Mostly Unchanged

October saw little change in regional unemployment rates across the state.

The Detroit-Warren-Livonia region reported the largest unemployment rate increase among the seven regions with increases, going from 5.7 percent to 6.3 percent. The Bay City region reported a decline of 0.1 percentage point. Jobless rates in the remaining nine areas were unchanged.

Ottawa County reported the lowest unemployment at 3 percent, leading 15 counties with rates below 4 percent. Schoolcraft County had the highest unemployment rate at 8.6 percent, followed by Wayne County at 7.7 percent. Oakland's rate was 5.1 percent and Macomb was 6 percent.

### Canvassers Reject Snyder Recall Petition

Detroit Pastor Angelo Scott Brown said he is not yet done trying to oust { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } for his handling of the Flint water crisis, after the Board of State Canvassers issued its second unanimous rejection of a proposed recall petition.

Mr. Brown has officially submitted three recall petitions against the governor, but withdrew the second before the board took it up.

"I've done recall petitions before. I know it's a process," Mr. Brown said after the vote. "I'll refine my words."

But he argued the board, two Republicans and two Democrats, was too easily rejecting his language. "We're getting to the point where we're insulting the intelligence of the people of Michigan," he said.

In his testimony to the board, he said the governor's response to his language amounted to a personal attack.

"He's hinting at my intelligence rather than the content of the petition. ... There's a lot of mean-spirited things," he said of the response. "That's not clarity and the facts of the petition."

Mr. Brown said his petition language was clear and, as required, laid out a factual basis for removing Mr. Snyder from office.

"{ [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } in 2015 the first nine months did not take the right action when it came to the drinking water crisis in the city of Flint in the meantime the people of Flint were put at risk from harmful corrosive water and lead { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } did not protect taxpayers did not ensure the residents basic service of clean water," the hand-written petition said.

"I think the reasoning is clear and it is the fact," Mr. Brown told the board.

John Pirich, attorney for Mr. Snyder, said the petition was largely opinion.

"It's neither factual nor accurate," Mr. Pirich said of Mr. Brown's first assertion that Mr. Snyder did not take proper actions regarding Flint water. "It's an opinion, plain and simple."

The same was true, he said, of the assertion that the governor did not protect taxpayers.

As to leaving Flint residents at risk from corrosive water and lead, "it fails to connect what governor Snyder did or failed to do," he said.

Mr. Pirich also took issue with the assertion that his rebuttals were personal attacks. "It's not based on character assassination," he said. "It's based on what was filed."

The board found that Mr. Brown's petition was not factual and so did not meet the requirements in the statute.

**OUT-OF-STATE CIRCULATORS:** The board continued its discussion Thursday on how to address the new requirement that allows essentially any adult to circulate petitions.

In response to court rulings that overturned the state's requirement that petition circulators be registered to vote in the state, new law requires that the petitions carry a check box to indicate that the circulator is not a Michigan resident.

The board appeared united in the idea that, where a non-resident does not check the box indicating that, the petitions are invalid. But there appeared some split on the notion that petitions would be invalid if a Michigan resident did check the box.

"Check boxes are tricky things," Elections Director Christopher Thomas said. "Sometimes they are missed. Sometimes people check them all to be safe."

Mr. Thomas said the law is clear that non-residents have to check the box, but it does not address what happens if a resident does.

"It just seems harsh," board member Julie Matuzak said. "I hate to discount all of those signatures because someone was trying to do a good job."

But board member Colleen Pero said the petition also makes it a crime to provide false information. "At the end of the day, they are incompatible," she said of being a resident and indicating one is not.

There was some agreement, though, to bold or enlarge the words "If the circulator is not a resident of Michigan" to bring attention both to the box and who should mark it.

In response to questions, Mr. Thomas said the law mandates minimum font sizes and does not speak to bolding.

"I never heard anyone complain about a font being too big," Mr. Thomas said.

The hitch with the new law may come in the requirement that circulators provide a home address.

The first petition filed to carry the new language was the recent prevailing wage repeal attempt. Mr. Thomas said the petitions, which fell to evidence of massive duplication of signatures, showed relatively high compliance with the new residency indication.

But Mr. Pirich, who represented the opposition that helped to uncover the signature duplications, said the circulator addresses were also problematic.

"We were unable to locate over half of the out-of-state circulators," he said, adding that many listed addresses, and sometimes cities, that did not exist.

"Without some enforcement, I'm not sure how we're ever going to know that this is being done correctly," he said.

Mr. Thomas said an improper address for the circulator would be a reason to challenge a petition, but he indicated that, absent a requirement that circulators be registered to vote, it would be difficult for his bureau to check the addresses.

"We all know residency is Jello on the wall sometimes," he said.

Mr. Thomas said campaign finance disclosures would have to provide the mailing addresses of any circulators paid more than \$50, even if they were hired by a signature gathering firm.

"You could certainly be talking about a fraudulent situation if these people put down false names and false addresses," he said.

It would not, though, help in keeping an issue off the ballot because the information would be available too late in the process. To questions from board members, he said the Legislature could require that the filings be made sooner, but he said that requirement might be difficult to meet.



**EXPIRING SIGNATURES:** The board also began discussing concerns over the process for verifying signatures on petitions where signatures begin expiring. The board's current policy requires, in some cases, obtaining an affidavit both from the signer and from the local clerk that the person was registered to vote at the time he or she signed the petition.

Jeffrey Hank, an attorney representing one of the marijuana legalization efforts, urged the board to reconsider that policy, adopted in 1986, and instead use the Qualified Voter File as the check on those registrations.

"Using the QVF is the simplest and makes the most sense," Mr. Hank said. "What we would propose is simply submitting a QVF report and someone signing an affidavit that they prepared the QVF report."

Mr. Thomas said the system would provide the historical information.

But Mr. Pirich said the change would require statute, not merely a policy from the board.

Mr. Thomas said at least some of the change could come through policy. "It's not really self executing. It needs something," he said of the statutory provision.

**NEW PARTY:** The board did approve the form of a petition to add the Working Class Party to the ballot.

#### Campaign Notes

**RUBIO PLANS WEDNESDAY RALLY IN WATERFORD:** U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida brings his presidential campaign back to Michigan next Wednesday and will hold a 4:15 p.m. rally at the Oakland County International Airport in Waterford Township.

#### Capital Notebook

#### **FLAGS LOWERED:** { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } on Thursday ordered state and U.S. flags lowered to half-staff in the Capitol Complex until sunset Monday in memory of those killed and injured in Wednesday's San Bernardino, California, mass shooting in which 14 died and 21 were hurt. Mr. Snyder encouraged all residents and organizations to lower their flags as well.

**ELK POACHING:** The Department of Natural Resources announced Thursday that it is seeking information on the person who killed a large bull elk last month. The carcass was found November 16 near Lewiston.

Anyone with information can call DNR Law Enforcement Division at the Gaylord Customer Service Center at (989) 732-3541, extension 5100, or the Report All Poaching Line at (800) 292-7800.

## Appointments By The Governor

**BOARD OF MEDICINE:** Michael Chrissos of Ann Arbor succeeds Richard Burney, and Mohammed Arsiwala of Novi, Rosalie Tocco-Bradley of Ann Arbor, Louis Prues of Grosse Pointe Park, James Rogers of Williamsburg and Dennis Szymanski of Benton Harbor are reappointed. The appointments are for terms expiring December 31, 2019, and are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION:** Laura Reyes-Kopack of Livonia succeeds Augustin Arbulu, who resigned, to represent Republicans for the remainder of a term expiring December 31, 2016, and Rasha Demaskieh of Fort Gratiot and Deloris Hunt of Farmington Hills are reappointed for terms expiring December 31, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD:** Yvonne Bradley of Bay City, Elizabeth Pollard Hines of Ann Arbor and Jeffrey Sauter of Grand Ledge are reappointed, all for terms expiring December 4, 2018. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**GAMING CONTROL BOARD:** Patrick McQueen of Bloomfield Hills and Andrew Palms of Chelsea are reappointed for terms expiring December 31, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT:** Tana Bridges of Canton succeeds Gary Anderson to represent health and mental health professionals; John Hohman Jr. of Saline succeeds Kenneth Tacoma to represent judges and attorneys; and Veda Thompkins of Detroit succeeds Larry Watkins, who resigned, to represent the law enforcement community.

Robinjit Eagleson of East Lansing, Fred Gruber of Riverview and Nick Lyon of Lansing are reappointed. Ms. Thompkins will serve the remainder of a term expiring December 31, 2016. The remaining terms, which are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, expire December 31, 2018.

**MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSION COUNCIL:** Milton Mack of Wayne succeeds John Hohman Jr., who resigned, to represent the State Court Administrative Office for the remainder of a term expiring January 30, 2016. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**MICHIGAN VETERANS' FACILITIES BOARD OF MANAGERS:** Paul Potter of Grand Rapids succeeds Ernest Meyers, who resigned, to represent Veterans of Foreign Wars. The appointment is for a term expiring February 28, 2017, and is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

**Friday, December 4**

Waterways Commission, Morris Learning Center, First Floor, Museum Archives Wing, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/Waterways12-16-2015.docx" \t "\_blank" })

**Monday, December 7**

Utility Consumer Participation Board, Training Room, Fourth Floor, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 12:30 p.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/UCPB\_Agenda\_12-7-15.doc" \t "\_blank" })

**Thursday, December 10**

Certificate of Need Commission, Rooms B/C, First Floor Conference Center, Capitol View Building, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/Agenda\_-\_TENTATIVE\_12.10\_507480\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }); { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/DRAFT\_CON-213\_CON\_Rev\_Std\_MRI\_for\_Proposed\_Action\_12.10.15\_mtg\_507481\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

~~Canceled: Complete Streets Advisory Council, Capitol Commons Center, 400 South Pine Street, Lansing, 2 p.m.~~

**Subscribers Please Note**


A story in the Wednesday Michigan Report incorrectly described bills addressing aviation fuel taxes. The bills as reported dedicate 2 percent of the sales and use tax on aviation fuel to the aviation funds.

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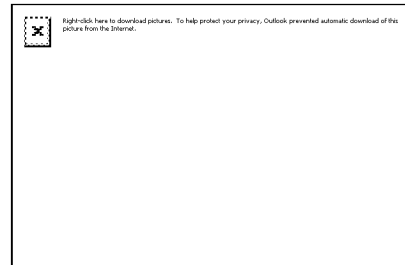
**From:** Michigan Radio <michiganradiomarketing@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2015 3:50 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Lead in Flint's water; Art in the aisles



Water samples from Flint (L) and Detroit (R). Photo: Steve Carmody

**"I want them to quit poisoning their citizens."**

The water in Flint is likely poisoning kids. That's what pediatricians in the city say, after looking at lead levels in young children before and after the city switched its drinking water supply from the Detroit water system to the Flint River. Sarah Hulett looks at the impact it may be having on children in the city.



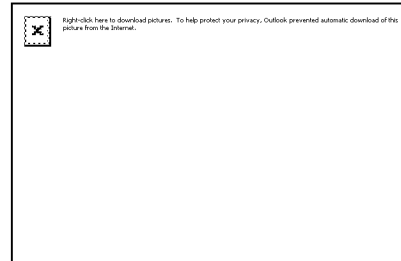
## Guerilla artist makes sculptures inside big box stores

Photo: Doug Coombe

Would this sculpture catch your eye in the underwear department? Carson Brown is a visual artist from Grand Rapids who wants to make people think critically about what he calls the American landscape of consumerism. Is it art...or just a pile of stuff? Kyle Norris has [the story](#).

## Volkswagen dodged clean air rules with emissions software

By now you've probably heard of the growing scandal involving Volkswagen's "clean diesel" vehicles. The CEO of VW resigned earlier this week and the company is facing billions in fines from the EPA. Michigan Radio's Tracy Samilton [first reported the story for NPR last Friday](#), and the *Diane Rehm Show* [examined what the scandal means](#) for consumers and the car industry.

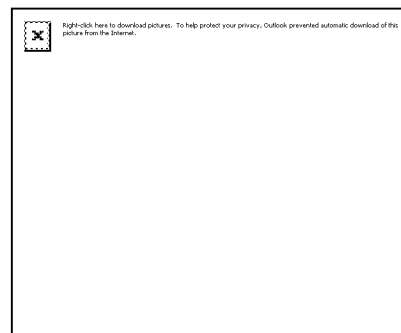


The main entrance gate at the Volkswagen production plant in Wolfsburg, Germany. Photo: Alexander Koerner/Getty Images.

## Upcoming Michigan Radio Event

Michigan Radio's West Michigan Member Mixer  
Sunday, Oct. 4, Noon-2:00 PM  
Grand Rapids Art Museum

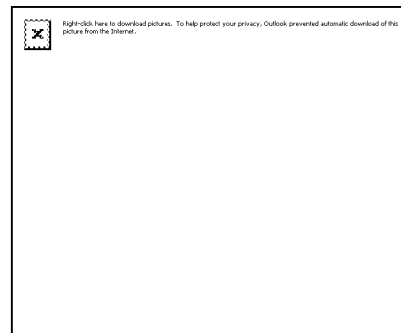
Join us for our West Michigan Member Mixer and ArtPrize festivities. Stop by the Grand Rapids Art Museum on Sunday, October 4, to enjoy refreshments and to meet some of the Michigan Radio staff. [Click here to register.](#)



## Featured Event

ArtPrize  
Now through Oct. 11 in Downtown Grand Rapids

ArtPrize kicked off this week with over 1500 pieces of public art on display all throughout downtown Grand Rapids. Michigan Radio is proud to once again serve as a media sponsor. [Get more information and plan your visit.](#)



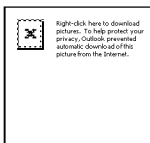
## Thank you!

We are grateful to the 4,957 listeners who donated more than \$553,000 to Michigan Radio during our recent fall fund drive. This show of support from new sustaining donors as well as renewing members is greatly appreciated by all of us here at Michigan Radio. Thank you again for your generosity and support!

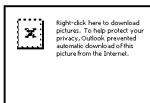
P.S. If you missed the fund drive don't worry...[you can still make your gift now.](#)

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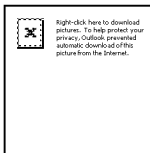
## This Week's Top Michigan Radio Features



[Is Muskegon Heights too violent to host a high school football game?](#)



[Meet my new nemesis: the invasive fruit fly swarming Michigan berry crops](#)



[Gov. Snyder launches a new political action committee, looks to find a new group of GOP lawmakers](#)

[The "guns-under-any-circumstances" crowd is making a strategic mistake](#)

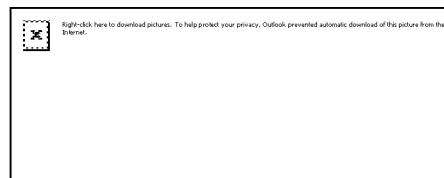
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## Stateside Highlights

["Shame on us" if we're not a top 10 school system in 10 years, says Michigan's school superintendent](#)

Just about every measurement shows that all groups of Michigan students are losing ground academically compared to their peers in other states. [More.](#)

[Documentary tells story of Flint's T-Rex](#)

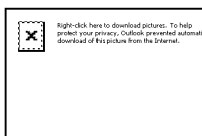


One of the breakout stars of the 2012 summer Olympics in London was a teenage girl from Flint. [More.](#)

Listen to [Stateside with Cynthia Canty](#) Monday through Thursday at 3 PM and 10 PM.

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## Weekend Highlights

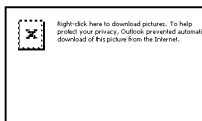


### The Moth

**Sat 12 pm and 8 pm**

"Boyhood"

A preacher's kid steals money from his grandfather and a former child soldier navigates a New York high school.

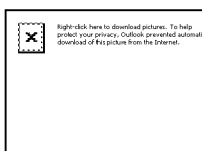


### Snap Judgment

**Sat 2 pm and 9p**

"The Brass Ring"

Stories about the amazing lengths people go to when reaching for the prize.

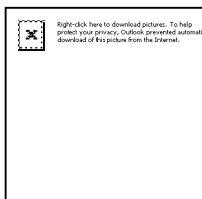


### Ask me Another

**Sat 4 pm**

"Sonia Manzano: These Are The Muppets In Your Neighborhood"

After 44 years as "Maria" on Sesame Street, Sonia Manzano talks about retiring from the show.



### On Being with Krista Tippett

**Sun 7 am and 10 pm**

"Asteroids, Stars, and the Love of God"

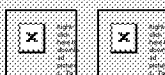
Fresh off the Pope's visit, this hour two Vatican astronomers share the way they think of life, faith, and the Universe.

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## Bonus Click

"It's deja vu all over again!"

Yogi Berra, the New York Yankees Hall of Fame baseball player, died Tuesday at age 90. He was known for his skills as a catcher... and his catchphrases. Here's a sample of [some of our favorites.](#)



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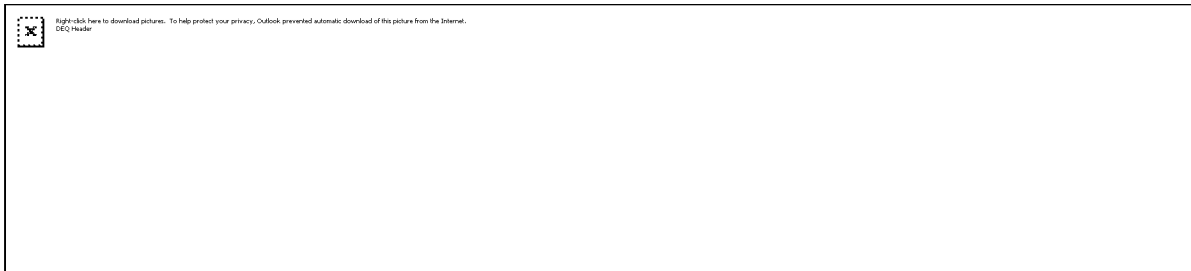
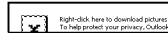


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**From:** Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
<MIDEQ@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 01, 2015 5:22 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** [DEQ] Michigan leaders to announce action plan for Flint drinking water

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Oct. 1, 2015

## Michigan leaders to announce action plan for Flint drinking water

### Friday, Oct. 2 at 1:30 p.m.

Local, state and federal leaders will host a press conference to announce a comprehensive action plan for addressing drinking water concerns in Flint. Participants will include:

- Harvey Hollins, Director of the Office of Urban Initiatives for Gov. Rick Snyder
- Dan Wyant, Director for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- Nick Lyon, Director for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- Dr. Eden Wells, Chief Medical Executive for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- Dayne Walling, Mayor of Flint
- Other local, state and federal officials

Location:

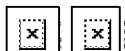
Kettering University, Innovation Center  
1300 Bluff St.  
Flint, MI 48504

**This is a media event open to credentialed news media only. Media who plan to attend this event should RSVP by noon Friday.** Contact Rosemarie Olszewski at 517-284-6700 or [olszewskir@michigan.gov](mailto:olszewskir@michigan.gov).



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**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Foul Water; Humiliation No More; and much more

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## New Columns at Award-Winning

**Dome Magazine**

**October 2, 2015**



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Listed  
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Dome's  
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Guide**

[See It](#)

**Jack Lessenberry: Foul Water**

Flint residents suffer from E. Coli and high chlorine & lead levels. [Read](#)

**Tom Watkins: Humiliation No More**

Different Views of the World [Read](#)

**Continuing from September 25, 2015**

**Lawrence Glazer: Prison Reform: An Idea Whose Time Has Come**

Fiscal realities bring conservatives and progressives together. [Read](#)

**Eric Freedman: Don't Know Nuff About History**

Michigan's stories are the building blocks of its future. [Read](#)

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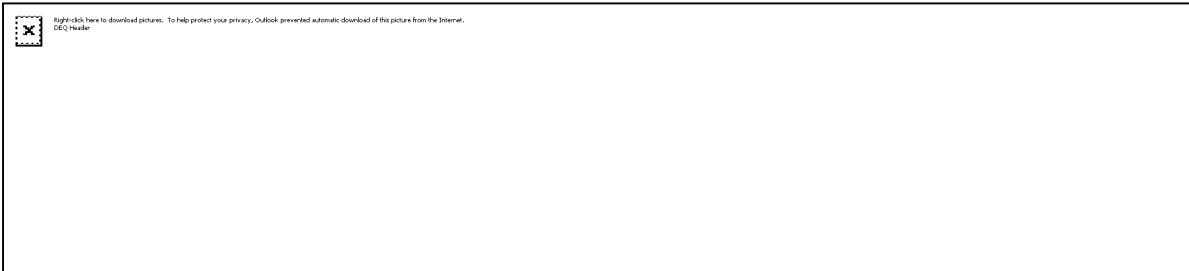
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**Sent:** Friday, October 02, 2015 1:41 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** [DEQ] Gov. Rick Snyder: Comprehensive action plan will help Flint residents address water concerns

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Comprehensive action plan will help Flint residents address water concerns**

*Collaborative effort with state, federal and city leaders focuses on testing, assistance*

Oct. 2, 2015

For More Information:

[Sara Wurfel](#) or [Dave Murray](#)  
Governor's Office: 517-335-6397

[Brad Wurfel](#), 517-284-6713  
Department of Environmental Quality

[Jennifer Eisner](#), 517-230-9804  
Department of Health and Human Services

FLINT, Mich. – Flint residents need to have access to safe, clean, water now and long into the future, Gov. Rick Snyder said, announcing a comprehensive action plan created with state, federal and city leaders to address concerns about drinking water.

The water leaving Flint's drinking water system is safe to drink, but some families with lead plumbing in their homes or service connections could experience higher levels of lead in the water that comes out of their faucets.

The action plan focuses on increasing water testing, offering additional precautions for families with lead plumbing in their homes, and providing long-term solutions to address the city's water infrastructure challenges. The plan was created at Snyder's direction by the Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Health and Human

Services (DHHS), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the city of Flint.

“We are focused on helping ensure safe, clean, accessible drinking water and addressing and mitigating concerns and protecting public health,” Snyder said. “Today’s action plan builds upon ongoing work with local, state and federal agencies and our partnership with city and community leaders. Together, we are working to ensure that all Flint residents have accurate information and know that help is available to address potential problems.”

The city and the state also are working together to gather more data to ensure the water that leaves the treatment plant as well as the water that arrives in Flint homes is safe for all residents. The plan includes:

- Testing in Flint public schools immediately to ensure that drinking water is safe, with testing also available at no cost to any other school in Flint.
- Offering free water testing to Flint residents to assure their drinking water is safe.
- Providing free water filters to residents.
- Expanding health exposure testing of individual homes.
- Accelerating corrosion controls in the Flint drinking water system.
- Accelerating water system improvements to address replacing lead service lines.
- Expediting the completion of the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline.
- Expanding a Safe Drinking Water Technical Advisory Committee to ensure the best technology, practices and science are being followed by adding an expert from the Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of Research and Development to the group.
- Naming Dr. Eden Wells, chief medical executive for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, as the Flint drinking water public health adviser.
- Boosting a comprehensive lead education program to make sure residents have detailed information about how to protect themselves and their homes.

Residents can have their water tested by calling 810-787-6537 and pressing 1, or emailing [flintwater@cityofflint.com](mailto:flintwater@cityofflint.com). The DEQ is covering the cost of this testing.

State leaders have been working closely with state and federal lawmakers to tap resources at all levels of government to address concerns.

State health experts said there has been an increase in elevated childhood blood lead levels in some specific communities. Initial analysis of MDHHS data found that blood lead levels of children in Flint have followed an expected seasonal trend. While this analysis for Flint as a whole remains true, a comprehensive and detailed review breaking down data by ZIP codes with the city revealed that MDHHS data is consistent with a study presented recently by Hurley Children’s Hospital.

“While we cannot conclusively say that the water source change is the sole cause of the increase, this analysis supports our efforts as we take active steps to reduce all potential lead exposures in Flint,” MDHHS Director Nick Lyon said. “As part of this, we are working closely with our public and private partners to provide Flint residents on MDHHS assistance programs with free water filters and inform families about the steps they can take to reduce all lead exposures in their home.”

As a part of the action plan, National Sanitation Foundation certified water filters will be



made available to Flint residents through emergency state funds and coordinated efforts with local community agencies and donors. Information about how to obtain the filters will soon be available. ....

“This action plan offers concrete steps we will take in a local, state and federal partnership to ensure all Flint residents have safe water to drink,” DEQ Director Dan Wyant said. “The DEQ will work closely with the city to gather further data to ensure the water that leaves Flint’s system as well as the water that arrives in Flint homes is safe to drink.”

Additional information is available at [www.michigan.gov/flintwater](http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater).

###

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**From:** Michigan Radio <michiganradiomarketing@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 02, 2015 3:02 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Continuing coverage of Flint's water crisis



Credit: Steve Carmody

## Flint's Water Crisis

Earlier this week, Flint got more bad news about its water system when a new report estimated it will cost the city \$1.5 billion to repair the damage done since the switch to the Flint River as a water source.

In 2014, the city switched its drinking water source to save money. Flint Mayor Dayne Walling was a quest on Stateside this week saying the state should approve a corrosion-control plan "as fast as humanly possible" to help keep lead out of the water.

If you have missed parts of the Flint water story, here's a quick rundown.

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## Native American boarding schools have nearly killed Michigan's native language

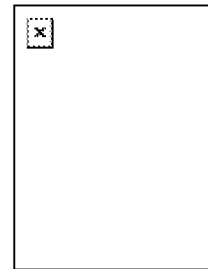
Only an estimated three people with the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians are still fluent in Anishinaabemowin, which was the language of the Great Lakes for millennia. Michigan Radio's [Emily Fox has the story](#) about the role that a school in one of Michigan's favorite vacation destinations played in the decline of native speakers.



Holy Childhood School in Harbor Springs  
Credit: Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa  
Indians Archives and Records

## Michel Martin Begins Hosting *Weekend All Things Considered*

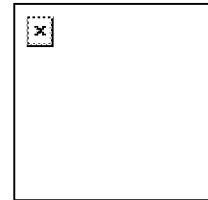
Michel Martin, former host of *Tell Me More*, will [take over as weekend host](#) of *All Things Considered* beginning this Saturday.



Michel Martin

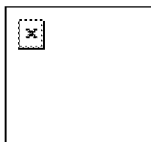
## Upcoming Michigan Radio Event

Issues & Ale: College Affordability and Access  
Tuesday, October 6 - 6:30-8 PM  
One Well Brewing, Kalamazoo

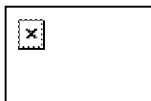


Join us for this *State of Opportunity* discussion about the impact college costs have on first generation or lower income students. [Info and registration.](#)

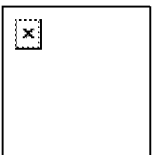
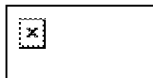
## This Week's Top Michigan Radio Features



[This is my think piece to try to make sense of the latest senseless tragedy](#)



[State officials say they've nearly reached goal for Lake Erie, critics say "not so fast"](#)



Michigan Republicans get choosy in GOP presidential primary

Will anything be done about one of Matty Moroun's most corrupt deals?

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## Stateside Highlights



Nation's longest-serving state AG "really saw his life as public service"

Frank Kelly has the distinction of being both the youngest and oldest Attorney General in Michigan's history, serving for 37 years. [More](#)

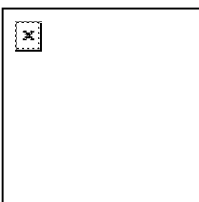
The Tricycle Collective is helping Detroiters buy back their homes

Michele Oberholtzer's organization helps residents, who are often renters, living in homes that are up for auction remain in their homes. [More](#)

Listen to [Stateside with Cynthia Canty](#) Monday through Thursday at 3 PM and 10 PM.

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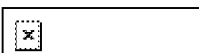
## Weekend Highlights



**TED Radio Hour**

**Fri 6 am / Sun 8 pm**

Love it or hate it, most of us have to work for a living. This Hour, TED speakers explore our values and motivations when it comes to the workplace.



**On The Media**

**Sat 7 am / Sun 7 pm**

A show all about the Supreme Court, just in time for the start of the term.

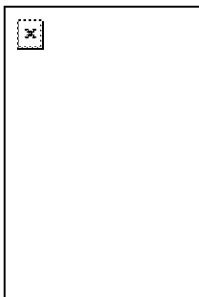


**Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me!**

**Sat 11 am / Sun 4 pm**

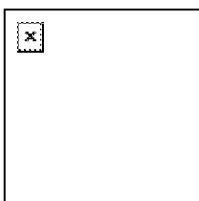
Recorded in front of a sold-out crowd earlier this week in Ann Arbor with Not My Job guest, author and Michigan Radio commentator, John U.

Bacon.



**This American Life**  
**Sat 1 pm / Sun 3 pm**  
**"Human Spectacle 2015"**

From Gladiators to reality T.V. stars, we've always loved to gawk at others. But what's it like when the tables are turned and all eyes are on you?



**A Prairie Home Companion**  
**Sat 6 pm / Sun 12 pm**  
**"Keep Your Head Up"**

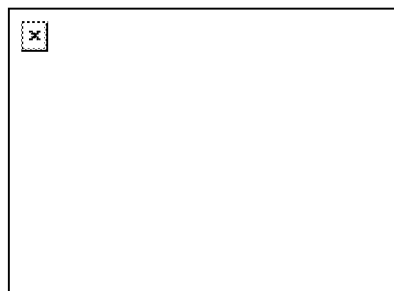
The California Honeydrops ward off the early autumn chill with fired-up Bay Area Jazz, and The Cactus Blossoms deliver sharp country harmonies.  
Plus the Latest News from Lake Wobegon and the Royal Academy of Radio Actors.

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## Bonus Click

### What's in Pumpkin Spice flavor?

In honor of the first full week of fall, we revisit Dan Charles' 2014 piece on [the flavor of the season](#) -- pumpkin spice. What's the deal with the "science goo" in our lattes?



Credit: Ashley MacKinnon/Flickr



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<noreply+feedproxy@google.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 02, 2015 6:29 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** state of opportunity

state of opportunity

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## 5 things to remember when talking about Flint's water crisis

Posted: 02 Oct 2015 02:21 PM PDT

The city of Flint has seen better days. Not only did the county just declare a **public health emergency** due to toxic drinking water in some homes, Flint was named the **third most dangerous city** in the U.S. earlier this week.

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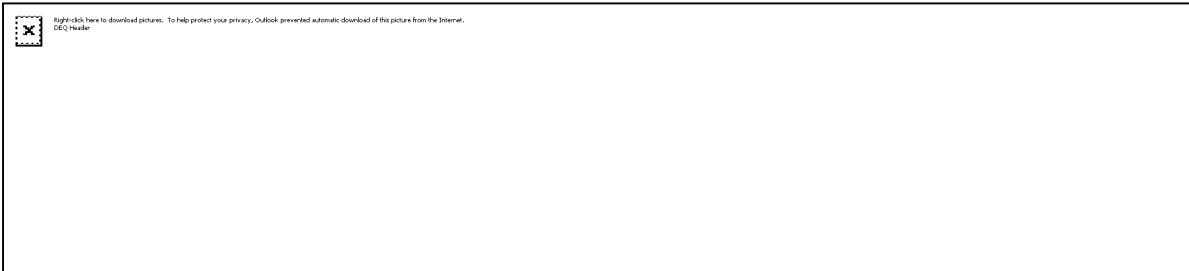
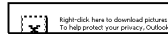
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**From:** Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
<MIDEQ@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 10:17 AM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** [DEQ] Gov. Rick Snyder: Move back to Detroit water provides best protection for public health in Flint

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Move back to Detroit water provides best protection for public health in Flint**

*State, city, Mott Foundation, join to fund switch until KWA is ready*

Oct. 8, 2015

For More Information:

Sara Wurfel or Dave Murray  
Governor's Office: 517-335-6397

Brad Wurfel, 517-284-6713  
Department of Environmental Quality

Jennifer Eisner, 517-230-9804  
Department of Health and Human Services

Kathryn Thomas, 810-766-1734  
Mott Foundation

Jason Lorenz, 810-237-2039  
City of Flint

FLINT, Mich. – Flint families and children will be better protected by reconnecting with the Great Lakes Water Authority as the source of the city's drinking water until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed, Gov. Rick Snyder said.

Snyder said Thursday that he will request the state Legislature to provide half, or \$6 million, of the \$12 million needed to reconnect with the authority through next summer, when the KWA is expected to be completed. The Flint city government will provide \$2

million and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation has committed \$4 million.

“All Flint residents need clean, safe drinking water,” Snyder said. “The technical experts helping the city on its water advisory all agree this move back to the Great Lakes Water Authority provides the best public health protection for children and families. This effort today is the result of people coming together to solve a problem. I appreciate Detroit’s willingness to reconnect with Flint, the Mott Foundation’s generous commitment, and the dedication of all parties to come together to protect Flint families and children.”

Flint city leaders requested the state’s help to fund the reconnection and to assist with health and infrastructure issues. Flint’s move to the Great Lakes Water Authority is expected to cost about \$1.3 million per month until the Karegnondi Water Authority is completed next summer.

“It’s heartening to know so many people are working at so many levels to bring safe, clean water back to Flint,” Mott Foundation President Ridgway White said. “We believe this transitional solution is the right and necessary thing to do, and we’re glad we could help the state and the city make it happen.”

The move to Detroit water, which is expected to carry, carries many public health benefits. As large bodies of water, the Great Lakes are naturally prone to fewer problems from large rain events and other runoff issues that can sometimes be present in shallower rivers. Additionally, the Great Lakes Water Authority water already has additional corrosion control, using phosphates to help coat the insides of pipes and limit lead from leaching into the water.

However, reconnecting with the authority will not completely resolve the city’s problem with lead service lines or aging infrastructure. It will take time for pipes in Flint to become coated with the phosphate corrosion control. Additionally, some households in the city could experience lead in their drinking water until all lead pipes and plumbing are replaced.

“Reconnecting to Detroit is the fastest way to deliver clean, safe water to Flint and stabilize the infrastructure system,” Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said. “I appreciate the state, the Mott Foundation, Detroit, and the county’s participation in a solution for Flint’s water problems. The health and safety of Flint’s families, children and seniors is my top priority, and reconnecting to Detroit is a major step that the city could not take alone given budget constraints.”

To best protect public health, Snyder said state and local authorities will continue to carry out steps outlined on Oct. 2 in a comprehensive action plan, including continued testing, the use of faucet filters and providing residents with accurate information about steps to eliminate lead exposure. The Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services today also committed an additional \$3.5 million for water filters, free lead testing through the state laboratory for Flint water customers, and hiring additional staff to conduct health exposure monitoring for lead in drinking water.

Free filters are available for current MDHHS clients at the 125 E. Union St. or 4809 Clio Road MDHHS office locations. For residents who are not currently enrolled in MDHHS assistance programs, free filters are available at the Genesee County Community Action



Resource Department offices at 2727 Lippincott and 601 North Saginaw in Flint. Staff will be at all four locations from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, to distribute filters and assist residents who have questions about proper installation. At the Lippincott location only, extended hours will be offered this weekend, including until 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Other good practices for residents concerned about lead include turning on the cold water tap and running the water until it's as cold as it will go. Additionally, only use cold water for cooking, drinking and especially mixing baby formula.

### ***School test results released; more investigation planned***

The state today also released the first results from its lead screening program in schools and homes. Of 37 total samples taken at 13 buildings, four samples spread over three buildings exceeded the federal action level of 15 parts per billion.

However, this sampling provides only an initial screen, and the state is committing to further testing water and inspecting plumbing at these schools. Until testing is complete, schools are advised to continue using bottled water and filtration as a precaution to protect children.

In addition, free testing is still available for any other Flint school, including daycares and Head Starts. Free testing is also available for any Flint resident.

Additional information, including more detailed lead screening results, is available at [www.michigan.gov/flintwater](http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater).

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**From:** Dome Magazine <Dome=DomeMagazine.com@mail11.suw11.mcdlv.net> on behalf of Dome Magazine <Dome@DomeMagazine.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 09, 2015 7:34 AM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Who Really Owns the Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority?; Political Fear Is Killing America; and much more

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Dome Magazine: Covering the People, Issues & Events Shaping Michigan Politics & Policy

## New Columns at Award-Winning

## Dome Magazine

October 9, 2015

### Jack Lessenberry: Who Really Owns the Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority?

Matty Moroun has another monopoly that may be even more outrageous than his ownership of the bridge. [Read](#)

### Tom Watkins: Political Fear Is Killing America

When will enough be enough for senseless gun violence? [Read](#)

Continuing from October 2, 2015



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### **Jack Lessenberry: Foul Water**

Flint residents suffer from E. Coli and high chlorine & lead levels. [Read](#)

### **Tom Watkins: Humiliation No More**

Different Views of the World [Read](#)

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**Subject:** Remembering Grace Lee Boggs / Flint Update



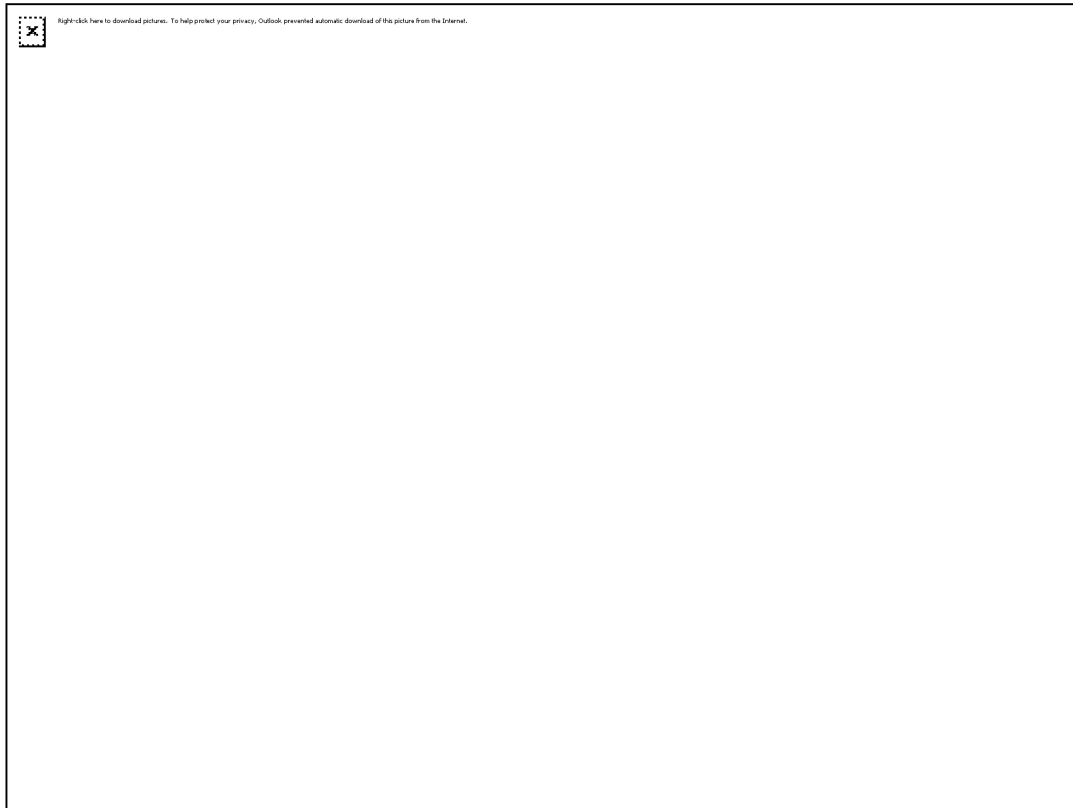
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October 9, 2015



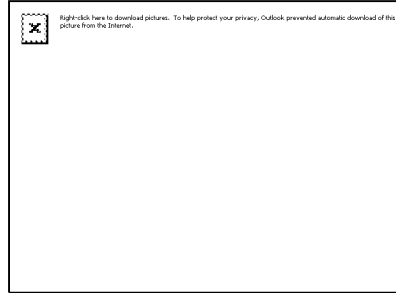
Gov. Snyder announced the \$12 million plan to hook the city of Flint back up to Detroit water.  
Photo by Steve Carmody / Michigan Radio

## Flint returning to Detroit water, but problems persist

A year and a half after city leaders stood in Flint's water plant and raised plastic glasses to toast the city's switch to the Flint River, the city is going back to Detroit's water system after the state, the city and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation agreed to kick in \$12 million to make the switch. Despite the proposed change, there are new concerns about lead in the water in Flint schools. Steve Carmody has details on the latest developments.

## Remembering Detroit's Grace Lee Boggs

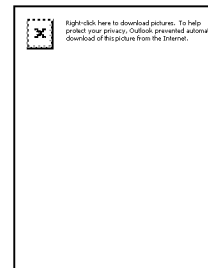
Philosopher, activist, and writer Grace Lee Boggs died at her home on the east side of Detroit earlier this week. She was 100. Zak Rosen has [this recollection](#) of the woman described as an "American Revolutionary."



Grace Lee Boggs and her husband Jimmy Boggs. Photo courtesy, Boggs Center.

## Weekend *All Things Considered* Saturday & Sunday, 5-6:00 PM

With [Michel Martin's debut](#) as weekend host of *All Things Considered*, you can look forward to several new segments on the show. Saturdays will bring different perspectives on the week's stories, including the ["Barbershop"](#) roundtable. Sundays will take a deep dive into the important stories of the coming week including conversations around faiths, values and beliefs, and a commentary from Michel called ["Can I Just Tell You?"](#)



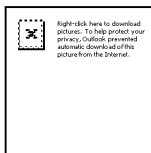
Michel Martin, new weekend host of *All Things Considered*.

## Win Tickets!

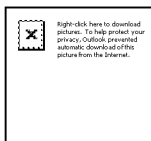
[Enter to win](#) a pair of tickets to see humorist David Sedaris at the Michigan Theater in Ann Arbor on October 26.



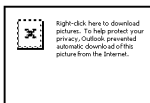
## This Week's Top Michigan Radio Features



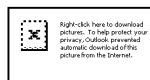
[Road funding debate could get in the way of making sure there isn't a repeat of Flint water crisis](#)



[What would a world with no racial achievement gaps in schools look like?](#)



## Federal appeals court orders EPA to rewrite ballast rules for ships



## We need a thorough investigation into how the Snyder administration handled the Flint water crisis

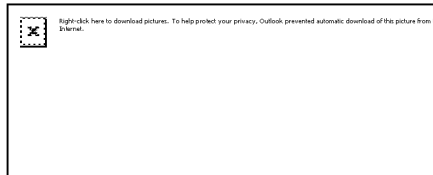
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### Stateside Highlights

#### Did debtors' prison ever really go away?

Across Michigan and the rest of the country, people are being jailed over failing to repay fines and fees.

[More>](#)



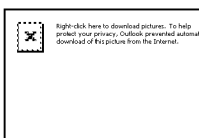
#### There's a way to help every child in Michigan save for education

Measures of family wealth and education attainment in the U.S. show a widening gap between the rich and the poor, but this Next Idea proposes a way to close that gap. [More>](#)

Listen to [Stateside with Cynthia Canty](#) Monday through Thursday at 3 PM and 10 PM.

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### Weekend Highlights

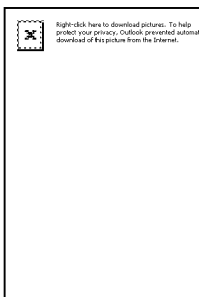


#### **The Moth Radio Hour**

**Sat 12 pm & 8 pm**

"Live from Boston"

A New York City cop looks into the death of a kid he grew up with, a marriage opposed, and more.

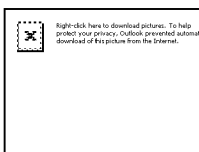


#### **This American Life**

**Sat 1 pm / Sun 3 pm**

"Peer Review"

Inside the room at Hardee's where the hot-dog topped burger was born. And other tales of people and their ideas, being judged by their peers.

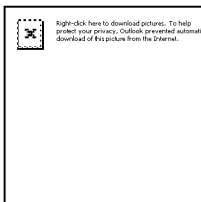


#### **Ask me Another**

**Sat 4 pm**

"The Milk Carton Kids: No Expiration Date"

The folk band, The Milk Carton Kids tell host Ophira Eisenberg about the benefits of being a duo and field Seinfeld trivia questions.



## A Prairie Home Companion

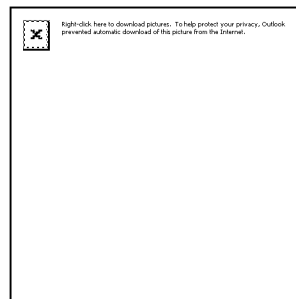
Sat 6 pm / Sun 12 pm

"Three Heads are Better Than One"

After 41 years on the air, Garrison Keillor accidentally let his radio license lapse. In his stead, Sara Watkins, Sarah Jarosz and Aoife O'Donovan host this week's episode. With the Royal Academy of Radio Actors.

## Old car won't run?

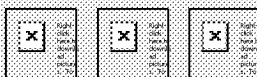
Don't trash it! We've got a better way to get rid of your old car:  
[Donate it to Michigan Radio.](#)



## Bonus Click

### Dire news for pie lovers

Thanksgiving is still more than a month away, but  
[there's potential bad news for pie bakers](#)...a canned-pumpkin shortage.



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**From:** Michigan Radio <michiganradiomarketing@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 16, 2015 3:33 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Life after high school; Faith in government shaken



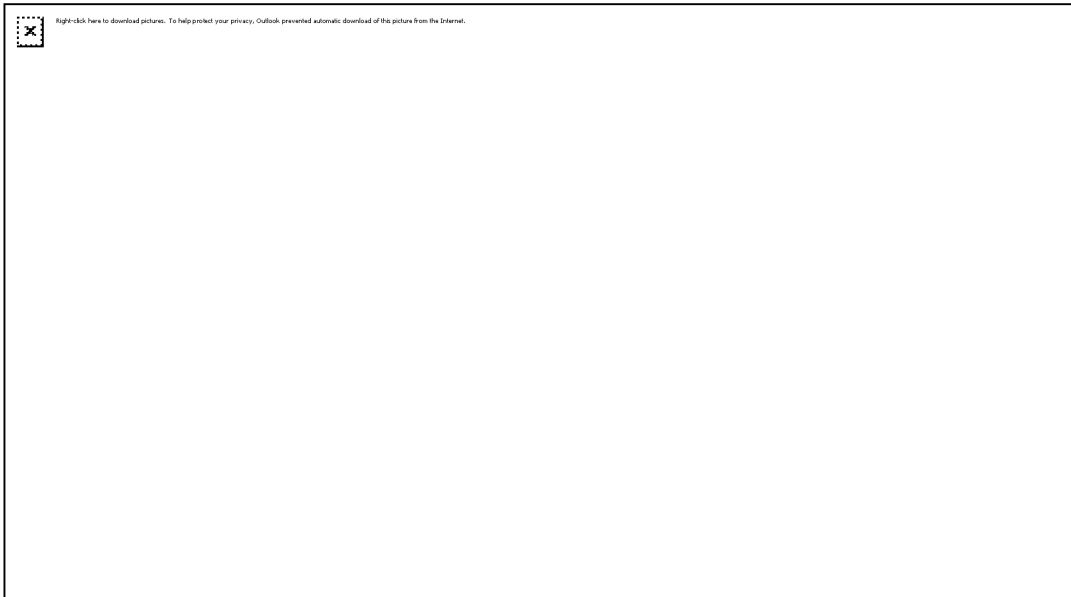
[Mich Radio News](#)

[Program Schedule](#)

[Events Calendar](#)

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October 16, 2015

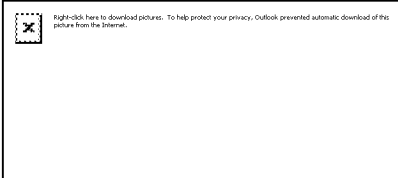


MDEQ Director Dan Wyant, at the microphone, with Michigan Governor Rick Snyder, right.  
Credit State of Michigan / LiveStream

## MDEQ Director: Flint water crisis has shaken faith in government

For months, Flint residents were assured their drinking water was safe, until mounting evidence showed high lead levels in the water. In a [Stateside](#) interview earlier this week, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant called it an issue of "experience rather than wrongdoing" and said no one should lose their job. [Learn more.](#)





## Life After High School: State of Opportunity special

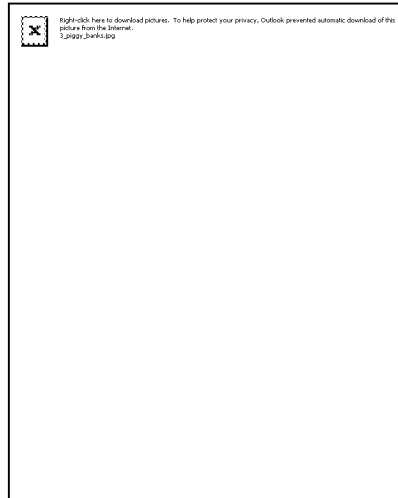
Wednesday, Oct. 22 at 3 PM and 10 PM

Senior year in high school...the popular narrative is that you graduate, go to college, then start your career. But life after high school is more complicated for many young people in Michigan. Join Michigan Radio's Jennifer White next Wednesday as we look at the options open to young people as they work to build a life for themselves.

---

## Upcoming Retirement Series: Your Money and Your Life

Having enough money to retire is now the top financial concern for Americans. Starting next week, NPR will begin airing a new series on how to start saving and investing successfully for retirement. Tune in during *Morning Edition*, 5-9:00 AM, and *All Things Considered*, 4-6:30 PM, beginning the week of October 19, on Michigan Radio.



---

## Issues & Ale: College Affordability & Access

Tuesday, October 27, 6:30-8 PM  
ABC Microbrewery, 720 Norris St., Ypsilanti

Join Michigan Radio's Jennifer Guerra as she hosts this State of Opportunity discussion about the rising cost of college and the impact it's having on first generation and lower income students. [Learn more and register to attend.](#)



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## Featured Event: Washtenaw County Heart Ball

Friday, October 30, 6:30 PM  
U-M Stadium - Jack Roth Stadium Club



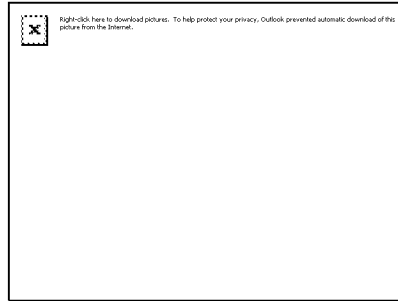
This year's Heart Ball promises to be an engaging evening of fun and passion bringing

community and philanthropic leaders together. [Tickets and information.](#)

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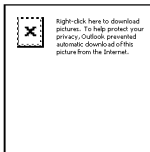
## Creating your legacy at Michigan Radio

It's easier than you think to have an impact on future generations of public radio listeners. [Here are some ways...](#)

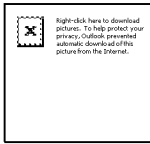


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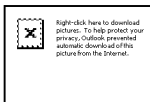
## This Week's Top Michigan Radio Features



**Will controversial Dave Agema run for Congress (in a district in which he doesn't even live)?**



**What does it take for most people to support soaking the rich with higher taxes? Mass war**



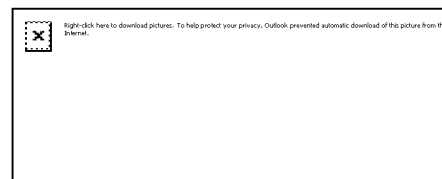
**Michigan lawmakers consider banning microbeads in consumer products**

**Commentary: Lawmakers have lost their minds, and it's time to call them out**

---

## Stateside Highlights

**To help students focus, we could use less medication and more meditation**  
Mindfulness techniques can offer a way to help students and teachers handle stress in the classroom.  
[More](#)



**Catholic nun describes 30 years of teaching literature at men's prison**  
A Roman Catholic nun in Adrian has been teaching literature to male prisoners for nearly 30

years. [More](#)

Listen to [Stateside with Cynthia Canty](#) Monday through Thursday at 3 PM and 10 PM.

---

## Weekend Highlights



### On the Media

**Sat 7 am / Sun 7 pm**

"Nudity on the Radio"

We've got more to say about Playboy's announcement this week that it will no longer do the thing that has defined it for over sixty years....feature nude models in the magazine.



### Snap Judgment

**Sat 2 pm & 9 pm**

"Mystery Man"

People think they know who they're dealing with, but we throw them for a loop.

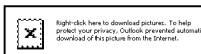


### Ask me Another

**Sat 4 pm**

"Welcome To Night Vale: All Hail The Mighty Quiz Show!"

The creators of the hit podcast Welcome to Night Vale reflect on its runaway success and help lead a game about mysterious phenomena...that one should never speak of or acknowledge.

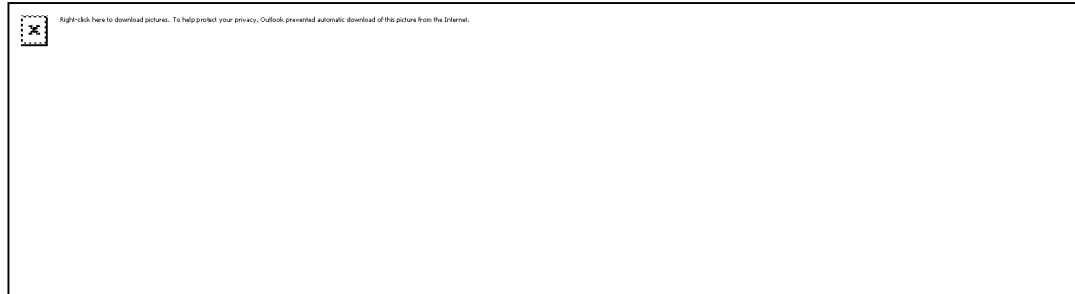


### A Prairie Home Companion

**Sat 6 pm / Sun 12 pm**

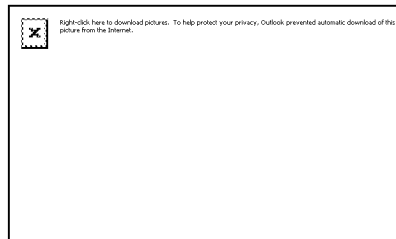
"Autumn in St. Paul"

Garrison is back at the mic for a live broadcast from the Fitzgerald Theater. With mandolin fireworks from Chris Thile; red-hot fiddle and cello from Alasdair Fraser and Natalie Haas; a visit from public radio's only staff blues singer, Hilary Thavis; plus the Royal Academy of Radio Actors and an update on the last two weeks of News from Lake Wobegon.



## Bonus Click

Smart phones have been around for years, and even smart watches are so 2015. Maybe you need [a Ringly smart ring](#) that will let you know when important people are contacting you, or that your Uber is here.





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**From:** noreply+feedproxy@google.com on behalf of state of opportunity  
<noreply+feedproxy@google.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 16, 2015 6:27 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** state of opportunity

state of opportunity

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## **Infowire: If you live in Flint, here's what you need to know about the water crisis**

Posted: 16 Oct 2015 01:15 PM PDT

*Infowire fills the information gap and meets the news needs of families struggling to make ends meet. Get all Infowire alerts by texting INFOWIRE to 734-954-4539 or email*

[infowire@michiganradio.org](mailto:infowire@michiganradio.org)

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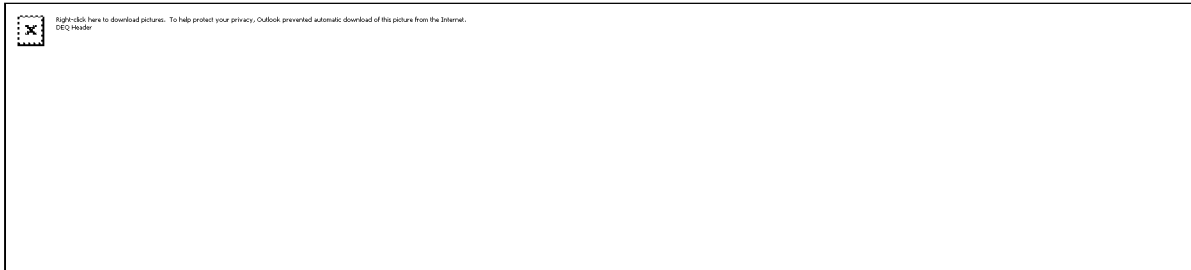
Email delivery powered by Google

Google Inc., 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA 94043, United States

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**From:** Michigan Department of Environmental Quality <MIDEQ@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 19, 2015 9:45 AM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** [DEQ] DEQ Director Dan Wyant issues statement about Flint drinking water

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***DEQ Director Dan Wyant today made the following statement as he announced DEQ Chief Deputy Jim Sygo will immediately assume the role of interim chief of the department's Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance:***

"It recently has become clear that our drinking water program staff made a mistake while working with the City of Flint. Simply stated, staff employed a federal protocol they believed was appropriate, and it was not. The water testing steps followed would have been correct for a city less than 50,000 people, but not for a city of nearly 100,000.

As details of the situation emerge, I am convinced our program staff believed they were doing their job right. As the state recognized there could be a health threat to Flint residents, we took appropriate steps. We are now embarked on an unprecedented effort to safeguard Flint residents and families with near-term, intermediate and long-term actions to protect and educate city residents.

The issue in DEQ is experience and protocol with respect to corrosion control. The Governor has called for an independent, third-party after-action review. I have taken the step of changing leadership in the division. We are working with our federal partners and committed to being part of the U.S. EPA's effort to strengthen its Lead and Copper Rule.

All who brought this issue to the department deserve credit for bringing it forward. Lead is a serious issue, particularly for young people, and we take it seriously. The Governor's plan incorporates the suggestions outlined by the EPA and researchers at Virginia Tech.

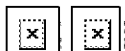
We will learn from this. We will make necessary changes to see to it that our program becomes a national leader in public health protection."



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Ph: 800-662-9278

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This email was sent to tuliocht@michigan.gov using GovDelivery, on behalf of: Michigan Department of Environmental Quality · Constitution Hall · 525 West Allegan Street · PO Box 30473 · Lansing, MI 48909 · 800-662-9278

**From:** Michigan Radio <michiganradiomarketing@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 23, 2015 3:31 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** What you need to know about the water crisis/Win tickets



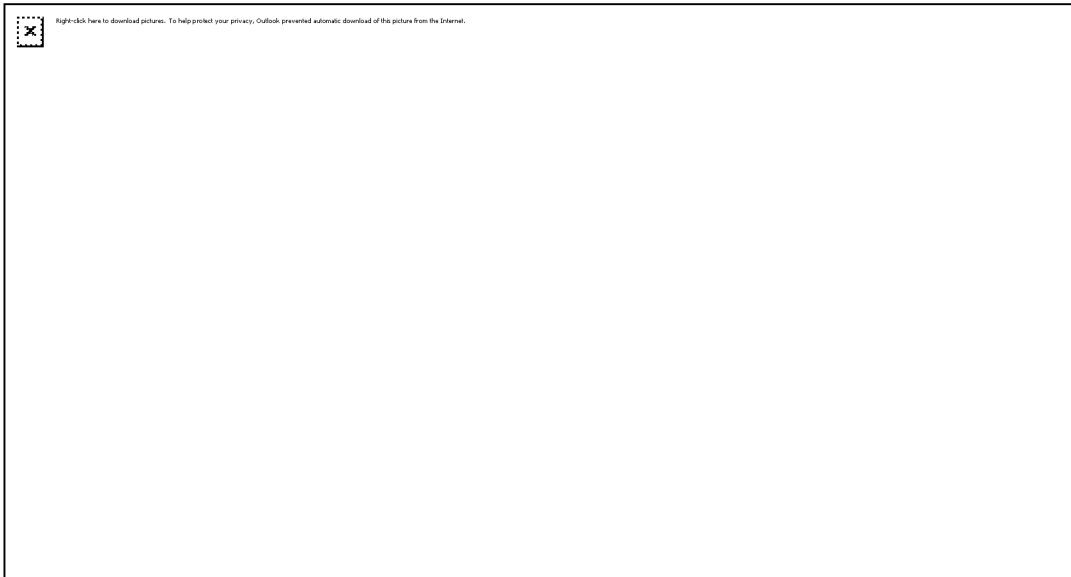
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October 23, 2015

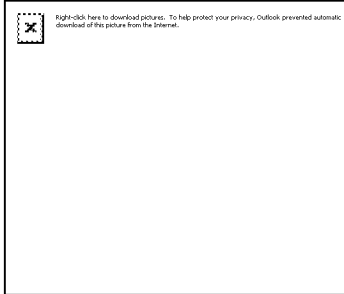


## Flint did not follow federal rules to keep lead out of water

Earlier this week, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality admitted Flint did not follow federal rules designed to keep lead out of water. The city didn't do any kind of corrosion control when it started pumping water from the Flint River. The treatment helps keep lead from corroding from old service lines and pipes in people's homes, and is required under federal law.

If you live in Flint, Michigan Radio's [Infowire](#) has compiled this guide to what you need to know about the water crisis, including how you can get your water tested.





## Connections Wed 10/28, 3pm and 10pm

For a lot of us, we got where we are today through a combination of hard work...and some helpful connections along the way. Networks are all around us, if we're lucky. Join State of Opportunity's Jennifer Guerra next Wednesday for **CONNECTIONS**, a radio documentary about the power of networks.



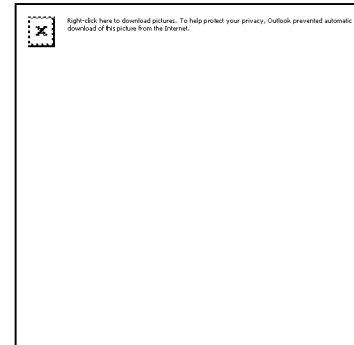
## Our Life After High School special

What's the best way for students to build a future for themselves? In this week's State of Opportunity special, Jennifer White talked to students from all over the state who each took a different path after leaving high school. Listen to their stories about college, the military, and job training programs, and then tell us yours.

## Issues & Ale: College Affordability & Access

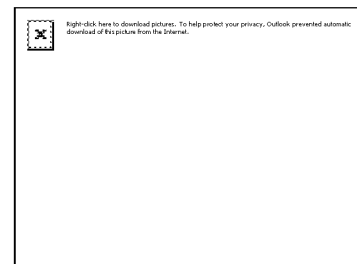
**Tuesday, October 27, 6:30-8 PM**  
**ABC Microbrewery, 720 Norris St., Ypsilanti**  
**FREE ADMISSION**

Join Michigan Radio's Jennifer Guerra as she hosts this State of Opportunity discussion about the rising cost of college and the impact it's having on first generation and lower income students. [Learn more and register to attend.](#)



## Canada Reminds Us That American Elections Are Much Longer

If Vice President Biden had announced his presidential candidacy this week, he would have entered the race with 384 days until Election Day. But he said it was too late for him to be competitive. Meanwhile Canada elected a new Prime Minister this week, following a campaign that lasted about 11 weeks. [Why are American election campaigns so long?](#)



Vice President Joe Biden \_Mark  
Wilson\_Getty Images\_

## Win Tickets from Michigan Radio

Enter to win a pair of tickets to the Grand Rapids Wine, Beer & Food Festival (Nov. 19-21, 2015), the largest wine and beer tasting event in the Midwest. [Click here to enter.](#)



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## This Week's Top Michigan Radio Features



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[Governor Snyder has faced a hard few months, and there's little relief in sight](#)



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[Are the arts a luxury or an economic necessity?](#)



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[Building a comeback for the Detroit River](#)

[Commentary: Paying attention to Canada's election](#)

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## Stateside Highlights

[Pawpaw: the fruit America forgot](#)

There is a fruit native to North America that is plentiful and was quite popular for a long time. [More](#)

[Is GM as "vastly different" as Mary Barra claims?](#)

GM announced better than expected profits this week, but what does that mean when times are good for all car makers right now? [More](#)

Listen to [Stateside with Cynthia Canty](#) Monday through Thursday at 3 PM and 10 PM.



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## Weekend Highlights



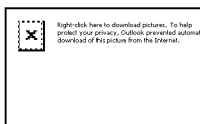
**Reveal**  
**Sun 6 pm**  
**"High and Dry"**

From who is using the most water in parched California to the skyrocketing water bills in New York, *Reveal* investigates water issues around the country.



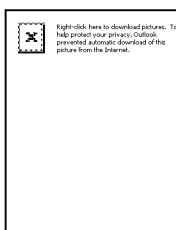
**On the Media**  
**Sat 7 am / Sun 7 pm**

Brooke speaks with Cora Currier of The Intercept about how to unpack the White House's jargon on drone strikes, what it tells us about drone policy, and what the murky wording means for journalists trying to report on it.



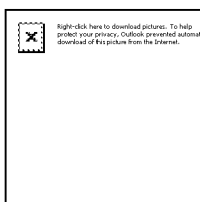
**Snap Judgment**  
**Sat 2 pm & 9 pm**  
**"Spooked VI: The Awakening"**

We bury the very bad things and hope they go away forever, but some things... never die.



**This American Life**  
**Sat 1 pm / Sun 3 pm**  
**"And the Call Was Coming from the Basement"**

Scary stories that are all true for the week leading up to Halloween. Zombie raccoons, haunted houses, and things that go "EEEEK!!" in the night.



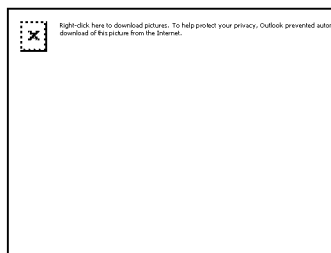
**A Prairie Home Companion**  
**Sat 6 pm / Sun 12 pm**  
**On Both Sides**

The show heads up the Mississippi River for a live broadcast from Anoka High School in Garrison Keillor's hometown of Anoka, Minnesota, the Halloween Capital of the World.

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## Creating your legacy at Michigan Radio

It's easier than you think to have an impact on future generations of public radio listeners. [Here are some ways...](#)

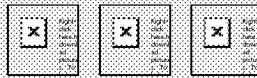
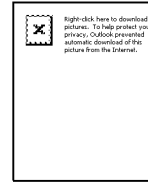




## Bonus Click

No doubt you've been thinking your life would be so much better if only you had a stuffed flatbread emoji or one showing

Mother Christmas. And of course...bacon! They are among 67 proposed new emojis.



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**From:** Michigan Radio <michiganradiomarketing@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 06, 2015 3:02 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan's Mormon King / A New Water Threat



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November 6, 2015



Tap water in a Flint hospital on Oct.16\_\_2015 \_\_Joyce Zhu- Flintwaterstudy.org\_\_

## New threat in Flint water

The EPA says people living in Flint could be in danger of "high lead release" into their tap water if road work or other physical disturbances to service lines occur. These physical disturbances "could pose an immediate and acute health hazard" to residents.

Meanwhile, an expert on water treatment is saying that the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality knowingly dropped lead test samples to avoid exceeding a federal

drinking water standard. By not including those samples, the city remained below the action level for lead. [Mark Brush has details.](#)



## Michigan Radio Events

**M I Curious Trivia Night**  
Tuesday, November 24, 7:00 PM  
[Rockford Brewing Co., Rockford](#)

Join us for our next [M I Curious](#) Trivia Night where you can test your knowledge of the Great Lakes state, and meet and mingle with fellow Michigan Radio listeners. [Learn more and register.](#)

## Stories you might have missed



**How a Mormon king shaped a sleepy island in Lake Michigan**

It's [a story of murder, intrigue, and a Mormon population that's completely vanished](#). And it started with an M I Curious question about the Mormon kingdom that used to be on Beaver Island.

## Get a load of this chart

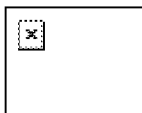
It's not an eye test. This chart shows all 80 federal programs that provide help to low-income families. Most everyone agrees that the system is a mess but as our State of Opportunity team points out, there's [also more to the story than the chart lets on.](#)



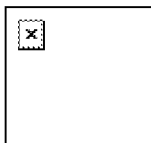
## Win Tickets!

Enter to win a pair of passes to see the Bolshoi Ballet's critically acclaimed "Jewels" as it is broadcast via satellite from Moscow to selected movie theaters on Sunday, November 15 at 12:55 PM. [Enter here.](#)

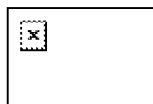
## This Week's Top Michigan Radio Features



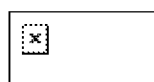
There's a lot to learn from a forgotten Michigan innovator



Pro-gay rights groups at odds over how to add LGBT protections to Michigan's constitution



A scientific panel weighs in on fish farming



Voters are smarter than the politicians

---

## Stateside Highlights



Roads deal: mission accomplished or can kicked?

State legislators finally passed a road funding deal earlier this week. [More](#)

"Superior:" a coming-of-age tale set in Northern Michigan

It's the summer of 1969 and two lifelong friends grab their bicycles and set out on a 1,300-mile journey around Lake Superior. [More](#)

Listen to [Stateside with Cynthia Canty](#) Monday through Thursday at 3 PM and 10 PM.

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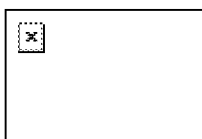
## Weekend Highlights



**On the Media**

**Sat 7 am / Sun 7 pm**

One complaint about last week's CNBC Republican debate was that moderators made galling, if predictable, use of the media's favorite trick: the dreaded "gotcha" question. But what actually qualifies as a gotcha question?

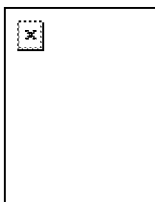


**The Moth**

**Sat 12 pm & 8 pm**

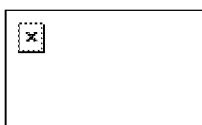
"Wedding Dress, Prison Choir, and a Hotdog"

A feminist searches for her wedding dress, a playwright visits a prison in Malawi, a man lives his life regretting a single moment, and more.



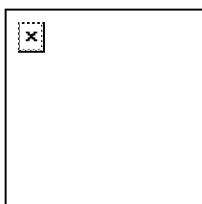
**This American Life**  
**Sat 1 pm / Sun 3 pm**  
"Transformers"

This hour, people address very big fears. Like a prisoner, who hasn't talked to anyone in years, and his bold plan to re-introduce himself to the world.



**Snap Judgment**  
**Sat 2 pm & 9 pm**  
"Cross To Bear"

It would break ordinary mortals, but there are those who carry huge burdens in their lives - despite looking normal.



**A Prairie Home Companion**  
**Sat 6 pm / Sun 12 pm**  
"Crossing Waters"

This week is a live broadcast from Bemidji, Minnesota, with a little southern electric blues from Elvin Bishop and his Big Fun Trio. Plus Guy Noir, The Royal Academy of Radio Actors and the Latest News from Lake Wobegon.

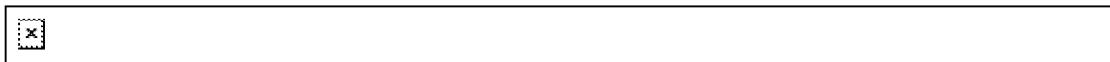


## Bonus Click

### China's War on Golf

Our recent warm weather has kept many Michiganders out on the links, but China's Communist Party recently banned people from joining golf clubs in that country. It's considered a violation of the country's "moral ethical code."

Bloomberg via Getty Images



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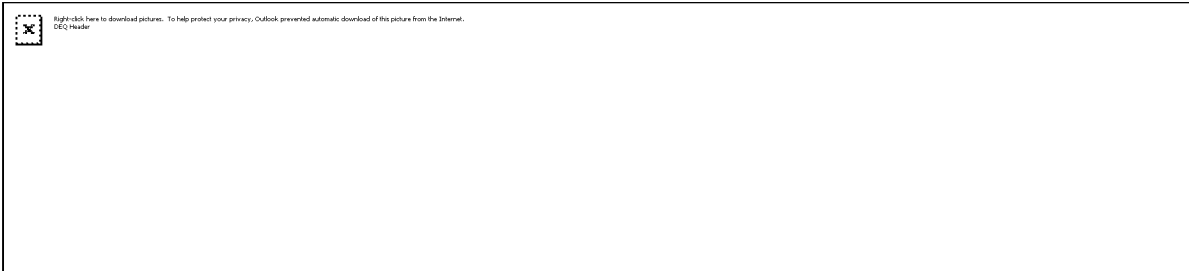
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**From:** Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
<MIDEQ@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 09, 2015 3:58 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** [DEQ] Freeman Elementary water testing shows lead exposure limited to fixtures

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## **Freeman Elementary water testing shows lead exposure limited to fixtures**

### *Experts release water testing results on schools and homes in Flint*

Nov. 9, 2015

For More Information:  
George Krisztian, 517-284-6719, [krisztiang@michigan.gov](mailto:krisztiang@michigan.gov)

As part of Gov. Rick Snyder's action plan for Flint drinking water, the DEQ today released water testing data from nearly 400 homes and businesses in Flint as well as comprehensive sampling results from Freeman Elementary School.

Both sets of data indicate the problems with lead are localized to individual buildings or even individual faucets, rather than system-wide issues.

"The results from this data underline the need for water testing at all homes, businesses, schools and other buildings in Flint," said George Krisztian, the DEQ's Flint Action Plan Coordinator. "Problems with lead exposure appear to be localized to individual service lines or plumbing fixtures, and we want to see all families in Flint take advantage of free water testing from the state."

#### *Freeman Elementary testing results*

At Freeman Elementary, 31 faucets were tested using a series of four samples each. Twenty-two outlets did not show elevated lead exposure, but nine faucets came back with initially high results.

Those nine outlets involve brass components, indicating the problem involves the fixtures or plumbing immediately surrounding the fixture. When the faucets and fountains were operated for several minutes, lead levels fell significantly, in some cases to non-detectable levels.

Additional testing designed to look deep into the school's plumbing did not suggest larger, systemic issues.

Freeman Elementary has several options for remedying the issues at these nine faucets and fountains. The school can elect not to use those particular fountains, or implement a formalized flushing regimen. The sampling results indicate that for all but one tap, a 3- to 4-minute flushing period each morning would drastically reduce lead exposure.

For a permanent solution, the school should opt to replace the faucets and fountains of concern.

"The safety and health of our students are our primary concern at Flint Community Schools, so we will start work as soon as possible to replace faucets, aerators and other related components where high lead levels were detected," FCS Superintendent Bilal Tawwab said. "Once those fixes have been made, the DEQ has offered to provide additional testing of the water at Freeman Elementary to ensure the water from every sample is safe for our students. Flint Community Schools appreciates the efforts by the DEQ, working with all stakeholders to make sure our water continues to be tested and that our students have access to safe, clean drinking water."

For Freeman Elementary's complete sampling results and more information about how sampling was conducted, visit [www.michigan.gov/flintwater](http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater).

The DEQ and the DLARA also have conducted sampling at other Flint schools, and results will soon be available on the DEQ's website. Additionally, the state will test every other school in the Flint Community Schools district, as well as any school or daycare in the city. Interested schools and daycare centers should contact George Krisztian at [krisztiang@michigan.gov](mailto:krisztiang@michigan.gov).

#### *Homeowner and other customer-requested testing results*

Results from the 381 samples from homes, businesses, schools and other facilities that took advantage of free water testing through the state showed similar, localized results. More than 75 percent of the samples analyzed demonstrated lead results of 5 parts per billion or less, and more than 91 percent demonstrated lead results of 15 parts per billion or less.

This data suggests that while some homes experience elevated lead level results due to lead service lines or in-home plumbing, many other homes experience little to no lead. This can make it difficult for homeowners and businesses to predict their lead exposure.

"Since it's not easy to predict if an individual home's water is at risk for lead, the best thing all residents can do is get their water tested," Krisztian said. "It's a free test that provides valuable information for families."

Testing is available for free by contacting the Flint Water Plant at 810-787-6537 and pressing 1, or by emailing [flintwater@cityofflint.com](mailto:flintwater@cityofflint.com).

For more information about water samples received through the state's free testing program, visit [www.michigan.gov/flintwater](http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater).

#### *How school sampling was conducted*

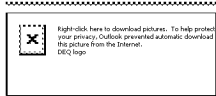
To conduct this comprehensive sampling, the DEQ and Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs began on Oct. 23 with a thorough plumbing assessment of the school to gain a detailed understanding of how water moves through the building and what types of plumbing materials are used. The assessment also identified 31 faucets or fountains in the school that

provide water for drinking, cooking and/or food preparation.

On Oct. 24, the DEQ and DLARA took four, 125-milliliter samples from each of the 31 identified faucets and fountains. The first two samples were taken immediately after turning on the faucet, followed by a 30-second flush and then the third sample, followed by a 2-minute flush and then the fourth sample. These samples provided information on the impact of any lead sources in or around each specific faucet and fountain as well as its connecting plumbing.

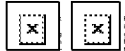
On Oct. 31, the DEQ and DLARA took an additional 30 samples, 10 each from three sites in the school. These 1-liter samples were taken consecutively, and provided information about the impact of any lead sources deep in the building's plumbing.

For a video about these results, visit <https://youtu.be/Amy4cDW7RtA>.



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**From:** Michigan Radio <michiganradiomarketing@gmail.com>  
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**Subject:** The Refugee Debate / New MI Curious Questions



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November 20, 2015



Photo\_ European Commission DG ECHO

## The Refugee Debate in Michigan

The Paris terrorist attacks ignited a debate over whether Syrian refugees should be allowed into Michigan. After first saying he was hitting the "pause" button on bringing more refugees to the state, Governor Snyder tried to clarify his position. Local officials weighed in also, saying Syrian refugees were welcome in Grand Rapids, but in Oakland County...not so

much!

Meanwhile, here are four things you should know about the current vetting process for refugees.

## New MI Curious Questions

We've got three new Detroit questions up for vote on MI Curious. They deal with streetcars on Gratiot Avenue, a time capsule at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, and the Masonic Temple. Cast your vote to let us know which one we should investigate.



## Great Thanksgiving Listen



You can help StoryCorps preserve the voices of a generation over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. Learn more.

---

## Stories You Might Have Missed

### Plans for Syrian refugee center moving forward in Pontiac

Plans to transform an abandoned elementary school in Pontiac into a community center for Syrian refugees are moving forward despite Gov. Snyder's announcement to put refugee resettlement efforts on hold.



Photo via loopnet.com

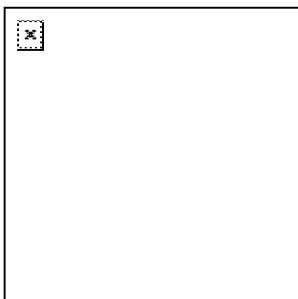


### MSU being sued for mishandling of sexual assault investigations

The lawsuit is being brought by four women, all seniors at MSU, who claim the university dragged out investigations into their sexual assault complaints.

---

## Michigan Radio Events



**Issues & Ale: Flint's Water Crisis**  
Tuesday, December 1 - 7:00 pm  
Redwood Steakhouse & Brewery, Flint

Join host Jack Lessenberry to discuss the latest on Flint's water situation. Please note, because of space availability, you must [register to attend](#). Free admission.

---

## This Week's Top Michigan Radio Features



[Some Republican lawmakers are adopting the "tax break" religion](#)



[Islamophobia harms the fearful as much as the feared](#)



[Michigan cherry growers mobilize against invasive fruit fly](#)



[Gov. Snyder's decision on Syrian refugees plays into what ISIS wants](#)

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## Stateside Highlights

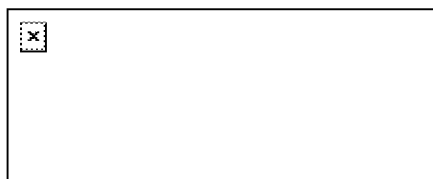
[Researchers say biodiversity is key to saving threatened coffee crops](#)

Two UM professors discuss how "coffee rust" could put your morning cup in jeopardy. [More](#)

[Lead Vatican astronomer: "Science is a wonderful way of getting to know God"](#)

Did you know the Vatican has astronomers and one of them is from Michigan? [More](#)

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## Weekend Highlights



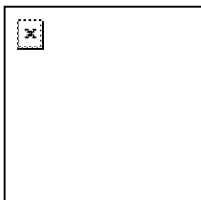
**The Moth**  
**Sat 12 pm and 8 pm**  
"The Moth StorySlam"  
We'll hear stories from live open-mic StorySlam events in cities like  
Portland, OR; Burlington, VT; & the birthplace of The Moth StorySlam,  
New York City.



**This American Life**  
**Sat 1 pm / Sun 3 pm**  
"Regrets, I've had a few"  
Everybody makes mistakes. And every so often, there's that one  
regret that makes us pause and take notice. This week, people find  
ways to cope with those regrets.



**Snap Judgment**  
**Sat 2 pm and 9pm**  
"Gratitude 2015"  
You've laughed with us, cried with us, and now...it's time to say  
thanks. On the next Snap Judgment



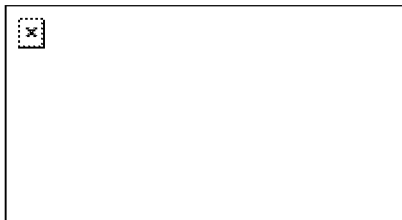
## A Prairie Home Companion

Sat 6 pm / Sun 12 pm

"Quid Aere Perennius"

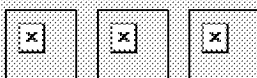
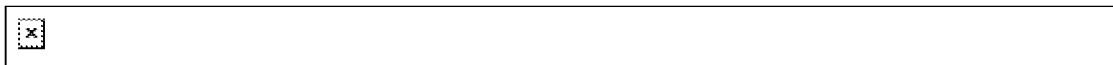
Live from the Palace Theater in Waterbury Connecticut, Craver Hicks, Watson and Newberry join the show. Don't let the name fool you, they aren't providing legal advice, but rocky bluegrass and old time music. Plus the Latest News from Lake Wobegon.

### Bonus Click



#### Cop pulls over Google self-driving car, finds no driver to ticket

A police officer pulled over one of Google's autonomous vehicles recently for driving too slowly, only to find no driver. We can only imagine the disembodied navigation voice apologizing, and saying he's new to the neighborhood.



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**From:** Michigan Radio <michiganradiomarketing@gmail.com>  
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**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Thanksgiving Day specials / Upcoming Issues & Ale events



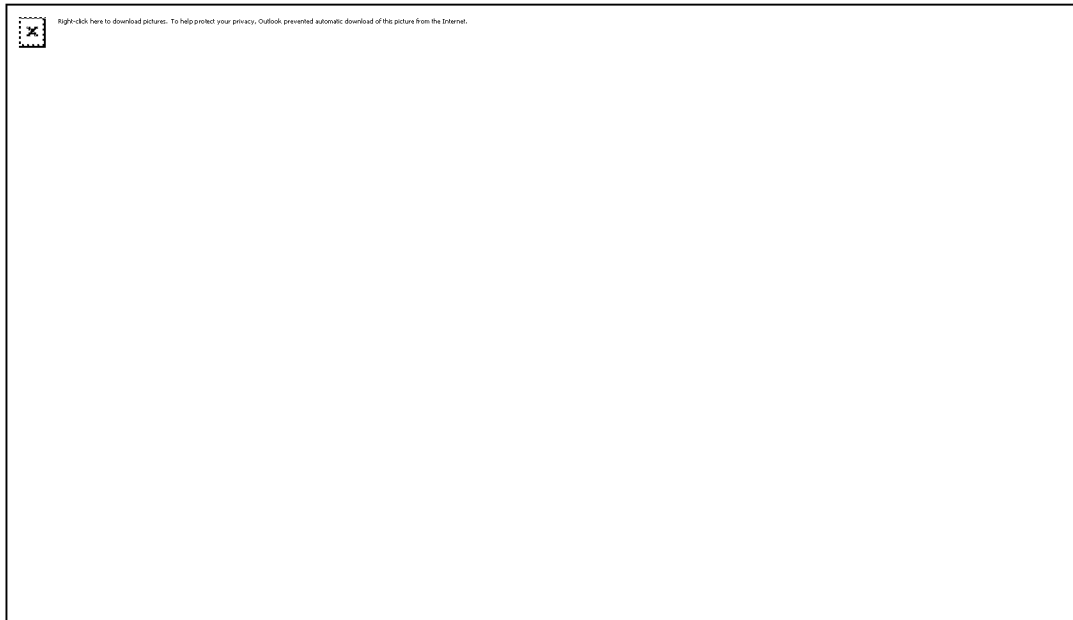
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November 25, 2015

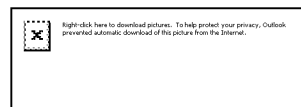


## Tune in for these special shows on Thanksgiving Day

### The Splendid Table's Turkey Confidential

Thurs, Nov. 26 - 12:00-2:00 pm

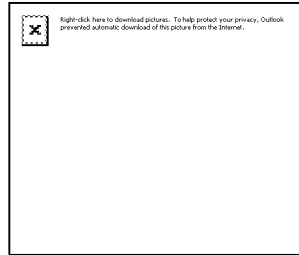
Help is on the way for Thanksgiving cooks from Lynne Rossetto Kasper, host of [The Splendid Table](#). Lynne will answer listener questions throughout the live show, and will be joined by internationally renowned chef and author Jacques Pépin; and food enthusiast and TV personality Nigella Lawson.



## Connections: The Power of Networks, A State of Opportunity Special

Thurs, Nov. 26 - 3:00-4:00 pm

For a lot of us, we got where we are today through a combination of hard work...and some helpful connections along the way. Networks are all around us, if we're lucky. Join State of Opportunity's Jennifer Guerra next Wednesday for [CONNECTIONS](#), a radio documentary about the power of networks.



## Reveal: For Profit Rehab Centers...Neglect and Abuse

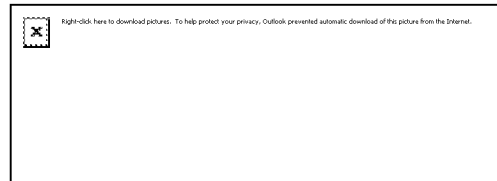
Thurs, Nov 26 - 10:00-11:00 pm

From The Center for Investigative Reporting, this month [Reveal](#) looks at 40 years of abuse and neglect of people with disabilities at specialty rehab centers across the U.S.

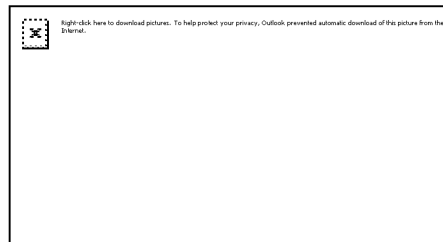


## StoryCorps' "Great Thanksgiving Listen"

You can help [StoryCorps](#) preserve the voices of a generation over the thanksgiving holiday weekend. [Learn more.](#)



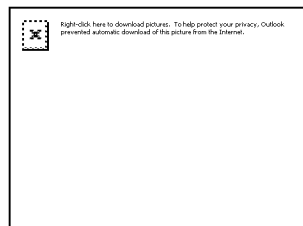
## Stories you might have missed



**Washington Post** piece highlights "tensions" in Hamtramck as "first majority-Muslim" U.S. city

*Washington Post* reporter Sarah Pulliam Bailey writes that the city in 2013 "earned the distinction of becoming what appears to be the first majority-Muslim city in the United States following the arrival of thousands of immigrants. [Mark Brush has more.](#)

## Sponsored events

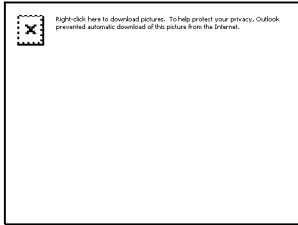


**Sing-A-Long White Christmas**  
Friday, Nov. 27, 7:30 pm  
Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor

Sing along to this Christmas classic starring Bing Crosby and Rosemary Clooney. With on-screen lyrics, interactive props, and more! Join us for caroling with the Barton organ from 7 - 7:30 PM.

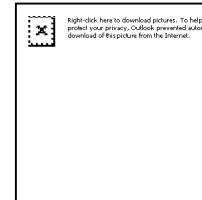
[Tickets and information.](#)

## Upcoming Issues & Ale events



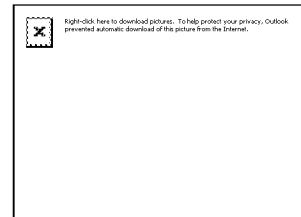
**Issues & Ale: Flint's Water Crisis**  
**Tuesday, Dec. 1, 7:00-8:30 pm**  
**Redwood Brewing, Flint**

Join host Jack Lessenberry as we discuss the latest on Flint's water situation. [Learn more.](#)



**Issues & Ale: The People's Lawyer**  
**Tuesday, Dec. 8, 7:00-8:30 pm**  
**Conor O'Neill's, Ann Arbor**

Join host Jack Lessenberry for this conversation with the so-called godfather of the Michigan Democratic Party, former Attorney General Frank Kelly. [Learn more.](#)



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## This week's top Michigan Radio features



[What priorities will Governor Snyder give up in order to overhaul Detroit schools?](#)



[Some hunters say changes in northern Michigan deer hunting rules mean bigger bucks](#)



[Should Congressman John Conyers make a graceful exit?](#)

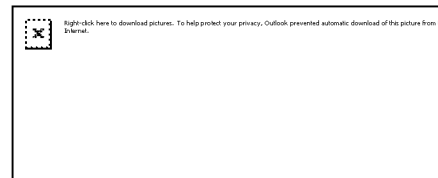
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## Stateside highlights

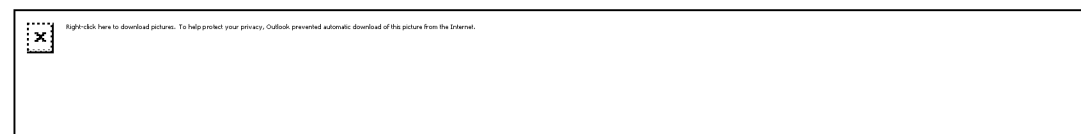
[New Flint Mayor Karen Weaver: "They voted for a new leader, so let me lead."](#)

With the city of Flint's challenges, including the water crisis, its newly elected mayor doesn't have the luxury of gradually learning the ropes.

[More](#)



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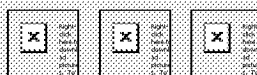
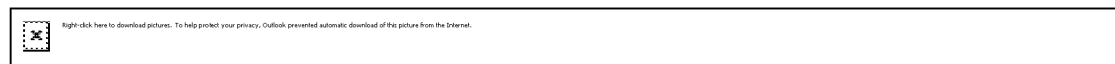
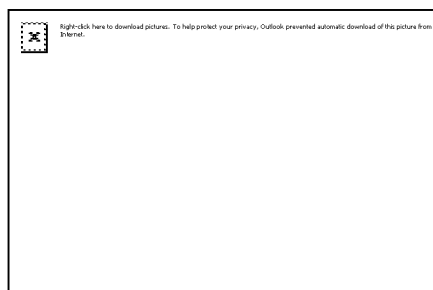
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## Bonus click

### A Cranberry Dish To Relish Far From Home

Every Thanksgiving since 1971, NPR's Susan Stamberg has found a way to sneak her notorious and, yes, weird family recipe for cranberry relish into NPR's coverage. And 2015 is no exception.



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**Subject:** Issues & Ale and Detroit Bankruptcy events



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December 4, 2015



(L to r) Sen. Jim Ananich, Prof. Marc Edwards, Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, Steve Carmody, and Jack Lessenberry

## Flint's drinking water is still not safe

Even though Flint changed back to Detroit's water system in October, the city's tap water is **"still not safe."** That's according to Virginia Tech researcher Marc Edwards, who was a panelist at our Issues & Ale event earlier this week. Flint residents had the opportunity to pose questions to experts about the water crisis at the event, which also included Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha of Hurley Medical Center and State Senator Jim Ananich (D-Flint). If you missed the event, you can [listen to audio here](#), and get [Jack Lessenberry's perspective](#).

## Michigan Radio events



**Issues & Ale: The People's Lawyer**  
**Tuesday, Dec 8, 7:00-8:30 PM**  
**Conor O'Neill's, Ann Arbor**

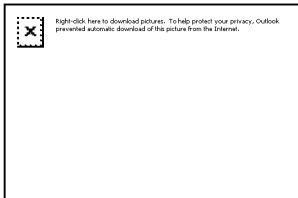
Join host Jack Lessenberry for this conversation with the so-called godfather of the Michigan Democratic Party, former Attorney General Frank Kelly. [Learn more and register.](#)

**Detroit Bankruptcy: One Year Later**  
**Thursday, Dec. 9, 5:30-8:00 PM**  
**Wayne State Community Arts Auditorium, Detroit**

This [Detroit Journalism Cooperative](#) discussion will feature Gov. Rick Snyder, Mayor Mike Duggan and now-retired Bankruptcy Judge Steven Rhodes. [Learn more.](#)



## Stories you might have missed



**Despite Snyder's "pause," Syrian refugees continue to arrive in Michigan**

There's been a lot of confusion on the topic, so let's just clarify something. Syrian refugees are still coming to Michigan. More are expected. And Governor Snyder is fine with that. [More.](#)

**We asked teachers "Have you seen class sizes change over time?"**

It seems like common sense that kids do better in smaller classes, but it's hard to get a clear answer about class sizes in Michigan. We surveyed Michigan elementary school teachers to find out how their class sizes have changed and the impact it's had. [More.](#)



## This Week's Top Michigan Radio Features



**[Split government? Open seats in 2016 could give Democrats a chance at state House control](#)**



**[Detroit bankruptcy lesson: Underfunded pension funds could trip up other municipalities](#)**



**The ACLU is unwilling to do anything meaningful to help push for LGBT civil rights**

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## Stateside Highlights

### **New book "How to Live in Detroit Without Being a Jackass"**

Writer Aaron Foley decided it was time to give visitors and newcomers a dose of Detroit realism. [More](#)

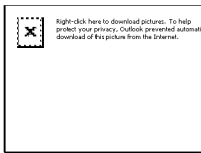
### **What really killed Oscar Wilde?**

Oscar Wilde died 115 years ago this week. A UM historian has a much different theory about what killed the great writer. [More](#)

Listen to [Stateside with Cynthia Canty](#) Monday through Thursday at 3 PM and 10 PM.

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## Weekend Highlights



### **Radiolab**

**Fri 10 pm / Sun 9 pm**

**"23 weeks 6 days"**

This hour focuses on the story of Kelley and Tom, whose daughter was born at 23 weeks and 6 days - roughly halfway to full term. Their story raises questions about the dividing line of life and death, and morality.

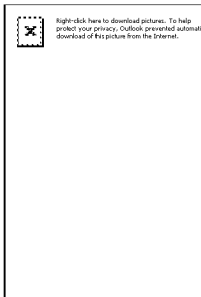


### **On the Media**

**Sat 7 am**

**"Lies, lies, lies"**

It's been quite an election season for inaccuracies -- from biographical claims to policy claims and beyond. We'll offer a taxonomy of lies and consider if any of us can really handle the truth in the political arena.



### **This American Life**

**Sat 1 pm / Sun 3 pm**

**"Home Movies"**

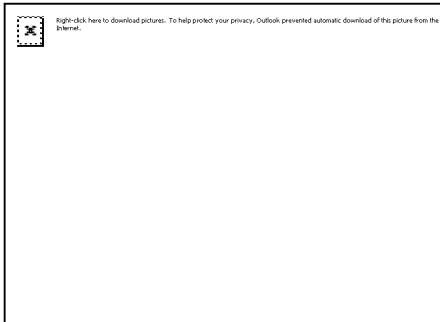
The rituals we document in Home movies are often similar - weddings, vacations and so on. This hour, five stories that start with a typical home movie but take a turn for the unique.



### **The Dinner Party Download**

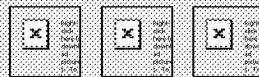
**Sat 3 pm**

Master thespian Sir Ian McKellen with etiquette advice and real talk about his least favorite co-stars... supermodel Cindy Crawford recalls her photo shoot with a 40-pound python... Plus, a history of the Pokemon Shockwave of 1997, a kid show-inspired cocktail, and more!



## Bonus Click

It's been a tough week. We all need to spend some time with the Cat GIF of the Day.



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**Subject:** Issues & Ale and Detroit Bankruptcy events - CORRECTION

**Please note: The day and time indicated for the Detroit Bankruptcy event in our previous newsletter was incorrect. The correct information is shown below.**



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**December 4, 2015**



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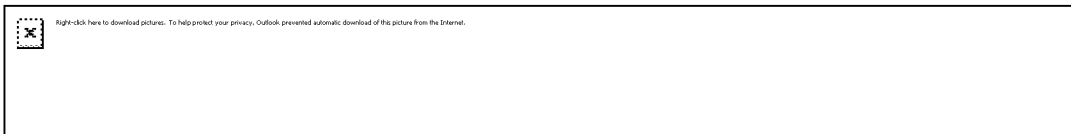
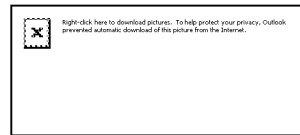


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## Stateside Highlights

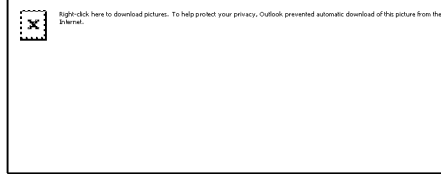
### **New book "How to Live in Detroit Without Being a Jackass"**

Writer Aaron Foley decided it was time to give visitors and newcomers a dose of Detroit realism. [More](#)

### **What really killed Oscar Wilde?**

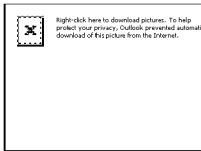
Oscar Wilde died 115 years ago this week. A UM historian has a much different theory about what killed the great writer. [More](#)

Listen to [Stateside with Cynthia Canty](#) Monday through Thursday at 3 PM and 10 PM.



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## Weekend Highlights

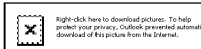


### **Radiolab**

**Fri 10 pm / Sun 9 pm**

**"23 weeks 6 days"**

This hour focuses on the story of Kelley and Tom, whose daughter was born at 23 weeks and 6 days - roughly halfway to full term. Their story raises questions about the dividing line of life and death, and morality.

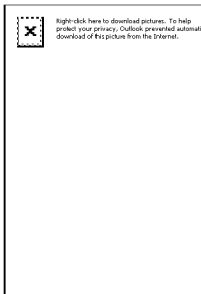


### **On the Media**

**Sat 7 am**

**"Lies, lies, lies"**

It's been quite an election season for inaccuracies -- from biographical claims to policy claims and beyond. We'll offer a taxonomy of lies and consider if any of us can really handle the truth in the political arena.



### **This American Life**

**Sat 1 pm / Sun 3 pm**

**"Home Movies"**

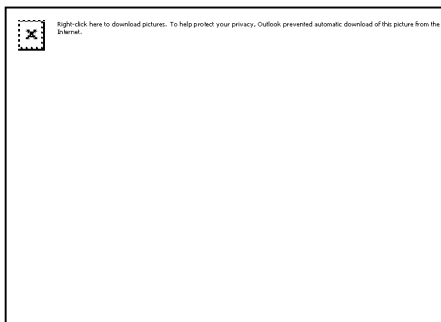
The rituals we document in Home movies are often similar - weddings, vacations and so on. This hour, five stories that start with a typical home movie but take a turn for the unique.



## The Dinner Party Download

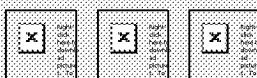
Sat 3 pm

Master thespian Sir Ian McKellen with etiquette advice and real talk about his least favorite co-stars... supermodel Cindy Crawford recalls her photo shoot with a 40-pound python... Plus, a history of the Pokemon Shockwave of 1997, a kid show-inspired cocktail, and more!



## Bonus Click

It's been a tough week. We all need to spend some time with the Cat GIF of the Day.



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<noreply+feedproxy@google.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 04, 2015 6:10 PM  
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**Subject:** state of opportunity

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## Do kids living in Flint stand a chance?

Posted: 04 Dec 2015 10:25 AM PST

This week I saw two very different sides of the city of Flint.

On Tuesday, Genesee County community members gathered for a **Michigan Radio sponsored community forum** event to talk about the Flint water crisis. Most of them were concerned, angry, or a combination of the two.

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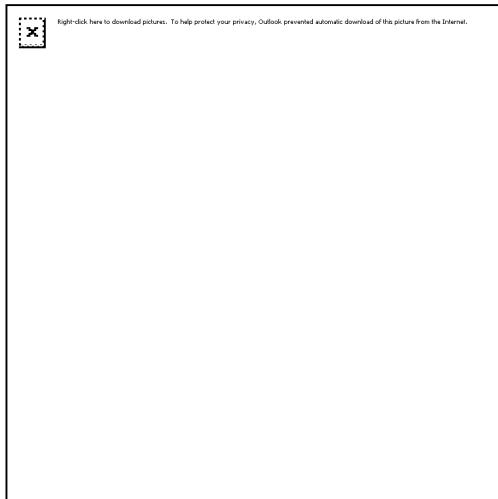
**From:** Michigan Radio <michiganradiomarketing@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 11, 2015 3:04 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Special Documentary: Not Safe to Drink



[Mich Radio News](#)   [Program Schedule](#)   [Events Calendar](#)   [iPhone/Android App](#)

December 11, 2015

Thank you for your support during our December membership drive!



We wrapped up our December membership drive this past Tuesday with over \$400,000 raised. With your support, our news teams will continue to dig deeper to gather the news and analysis you are eager to hear. [Click here](#) for more details on the drive.

## Special Documentary

**Not Safe to Drink**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 3 pm (10 pm repeat)**

What would you do if your tap water turned brown? If it gave your children a rash every time they took a bath? Or worse, if it made them really sick? Tune in next Wednesday for a special documentary, hosted by Lindsey Smith...and hear the wild story about



how the water in Flint became *Not Safe To Drink*.

---

## Featured Event

**UMMA Fridays After 5**  
**Friday, Dec. 11, 5-8 pm**  
**University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor**

 Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.

Enjoy live music from Michigan Pops Jazz Band and ballroom dancing. With all of UMMA's galleries remaining open until 8 pm, this exciting series provides a festive and interactive atmosphere for all audiences. Admission is free. And, save the date for the next Fridays After 5 event on Feb. 12, 2016. [More information>](#)

---

## Upcoming Michigan Radio Event

**Moth StorySLAM: Joy**  
**Tues., Dec. 15, 7:30 PM (doors open at 6 PM)**  
**Circus Bar, Ann Arbor**

 Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.

An experience that brought you utter delight, or a time you were able to provide it for somebody else...Sign up to tell a five-minute story, volunteer to be on a judging team or just sit back and listen. [Learn more>](#)

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## Stories you might have missed



**Here's how you can help Syrian refugees in Michigan** Many people in Michigan want to help - and have been helping - refugees arriving from Syria and other countries. [Here's how.](#)

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**Where Gun Laws Stand In Your State**  
President Obama has called for state and local governments to tighten gun laws, which vary widely. These maps [show where states stand](#) on nine important types of gun measures.



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## This Week's Top Michigan Radio Features



[Republican Legislature looks to wrap up 2015 with a political gift to GOP candidates](#)



[Why isn't road kill picked up on a timely basis across Michigan?](#)



[How one educator brings hip-hop to the classroom](#)



[Commentary: Detroit's Dying Public Schools](#)

---

## Stateside Highlights

### [Searching for a black Santa](#)

For Detroiters, this is going to be the first Christmas without Northland Mail. And that raises a difficult question for the black community -- where will they go to find a black Santa Claus? [More.](#)

### [Ann Arbor couple makes "pointless dreams" come true with improv theater](#)

The Pointless Brewery & Theatre is about to open in Ann Arbor nearly two years after the owner's cancer diagnosis. [More.](#)

Listen to [Stateside with Cynthia Canty](#) Monday through Thursday at 3 PM and 10 PM.

---

## Weekend Highlights



### **The Moth**

**Sat 12 pm and 8 pm**

"Reality TV, an Egg Timer, and a burglary"

This hour, a reality TV show puts true romance in jeopardy, a speechwriter has an explosive showdown with Bill Clinton and more.



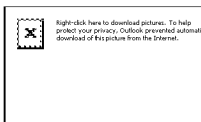


### **This American Life**

**Sat 1 pm / Sun 3 pm**

**"Sinatra's 100th Birthday"**

For Frank Sinatra's 100th birthday; stories, tributes and attempts to understand Ol' Blue Eyes.

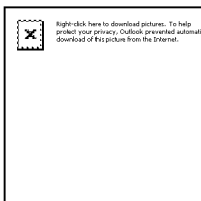


### **Snap Judgment**

**Sat 2 pm and 9 pm**

**"Better Half"**

You see it all the time, a couple, hand in hand, and you think to yourself...How is she with him?



### **A Prairie Home Companion**

**Sat 6 pm / Sun 12 pm**

**"One of those Nights"**

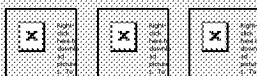
This week, it's the final live holiday broadcast at The Town Hall in New York city. Keb' Mo' illustrates his modern take on the blues, singing sisters from Brooklyn, and more. Plus the latest News from Lake Wobegon.



## **Bonus Click**

### **People Are Naming Their Babies After Instagram Filters**

Lux, Amaro, Valencia and Juno. Those are names of some of the filters you can use on Instagram to adjust how your picture looks. Those are also popular names for babies in 2015. It's not a coincidence.



### **Forward this email**



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**Subject:** state of opportunity

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## Flint pediatrician: Out of water crisis, opportunity

Posted: 14 Dec 2015 11:11 AM PST

Last week I wrote about concerns facing kids living in the city of Flint. The biggest concern as of late revolves around **negative health impacts** due to the **water crisis**. The fear is that the behavioral and health consequences will put already disadvantaged children in an even tougher position to get ahead.

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**Subject:** This Week in Michigan Public Higher Education News - Dec. 18, 2015



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## December 13, 2015

This Week in Michigan Public Higher Education News will not publish again until January 2016. Happy holidays from all of us here at MASU!

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### In the News

#### Accountability

[MI Universities Show Compelling Growth \[Press release\]](#)  
*Business Leaders for Michigan* (Dec. 14, 2015)

#### Collaboration

[WMU weighs Battle Creek expansion](#)  
*Battle Creek Enquirer* (Dec. 15, 2015)

#### College Access & Affordability

[Poorest areas have low student debt, highest defaults](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 13, 2015)

[He's a college senior with a 3.4 GPA. And he's homeless. \[EMU\]](#)  
*Bridge Magazine* (Dec. 17, 2015)

[Update: Bridge readers open hearts, wallets for homeless college student \[EMU\]](#)  
*Bridge Magazine* (Dec. 18, 2015)

#### Diversity on Campus

[Pollack discusses campus diversity at Senate Assembly \[UM\]](#)  
*The Michigan Daily* (Dec. 14, 2015)

[Fixing faculty diversity: It's time we do more than just talk about it \[MSU\]](#)  
*Michigan Radio* (Dec. 15, 2015)

WSW: WMU President Says Campus Needs to Remain "Inclusive"  
*WMUK FM* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## **Economic Development**

Switch-ing off the brain drain [GVSU]  
*WOOD TV* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## **Educational Attainment**

More than 75 percent of seniors apply during Midland County College Application Week [SVSU]  
*Midland Daily News* (Dec. 13, 2015)

Study: Higher education is key to Michigan's future but comes with \$500M annual price tag  
*MLive* (Dec. 14, 2015)

Third generation UM-Flint student tours campus with grandpa, part of first class  
*MLive* (Dec. 16, 2015)

Congressman Dan Kildee, a CMU grad, to speak at daughter's CMU graduation  
*MLive* (Dec. 17, 2015)

Business, higher education partner to unveil "Keep Learning, Michigan" campaign  
*MLive* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## **Facilities Planning & Campus Improvement**

Western Michigan University selects design firms for Business Technology & Research Park expansion  
*MIBiz* (Dec. 11, 2015)

Medical school project at Western Michigan University receives honors  
*American School & University Magazine* (Dec. 11, 2015)

Canceled field trip prompts MSU to offer FRIB tour option  
*Lansing State Journal* (Dec. 11, 2015)

Wireless Internet lacking in most MSU dorm rooms  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 12, 2015)

City allocates funds for Washington/Bellows roundabout [CMU]  
*Central Michigan Life* (Dec. 14, 2015)

Repairs Of Eastern Michigan University's Athletic Dome Depends On The Weather  
*WEMU FM* (Dec. 15, 2015)

FRIB up for full \$100M in federal funding  
*Lansing State Journal* (Dec. 16, 2015)

U-M to build \$10M multicultural center  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 17, 2015)

Respect environment in developing WMU business park, public says at input session  
*MLive* (Dec. 18, 2015)

## **Governance**

[EMU's education faculty submits 'no confidence' vote in regents over EAA issue](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 15, 2015)

[EMU education faculty votes to censure regents' chairman after comments on EAA](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 18, 2015)

## Higher Education Finance - Institutional Dynamics

[NMU Board hears Students on Self-harm Policy, Approves Revised Budget, Property Sale](#)  
*WJMN TV* (Dec. 11, 2015)

[Schlissel: U-M shouldn't divest fossil fuel holdings](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 14, 2015)

[Appaloosa Protege to Manage Money for University of Michigan](#)  
*Bloomberg* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## Higher Education Finance - State Capital Outlay

[Lake Michigan College Gets State Help With Renovation Project](#)  
*WSJM FM* (Dec. 15, 2015)

## Higher Education Finance - State Operating Support

[State representatives face challenges in majority-GOP legislature](#)  
*The Michigan Daily* (Dec. 12, 2015)

## Higher Education Finance - State Student Financial Aid

[State's prepaid college plan opens 2016 enrollment](#)  
*The Macomb Daily* (Dec. 11, 2015)

## Institutional Leadership

[Wayne State president gets 2-year contract extension](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 15, 2015)

## Leadership Transitions

[EMU announces interim provost to replace departing Kim Schatzel](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 17, 2015)

[Board secretary Betty Kocher exits WMU after serving 7 presidents and dozens of board trustees](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 16, 2015)

[University of Michigan names Jack Hu V.P. for Research](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 17, 2015)

[Harvey Hollins tapped to lead Flint water effort](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## Philanthropic Support

OU student knows challenges of single parenthood, offers scholarship  
*The Oakland Press* (Dec. 11, 2015)

'World-class' \$7.5-million jazz hub set for Wayne State  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 13, 2015)

Novi schools get Japan Business Society donation [UM, EMU, JCMU]  
*Hometown Life* (Dec. 15, 2015)

House Family Foundation Gives \$2.3 Million to Michigan Tech  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 15, 2015)

WMU receives second grant for Fostering Success program  
*WWMT TV* (Dec. 15, 2015)

University of Michigan-Flint gets one of the largest donations in its history  
*MLive* (Dec. 17, 2015)

WMU president donates salary increase to school  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 18, 2015)

## Program Delivery

330-year-old violin granted to GVSU professor  
*Grand Valley Lanthorn* (Dec. 13, 2015)

CMU photojournalism students profile immigrants  
*WNEM TV* (Dec. 16, 2015)

## Recognitions & Awards

Sensible Explainer: Susan Dynarski [UM]  
*The Chronicle of Higher Education* (Dec. 13, 2015)

UF ranked second-best value for public universities [UM]  
*The Gainesville Sun (FL)* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## Safety & Health

Students address board members about wellness policies [NMU]  
*ABC 10 News* (Dec. 11, 2015)

Six takeaways from ASMSU's last meeting of the year [MSU]  
*The State News* (Dec. 11, 2015)

New law exempts young adults if they report drug abuse  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 16, 2015)

## Student Success

NMU graduates class of 2015  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 12, 2015)

Nearly 1,000 Grand Valley State graduates walk across stage

[MLive \(Dec. 12, 2015\)](#)

[Allegan man overcomes doctors' predictions, set to graduate from WMU](#)  
[WWMT TV \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

## Workforce Alignment

[Grant to fund police academy for Port Huron cadets \[FSU\]](#)  
[The Times Herald \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

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## Commentaries

[Some college, no degree, lots of debt: A burden for students, schools and communities](#)  
[Bridge Magazine \(Dec. 11, 2015\)](#)

[SVSU showing support to Muslims during critical time](#)  
[The Valley Vanguard \(Dec. 13, 2015\)](#)

[WMU has failed as Colony Farm Orchard steward \(Guest column\)](#)  
[MLive \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

[Is Southeast Michigan set to go over retirement cliff?](#)  
[Crain's Detroit Business \(Dec. 17, 2015\)](#)

[When it comes to talent, Michigan needs more of everything](#)  
[Bridge Magazine \(Dec. 17, 2015\)](#)

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## State & National Reports

### Michigan in Context

[REPORT: Current Term Enrollment Estimates - Fall 2015](#)  
[National Student Clearinghouse Research Center \(Dec. 15, 2015\)](#)  
Higher education enrollment for Fall 2015 in Michigan is down by 3.9% across all sectors of higher education providers.

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## The Dean's List

### The Lighter Side of the News

[SVSU coach, bowler, alum set national record one pin shy of perfection](#)  
[MLive \(Dec. 15, 2015\)](#)

[Watch this: U-M engineering dean's 'Star Wars' rap](#)  
[Detroit Free Press \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

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**Subject:** Not Safe to Drink; Tiny Desk Contest



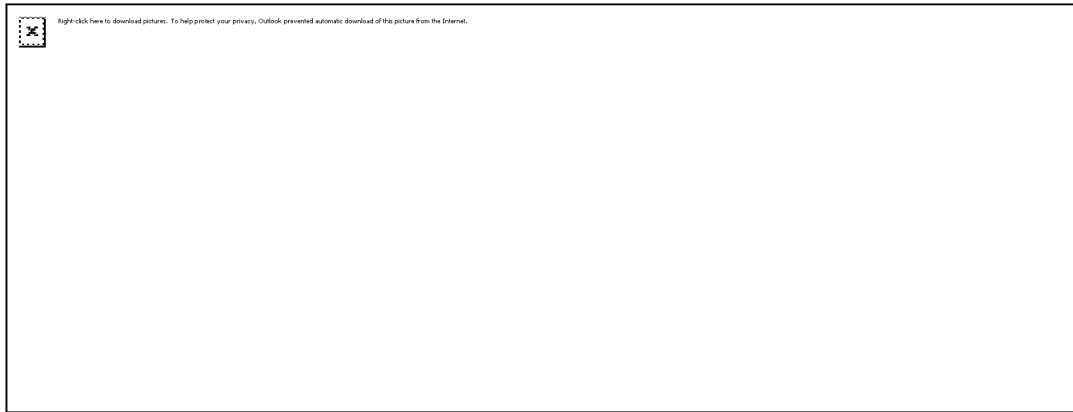
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December 18, 2015



## Not Safe to Drink

What would you do if your tap water turned brown? Or worse, if it made your kids really sick? If you missed our documentary about how the water in Flint became [Not Safe to Drink](#), you can listen to it on Michigan Radio this Sunday at 6:00pm, or [find it on our website](#), along with extra online content about the city's water crisis.

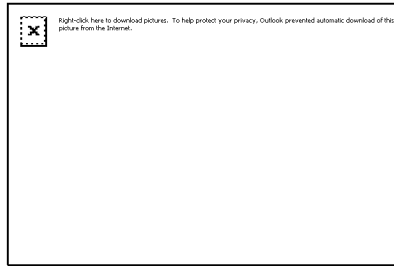
As part of our coverage, we gave one Flint family a disposable camera and asked them to take photos of the way the Flint water crisis affected their day-to-day life. You can hear from the family themselves [in this video](#).

Note: The governor's office contacted Michigan Radio to take issue with a portion of reporting on this story. You can learn more about that in this [Reporter's Notebook from Lindsey Smith](#).

## Featured Event

**Ira Glass**  
**Sunday, January 24, 3:00pm**  
**Miller Auditorium, Kalamazoo**

The creator of *This American Life* talks about his program and how it's put together. [Tickets and information.](#)

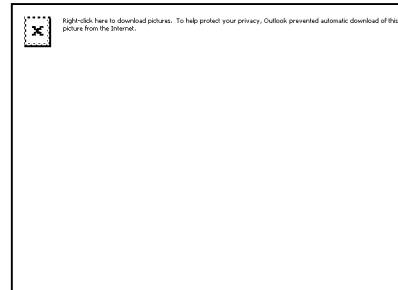


## Stories you might have missed



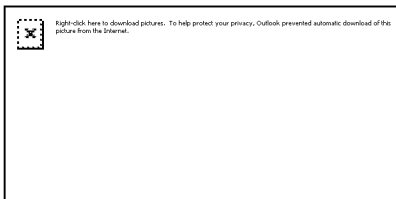
### Making a way out of no way

As part of our year-long [Bringing Up Detroit](#) series, we [catch up with Christina Lumpkin](#) and her family.



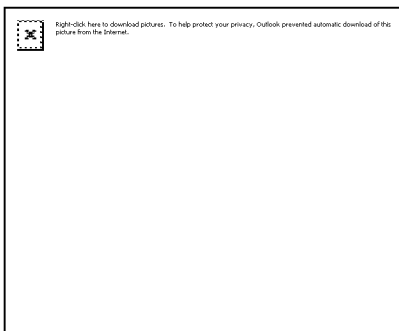
### Group pushes alternatives to oil pipeline beneath the Mackinac Straits

An [environmental group says](#) oil pipelines running beneath the Mackinac Straits could be shut down without disrupting oil supplies.



## NPR's 'Tiny Desk' Contest

NPR Music is bringing back their [Tiny Desk](#) contest, asking unknown bands and musicians all over the country to film themselves performing one song at a desk of their choice. [Learn more.](#)



## Your year-end gift comes back to you

A year-end contribution is a great way to support Michigan Radio while taking advantage of tax savings. Your contribution will count for 2015 tax year credit if you contribute online before midnight on December 31, or send a check that is postmarked by December 31. To make your gift, [click here](#).

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## This Week's Top Michigan Radio Features



[NASA scientists track air pollution from space](#)



[Will Gov. Rick Snyder hit the pause button on efforts to take in more Syrian refugees?](#)



[Backlash against Muslims takes a toll on imams](#)



[Commentary: Worse than Citizens United](#)

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## Stateside Highlights

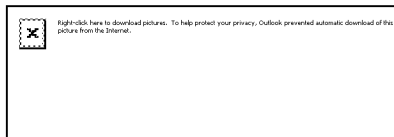
[Can a Detroit start-up curb gun violence?](#)

How do we keep guns out of the wrong hands? A Detroit based company may have an answer. [More.](#)

[When did we start calling Michigan "the Mitten State?"](#)

Today it's not so hard to see why we call Michigan the mitten state. But people weren't always good at making maps. [More.](#)

Listen to [Stateside](#) Monday through Thursday at 3 PM and 10 PM.



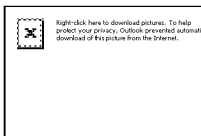
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## Weekend Highlights



**TED Radio Hour**  
**Sat 6 am / Sun 8 pm**  
**"The Hero's Journey"**

TED speakers explore what's behind a hero's journey. From The Odyssey to Robinson Crusoe and Star Wars -- why are we drawn to stories about heroes? And what do they tell us about ourselves?

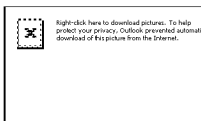


### **The Moth**

**Sat 12 pm & 8 pm**

**"Sing Sing, Ornaments, Car Accidents, and Curses"**

In this special holiday edition of The Moth; a family tradition endures scandal, a daughter honors her mother's last Christmas wish and more.

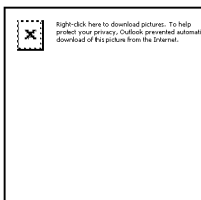


### **Snap Judgment**

**Sat 2 pm & 9 pm**

**"The Fall Guy"**

Who are they going to turn to when the dust settles and someone has to take the blame?



### **A Prairie Home Companion**

**Sat 6 pm / Sun 12 pm**

**"Merry and Bright"**

This week, plenty of Holiday Festivities, including songs from Maria Jette and Lynn Peterson. And a showcase of the season's sounds with rare music boxes and pump organs.

## **Bonus Click**

### **Ten 'Star Wars' Movie Mistakes**

Unless you've been living in an ice cave on the planet Hoth, you're probably aware that "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" is now in theaters. Let's go back and view [some of the mistakes](#) from the original Star Wars movies you may have missed.



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December 23, 2015



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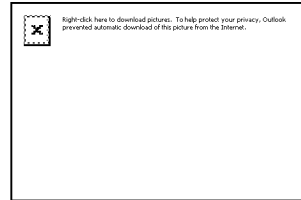
We may not have a white Christmas, but we extend our  
best wishes for the holiday season and a wonderful 2016!

We hope you'll tune in for these special shows over the  
holidays

**December 24, 3 pm & 10 pm**

**Mr. Knight's Neighborhood: A *State of Opportunity* Special**

Jennifer Guerra brings the story of Cody High School's Coach Knight and the students he's trying to help stay on track.



**December 24, 8 pm**

**Tinsel Tales #3**

Audie Cornish, Nina Totenberg and other voices from NPR's past and present tell stories of the season in this hour-long special...an NPR holiday tradition.

**December 25, 9 am**

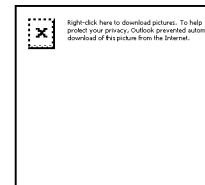
**BBC Newshour 2015 Quiz**

It's the annual BBC World Service end-of-year quiz, testing two teams of Newshour presenters on their knowledge of the events and people making news during 2015.

**December 25, 4 pm**

**All Things Considered**

Tune in for "Santa for President," an original radio play bringing together the election and the holiday seasons, featuring the voices of Rachel Dratch and Mo Rocca.



**January 1, 10 pm**

**Homemade Stories: The Struggle is Real**

Detroit storyteller Shannon Cason takes us on a journey that finds hope in struggle.

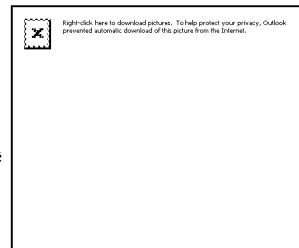


## State of Opportunity Changes

Today we bid a fond farewell to Brittany Bartkowiak, who has worked for Michigan Radio's *State of Opportunity* team as Outreach Producer. Besides being SOO's voice in the community, she has covered a wide range of stories including college affordability, foster care and juvenile justice reform. Brittany is leaving us to begin work at CARE House of Oakland County.

## Your year-end gift comes back to you

A year-end contribution is a great way to support Michigan Radio while taking advantage of tax savings. Your contribution will count for 2015 tax year credit if you contribute online before midnight on December 31, or send a check that is postmarked by December 31. [Make your gift here.](#)



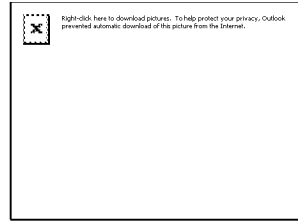
## Stories you might have missed

## Detroit: First year out of bankruptcy (a Detroit Journalism Cooperative documentary)

Lester Graham hosts this special report looking at the progress, struggles, and failures in Detroit during the city's first year out of bankruptcy. [You can find it here.](#)

### Recommendations we think you'll love

As the year winds down, [here's some recommended reading and listening](#) for *State of Opportunity* fans.



## This Week's Top Michigan Radio Features



[Virginia Tech researcher accuses state health officials of "hiding" data on Flint's water](#)



[1,762 people died from drug overdoses in Michigan in 2014 alone](#)



[Commentary: With Trump - we've seen this before](#)

## Stateside Highlights



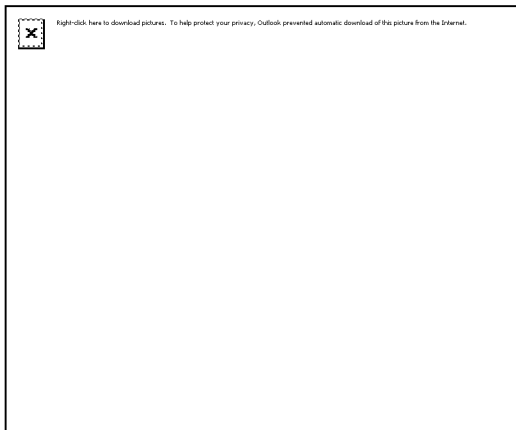
### [Words of the Year with Anne Curzan](#)

Some of the words in the running for 'Word of the Year' aren't even words. [More](#)

### [Michigan teacher: Before race or religion, come together on a human level](#)

In an environment filled with increasing rhetoric aimed at followers of Islam, the Muslim community has been put on the defensive. [More](#)

Listen to [Stateside](#) Monday through Thursday at 3 PM and 10 PM.

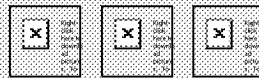
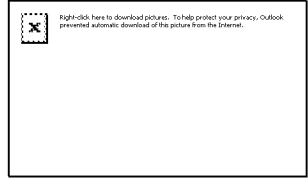




## Bonus Click

### The Science Behind Baking Your Ideal Chocolate Chip Cookie

It's holiday cookie baking time, and NPR's The Salt blog offers [these no-fail tips for baking your perfect cookie](#).



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**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Stewardship - The State Universities and the Public Good - Jan. 4, 2016



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## January 4, 2016

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# Civic Engagement & Civic Education

[U-M Library lands papers of indie film producer](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 2, 2015)

[NMU Brings Holiday Cheer to Marquette](#)  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 2, 2015)

['Star Wars': WMU wants to know what the films have taught you about ethics](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 4, 2015)

[EMU student from Livonia launches campus food pantry](#)  
*Hometown Life* (Dec. 4, 2015)

[Muslim Student Association speaks out regarding San Bernardino attack \[MTU\]](#)  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 8, 2015)

[5 takeaways from Ben Carson's visit to Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti \[EMU, UM\]](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 9, 2015)

[UM-D students urge City Council to vote on Syrian refugee resolution](#)  
*Arab American News* (Dec. 10, 2015)

[LSSU Student Government seeks to create food pantry](#)  
*Sault Ste. Marie Evening News* (Dec. 11, 2015)

[University group works to organize shuttle bus service to help those who live downstate \[LSSU\]](#)  
*Sault Ste. Marie Evening News* (Dec. 12, 2015)

[NMU faculty, staff donate to Cheer Club](#)  
*The Mining Journal* (Dec. 13, 2015)

[Michigan student raises funds, hope for Humans of New York refugee scientist](#)

[USA Today \(Dec. 15, 2015\)](#)

[University forum discusses tactics about ISIS \[NMU\]](#)

[ABC 10 News \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

[Herrick Library to collect stories of Holland's Asian, Pacific Islander residents](#)

[Holland Sentinel \(Dec. 22, 2015\)](#)

[MSU creates center to help struggling Michigan local governments](#)

[Michigan Radio \(Dec. 29, 2015\)](#)

## **Culture & Placemaking**

[Concert caps off Native American Heritage Month \[UM\]](#)

[The Michigan Daily \(Dec. 1, 2015\)](#)

[Ferris State University Students to Put On Free Holiday Concert](#)

[9 & 10 News \(Dec. 8, 2015\)](#)

[National Endowment for the Arts awards Grand Rapids \\$50K in grants \[GVSU\]](#)

[MLive \(Dec. 8, 2015\)](#)

[University of Michigan students help fight blight in Detroit's Brightmoor neighborhood](#)

[WXYZ TV \(Dec. 11, 2015\)](#)

[GVSU music students to perform in national parks](#)

[WZZM TV \(Dec. 14, 2015\)](#)

## **Economic Development**

### **Innovation & Entrepreneurialism**

[Midland-based Map-N-Tour receives business accelerator funding \[OU\]](#)

[Midland Daily News \(Dec. 7, 2015\)](#)

[La. Tech faculty team selected for NSF Pathways to Innovation Program \[GVSU\]](#)

[The News Star \(LA\) \(Dec. 8, 2015\)](#)

[UM-Flint student starts bow tie business in his apartment](#)

[WJRT TV \(Dec. 8, 2015\)](#)

[Grand Rapids firm to begin trials on Alzheimer's drug that improves memory \[GVSU\]](#)

[MLive \(Dec. 9, 2015\)](#)

[Q&A: How clean-energy policies drive economic development \[OU\]](#)

[Midwest Energy News \(Dec. 10, 2015\)](#)

[A conversation with a queen of start-up innovation](#)

[The Detroit News \(Dec. 12, 2015\)](#)

[Grand Valley State University graduate students, alumni compete for \\$1M prize](#)

[Holland Sentinel \(Dec. 16, 2015\)](#)

# Research, Development & Technology Transfer

Energy Department awards \$12.4 million to 4 Michigan projects [UM]  
*Crain's Detroit Business* (Dec. 1, 2015)

Simulation technology close imitation of fantasy films [CMU]  
*Central Michigan Life* (Dec. 6, 2015)

MSU helps to fight crime with CSI-style technology  
*Michigan Radio* (Dec. 7, 2015)

New software analyses words, gestures to detect lies [UM]  
*The Economic Times (India)* (Dec. 10, 2015)

10 Most Efficient Four-Wheel Drive Vehicles for Winter Weather [MTU, UM]  
*The Street* (Dec. 9, 2015)

WMU to hold first public input sessions on expansion of BTR Park  
*MLive* (Dec. 10, 2015)

Federal grant to help gather historical info on migrants [GVSU]  
*9&10 News* (Dec. 15, 2015)

MTU professor studies how to properly dispose of nano particles  
*The Mining Journal* (Dec. 15, 2015)

UM researchers win grant for protective gear research  
*Crain's Detroit Business* (Dec. 15, 2015)

Could Evolution Ever Yield a 'Perfect' Organism? [MSU]  
*Discover Magazine* (Dec. 16, 2015)

Humans Are Slamming Into Driverless Cars and Exposing a Key Flaw [UM]  
*Bloomberg* (Dec. 17, 2015)

The case of the sticky protein [MTU]  
*Phys.org* (Dec. 18, 2015)

Rare isotope accelerator takes shape on MSU's campus  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 22, 2015)

Cronyism Causes the Worst Kind of Inequality [UM]  
*Bloomberg View* (Dec. 24, 2015)

# Environmental Sustainability

Tech analysis backs dust charge  
*Mining Gazette* (Dec. 1, 2015)

[Limestone dumped in Lake Michigan aims to rehab reef \[CMU\]](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 2, 2015)

[Large solar dawns in Michigan, but residential incentives may sunset \[MSU\]](#)  
*Great Lakes Echo* (Dec. 4, 2015)

[Pollution sampling not so simple \[MTU\]](#)  
*Mining Gazette* (Dec. 5, 2015)

[EMU to hold State of the Strait conference](#)  
*Eastern Echo* (Dec. 5, 2015)

[Oil spill, high waves: A Great Lakes disaster scenario \[UM\]](#)  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 6, 2015)

[Endangered or not? Scientists, lawmakers renew gray wolf debate \[MTU\]](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 13, 2015)

[New '2030 District' vows to slash downtown energy use by 50 percent \[GVSU, FSU\]](#)  
*MLive* (Dec. 14, 2015)

## Faculty Perspective & Expertise

[WMU Professor: Progress made this week at Paris Climate Summit](#)  
*WNWN FM* (Dec. 4, 2015)

[Can you spot the crab? \[NMU\]](#)  
*The Straits Times [Singapore]* (Dec. 6, 2015)

[Michigan could soon part ways with straight-ticket voting \[NMU\]](#)  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 7, 2015)

[Flu Shots for Hospital Workers Save Lives \[UM\]](#)  
*The Wall Street Journal* (Dec. 13, 2015)

[Sensible Explainer: Susan Dynarski \[UM\]](#)  
*The Chronicle of Higher Education* (Dec. 13, 2015)

[Northern Michigan Economists, Experts Reacts To US Interest Rate Uptick \[CMU\]](#)  
*9&10 News* (Dec. 16, 2015)

[Genetically modified fish: coming to a store near you? \[NMU\]](#)  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 16, 2015)

[What does Federal interest rate hike mean for local consumers? \[OU\]](#)  
*The Oakland Press* (Dec. 16, 2015)

[Is a 'Star Wars' lightsaber possible? MSU profs explain](#)  
*Lansing State Journal* (Dec. 18, 2015)

[Q&A: Paul Isely, Associate Dean, Grand Valley State University Seidman College of Business](#)  
*MiBiz* (Dec. 20, 2015)

West Michigan doctor calls 'Concussion' movie an 'a-ha' moment for football players, coaches  
[GVSU, MSU]  
*MLive* (Dec. 22, 2015)

## Health Care

MSU Team Comes Up With Depression Plan  
*WILX TV* (Dec. 1, 2015)

RENEW-U exercise machine developed at Michigan Tech  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 4, 2015)

Water tests conducted at Flint homes by Wayne State University researchers  
*MLive* (Dec. 5, 2015)

UM survey: National teenage use of illegal drugs falls  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 16, 2015)

## K-12 Outreach

Students get hands-on introduction to STEM fields [OU]  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 2, 2015)

Hour of Code week [MTU]  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 8, 2015)

CMU mentoring program gives elementary kids a buddy during lunch  
*The Morning Sun* (Dec. 10, 2015)

'Shop With a Cop' brings holiday cheer to Ypsilanti area kids [EMU]  
*MLive* (Dec. 10, 2015)

Folk music camp coming to NMU  
*WLUC TV* (Dec. 17, 2015)

## Global Outreach

See the world with fellow U-M, MSU, WSU alumni  
*The Detroit News* (Dec. 12, 2015)

Indian-American Surgeon Aims to Save Lives on Indian Roads [MSU]  
*The New Indian Express [India]* (Dec. 20, 2015)

PUC partners international universities for research [SVSU]  
*STARR FM [Ghana]* (Dec. 30, 2015)

## Public Safety

Battle Creek base's new cyber unit to bring 70 new jobs  
*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 9, 2015)

Michigan Tech's ROTC comments on combat eligibility for women

*WLUC TV* (Dec. 10, 2015)

[New trial sought for man in Detroit girl's '96 murder \[UM\]](#)

*Detroit Free Press* (Dec. 14, 2015)

[Saginaw approves \\$300K grant to help victims of crime \[SVSU\]](#)

*MLive* (Dec. 22, 2015)

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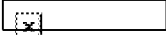


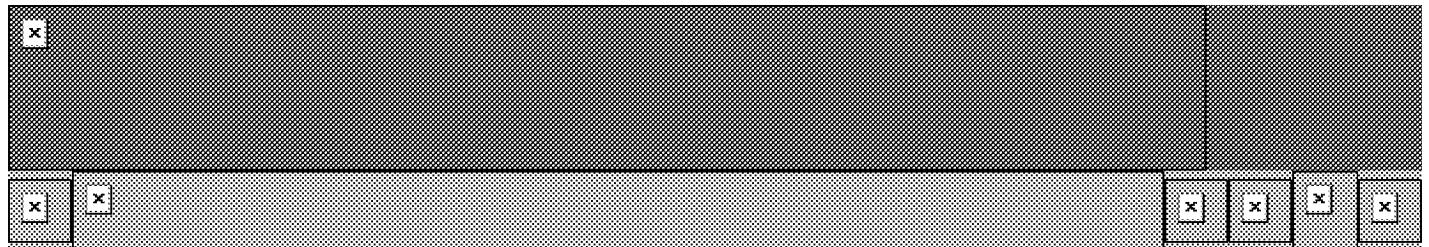
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**From:** Michigan Economic Development Corporation  
<DoNotReply@info.MichiganBusiness.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 19, 2015 2:35 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MEDC Daily: Gov. has right idea in funding trades training

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## Growth Opportunities

- ▶ [Gov. has right idea in funding trades training](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Grand Haven Tribune** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Canada agrees to fund U.S. customs plaza for new Detroit-Windsor bridge](#) [Read Story](#)  
**MLive.com** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Beaumont breaks ground on \\$40 million proton beam center in Royal Oak](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Crain's Detroit Business** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Gilbert aims to add apartments in historic Capitol Park](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Detroit News** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [New \\$7M critical care center opens in University of Michigan Hospital Emergency Department](#) [Read Story](#)  
**MLive.com** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [See inside Lucky's Market, Ann Arbor's newest grocery store](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Ann Arbor News, The** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Sparrow wins OK for \\$20M medical office near Frandor](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Lansing State Journal, The** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [USA Today's best coastal small town: Saugatuck in the running for title](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Holland Sentinel** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Three necessities for taking your business to the next level](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Grand Rapids Business Journal** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Startup develops web app for filmmakers](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Grand Rapids Business Journal** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Universal Forest Products beats Wall Street profit estimates](#) [Read Story](#)  
**MLive.com** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Bitter January doesn't stop Ford Airport flier numbers from soaring](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Grand Rapids Press** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Millions of dollars headed to Mid-Michigan to help the environment](#) [Read Story](#)  
**WJRT-TV** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Saginaw Valley State University approves WiFi upgrades for students](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Midland Daily News** – 02/19/2015



- ▶ [Flint River area expected to see 'dramatic change' with redevelopment over next decade](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Flint Journal, The** – 02/19/2015

## Talent

- ▶ [Gov. Snyder puts renewed emphasis on blue-collar jobs](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Grand Haven Tribune** – 02/19/2015

## MEDC in the News

- ▶ [\\$10,000 Crowdfunding Campaign Launched To Support UICA's Exit Space Project](#) [Read Story](#)  
**MITECHNEWS.com** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Saginaw Green pocket park planned for downtown Pontiac](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Metromode** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [SME Announces Return of THE BIG M to Detroit, Will Showcase Advanced Manufacturing Technology, Industry Solutions](#) [Read Story](#)  
**PRWeb.com** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Absopure celebrates new winter packaging with Northern Michigan Winter Getaway to Boyne Mountain](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Daily Tribune** – 02/19/2015

## Beyond Michigan

- ▶ [White House Names Nation's First Chief Data Scientist](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Wall Street Journal - San Francisco Bureau** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Applications for U.S. unemployment aid plummet to 283K](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Associated Press (AP)** – 02/19/2015
- ▶ [Delphi surges quietly by design](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Detroit News** – 02/19/2015

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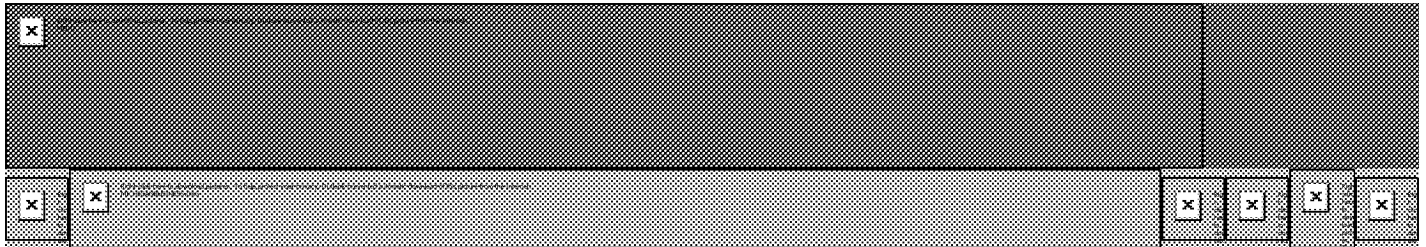
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- ▶ [GM to invest \\$520M at Lansing plant for new vehicles](#) [Read Story](#)  
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**Detroit Free Press** – 04/30/2015
- ▶ [Super Bowl of conventions to hit Detroit](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Detroit Free Press** – 04/30/2015
- ▶ [Dow Chemical selling AgroFresh business for \\$860M](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Associated Press (AP)** – 04/30/2015
- ▶ [‘A heavy burden’ lifted from Flint as Gov. Rick Snyder declares end of financial emergency](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Flint Journal, The** – 04/30/2015
- ▶ [DSW CEO and Flint native returning to hometown to open new store](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Flint Journal, The** – 04/30/2015
- ▶ [Real Seafood Co. at Uptown Bay City opens May 6; here's everything you need to know](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Bay City Times** – 04/30/2015

## Talent

- ▶ [Lansing Youth Startup Challenge held for student entrepreneurs.](#) [Read Story](#)  
**WLNS-TV** – 04/30/2015
- ▶ [OU President Hynd voices commitment to liberal arts degree during inauguration](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Crain's Detroit Business - Online** – 04/30/2015
- ▶ [CMU to offer online doctoral degree in educational technology](#) [Read Story](#)  
**WNEM-TV** – 04/30/2015

## MEDC in the News

- ▶ [State approves grant for Michigan Chronicle headquarters building project](#)  
**Crain's Detroit Business** – 04/30/2015 [Read Story](#)
- ▶ [St. Clair wins state grant for plaza](#)  
**Port Huron Times Herald** – 04/30/2015 [Read Story](#)

## Beyond Michigan

- ▶ [Michigan-based SpartanNash buying N. Dakota chain](#)  
**Associated Press (AP)** – 04/30/2015 [Read Story](#)
- ▶ [Applications for unemployment aid plunge to 15-year low](#)  
**Associated Press** – 04/30/2015 [Read Story](#)

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**From:** The American Legion <cs@legion.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 24, 2013 4:07 PM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Brooklawn players head to Fenway Park

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The American Legion Online Update

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## Legion players among honorees at World Series

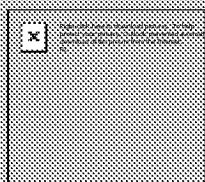
The team from Brooklawn (N.J.) Post 72, the 2013 Legion World Series champions, will be honored tonight at the World Series in Fenway Park.

[Read more](#) | [Video of Medal of Honor recipients at Series](#)



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What issue that was neglected during the government shutdown would you place highest on Washington's agenda?

## Two defining moments, 30 years ago

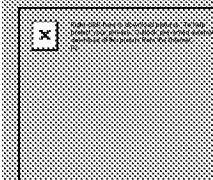


### How the Military Got Its Mojo Back

Thirty years ago this week – the week of Oct. 25 – the U.S. invaded the Caribbean island of Grenada  
[Read More](#)

## This week's headlines

- March in nation's largest Veterans Day event
- Youth take on highway litter
- Legionnaire Writes Book on Unusual 9/11 Story and Events Before and After
- New Jersey Legionnaire recognized for job efforts
- Riders appointed to National Advisory Committee
- Centennial Celebration website gains popularity
- Legion College to welcome its 2013 class

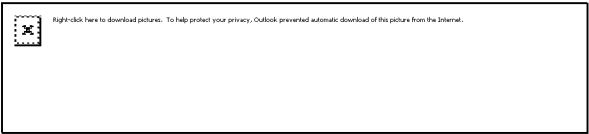


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## Beirut Barracks Bombings

220 Marines, 18 sailors and three soldiers, were killed and 60 Americans were injured when a truck bomb penetrated a barracks in Beirut.

**Read More**



October 24, 2013 • Issue No. 280

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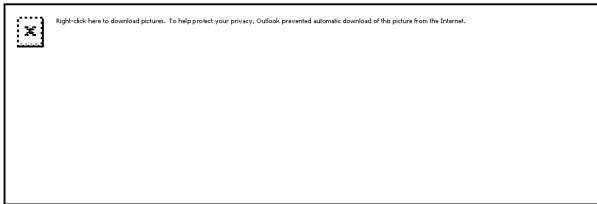
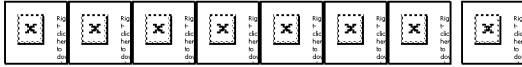
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**Subject:** What is the state's role in Flint's water fiasco?



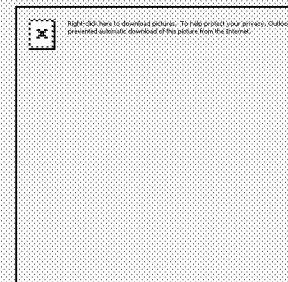
News & Analysis from The Center for Michigan

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## *Cringe over troubled water - Flint's smelly dilemma*

Flint calls on the state to clear up the city's low-quality drinking water. Who is responsible for the city's water problems?

[READ FULL STORY](#)

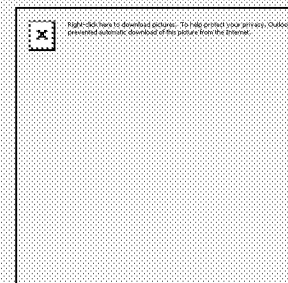


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## *MSU Dean: Obama's free college plan is not best path to a degree*

Where will the money come from? Why would Republicans embrace it? Wouldn't aid be better spent on only those students truly need help? Too many questions for now.

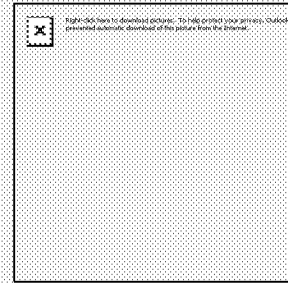
[READ FULL STORY](#)



## *Commentary: Michigan criminal code encroaching on civil liberties*

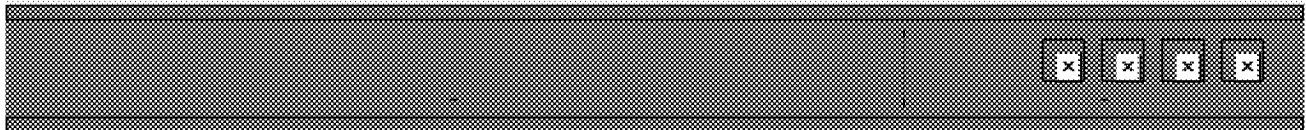
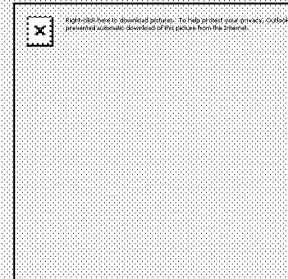
New, get-tough laws requiring DNA swabs or field sobriety tests from people who have not yet been convicted stretch the limits of government power.

[READ FULL STORY](#)



## *Coming Next Week: 2014 Academic State Champs*

Bridge ranks every district, school and charter in the state by how much their students overachieve or underachieve academically, based on their socioeconomic status. The results may surprise you.



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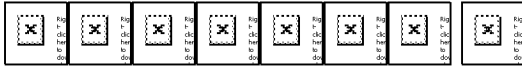


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---

**From:** Bridge Magazine <ajones@thecenterformichigan.ccsend.com> on behalf of Bridge Magazine  
<info@thecenterformichigan.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 01, 2015 12:07 AM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Week in review: Great Start off to a great start



## Week in review

### BRUNCH WITH BRIDGE

Brunch with Bridge columnist Rich Robinson looks at the dawning battles of the political year and sees trying times ahead. And Ken Winter recollects the now 40-year-old PBB crisis in Michigan agriculture.

[New year, old battles and an upcoming year of more of the same \(only worse\)](#)

[After 40 years, effect of Michigan's PBB crisis still not fully known](#)

### NEWS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

[A Great Start to preschool expansion](#)

[How one Michigan community is benefiting from preschool expansion](#)

[Cringe over troubled water - Flint's smelly dilemma](#)

### COMMENTARY

[MSU Dean: Obama's free college plan is not best path to a degree](#)

[Michigan criminal code encroaching on civil liberties](#)

[Conflict is inevitable in policy debates. An outside facilitator can help forge agreement.](#)

[Phil Power: Gov. Snyder goes big, bold in reimagining government programs](#)

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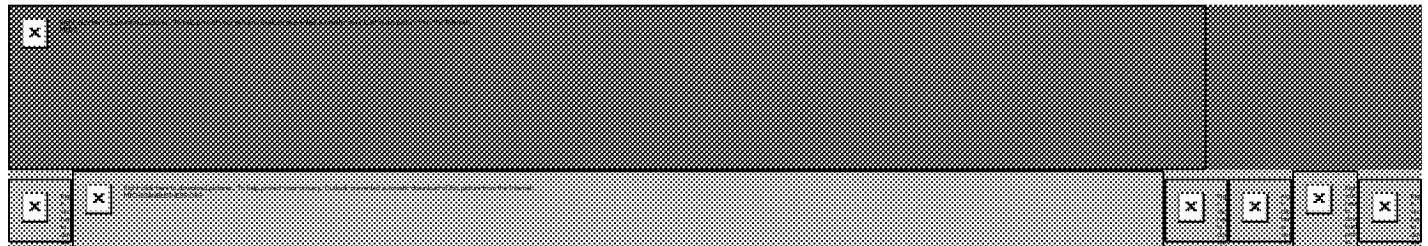
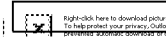
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**From:** Michigan Economic Development Corporation <DoNotReply@info.MichiganBusiness.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:59 AM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Detroit ranks 2nd for small biz job growth

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## Growth Opportunities

- ▶ [Detroit ranks 2nd for small biz job growth, survey says](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Detroit News** – 02/04/2015
- ▶ [Consumers Energy to give \\$9 million to help customers keep heat on this winter](#) [Read Story](#)  
**MLive.com** – 02/04/2015
- ▶ [Federal grants offered to boost state fruit, vegetable crops](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Associated Press (AP)** – 02/04/2015
- ▶ [Snyder grants \\$2 million to Flint for troubled water system](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Associated Press** – 02/04/2015
- ▶ [Plaza deal could be finalized soon](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Detroit Free Press** – 02/04/2015
- ▶ [GM sales jump 18.3%, Ford up 15.3%, FCA up 14% in Jan.](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Detroit News** – 02/04/2015
- ▶ [Detroit entrepreneur Linkner launches new startup](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Detroit News** – 02/04/2015
- ▶ [Ford to add 1,550 new jobs for F-150 production](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Detroit News** – 02/04/2015
- ▶ [At Bros. Leather, it's in the bag](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Grand Rapids Business Journal** – 02/03/2015
- ▶ [Statewide VC investments double in 2014 as deal volume falls by a third](#) [Read Story](#)  
**MiBiz** – 02/03/2015
- ▶ [Autocam Medical bullish on contract medical device industry](#) [Read Story](#)  
**MiBiz - Online** – 02/03/2015
- ▶ [Metro-CHS deal could bring investment, competition to market](#) [Read Story](#)  
**MiBiz** – 02/03/2015
- ▶ [Michigan Design Council to promote industrial design prowess](#) [Read Story](#)  
**MiBiz - Online** – 02/03/2015
- ▶ [Exotic cars rolling in for this weekend's Michigan International Auto Show at DeVos Place](#) [Read Story](#)  
**MLive.com - Kentwood** – 02/03/2015
- ▶ [Nexteer official on keeping engineering, manufacturing jobs in Saginaw County: 'Our plans are to be here'](#) [Read Story](#)  
**Saginaw News** – 02/03/2015

## Talent

- ▶ [Kalamazoo companies offering 26 internships to area college students in 2015 Monroe-Brown Internship Program](#) [Read Story](#)  
Kalamazoo Gazette – 02/04/2015
- ▶ [Michigan to host virtual job fair Feb. 11](#) [Read Story](#)  
Detroit News – 02/04/2015

## MEDC in the News

- ▶ [Pure Michigan Business Connect builds on 2014 success; prepares for 2015 summits](#) [Read Story](#)  
MLive.com – 02/04/2015

## Beyond Michigan

- ▶ [Betting on the Growth of Microbreweries](#) [Read Story](#)  
New York Times – 02/04/2015
- ▶ [Staples buys Office Depot for \\$6 billion](#) [Read Story](#)  
Associated Press – 02/04/2015
- ▶ [U.S. businesses post steady job gain in January](#) [Read Story](#)  
Associated Press (AP) – 02/04/2015

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**From:** Authorized Provider – The American Legion  
<memberservices@govvacationrewards.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 10, 2015 10:00 AM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** \$150 Off Travel for Legionnaires

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This email was sent by: **American Legion National Headquarters**  
700 North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204



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**From:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 8:11 AM  
**To:** Shoemaker, Lisa (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RE: Flint Water - - Possible CDBG Resources

Lisa,

I've pulled the following from [MEDC's CDBG Application Guide](#), which leads me to believe providing Flint CDBG Funds would not be permitted.

Eligible applicants for CDBG funds are small cities, townships, and villages of less than 50,000 in population, and non-urban counties. A specifically declared **ineligible** applicant is Genesee County (and local governments in the county jurisdiction except for Clio, Davison, flushing, and Lennon). CDBG Funds were provided for the UP Freeze emergency under the CDBG Urgent Need program. Urgent Need projects are typically permitted after declaration of a State of Emergency by the Governor.

Still waiting on a response from Beth, as I am by no means an expert on CDBG.

-Tyler

---

**From:** Shoemaker, Lisa (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 7:39 AM  
**To:** Tulloch, Tyler (DTMB)  
**Subject:** FW: Flint Water - - Possible CDBG Resources

See me ASAP please.

---

**From:** McNeely, Jacques (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 06, 2015 6:43 PM  
**To:** Shoemaker, Lisa (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Flint Water - - Possible CDBG Resources

Lisa,

Nancy caught me as I was attempting to leave the building this evening, and noted that John is looking to receive detail on the Flint water issue funding solution by 10 am tomorrow, Wednesday, 7 Oct 2015.

Mind you, my 3 pm phone call to DEQ's budget staff this afternoon has remained unanswered, and Chris Harkins has yet to hear from DCH. Our commitment is \$6 million, and I was hoping our CDBG folks could revisit a strategy utilized last year towards a UP freeze, whereby, an obscure rule in the federal CDBG regulations allowed for funding support to assist a municipality in repair of frozen underground piping for their water system, to the tune of > \$7 million if I recall correctly.

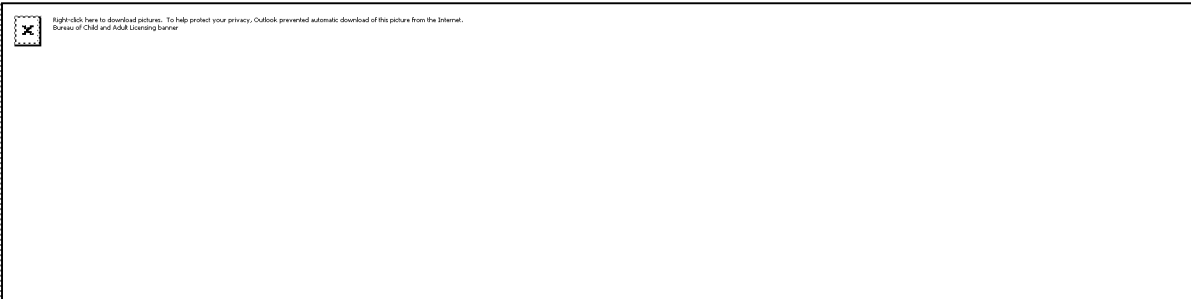
We are only seeking a million (or more) towards the Flint water reconnect effort, and asking for a Steve Arwood commitment by 10 am is certainly ridiculous. . . Nevertheless, I am indeed asking Madame for any assistance you can provide towards accomplishing such.

John, Harkins, and myself will be attending an 8 a.m. meeting of Dir. Wyant on this matter in Constitution Hall, and I will have my pad with me if we need to dialog. Thanks !

Jacques

---

**From:** Michigan Dept of Human Services <MIDHS@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 29, 2015 3:44 PM  
**To:** Underwood, Deliah (DTMB)  
**Subject:** City of Flint Warns of Potential Health Risks Caused by the City's Drinking Water



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## **City of Flint Warns of Potential Health Risks Caused by the City's Drinking Water**

The city says there's been too much disinfection byproduct in Flint's water system recently, something that -- over many years could cause liver, kidney or central nervous system problems and an increased risk of cancer.

The notice from the city says Flint water is safe to drink but warns that those with a severely compromised immune system, who have an infant or who are elderly may be at increased risk and should seek advice about drinking water from their health care provider.

For others, there is no need to boil water or take other actions, the notice says.

It is recommended that licensed child care providers and licensed adult foster care and homes for the aged providers seek medical advice or use bottle water when serving individuals at increased risk as outlined above.

For more information, go to to the city's website at <http://cityofflint.com>.

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---

**From:** Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs  
<LARA@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 02, 2015 2:38 PM  
**To:** Underwood, Deliah (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Flint Drinking Water Action Plan



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On Friday, October 2, 2015, Gov. Rick Snyder announced a comprehensive action plan created with state, federal and city leaders to address concerns about Flint drinking water so that residents have access to safe, clean, water now and long into the future. The water leaving Flint's drinking water system is safe to drink, but some families with lead plumbing in their homes or service connections could experience higher levels of lead in the water that comes out of their faucets.

For more information, go to [www.mi.gov/flintwater](http://www.mi.gov/flintwater).

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---

**From:** Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs  
<LARA@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2015 11:37 AM  
**To:** Underwood, Deliah (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Water Filters for Child Care Providers in the City of Flint



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Beginning Tuesday, October 13 at 9 a.m., city of Flint licensed and registered child care facilities can pick up a free NSF-certified filter water pitcher from the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department (GCCARD) located at 2727 Lippincott in Flint. Thanks to a donation from the United Way, child care providers may obtain one free 23-cup water pitcher for every 100 children.

Additionally, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is providing a NSF-certified faucet filter to every licensed and registered child care provider in the city of Flint. This is in addition to the filter a child care provider may have received as a homeowner in the city of Flint.

Staff picking up the filters must bring a copy of the child care license, personal identification, and proof of employment.

The Lippincott GCCARD will distribute filters and pitchers daily this week from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Extended hours are Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., as well as this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MDHHS and LARA are urging all residents do their part to prevent elevated blood lead levels in children. For more prevention information, visit [www.michigan.gov/lead](http://www.michigan.gov/lead), or contact your local health department. For updates on Flint water and resources, visit [www.michigan.gov/flintwater](http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater).

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**From:** DTMB Facilities <dtmb@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2015 8:17 AM  
**To:** Vennard, Kevin (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Facility Notification: Constitution Hall



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Security Notification

# Protest Activity

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## Date/Time:

Wednesday, October 28, 2015 from 12:00pm to 4:00pm

## Details:

Please be aware that there is a protest event planned for today, October 28, outside of the Constitution Hall from 12:00pm to 4:00pm. The event is being held in response to the water condition in Flint. Please plan your daily activities with this in mind as a large turnout for this event is anticipated. DTMB and MSP will be working together to monitor the situation.

## Contact:

DTMB Customer Service Center, [DTMB-Customerservice@michigan.gov](mailto:DTMB-Customerservice@michigan.gov) or 517-373-6227

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---

**From:** Detroit Public TV <greatlakesnow@dptv.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2015 10:19 AM  
**To:** Walters, Kathryn (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Great Lakes Now Newsletter

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glnw-mail-hdr-2015.jpg

October 15th, 2015

## Everything You Missed at Great Lakes Week 2015

Calm winds and dropping water temperatures have significantly reduced the **algae bloom** on Lake Erie, although the topic of algae was a hot one at **Great Lakes Week** in Chicago. See our story on the "Politics of Algae" [here](#) or catch up with the [Bi-National Challenge of Algae](#) session.

Of course, being in Chicago meant that **Asian Carp** and the separation of the Great Lakes from the Mississippi Basin by restoring the original flow of the Chicago River was a key item on both the Great Lakes Commission and the Great Lakes Restoration Conference agenda. Several presentations focused on this question, and are available online at [Great Lakes Now.org >](#)

**Great Lakes Week 2015** introduced another bio-indicator of the health of the Great Lakes: **beluga whales**. A unique population of the white whales live at the mouth of the St. Lawrence Seaway – where all Great Lakes water eventually goes. Researchers in Quebec and at Chicago's Shedd Aquarium are concerned about increasing levels of cancer in the mammals as well as a higher-than-expected rate of calf mortality. [See our story here >](#)



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algae-rior.jpg





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Cvrry-02r-dab.jpg

If you are in Southeast Michigan, be sure to tune in to DPTV on **Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm ET** for a half-hour highlight program from Great Lakes Week. Many PBS Stations in the Great Lakes basin are picking up the show. Please check your local listings for information. Or, come back to [GreatLakesNow.org](http://GreatLakesNow.org) next week to watch the program, hosted by Christy McDonald, on demand.

## In the News



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flint-water-flint.jpg

Lawyers and engineers are hard at work to facilitate the city of Flint, Michigan's return to Detroit-processed drinking water. A combination of state money, foundation funds, and local resources are paying for the change after it became clear that the water from the Flint River was corrosive, causing lead to show up in home drinking water. [Read more >](#)



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NOAA-designates-Wisconsin.jpg

Public comment is open until January 16, 2016 on a proposal from NOAA to designate an 875-square mile portion of Lake Michigan in Wisconsin a National Marine Sanctuary. The site, extending from Port Washington to Two Rivers, contains 39 known shipwrecks. [Read more >](#)



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GreatLakesMapping.jpg

Researchers at the University of Michigan have compiled maps of all five Great Lakes spotlighting key areas for sport fishing, recreational boating, birding, beach use, and park visits. Those recreational uses are then combined with maps that show the areas threatened by one or more of 34 identified environmental stressors. [Read more >](#)



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PheasantHunting.jpg

Pheasant hunting season has opened in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, with the season opening in lower Michigan later this month. Michigan is now considered one of the top spots in the Great Lakes for pheasant hunting... [Read more >](#)

## Upcoming Events

**What:** The 9th Biennial State of Lake Michigan and 15th Annual Great Lakes Beach Association Joint Conference

**When:** October 28-30

**Where:** Grand Traverse Resort, Acme, MI.

[Learn more >](#)

**What:** MiCorps Conference and Training

**When:** November 4-5

**Where:** Tustin, Michigan.

[More info >](#)

**What:** U.S. Rep Marcy Kaptur will be keynote speaker at the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Great Lakes Water Conference

**When:** November 6

**Where:** University of Toledo College of Law.

[Register here >](#)

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**From:** DTMB Facilities <dtmb@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2015 8:17 AM  
**To:** Weiler, Bryan (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Facility Notification: Constitution Hall



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---

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**From:** MacKenzie, Connie (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 29, 2015 3:48 PM  
**To:** Weiler, Bryan (DTMB)  
**Subject:** FW: NEWS UPDATE--Wyant Resigns In Wake Of Flint Water Crisis

Guess you get to build relations with another new director. Your division is the Land of Change.

---

**From:** gongwerreports@gongwer.com [mailto:gongwerreports@gongwer.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 29, 2015 2:54 PM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_updates@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** NEWS UPDATE--Wyant Resigns In Wake Of Flint Water Crisis



Tuesday, December 29, 2015, 02:53 PM

## Wyant Resigns In Wake Of Flint Water Crisis

Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant has resigned in response to the water crisis that erupted three months ago in Flint.

“MDEQ Director Dan Wyant has offered his resignation, and I’ve determined that it’s appropriate to accept it. I’m also making other personnel changes at MDEQ to address problems cited by the task force,” Governor Rick Snyder said in a statement.

“But changes in leadership and staff are not enough. I understand there can be disagreements within the scientific community. That is why I have directed both the departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services to invite every external scientist who has worked on this issue to be our partners in helping us improve Flint water,” Mr. Snyder said. “Let’s share research on water and blood lead level testing so we can arrive at accurate and mutually supported conclusions. Together, we should work to affirm that we’re using the very best testing protocols to ensure Flint residents have safe drinking water and that we’re taking steps to protect their health over the short and long term.”

The DEQ has come under major criticism for how it handled testing for lead in Flint drinking water after the city switched to the Flint River as its water source. The water was not properly treated for corrosion, causing lead to leach from service lines into the drinking water.

“I want the Flint community to know how very sorry I am that this has happened. And I want all Michigan citizens to know that we will learn from this experience, because Flint is not the only city that has an aging infrastructure,” Mr. Snyder said. “I know many Flint citizens are angry and want more than an apology. That’s why I’m taking the actions today to ensure a culture of openness and trust. We’ve already allocated \$10 million to test the water, distribute water filters, and help in other ways. Last week, I called Flint Mayor Karen Weaver, and we’re going to meet soon to discuss other ways the state can offer assistance.”

Gongwer News Service will have more on this story in today's Michigan Report.

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**From:** Weiler, Bryan (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 30, 2015 7:38 AM  
**To:** Bankowski, Jeffrey S. (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RE: MIRS Breaking News: Wyant Resigns As MDEQ Director -- 3:09 PM

Thanks, Jeff..... The PIO, Brad Wuerfel also resigned yesterday. It will be interesting to see what happens with Jim Sygo, Chief Deputy.

---

**From:** Bankowski, Jeffrey S. (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 29, 2015 3:32 PM  
**To:** Weiler, Bryan (DTMB) <[weilerb@michigan.gov](mailto:weilerb@michigan.gov)>  
**Cc:** Fitzpatrick, John (DTMB) <[FitzpatrickJ@michigan.gov](mailto:FitzpatrickJ@michigan.gov)>; Lowe, Richard (DTMB) <[lower@michigan.gov](mailto:lower@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: MIRS Breaking News: Wyant Resigns As MDEQ Director -- 3:09 PM

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** MIRS Delivery <[mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com](mailto:mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com)>  
**Date:** December 29, 2015 at 3:22:24 PM EST  
**To:** <[bankowskij@michigan.gov](mailto:bankowskij@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** MIRS Breaking News: Wyant Resigns As MDEQ Director -- 3:09 PM



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**MIRS BREAKING NEWS: Wyant Resigns As MDEQ Director -- 3:09 PM**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/alert.php?alert\\_id=2154](http://www.mirsnews.com/alert.php?alert_id=2154)

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Dan **WYANT**, the director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), is resigning in the wake of criticism about how the state handled elevated lead levels in Flint drinking water.

Gov. Rick **SNYDER** announced Wyant's resignation in a statement today. Also, in the statement, the Governor said his administration would invite scientists who have been

tracking the situation “to be our partners in helping us improve Flint water.”

“I want the Flint community to know how very sorry I am that this has happened,” Snyder's statement added. “And I want all Michigan citizens to know that we will learn from this experience, because Flint is not the only city that has an aging infrastructure.”

On Wyant, Snyder said Wyant offered his resignation, “and I've determined that it's appropriate to accept it.”

“I'm also making other personnel changes at MDEQ to address problems cited by the task force,” Snyder's statement said.

Those other changes haven't been finalized yet, according to Laura **BIEHL**, a spokesperson for the Governor.

The news of Wyant's resignation comes as a task force continues to work on a report about the Flint water crisis, which occurred after the city's water source was switched to the Flint River in 2014.

“Although the task force's final report is not yet completed, members have made me aware of some interim findings and corrective steps that I have decided to take immediately in order to restore trust in how the state keeps its citizens safe and informed,” Snyder said today. He continued, “We'll continue to work with the community members to make sure we hear and respond to their concerns.”

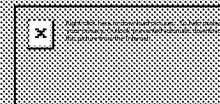
Snyder also noted the he called Flint Mayor Karen **WEAVER** last week and the two are going to meet soon to discuss other ways the state can offer assistance.

Wyant has been MDEQ director since Snyder took office in 2011.

Previously, Wyant was the director of the Department of Agriculture under former Govs. John **ENGLER** and Jennifer **GRANHOLM**.

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<http://mirsnews.com>. Please call us at (517) 482-2125 or send an email to [info@mirsnews.com](mailto:info@mirsnews.com)

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**From:** Results@TVEyes-Alerts.com  
**Sent:** Friday, October 02, 2015 11:09 AM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** New MMS Alert - Department of Technology, Management, and Budget

## Media Alert From TVEyes Media Monitoring Suite



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thumbnail to  
play)

**Michigan + "jobless rate" on WTOP2-DC (Radio) - Washington, D.C.**

10/01/2015 13:03:37

... a Powerball ticket at the 3 Windows West Shell station in 3 Rivers Michigan has the winning ticket worth more than 310 million dollars that when your has not come forward I'm gonna zero AP Radio on Europe's ...



(click  
thumbnail to  
play)

**Michigan + "jobless rate" on KNOW-FM (Radio) - Minneapolis, MN**

10/02/2015 03:08:07

... report this is NPR News officials in Flint Michigan are declared a public health emergency due to elevated levels of lead in children Miri gain while oysters residential use filters minister 5 for the removal and won't ...



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thumbnail to  
play)

**Michigan + "jobless rate" on WAMU-FM (Radio) - Washington, D.C.**

10/02/2015 04:04:10

... report this is NPR News officials employed Michigan declared a public health emergency due to elevated levels of lead in children near Des Moines as residents should use filters minister of 5 for the removal ...



(click thumbnail  
to play)

**Michigan + "jobless rate" on 101.9 WDET (radio) - Detroit, MI**

10/02/2015 04:04:14

... report this is npr news officials and flint michigan declared a public health emergency due to elevated levels of lead in children the regain wallace's residents should use filters and certified for the removal ...

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**From:** GOV Newsroom <govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 02, 2015 1:58 PM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Rick Snyder: Comprehensive action plan will help Flint residents address water concerns



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GOV News Release

**Contacts:** [Sara Wurfel](#) or [Dave Murray](#)  
517-335-6397

[Brad Wurfel](#), 517-284-6713  
Department of Environmental Quality

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Friday, October 2, 2015

[Jennifer Eisner](#), 517-230-9804  
Department of Health and Human Services

**Editor's Note:** Click here for [infographic](#) and [action plan](#).

## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Comprehensive action plan will help Flint residents address water concerns**

*Collaborative effort with state, federal and city leaders focuses on testing, assistance*

FLINT, Mich. – Flint residents need to have access to safe, clean, water now and long into the future, Gov. Rick Snyder said, announcing a comprehensive action plan created with state, federal and city leaders to address concerns about drinking water.

The water leaving Flint's drinking water system is safe to drink, but some families with lead plumbing in their homes or service connections could experience higher levels of lead in the water that comes out of their faucets.

The action plan focuses on increasing water testing, offering additional precautions for families with lead plumbing in their homes, and providing long-term solutions to address the city's water infrastructure challenges. The plan was created at Snyder's direction by the Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Health and Human Services (DHHS), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the city of Flint.

“We are focused on helping ensure safe, clean, accessible drinking water and addressing and mitigating concerns and protecting public health,” Snyder said. “Today’s action plan builds upon ongoing work with local, state and federal agencies and our partnership with city and community leaders. Together, we are working to ensure that all Flint residents have accurate information and know that help is available to address potential problems.”

The city and the state also are working together to gather more data to ensure the water that leaves the treatment plant as well as the water that arrives in Flint homes is safe for all residents. The plan includes:

- Testing in Flint public schools immediately to ensure that drinking water is safe, with testing also available at no cost to any other school in Flint.
- Offering free water testing to Flint residents to assure their drinking water is safe.
- Providing free water filters to residents.
- Expanding health exposure testing of individual homes.
- Accelerating corrosion controls in the Flint drinking water system.
- Accelerating water system improvements to address replacing lead service lines.
- Expediting the completion of the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline.
- Expanding a Safe Drinking Water Technical Advisory Committee to ensure the best technology, practices and science are being followed by adding an expert from the Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of Research and Development to the group.
- Naming Dr. Eden Wells, chief medical executive for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, as the Flint drinking water public health adviser.
- Boosting a comprehensive lead education program to make sure residents have detailed information about how to protect themselves and their homes.

Residents can have their water tested by calling 810-787-6537 and pressing 1, or emailing [flintwater@cityofflint.com](mailto:flintwater@cityofflint.com). The DEQ is covering the cost of this testing.

State leaders have been working closely with state and federal lawmakers to tap resources at all levels of government to address concerns.

State health experts said there has been an increase in elevated childhood blood lead levels in some specific communities. Initial analysis of MDHHS data found that blood lead levels of children in Flint have followed an expected seasonal trend. While this analysis for Flint as a whole remains true, a comprehensive and detailed review breaking down data by ZIP codes with the city revealed that MDHHS data is consistent with a study presented recently by Hurley Children’s Hospital.

“While we cannot conclusively say that the water source change is the sole cause of the increase, this analysis supports our efforts as we take active steps to reduce all potential lead exposures in Flint,” MDHHS Director Nick Lyon said. “As part of this, we are working closely with our public and private partners to provide Flint residents on MDHHS assistance programs with free water filters and inform families about the steps they can take to reduce all lead exposures in their home.”

As a part of the action plan, National Sanitation Foundation certified water filters will be made available to Flint residents through emergency state funds and coordinated efforts with local community agencies and donors. Information about how to obtain the filters will soon be available.

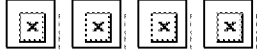
“This action plan offers concrete steps we will take in a local, state and federal partnership to ensure all Flint residents have safe water to drink,” DEQ Director Dan Wyant said. “The DEQ will work closely with the city to gather further data to ensure the water that leaves Flint’s system as

well as the water that arrives in Flint homes is safe to drink.”

Additional information is available at [www.michigan.gov/flintwater](http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater).

###

STAY CONNECTED:



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**From:** GOV Newsroom <govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 6:13 PM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Snyder Media Advisory for Thursday, Oct. 8



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CONFIDENTIAL

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2015  
Contact: Sara Wurfel or Dave Murray  
Office: 517-335-6397

**Editor's Note: This advisory is for media planning purposes only and not for publication.**

**Thursday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m.**

Gov. Rick Snyder will make an announcement regarding the Flint water system. He will be joined by Flint Mayor Dayne Walling, Director of Environmental Quality, Dan Wyant, Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, Nick Lyon, Dr. Eden Wells, Chief Medical Executive at DHHS, and Ridgway White of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

A livestream option is also available at [www.michigan.gov/snyderlive](http://www.michigan.gov/snyderlive). If you wish to embed the event please visit <http://new.livestream.com/snyderlive> for more information.

Media must present valid press credentials on site.

**Location:**

Mott Foundation/Commerce Center Building – Conference Center, Ground Floor  
519 S. Saginaw St.  
Flint, MI

**Thursday, Oct. 8 at 7 p.m.**

Snyder will offer remarks at the Celebration of Life Gala supporting Magen David Adom (Israel's national 911 and emergency services).

Media must present valid press credentials on site.

**Location:**

Adat Shalom Synagogue  
29901 Middlebelt Rd.

Farmington Hills, MI

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STATE OF MICHIGAN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY  
LT. GOVERNOR

**CONTACTS:**

Sara Wurfel or Dave Murray  
Governor's Office: 517-335-6397

Brad Wurfel, 517-284-6713  
Department of Environmental Quality

Jennifer Eisner, 517-230-9804  
Department of Health and Human Services

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015

## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Move back to Detroit water provides best protection for public health in Flint**

*State, Mott Foundation, city form partnership to fund switch until KWA is ready*

FLINT, Mich. – Flint families and children will be better protected by reconnecting with the Great Lakes Water Authority as the source of the city's drinking water until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed, Gov. Rick Snyder said.

Snyder said Thursday that he will request the state Legislature to provide half, or \$6 million, of the \$12 million needed to reconnect with the authority through next summer, when the KWA is expected to be completed. The Flint city government will provide \$2 million and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation has committed \$4 million.

"All Flint residents need clean, safe drinking water," Snyder said. "The technical experts helping the city on its water advisory all agree this move back to the Great Lakes Water Authority provides the best public health protection for children and families. This effort today is the result of people coming together to solve a problem. I appreciate Detroit's willingness to reconnect with Flint, the Mott Foundation's generous commitment, and the dedication of all parties to come together to protect Flint families and children."

The Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services today also committed an additional \$3.5 million for water filters, free lead testing through the state laboratory for Flint water customers, and hiring additional staff to conduct health exposure monitoring for lead in drinking water.

Flint city leaders requested the state's help to fund the reconnection and to assist with health and infrastructure issues. Flint's move to the Great Lakes Water Authority is expected to cost about \$1.3 million per month until the Karegnondi Water Authority is completed next summer.

"It's heartening to know so many people are working at so many levels to bring safe, clean water back to Flint," Mott Foundation President Ridgway White said. "We believe that reconnecting the city's water supply to Lake Huron is the right and necessary thing to do, and we're glad we could help the state and the city make it happen."

The move to Detroit water, which is drawn from Lake Huron, carries many public health benefits. As large bodies of water, the Great Lakes are naturally prone to fewer problems from large rain events and other runoff issues that can sometimes be present in shallower rivers. Additionally, the Great Lakes Water Authority water already has additional corrosion control, using phosphates to help coat the insides of pipes and prevent lead from leaching into the water.

However, reconnecting with the authority will not completely resolve the city's problem with lead service lines or aging infrastructure. It will take time for pipes in Flint to become coated with the phosphate corrosion control. Additionally, some households in the city could experience lead in their drinking water until all lead pipes and plumbing are replaced.

"Reconnecting to Detroit is the fastest way to deliver clean, safe water to Flint and stabilize the infrastructure system," Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said. "I appreciate the state, the Mott Foundation, Detroit, and the county's participation in a solution for Flint's water problems. The health and safety of Flint's families, children and seniors is my top priority and reconnecting to Detroit is a major step that the city could not take alone given budget constraints."

To best protect public health, Snyder said state and local authorities will continue to carry out steps outlined on Oct. 2 in a comprehensive action plan, including continued testing, the use of faucet filters and providing residents with accurate information about steps to eliminate lead exposure.

Free filters are available for current MDHHS clients at the 125 E. Union St. or 4809 Clio Road MDHHS office locations. For residents who are not currently enrolled in MDHHS assistance programs, free filters are available at the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department offices at 2727 Lippincott and 601 North Saginaw in Flint. Staff will be at all four locations from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, to distribute filters and assist residents who have questions about proper installation. At the Lippincott location only, extended hours will be offered this weekend, including until 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Other good practices for residents concerned about lead include turning on the cold water tap and running the water until it's as cold as it will go. Additionally, only use cold water for cooking, drinking and especially mixing baby formula.

#### ***School test results released; more investigation planned***

The state today also released the first results from its lead screening program in schools and homes. Of 37 total samples taken at 13 buildings, four samples spread over three buildings exceeded the federal action level of 15 parts per billion.

However, this sampling provides only an initial screen, and the state is committing to further testing water and inspecting plumbing at these schools. Until testing is complete, schools are advised to continue using bottled water and filtration as a precaution to protect children.

In addition, free testing is still available for any other Flint school, including daycares and Head Starts. Free testing is also available for any Flint resident.

Additional information, including more detailed lead screening results, is available at [www.michigan.gov/flintwater](http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater).

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**From:** Biehl, Laura (GOV)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 9:18 AM  
**To:** Wurfel, Sara (GOV);Murray, David (GOV);Wurfel, Brad (DEQ);Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ);Lasher, Geralyn (DHHS);Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS);Minicuci, Angela (DHHS);Weiss, Kurt (DTMB);Agen, Jarrod (GOV);Paciorek, Josh (GOV)  
**Subject:** FINAL Flint water press release with edits incorporated  
**Attachments:** 151008 Flint water release\_FINAL.docx

See attached.

Laura Biehl  
Communications Manager  
Executive Office of Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder  
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111 S. Capitol Ave.  
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Office: (517) 335-6397  
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[BiehlL@Michigan.gov](mailto:BiehlL@Michigan.gov)



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY  
LT. GOVERNOR

**CONTACTS:**

Sara Wurfel or Dave Murray  
Governor's Office: 517-335-6397

Brad Wurfel, 517-284-6713  
Department of Environmental Quality

Jennifer Eisner, 517-230-9804  
Department of Health and Human Services

Kathryn Thomas, 810-766-1734  
Mott Foundation

Jason Lorenz, 810-237-2039  
City of Flint

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015

## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Move back to Detroit water provides best protection for public health in Flint**

*State, city, Mott Foundation, join to fund switch until KWA is ready*

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Snyder said Thursday that he will request the state Legislature to provide half, or \$6 million, of the \$12 million needed to reconnect with the authority through next summer, when the KWA is expected to be completed. The Flint city government will provide \$2 million and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation has committed \$4 million.

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The move to Detroit water, which is expected to carry, carries many public health benefits. As large bodies of water, the Great Lakes are naturally prone to fewer problems from large rain events and other runoff issues that can sometimes be present in shallower rivers. Additionally, the Great Lakes Water Authority water already has additional corrosion control, using phosphates to help coat the insides of pipes and limit lead from leaching into the water.

However, reconnecting with the authority will not completely resolve the city's problem with lead service lines or aging infrastructure. It will take time for pipes in Flint to become coated with the phosphate corrosion control. Additionally, some households in the city could experience lead in their drinking water until all lead pipes and plumbing are replaced.

"Reconnecting to Detroit is the fastest way to deliver clean, safe water to Flint and stabilize the infrastructure system," Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said. "I appreciate the state, the Mott Foundation, Detroit, and the county's participation in a solution for Flint's water problems. The health and safety of Flint's families, children and seniors is my top priority, and reconnecting to Detroit is a major step that the city could not take alone given budget constraints."

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###



**From:** GOV Newsroom <govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 10:23 AM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Rick Snyder: Move back to Detroit water provides best protection for public health in Flint



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GOV News Release

**CONTACTS:**

Sara Wurfel or Dave Murray

Governor's Office: 517-335-6397

Brad Wurfel, 517-284-6713

Department of Environmental Quality

Jennifer Eisner, 517-230-9804

Department of Health and Human Services

Kathryn Thomas, 810-766-1734 Mott Foundation

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"Reconnecting to Detroit is the fastest way to deliver clean, safe water to Flint and stabilize the infrastructure system," Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said. "I appreciate the state, the Mott Foundation, Detroit, and the county's participation in a solution for Flint's water problems. The health and safety of Flint's families, children and seniors is my top priority, and reconnecting to Detroit is a major step that the city could not take alone given budget constraints."

To best protect public health, Snyder said state and local authorities will continue to carry out steps outlined on Oct. 2 in a comprehensive action plan, including continued testing, the use of faucet filters and providing residents with accurate information about steps to eliminate lead exposure. The Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services today also committed an additional \$3.5 million for water filters, free lead testing through the state laboratory for Flint water customers, and hiring additional staff to conduct health exposure monitoring for lead in drinking water.

Free filters are available for current MDHHS clients at the 125 E. Union St. or 4809 Clio Road MDHHS office locations. For residents who are not currently enrolled in MDHHS assistance programs, free filters are available at the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department offices at 2727 Lippincott and 601 North Saginaw in Flint. Staff will be at all four locations from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, to distribute filters and assist residents who have questions about proper installation. At the Lippincott location only, extended hours will be offered this weekend, including until 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Other good practices for residents concerned about lead include turning on the cold water tap and running the water until it's as cold as it will go. Additionally, only use cold water for cooking, drinking and

especially mixing baby formula.

***School test results released; more investigation planned***

The state today also released the first results from its lead screening program in schools and homes. Of 37 total samples taken at 13 buildings, four samples spread over three buildings exceeded the federal action level of 15 parts per billion.

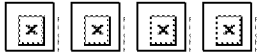
However, this sampling provides only an initial screen, and the state is committing to further testing water and inspecting plumbing at these schools. Until testing is complete, schools are advised to continue using bottled water and filtration as a precaution to protect children.

In addition, free testing is still available for any other Flint school, including daycares and Head Starts. Free testing is also available for any Flint resident.

Additional information, including more detailed lead screening results, is available at [www.michigan.gov/flintwater](http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater).

###

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---

**From:** Eggert, David <DEggert@ap.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 3:55 PM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RE: Flint Water

Ok thx

---

**From:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB) [<mailto:WeissK1@michigan.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 3:21 PM  
**To:** Eggert, David  
**Subject:** Flint Water

Hi Dave,

Jennifer passed your note along to me so I wanted to get back to clarify for you. The supplemental request will include \$6 million for reconnection to Detroit, and then almost another \$3.5 million for filters, testing, and additional agency support...so the total supplemental request will be for \$9.35 million. The confusion is coming from the fact that we already announced \$1 million in money from filters last week and that money does not require a supplemental appropriation. The actual total commitment from the state is \$10.6 million...but some of the money won't require a supplemental appropriation. Call me if you have questions. Thanks!

Kurt Weiss  
State Budget Office  
517-335-0050



**From:** Eggert, David [<mailto:DEggert@ap.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 2:18 PM  
**To:** Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS) <[EisnerJ@michigan.gov](mailto:EisnerJ@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** \$3.5M or \$4M

Jennifer,

I thought I heard Snyder mention spending \$4M separately from the \$6M to switch back. News release says \$3.5M. Can you clarify? Thx.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

**David Eggert**  
State government reporter

215 S. Washington Square, Suite 170  
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M 517-899-2991

[deggert@ap.org](mailto:deggert@ap.org)

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[IP\_US\_DISC]

msk dccc60c6d2c3a6438f0cf467d9a4938

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**From:** Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 3:58 PM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RE: Flint Water

Thanks Kurt :)

Jennifer (Smith) Eisner  
Public Information Officer  
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services  
517-241-2112

---

**From:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 3:56 PM  
**To:** Wurfel, Sara (GOV) <[Wurfels@michigan.gov](mailto:Wurfels@michigan.gov)>; Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS) <[EisnerJ@michigan.gov](mailto:EisnerJ@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Flint Water

Eggert is all set. I called him and he didn't answer, so just handled via e-mail.

Kurt Weiss  
State Budget Office  
517-335-0050



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**From:** Eggert, David [<mailto:DEggert@ap.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 3:55 PM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RE: Flint Water

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---

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 3:21 PM  
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**Subject:** Flint Water

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Kurt Weiss  
State Budget Office  
517-335-0050



**From:** Eggert, David [<mailto:DEggert@ap.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 2:18 PM  
**To:** Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS) <[Eisner.J@michigan.gov](mailto:Eisner.J@michigan.gov)>  
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Jennifer,

I thought I heard Snyder mention spending \$4M separately from the \$6M to switch back. News release says \$3.5M. Can you clarify? Thx.



**ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**David Eggert**  
State government reporter

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[IP\_US\_DISC]

msk dccc60c6d2c3a6438f0cf467d9a4938

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**From:** GOV Newsroom <govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2015 4:55 PM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill authorizing funding for Flint to move back to Detroit water system



Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.  
GOV News Release

**Contacts:** [Sara Wurfel](#) or [Dave Murray](#)  
517-335-6397

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015

## Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill authorizing funding for Flint to move back to Detroit water system

*Temporary reconnection provides best protection for public health*



Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.  
Gov signs Flint water bill

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder has signed bipartisan legislation that will direct funding to the City of Flint's emergency water services to reconnect the city's water supply to the Great Lakes

Water Authority until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed.

“This funding is a coordinated response to a serious problem and I’m pleased so many parties came together to help deliver safe drinking water to the city of Flint,” Snyder said. “Reconnecting to the Great Lakes Water Authority is only the first step, as the state will continue testing and inspections to ensure Flint families and children have clean water in their homes and schools.”

House Bill 4102, sponsored by state Rep. Al Pscholka, authorizes \$6 million to move the city back to Detroit’s water system until the new pipeline is finished.

In addition to the \$6 million:

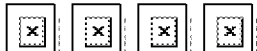
- \$300,000 goes to the Department of Environmental Quality’s drinking water and environmental health services;
- \$1 million will provide for DEQ to test drinking water samples;
- \$1 million allows the Department of Health and Human Services to purchase and distribute water filters to Flint residents;
- \$850,000 will aid in follow-up services for children, including testing, investigations, and case management for those with elevated blood lead levels;
- \$200,000 will fund state plumbing inspections for schools and health facilities.
- The City of Flint city government will provide \$2 million toward reconnecting the water supply and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation has committed \$4 million.

The bill was approved unanimously in both the House and Senate and is now Public Act 143 of 2015.

For more information on this and other legislation, please visit [www.legislature.mi.gov](http://www.legislature.mi.gov).

####

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**From:** GOV Newsroom <govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 21, 2015 2:07 PM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Rick Snyder announces Flint Water Task Force to review state, federal and municipal actions, offer recommendations



**Contacts:** [Sara Wurfel](#) or [Dave Murray](#)  
517-335-6397

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015

**Gov. Rick Snyder announces Flint Water Task Force to review state, federal and municipal actions, offer recommendations**

*Experts in public health, water management, environmental protection to focus on steps to protect residents*

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the creation of an independent advisory task force charged with reviewing actions regarding water use and testing in Flint and offer recommendations for future guidelines to protect the health and safety of all state residents.

Task force members include experts in public health and medicine, water management, and environmental protection from both sides of the aisle, and will be co-chaired by Ken Sikkema of Public Sector Consultants and Chris Kolb, of the Michigan Environmental Council. Also serving will be Dr. Matthew Davis of the University of Michigan Health System, Eric Rothstein, of the Galardi Rothstein Group and Dr. Lawrence Reynolds of Mott Children's Health Center in Flint.

"Transitioning back to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department-Great Lakes Water Authority is a good first step to protecting public health in Flint, but it's not the last step," Snyder said. "Bringing in outside experts to evaluate our actions and help monitor and advise on potential changes to law, procedures and practices will be key to continuing work on the comprehensive action plan and ensuring safe drinking water for all the residents in Flint and all of Michigan."

Snyder said the administration will fully cooperate with task force members, saying he wants an unbiased report focusing on steps taken in the past and recommendations that could improve practices to ensure all residents have access to safe, clean water.



**Ken Sikkema** is a senior policy fellow at Public Sector Consultants, where he specializes in public finance, environment, and energy policy. Prior to joining the firm, Sikkema served in both the Michigan House and Senate, culminating with four years as Senate majority leader. He has also served as both an adjunct and visiting professor at Grand Valley State University.

**Chris Kolb** is president of the Michigan Environmental Council, a statewide coalition of 70 environmental, public health and faith-based nonprofit groups. Before joining the MEC, Kolb represented Ann Arbor in the state House for six years and served six years on the Ann Arbor City Council. He has been president of the MEC for six years.

**Matthew Davis**, M.D., M.A.P.P., is professor of pediatrics and internal medicine at the University of Michigan Health System and professor of public policy at the Gerald R. Ford School at the University of Michigan, having joined the faculty in 2000. Davis also is a professor of health management and policy at the School of Public Health. He previously served as the chief medical executive of the Michigan Department of Community Health/Department of Health and Human Services.

**Eric Rothstein** is a national water issues consultant and principal at the Galardi Rothstein Group. He served as an independent advisor on the creation of the Great Lakes Water Authority. Rothstein also has served as Jefferson County, Alabama's rate consultant and municipal adviser for litigation related to the county's bankruptcy and issuance of \$1.7 billion in sewer warrants and led strategic financial planning for the City of Atlanta's Department of Watershed Management. He has more than 30 years of experience in water, wastewater and stormwater utility finance and rate-making assessments.

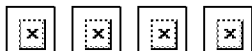
**Lawrence Reynolds**, M.D., is a pediatrician in Flint who serves as president of the Mott Children's Health Center. He received his medical degree from Howard University College of Medicine and has been in practice for 36 years. He has served as president of the Genesee County Medical Society and the Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. He has been honored for his humanitarian and advocacy efforts on behalf of children from the Community Foundation of Greater Flint.

Snyder has said reconnecting with the authority is a critical step to resolving water quality issues and addressing related health concerns. It will not immediately resolve the city's problem with lead service lines or aging infrastructure. It will take time for pipes in Flint to become coated with the phosphate corrosion control.

To best protect public health, state and local authorities will continue to carry out steps outlined on Oct. 2 in a comprehensive action plan, including continued testing, the use of faucet filters and providing residents with accurate information about steps to eliminate lead exposure. The Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services are continuing to provide free water filters, free lead testing through the state laboratory for Flint water customers, and hiring additional staff to conduct health exposure monitoring for lead in drinking water.

####

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**From:** GOV Newsroom  
**Sent:** Monday, November 02, 2015 9:43 AM  
**Subject:** 11/2 Newsroom  
**Attachments:** 151102 Newsroom.docx

Governor Rick Snyder  
**REINVENTING MICH**  
Getting It Right. Getting It Done.

## In the News

Monday, November 2, 2015  
[NEWS \(Click the link to read the full article\)](#)

### GOVERNOR'S ACTIVITIES

#### *Bill signings*

[No roads fix, but more than 70 bills are now Mich. Law \(Freep\)](#)

The Michigan Legislature may not have been able to get a package of bills passed yet to fix the roads, but in the last four months, they've passed more than 70 bills that were signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder.

#### *Event preview*

[Gov. Snyder to address higher education affordability \(WLNS\)](#)

Governor Rick Snyder will also be addressing higher education and school affordability at the Center for Michigan's Policy Conference. The event will be Monday at 9:00 a.m. at the Radisson Hotel in Lansing.

### LT. GOVERNOR'S ACTIVITIES

[Michigan political odd couple join forces at NYC marathon \(Freep\)](#)

They are two of the most unlikely political allies in Lansing. One is a state Supreme Court justice nominated by Democrats and one of two remaining progressive voices on the bench. The other is the very conservative lieutenant governor in the state who is widely expected to run for governor in 2018.

[TC Employee Receives Special Visit From Lt. Gov. Brian Calley \( 9&10 News\)](#)

One local man got to work alongside a special guest today. Today Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley stopped by Tom's Food Market in Traverse City to work with employee Kyle Barker for bring your legislator to work day. "Events like this help to spotlight employers who are creating an inclusive work environment for people with disabilities."

[Lt. Governor bags groceries at local store \(TV 7&4\)](#)

A lieutenant governor spent Friday afternoon working at a northern Michigan grocery store. If you shopped at Tom's Food Market on Fourteenth Street in Traverse City on Friday, there's a chance Lt. Governor Brian Calley may have bagged your groceries.

State law to save Ypsilanti, Willow Run taxpayers \$3.3 million (Mlive)

State Rep. David Rutledge, D-Superior Township, sponsored the legislation, which had near unanimous support in the state Senate and House of Representatives. Lt. Gov. Brian Calley signed the bill into law this week.

No more money: Michigan autism fund runs dry as its architect calls for reconsideration (Mlive)

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, who has a daughter with autism, signed the legislation during a period where Gov. Rick Snyder was out of the state. He pointed out that the mandate for traditional insurers to cover autism treatment remains intact, even without the fund. "While it is very concerning that the Michigan autism coverage fund could soon run out of reimbursement funds, the requirement for insurance companies to cover autism services will not be impacted," Lt. Gov. Brian Calley said.

Forlini's bill to help families care for the disabled signed into law (Macomb Daily)

The Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act was signed into law on Friday by Lt. Gov. Brian Calley in a ceremony in Lansing that included the bill's author, state Rep. Tony Forlini, R-Harrison Township.

Michigan Political Points: Money flows to judges, gov prospects and Courser/Gamrat opponents (Mlive)

GOV WATCH: Michigan's 2018 gubernatorial election is still years away, but campaign finance documents filed with the state this week again hinted at potential runs for three top Republicans: Attorney General Bill Schuette, Lieutenant Gov. Brian Calley and Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof.

## **DEPARTMENT NEWS**

### **DNR**

Increasing growth of Michigan forest products (UP Matters)

The Governor's 2015 Forest Products Summit, held Wednesday in East Lansing, Michigan, brought together 150 representatives from industry, government, the financial sector and academia to continue actions started at the Governor's 2013 Forest Products Summit to encourage growth of wood-using industries in the state. Bill O'Neill, chief of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Forest Resources Division, says collaboration since the 2013 summit already has helped grow the industry.

DNR seeks outdoor recreation partners and sponsors for 2016 season (UP Matters)

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources currently is seeking support from partners and sponsors for 2016 outdoor recreation events and initiatives. Opportunities include sponsoring statewide event campaigns, creating co-promotional products for distribution, and donating to projects such as the Iron Belle Trail, the Outdoor Adventure Center in Detroit and the upcoming 2019 Centennial Celebration of Michigan State Parks.

### **LARA**

State program to connect work-authorized immigrants to careers (Crain's Detroit Business)

The program is an extension of a program launched in 2013 with San Francisco nonprofit Upwardly Global to retrain immigrants. That program resulted in the placement of 27 immigrants, resulting in an average annual salary increase of \$48,650, said Mike Zimmer, director for the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, which oversees the New Americans office.

### **MDARD**

8 skimming suspects face federal charges (WOOD TV)

The eight suspects who authorities say are responsible for incidents of "skimming" at West Michigan gas stations this summer are now being charged in federal court.

Experts urge caution on Great Lakes fish farming (The Detroit News)

The recommendation was among many in five reports submitted by a panel of scientists, economists and other experts appointed to advise regulators considering whether a process known as "net-pen aquaculture" would be suitable for

Great Lakes waters within Michigan's boundaries. The state departments of Environmental Quality, Natural Resources and Agriculture and Rural Development requested the study and recently posted the reports online.

#### *MDE*

[Look up college-going rates for 2014 grads for your Michigan high school](#) (Mlive)

About 62 percent of Michigan public school students in the Class of 2014 went to college within six months of graduating high school, based on data collected by the Michigan Department of Education. You can use this database to look up the college-going rate for 2014 graduates of any Michigan public high school, including charters.

#### *MDHHS*

[Flint families to receive guidelines on lead exposure](#) (AP)

Health officials have established guidelines for families on how they should respond to ongoing problems with the municipal water supply in Flint. The Genesee County Health Department and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services plan to send letters to parents this week with information regarding lead testing and how to reduce lead exposure after elevated blood lead levels were found in some Flint children.

[Local hospital receives grant for upcoming project](#) (Huron Daily Tribune)

The Harbor Beach Community Hospital is one of 41 entities selected to receive a one-time fund to improve its efficiency and effectiveness in health services. The Health Innovation Grants — administered by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services — funded 41 projects in Michigan for a total of \$1,163,000 in grants this year. This marked the third year Michigan has awarded the Health Innovation Grants.

[Letters to be sent to Flint parents with information on lead testing](#) (Mlive)

In a joint effort to inform the community about lead exposure, the Genesee County Health Department and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services will be sending letters to parents.

[Laws protect senior citizens from the cold](#) (The Voice News)

This winter, the State Emergency Relief Program is helping thousands of local citizens get out of the cold. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services runs an annual program for temporary heat and utility assistance that comes on the heels of cooler temperatures and concludes when warm winds begin to blow at the end of May.

#### *MDOT*

[MDOT finishes M-20 boulevard work near Mount Pleasant](#) (Midland Daily News)

On Friday, crews completed installing signs and pavement markings along M-20 from Summerton Road to Leaton Road, marking then end of a \$3.8 million safety project, two weeks ahead of schedule. The Michigan Department of Transportation collaborated with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe to develop plans for this boulevard area. The project is expected to increase safety, address congestion and improve overall roadway operation, MDOT stated.

[Raymond Road gets resurfaced](#) (Battle Creek Enquirer)

The Calhoun County Road Department said the resurfacing of a portion of Raymond Road in Emmett Township is nearing completion. The project was paid for with \$500,000 from the Michigan Department of Transportation given to the road department earlier this year. It's part of the state's Priority Road Investment Program.

[M-231 is now open for traffic](#) (WXMI)

The new seven miles of roadway runs from Crockery Township in the north, over the Grand River, to Robinson Township. It runs from the I-96/M-104 interchange in Crockery to M-45, Lake Michigan Drive on the south end. The Michigan Department of Transportation says the highway will alleviate congestion in other areas of the county and make it faster for first responders to get to emergencies.

#### *MSHDA*

[\\$3.7M extra paid in Detroit's blight fight](#) (Detroit Free Press)

A controversial deal between Detroit's land bank and several large contractors designed to speed up demolitions at a set price instead ended up costing the city at least \$3.7 million more than expected, according to records reviewed by the Free Press. MSHDA, which oversees the land bank's demolition work, recently sent a review team to Detroit to analyze certain contract awards.

## **MSP**

State Police give tips for winter emergency preparedness (Upper Michigan's Source)

With winter weather rapidly approaching, the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division is encouraging Michiganders to make winter emergency preparedness a priority.

## **LEGISLATIVE NEWS**

No roads fix, but more than 70 bills are now Mich. law (Detroit Free Press)

The Michigan Legislature may not have been able to get a package of bills passed yet to fix the roads, but in the last four months, they've passed more than 70 bills that were signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder.

'Fiscal time bomb' or welcome relief? Income tax rollback linked to Michigan roads plan (MLive)

The House Republican road funding plan approved last week includes a trigger designed to limit the growth of government spending, but critics say it could blow up the state budget while benefiting the most wealthy.

How Michigan road-funding fix unraveled in GOP Senate (MLive)

Last Monday night, the two top GOP leaders in the Legislature were at an event, and for the first time in a long time, it looked like a road fix was finally at hand.

House Speaker says road funding getting in way of other issues (WMUK)

Republican leaders in the state Senate hope to hold a vote this week on a road funding plan. Many lawmakers are becoming more eager to get roads out of the way so they can move onto other major issues.

Asian Carp inch closer to Lake Michigan, lawmakers urge 'immediate action' (Inquisitr)

Asian carp are inching closer to Lake Michigan at an alarming rate. A recent study, conducted by the Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee, revealed the invasive species were found in the Illinois River near the city of Seneca. Wildlife officials said the discovery is concerning — as the fish are 12 miles closer to Lake Michigan than previously thought.

## **DETROIT**

Ex-Detroit Mayor Dave Bing challenges Mike Duggan explanation of rise in demolition costs (MLive)

Bothered by Mayor Mike Duggan's characterization of the pace of the previous administrations anti-blight efforts, former Mayor Dave Bing this week approached reporters to defend his record.

Anti-arson campaign credited with keeping fires in Detroit to 52 over 3-day Halloween period (AP)

The number of fires in Detroit over the recently completed three-day Halloween period was among the lowest in years, city officials said.

Housing deals boost Midtown's revival in Detroit (Freep)

Five years after the launch of an incentive program to encourage people to move into areas in and around Detroit's Midtown, organizers of the effort say it has been a success at bringing a diverse mix of people into the neighborhood — so much that the incentives will likely keep going even after the pilot project comes to an end.

\$3.7M extra paid in Detroit's blight fight (Freep)

A controversial deal between Detroit's land bank and several large contractors designed to speed up demolitions at a set price instead ended up costing the city at least \$3.7 million more than expected, according to records reviewed by the Free Press.

Hundreds get sneak peek at rehabbed home (Detroit News)

The line waiting to get inside the Ransom Gillis house in Detroit's Brush Park was blocks long.

"It's crazy," said Ruby McGill as she took her spot near the line's end. "We were expecting a long line, but not this crazy."

## OPINION

Detroit schools plan shows lack of faith in democracy (Detroit Free Press)

When did we stop believing in democracy? Not so long ago most Americans would have professed a belief that democracy shielded citizens from the callous excesses of distant power.

Who will take the lead on climate change? (Detroit Free Press)

Nearly everyone gets it about climate change.

Education in Michigan can improve, if it's done right (Detroit Free Press)

Imagine a public education system where many educators lack a clear sense of what skills their students need to learn each academic year, where instruction doesn't build always on instruction of the previous year in a coherent way for students, and even when it does, the standards for teaching and learning often are set terribly low.

Blueprint for fixing Detroit schools (Detroit News)

Times are tough for students in Detroit. For the past six years running, students there have earned the worst test scores of any urban school district in the country. An alarmingly small 7 percent of the district's eighth-graders can read at or above grade level with the rest falling behind. Detroit schools need help.

Tests could lead to EMS savings (Detroit News)

A pilot project underway in Washtenaw and Livingston counties to cut the cost of emergency medical service represents the sort of innovative approach that could significantly trim health care costs for both individuals and communities. The test should be encouraged, and if it works, replicated.

Will: Fix the criminal justice system (Detroit News)

The Republican Party, like Sisyphus, is again putting its shoulder to a boulder, hoping to make modest but significant changes in the Electoral College arithmetic by winning perhaps 12 percent of the African-American vote. To this end, they need to hone a rhetoric of skepticism about, and an agenda for reform of, the criminal justice system. They can draw on the thinking of a federal appellate judge nominated by Ronald Reagan.

Finley: Gov. Snyder---break a leg, or several (Detroit News)

Things should get downright nasty in Lansing this week.

How Michigan road-funding fix unraveled in GOP senate (MLive)

Last Monday night, the two top GOP leaders in the Legislature were at an event, and for the first time in a long time, it looked like a road fix was finally at hand.

McCann: Energy policy should be fair to everyone (Midland Daily News)

Michiganders deserve an energy policy that is fair for everyone. Unfortunately, our current system of partial deregulation treats a small percentage of customers to a sweetheart deal worth \$300 million annually that the rest of us are forced to subsidize. We need a system that ensures every Michigander is responsible for their fair share of costs to support the energy grid we all rely on.

Pardee: Prevailing wage law supports families, service (Lansing State Journal)

Help college students get their money's worth (Bridge)

A college degree is the most important vehicle for economic success in our country. Two-thirds of all U.S. jobs will require a postsecondary education by 2020, up from 28 percent in 1973. And college graduates take home, on average, 60 percent higher annual earnings than their high school graduate counterparts, which adds up to about \$830,000 more income over a lifetime.

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## In the News

Monday, November 2, 2015

[NEWS \(Click the link to read the full article\)](#)

### GOVERNOR'S ACTIVITIES

#### *Bill signings*

[No roads fix, but more than 70 bills are now Mich. Law \(Freep\)](#)

The Michigan Legislature may not have been able to get a package of bills passed yet to fix the roads, but in the last four months, they've passed more than 70 bills that were signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder.

#### *Event preview*

[Gov. Snyder to address higher education affordability \(WLNS\)](#)

Governor Rick Snyder will also be addressing higher education and school affordability at the Center for Michigan's Policy Conference. The event will be Monday at 9:00 a.m. at the Radisson Hotel in Lansing.

### LT. GOVERNOR'S ACTIVITIES

[Michigan political odd couple join forces at NYC marathon \(Freep\)](#)

They are two of the most unlikely political allies in Lansing. One is a state Supreme Court justice nominated by Democrats and one of two remaining progressive voices on the bench. The other is the very conservative lieutenant governor in the state who is widely expected to run for governor in 2018.

[TC Employee Receives Special Visit From Lt. Gov. Brian Calley \( 9&10 News\)](#)

One local man got to work alongside a special guest today. Today Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley stopped by Tom's Food Market in Traverse City to work with employee Kyle Barker for bring your legislator to work day. "Events like this help to spotlight employers who are creating an inclusive work environment for people with disabilities."

[Lt. Governor bags groceries at local store \(TV 7&4\)](#)

A lieutenant governor spent Friday afternoon working at a northern Michigan grocery store. If you shopped at Tom's Food Market on Fourteenth Street in Traverse City on Friday, there's a chance Lt. Governor Brian Calley may have bagged your groceries.

[State law to save Ypsilanti, Willow Run taxpayers \\$3.3 million \(Mlive\)](#)

State Rep. David Rutledge, D-Superior Township, sponsored the legislation, which had near unanimous support in the state Senate and House of Representatives. Lt. Gov. Brian Calley signed the bill into law this week.

[No more money: Michigan autism fund runs dry as its architect calls for reconsideration \(Mlive\)](#)

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, who has a daughter with autism, signed the legislation during a period where Gov.

Rick Snyder was out of the state. He pointed out that the mandate for traditional insurers to cover autism treatment remains intact, even without the fund. "While it is very concerning that the Michigan autism coverage fund could soon run out of reimbursement funds, the requirement for insurance companies to cover autism services will not be impacted," Lt. Gov. Brian Calley said.

Forlini's bill to help families care for the disabled signed into law (Macomb Daily)

The Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act was signed into law on Friday by Lt. Gov. Brian Calley in a ceremony in Lansing that included the bill's author, state Rep. Tony Forlini, R-Harrison Township.

Michigan Political Points: Money flows to judges, gov prospects and Courser/Gamrat opponents (Mlive)

GOV WATCH: Michigan's 2018 gubernatorial election is still years away, but campaign finance documents filed with the state this week again hinted at potential runs for three top Republicans,: Attorney General Bill Schuette, Lieutenant Gov. Brian Calley and Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof.

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

### DNR

Increasing growth of Michigan forest products (UP Matters)

The Governor's 2015 Forest Products Summit, held Wednesday in East Lansing, Michigan, brought together 150 representatives from industry, government, the financial sector and academia to continue actions started at the Governor's 2013 Forest Products Summit to encourage growth of wood-using industries in the state. Bill O'Neill, chief of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Forest Resources Division, says collaboration since the 2013 summit already has helped grow the industry.

DNR seeks outdoor recreation partners and sponsors for 2016 season (UP Matters)

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources currently is seeking support from partners and sponsors for 2016 outdoor recreation events and initiatives. Opportunities include sponsoring statewide event campaigns, creating co-promotional products for distribution, and donating to projects such as the Iron Belle Trail, the Outdoor Adventure Center in Detroit and the upcoming 2019 Centennial Celebration of Michigan State Parks.

### LARA

State program to connect work-authorized immigrants to careers (Crain's Detroit Business)

The program is an extension of a program launched in 2013 with San Francisco nonprofit Upwardly Global to retrain immigrants. That program resulted in the placement of 27 immigrants, resulting in an average annual salary increase of \$48,650, said Mike Zimmer, director for the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, which oversees the New Americans office.

### MDARD

8 skimming suspects face federal charges (WOOD TV)

The eight suspects who authorities say are responsible for incidents of "skimming" at West Michigan gas stations this summer are now being charged in federal court.

Experts urge caution on Great Lakes fish farming (The Detroit News)

The recommendation was among many in five reports submitted by a panel of scientists, economists and other experts appointed to advise regulators considering whether a process known as "net-pen aquaculture" would be suitable for Great Lakes waters within Michigan's boundaries. The state departments of Environmental Quality, Natural Resources and Agriculture and Rural Development requested the study and recently posted the reports online.

## *MDE*

### [Look up college-going rates for 2014 grads for your Michigan high school](#) (Mlive)

About 62 percent of Michigan public school students in the Class of 2014 went to college within six months of graduating high school, based on data collected by the Michigan Department of Education. You can use this database to look up the college-going rate for 2014 graduates of any Michigan public high school, including charters.

## *MDHHS*

### [Flint families to receive guidelines on lead exposure](#) (AP)

Health officials have established guidelines for families on how they should respond to ongoing problems with the municipal water supply in Flint. The Genesee County Health Department and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services plan to send letters to parents this week with information regarding lead testing and how to reduce lead exposure after elevated blood lead levels were found in some Flint children.

### [Local hospital receives grant for upcoming project](#) (Huron Daily Tribune)

The Harbor Beach Community Hospital is one of 41 entities selected to receive a one-time fund to improve its efficiency and effectiveness in health services. The Health Innovation Grants — administered by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services — funded 41 projects in Michigan for a total of \$1,163,000 in grants this year. This marked the third year Michigan has awarded the Health Innovation Grants.

### [Letters to be sent to Flint parents with information on lead testing](#) (Mlive)

In a joint effort to inform the community about lead exposure, the Genesee County Health Department and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services will be sending letters to parents.

### [Laws protect senior citizens from the cold](#) (The Voice News)

This winter, the State Emergency Relief Program is helping thousands of local citizens get out of the cold. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services runs an annual program for temporary heat and utility assistance that comes on the heels of cooler temperatures and concludes when warm winds begin to blow at the end of May.

## *MDOT*

### [MDOT finishes M-20 boulevard work near Mount Pleasant](#) (Midland Daily News)

On Friday, crews completed installing signs and pavement markings along M-20 from Summerton Road to Leaton Road, marking then end of a \$3.8 million safety project, two weeks ahead of schedule. The Michigan Department of Transportation collaborated with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe to develop plans for this boulevard area. The project is expected to increase safety, address congestion and improve overall roadway operation, MDOT stated.

### [Raymond Road gets resurfaced](#) (Battle Creek Enquirer)

The Calhoun County Road Department said the resurfacing of a portion of Raymond Road in Emmett Township is nearing completion. The project was paid for with \$500,000 from the Michigan Department of Transportation given to the road department earlier this year, It's is part of the state's Priority Road Investment Program.

### [M-231 is now open for traffic](#) (WXMI)

The new seven miles of roadway runs from Crockery Township in the north, over the Grand River, to Robinson Township. It runs from the I-96/M-104 interchange in Crockery to M-45, Lake Michigan Drive

on the south end. The Michigan Department of Transportation says the highway will alleviate congestion in other areas of the county and make it faster for first responders to get to emergencies.

#### *MSHDA*

\$3.7M extra paid in Detroit's blight fight (Detroit Free Press)

A controversial deal between Detroit's land bank and several large contractors designed to speed up demolitions at a set price instead ended up costing the city at least \$3.7 million more than expected, according to records reviewed by the Free Press. MSHDA, which oversees the land bank's demolition work, recently sent a review team to Detroit to analyze certain contract awards.

#### *MSP*

State Police give tips for winter emergency preparedness (Upper Michigan's Source)

With winter weather rapidly approaching, the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division is encouraging Michiganders to make winter emergency preparedness a priority.

### **LEGISLATIVE NEWS**

No roads fix, but more than 70 bills are now Mich. law (Detroit Free Press)

The Michigan Legislature may not have been able to get a package of bills passed yet to fix the roads, but in the last four months, they've passed more than 70 bills that were signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder.

'Fiscal time bomb' or welcome relief? Income tax rollback linked to Michigan roads plan (MLive)

The House Republican road funding plan approved last week includes a trigger designed to limit the growth of government spending, but critics say it could blow up the state budget while benefiting the most wealthy.

How Michigan road-funding fix unraveled in GOP Senate (MLive)

Last Monday night, the two top GOP leaders in the Legislature were at an event, and for the first time in a long time, it looked like a road fix was finally at hand.

House Speaker says road funding getting in way of other issues (WMUK)

Republican leaders in the state Senate hope to hold a vote this week on a road funding plan. Many lawmakers are becoming more eager to get roads out of the way so they can move onto other major issues.

Asian Carp inch closer to Lake Michigan, lawmakers urge 'immediate action' (Inquisitr)

Asian carp are inching closer to Lake Michigan at an alarming rate. A recent study, conducted by the Asian Carp Regional Coordinating Committee, revealed the invasive species were found in the Illinois River near the city of Seneca. Wildlife officials said the discovery is concerning — as the fish are 12 miles closer to Lake Michigan than previously thought.

### **DETROIT**

Ex-Detroit Mayor Dave Bing challenges Mike Duggan explanation of rise in demolition costs (MLive)

Bothered by Mayor Mike Duggan's characterization of the pace of the previous administrations anti-blight efforts, former Mayor Dave Bing this week approached reporters to defend his record.

Anti-arson campaign credited with keeping fires in Detroit to 52 over 3-day Halloween period (AP)

The number of fires in Detroit over the recently completed three-day Halloween period was among the lowest in years, city officials said.

#### Housing deals boost Midtown's revival in Detroit (Freep)

Five years after the launch of an incentive program to encourage people to move into areas in and around Detroit's Midtown, organizers of the effort say it has been a success at bringing a diverse mix of people into the neighborhood — so much that the incentives will likely keep going even after the pilot project comes to an end.

#### \$3.7M extra paid in Detroit's blight fight (Freep)

A controversial deal between Detroit's land bank and several large contractors designed to speed up demolitions at a set price instead ended up costing the city at least \$3.7 million more than expected, according to records reviewed by the Free Press.

#### Hundreds get sneak peek at rehabbed home (Detroit News)

The line waiting to get inside the Ransom Gillis house in Detroit's Brush Park was blocks long. "It's crazy," said Ruby McGill as she took her spot near the line's end. "We were expecting a long line, but not this crazy."

### **OPINION**

#### Detroit schools plan shows lack of faith in democracy (Detroit Free Press)

When did we stop believing in democracy? Not so long ago most Americans would have professed a belief that democracy shielded citizens from the callous excesses of distant power.

#### Who will take the lead on climate change? (Detroit Free Press)

Nearly everyone gets it about climate change.

#### Education in Michigan can improve, if it's done right (Detroit Free Press)

Imagine a public education system where many educators lack a clear sense of what skills their students need to learn each academic year, where instruction doesn't build always on instruction of the previous year in a coherent way for students, and even when it does, the standards for teaching and learning often are set terribly low.

#### Blueprint for fixing Detroit schools (Detroit News)

Times are tough for students in Detroit. For the past six years running, students there have earned the worst test scores of any urban school district in the country. An alarmingly small 7 percent of the district's eighth-graders can read at or above grade level with the rest falling behind. Detroit schools need help.

#### Tests could lead to EMS savings (Detroit News)

A pilot project underway in Washtenaw and Livingston counties to cut the cost of emergency medical service represents the sort of innovative approach that could significantly trim health care costs for both individuals and communities. The test should be encouraged, and if it works, replicated.

#### Will: Fix the criminal justice system (Detroit News)

The Republican Party, like Sisyphus, is again putting its shoulder to a boulder, hoping to make modest but significant changes in the Electoral College arithmetic by winning perhaps 12 percent of the African-American vote. To this end, they need to hone a rhetoric of skepticism about, and an agenda for reform of, the criminal justice system. They can draw on the thinking of a federal appellate judge nominated by Ronald Reagan.

Finley: Gov. Snyder—break a leg, or several (Detroit News)  
Things should get downright nasty in Lansing this week.

How Michigan road-funding fix unraveled in GOP senate (MLive)  
Last Monday night, the two top GOP leaders in the Legislature were at an event, and for the first time in a long time, it looked like a road fix was finally at hand.

McCann: Energy policy should be fair to everyone (Midland Daily News)  
Michiganders deserve an energy policy that is fair for everyone. Unfortunately, our current system of partial deregulation treats a small percentage of customers to a sweetheart deal worth \$300 million annually that the rest of us are forced to subsidize. We need a system that ensures every Michigander is responsible for their fair share of costs to support the energy grid we all rely on.

Pardee: Prevailing wage law supports families, service (Lansing State Journal)

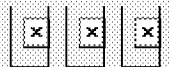
Help college students get their money's worth (Bridge)  
A college degree is the most important vehicle for economic success in our country. Two-thirds of all U.S. jobs will require a postsecondary education by 2020, up from 28 percent in 1973. And college graduates take home, on average, 60 percent higher annual earnings than their high school graduate counterparts, which adds up to about \$830,000 more income over a lifetime.

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**From:** Crain's Michigan Morning <crainsdetroit@crinalerts.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 05, 2015 7:29 AM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Taubman art auction nets \$377M | New Beaumont urgent care | EPA warns of more Flint water problems

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November 5, 2015

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SHERRI WELCH

## First auction of Taubman's private art nets \$377 million

More pieces will be auctioned today; proceeds from the sales will benefit Michigan causes.



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## Beaumont opens urgent care center in West Bloomfield

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THE FLINT JOURNAL

## New EPA report warns of more Flint water problems

The government says residents should be warned of the potential risk of increased lead in drinking water when crews do underground work that could affect water pipes.

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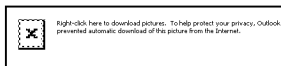
MIBIZ

## VC Start Garden, Emerge West Michigan explore merger

The goal of the possible merger: growing and streamlining services for the community of entrepreneurs and startups in West Michigan, which stakeholders had been clamoring

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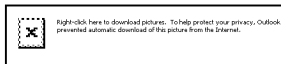
for in recent years



## Snyder's press secretary to leave for Lansing-based PR firm Truscott Rossman

Sara Wurfel to step down Nov. 30. Deputy press secretary Dave Murray will be promoted to replace her.

Advertisement



## Laurel Park Place plans weekend activities to celebrate renovations

A new H&M store highlights the changes at the Livonia mall.

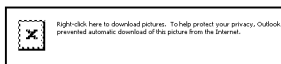
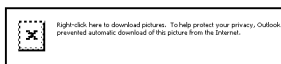


TABLE TALK

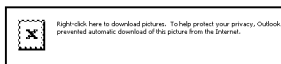
## 1000 Degrees pizzeria opens | Macarons 'home' for holidays | Fall inspires drinks at Bastone

A roundup of local food, drink and restaurant news.



KIRK PINHO

## Detroit Seoul: Local broker to be part of South Korean documentary on American manufacturing



## Olympia Entertainment President Tom Wilson unveils new details about Red Wings arena plan

Five clubs, including one through which players will pass to and from the ice, among new features available for fans at the \$627 million arena.

Michigan, U.S. economies expected to remain strong, oil to stay cheap

Advertisement





## MDOT moves up work on Rouge River Bridge starting today

## Members of Congress want faster action to stop Asian carp from reaching Great Lakes



## Hayman Co. buys Chicago-area apartment complex from Michigan pension fund for more than \$41 million

The deal marks the Southfield-based company's re-entry into the Chicago market. The pension fund had owned the property since 1997.



## Conflict with auto show kills Detroit's bid for 2019 college football championship game

Levi Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif., was awarded the game today over Ford Field.



## Christmas in July? Detroit's holiday tree arrives in summer-like temps

Four Tops will headline Nov. 20 lighting ceremony at Campus Martius.

Advertisement



## Carl Levin's papers go to University of Michigan's Bentley Library

The former U.S. senator's collection includes photos, letters, legislation, memorabilia, publications and memos.



## UM extends basketball coach John Beilein's contract

The university said it has added two years to the contract of its men's basketball coach to extend to 2020-21. Beilein is entering his ninth season at the school.

---

## Wayne State to host mortuary science building open house today



## Business events in November: From networking to infographics



## 10 things to do this weekend

Check out ComiqueCon, go to the Veterans Day Parade, check out a Depression glass show and more.

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LINKEDIN

## Why you should bring your parents to work today

Have a hard time describing what you do at work to your parents? That's why the social network site launched Bring In Your Parents Day, in its third year.

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

### Mariners Inn's River Rhythm Gala

River Rhythm is an opportunity for Mariners Inn to honor the individuals and generous donors who have supported our mission and made possible the continued expansion of our services, which now includes at-risk youth and young adults. The evening will feature entertainment, speed painting by Martina Hahn, a plated dinner, silent and live auctions, and an award ceremony.

**Date:** Friday, November 6 6:00pm - 10:00pm

**Place:** MotorCity Casino Sound Board, 2901 Grand River, Detroit

**Contact:** Stephanie Maurice | (313) 962-9446, ext. 230 | [smaurice@marinersinn.org](mailto:smaurice@marinersinn.org)

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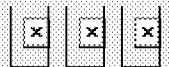
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**From:** Crain's Health Care Report <crainsdetroit@crinalerts.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 21, 2015 12:04 PM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** St. John Health gives CRNAs ultimatum | Henry Ford Hospital gets new robotic surgery technology | Organizations, UM researchers win grants

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Crain's Detroit Business



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Healthcare Insider

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December 21, 2015

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## St. John Health to nurse anesthetists: Sign deal or lose job

Nurse anesthetists at two Providence hospitals who haven't signed a third-party employment agreement are out the door at month's end, presumably with no hospital severance benefits or unemployment.



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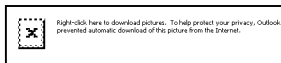
JAY GREENE

## Henry Ford Hospital gets new robotic technology that allows surgery on tumors deep within the brain

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## Michigan Health Endowment Fund announces \$15 million in grants to more than 30 organizations

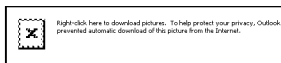
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## UM researchers win grant for protective gear research

UM Professor Ellen Arruda leads the research that won the \$250,000 grant from the Head Health Initiative challenge, which will help develop materials to better protect athletes and members of the military.

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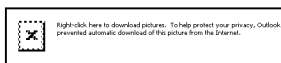
JAY GREENE

## World Medical Relief has new digs, new plans

The nonprofit has moved into a new \$1.5 million building in Southfield and expanded its traditional medical supply program and hopes to start in 2016 a pacemaker device reuse program and a low-income medical or dental clinic.

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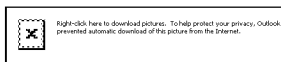
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## Detroit City Council passes zoning ordinance to regulate medical marijuana dispensaries

Experts say the ordinance could lead to the closure of half of the city's medical marijuana dispensaries.

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## McLaren Macomb Healthcare Foundation names director

Louise Rallis-Wibbelman had led the foundation in an interim capacity since the spring, succeeding Elsa Silverman, who left the organization after four years.

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## New Michigan law lets arenas, other venues stock EpiPens

The measure permits doctors to prescribe and pharmacists to dispense EpiPens to youth sports leagues, amusement parks, religious institutions and other places

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## Michigan secures waiver to continue Medicaid expansion

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## Snyder names state urban initiatives director to lead Flint water crisis response

Harvey Hollins is a former vice president for government and community affairs at Wayne State University.

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GUEST BLOG: MARK S. LEE

## Heritage Vision Plans founder keeps doors open in Detroit for 40 years

George P. Barnes Jr. has positioned his company, which began as the city's first African American-owned and -operated full-service optical dispensary, for continued growth and sustainability.

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## Federal bid to rein in painkiller prescriptions hits roadblocks

After criticisms and a threat of a lawsuit, the CDC has abandoned its January target date for new guidelines on prescribing painkillers, instead opening the proposed rules to public comment for 30 days and additional changes.

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## FDA proposes ban on indoor tanning for minors

Anyone under the age of 18 would be barred from using indoor tanning equipment, under a federal proposal to help reduce skin cancer linked to the devices.

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## Nutrisystem buys South Beach Diet for \$15 million, plans relaunch

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**From:** Gongwer News Service <gongwer@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 22, 2015 10:28 AM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** FW: Michigan Report, Monday, December 21, 2015  
**Attachments:** Dec21Rules.htm; Dec21.htm; 151221dayplan.htm

Kurt, let me know if you get this.

Zach

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**From:** Gongwer News Service [mailto:gongwerreports@gongwer.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 21, 2015 6:45 PM  
**To:** gongwer@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Monday, December 21, 2015



## Michigan Report for Monday, December 21, 2015

Greimel: DPS Debt Relief Should Not Come From School Aid Fund

Virginia Tech Researcher Claims Stonewalling On Lead Data

Trump Names Hagerstrom To Lead Michigan Campaign

House Republicans Boast Half Of Action Plan Finished

Feds Praise State's Child Welfare Progress

Former Assistant AG Loses Final Round In Court

Forecast: New Home Construction To Rise 25% In 2016

Price: M-STEP Results Opportunity To Improve

Presented To The Governor

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## Activity Reports

Administrative Rules



## Calendars

Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #249 -- Monday, December 21, 2015

### Greimel: DPS Debt Relief Should Not Come From School Aid Fund

House Minority Leader Tim Greimel told reporters Monday he is ready to work in a bipartisan way to solve the debt issue in Detroit Public Schools, but that the funding should not come from the School Aid Fund at the expense of other districts in the state.

Mr. Greimel (D-Auburn Hills), in a year-end meeting with reporters, said there are other options in the budget to fund a DPS solution at \$715 million, which would cover some debt and give the new district startup money. Governor Rick Snyder has called for redirecting the 18-mill property tax on non-principal residence property in the district away from the School Aid Fund and instead dedicate it toward paying down DPS debt.

"The vast majority of this debt was incurred while the school district was under state control," Mr. Greimel said. "As a result, the state has a significant responsibility to address that debt. But we don't want to see that done at the expense of other school districts in the state."

Republicans have voiced deep resistance to Mr. Snyder's proposal, and now with Mr. Greimel declaring that House Democrats cannot support it either, that concept is in serious trouble, to say the least.

Mr. Greimel said he is also open-minded on the order in which DPS solutions are legislated. Some have said to deal with the money first and then go into the governance and academic portions of the plan.

"Ultimately the end goal is not about the budget, it is not about governance, ultimately the end goal is about adequately and appropriately educating young people so that they will succeed," he said. "I want to make sure that any policy changes related to finance or governance are related to the ultimate end goal of making sure we are properly educating our young people."

He also said he has no assurances from Mr. Snyder that the Education Achievement Authority will close under a DPS solution.

"We have long called to shut down the EAA. Frankly it is scandalous that the EAA is still operating in light of what has become public of its profound failures," he said. "It is absolutely baffling that the governor has refused to shut this thing down."

**CAUCUS DRAMA:** Mr. Greimel did not address Rep. Leslie Love (D-Detroit) and Rep. Erika Geiss (D-Taylor) being stripped of their leadership titles in caucus and use of central staff.

All that House Democrats officially have said about Ms. Geiss and Ms. Love is that they are still members of the caucus. The sanctions occurred after both voted for a bill limiting municipal liability on sidewalks while the rest of the caucus voted against the legislation.

"We have said all we are going to say on that topic. And I know in the Lansing bubble what happens in that regard is big news, but I want to focus on the issues that everyday voters care about," Mr. Greimel said. "We don't talk about what happens in the caucus room. They are both still valued members of the caucus. And we're not going to discuss internal caucus affairs."

**CAMPAIGN FINANCE:** Mr. Greimel said Mr. Snyder should veto [SB 571](#), which makes a variety of changes to campaign finance laws, including not allowing a local government entity, including schools, to use taxpayer dollars on ballot question communications. He said Mr. Snyder should also veto [SB 13](#), which eliminates straight-ticket voting in the state.

"My hope is that Governor Snyder, who has always held himself out as a nonpartisan and bipartisan governor, will do the right thing and veto those bills, so that he can uphold the legacy that I know he wants to have of being a truly nonpartisan governor who is focused on solving problems in the state," he said. "Not passing new laws to make it easier for Republicans to stay in power."

Mr. Greimel he said he believes there are elements of Mr. Snyder's record where he hasn't acted partisan.

"We saw that with Medicaid expansion; we saw that with the assistance to the city of Detroit; we've seen it support of mass transit in the state," he said. "But it's these kinds of power grabs that we have seen from the House Republicans in the last two weeks that jeopardize the governor leaving office with a true legacy of nonpartisanship."

On the portion of SB 571 that bars local government entities, including schools, from creating materials talking about a ballot question in the 60 days preceding the election, Mr. Greimel said if there are abuses, they should be fixed.

"That would be a smarter and more appropriate approach than simply prohibiting any communication," he said.

Mr. Greimel said the Democrats are still combing through the bill, which saw a 53-page substitute adopted quickly last week before the bill passed.

"We know that his bill would allow more money into politics with less disclosure. And I have talked to thousands of voters across the state and have yet to have found anybody who says: 'You know what we need? We need more money and less transparency in politics,'" he said.

**DEMOCRATIC WINS:** In terms of what the Democrats were able to accomplish this year, Mr. Greimel said their biggest wins were the School Aid Budget and getting [Attorney General Bill Schuette](#) and the Department of State Police to investigate the affair and taxpayer dollar abuses that occurred between former Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat.

"This past year's school aid budget is the best school aid budget we have had in at least the past four or five years," he said. "Through Democrats coming to the table and working in a bipartisan way we were able to get big improvement over previous year's school aid budgets."

Mr. Greimel took another swipe at the Senate for its planned move into the leased space at the Capitol View building.

On the investigation into the Mr. Courser and Ms. Gamrat situation, Mr. Greimel said the Department of Attorney General officials told him they are still investigating and cannot provide updates.

However, he said so far during this term, there have been no significant bipartisan initiatives passed. He said last term the Legislature was able to get Medicaid expansion and funding toward Detroit's bankruptcy.

"Those are the kinds of bipartisan solutions the people of Michigan expect and deserve. And it is disappointing that under the current House leadership we have not seen those kind of bipartisan solutions," he said. "The House Republicans have become increasingly dominated by the far right wing members of their caucus and the Republican party overall. As a result I think we have seen more partisanship from them and I think we have seen more ideology and less pragmatism and bipartisanship."

Asked about legislation that passed the House with bipartisan support to overhaul medical marijuana laws and ease parole for those at their minimum release date, Mr. Greimel said those were not the most pressing issues for typical voters.

Mr. Greimel said he did not have a count on how many meetings he has had with House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant), but they meet less than he did with former Speaker Jase Bolger.

Moving forward, Mr. Greimel said he would like to see more investments in education, particularly after the results of the education study, designed to show how much it costs to educate a student in the state, are released.

"We will soon be getting the results of the education funding study and my hope is that the governor and legislators on both sides of the aisle take those results very seriously and use it as a springboard to finally fund education adequately and appropriately, so that all of Michigan's children have a bright economic future," he said.

Mr. Greimel said Democrats also want policies that facilitate an economy that works for everyone.

He said that includes improving wages and working conditions for all employees.

"It also means making sure we are doing more to ensure small businesses receive the support and especially the access to capital that they need to succeed and grow," he said. "We have seen a lot

of attention the part of Republicans to the big corporations. ... It's long past time that the state focuses more on making sure that small businesses grow and succeed."

### Virginia Tech Researcher Claims Stonewalling On Lead Data

The Department of Health and Human Services had data that showed there were elevated lead levels in Flint's water, but delayed in releasing that data to others for review, Virginia Tech professor Marc Edwards said in an article posted to his website documenting the city's water crisis.

Department officials agreed and said the experience led to changes in how they examine data.

Mr. Edwards said the department had data from shortly after Flint changed its water source that showed a spike in blood lead levels in children in two at-risk neighborhoods, but did not disclose that data until September 2015.

"They discovered scientifically conclusive evidence of an anomalous increase in childhood lead poisoning in summer 2014 immediately after the switch in water sources, but stood by silently as Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) officials repeatedly and falsely stated that no spike in blood lead levels (BLL) of children had occurred," he said in the [post](#).

DHHS spokesperson Jennifer Eisner agreed the department had data that showed the spike, but said its analysis at the time overlooked factors that, in retrospect, would have shown there was a water quality problem.

"When initially looking at the citywide and county elevated blood lead level numbers, the increase appeared to be consistent with the seasonal fluctuation seen in the summer months," Ms. Eisner said. "It wasn't until the Hurley report came out that our epidemiologists took a more in-depth look at the data by ZIP code, controlling for seasonal variation, and confirmed an increase outside of normal trends. As a result of this process, we have determined that the way we analyze data collected needs to be thoroughly reviewed."

Mr. Edwards said DHHS officials also stonewalled him on getting access to that data.

He said data he had gotten easily in 2006 documents for a similar review took several weeks to receive after his request sent September 2. When he did finally receive the data, he said it was a version that omitted the lead level spike from summer 2014 that the department had created in July.

He said a series of emails he received under a recent Freedom of Information Act request showed and intention by DHHS officials to keep the reports from the public.

"Our FOIA reveals a shocking DHHS graph created in October 2015. It shows the statistically significant spike in blood lead that occurred in summer 2014 - the scientific result that DHHS has never publicly acknowledged," Mr. Edwards said in his post.

Ms. Eisner said the department has worked to make the data available. "Summary reports outlining blood lead level testing are posted online on a bi-weekly basis, and we work closely with local partners to fulfill data requests as we receive them," she said.

### Trump Names Hagerstrom To Lead Michigan Campaign

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has named someone to helm his Michigan efforts, tabbing Scott Hagerstrom, former director of Americans for Prosperity-Michigan.

Throughout his rise to lead other GOP candidates in national polls, and perform well in the limited Michigan polling of the race so far, Mr. Trump has had no Michigan staff presence. Mr. Hagerstrom, prior to his stint with AFP-Michigan, worked as an aide in the Michigan House.

After his departure from AFP, Mr. Hagerstrom worked for the leading ballot committee to defeat Proposal 15-1, the unsuccessful ballot proposal in May to raise new funding for roads.

"Scott will be a great asset to our team as we continue to build infrastructure beyond the early primary states and share my vision to Make America Great Again," Mr. Trump said in a statement.

In the statement, the Trump campaign said it expected to announce additional hires and candidate visits in the near future. Mr. Trump spoke in Birch Run earlier this year and was set to speak in Grand Rapids on Monday.

"It is a great honor to serve as Mr. Trump's Michigan state director," Mr. Hagerstrom said. "He is a proven success with the leadership capabilities to accomplish what those in Washington, D.C., cannot. I believe in his message, his vision and his ability to make our country better than ever before."

### House Republicans Boast Half Of Action Plan Finished

House Republicans on Monday said they have completed 51 percent of the caucus' 78-point action plan in the first year of the 2015-16 term.

"We set the bar high, and included initiatives we knew could be a challenge to accomplish. Ending the status quo in Lansing is a difficult proposition, but we continue to remain steadfast in our goal to create great public policy for the people of Michigan," a [blog](#) post from the House Republicans said.

The policy initiatives accomplished included a balanced state budget months before the October 1 deadline; "significant" education reforms to help students develop important reading skills by the third grad; early-warning financial reforms for Michigan's schools to give all students a chance at a bright future; and an end to the "onerous and costly" film subsidy program.

The post said 74 percent of the Action Plan items have been introduced as legislation, and 49 percent of the Action Plan items have been signed into law.

## Feds Praise State's Child Welfare Progress

The federal government complimented the changes made to the state's child welfare services, saying it is leading to more vulnerable children finding safe and permanent homes, according to the Department of Health and Human Services.

U.S. Administration for Children and Families Commissioner Rafael Lopez recognized a variety of changes made to the child welfare system, a statement from DHHS said. The state's Children's Services Agency oversees protective services, foster care, adoption and juvenile justice systems.

"The successful completion of this program improvement plan is a milestone for both Michigan and ACF," Mr. Lopez wrote. "It represents dedication and commitment from staff at every level."

The federal government told the state in 2009 it was not in compliance with federal guidelines, and the state has been working on improving its child welfare system since then.

The statement said when Governor Rick Snyder took office in 2011, he made improving the state's child welfare system one of his top goals, and now the state has succeeded in meeting the federal goals, leading to potential federal penalties of at least \$2.8 million being rescinded.

"I am proud of the progress that Michigan has made in taking care of children who have been abused and neglected," Mr. Snyder said. "It is gratifying to know that the U.S. Administration for Children and Families has recognized the reforms we have implemented. We have more work to do, but there is no doubt that Michigan's vulnerable children receive better services today than they did five years ago."

The letter demonstrates that Michigan is succeeding in providing coordinated services to vulnerable children and families, said DHHS Director Nick Lyon.

"We want kids in the state's child welfare system to safely return to their homes or find a loving, permanent home through adoption if it's determined it is not safe for them to be reunited with their parents," he said. "There are about 13,000 children in Michigan's foster care system at any given time who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect."

## Former Assistant AG Loses Final Round In Court

The bid of a former assistant attorney general, who was fired more than five years ago as a result of his repeated verbal attacks and tirades against a then-University of Michigan student government leader who is gay, to win back his job and unemployment benefits appears to finally have run its course.

In two orders released Saturday, the Supreme Court declined to grant leave to appeal to Andrew Shirvell, who had appealed to the court after losing in the Court of Appeals.

In 2010, then-Attorney General Mike Cox fired Mr. Shirvell, alleging misconduct in his repeated criticism of the U-M student leader. Mr. Cox asserted that Mr. Shirvell had gone against a directive to stop his efforts against the student and also conducted some of his activity on state time.

Mr. Shirvell filed suit in the Ingham Circuit Court challenging his dismissal and lost at every level of the court system. However, the Ingham court did agree he was entitled to unemployment benefits, finding that he did not commit misconduct. The Court of Appeals overturned that ruling.

#### Forecast: New Home Construction To Rise 25% In 2016

New home construction will see a robust increase in 2016, according to a forecast from the Michigan Association of Home Builders.

The association estimates that 16,831 permits for new construction will be issued in 2016, up from 13,467 estimated for 2015.

Association CEO Bob Filka said the increase stems from job growth and increasing shortages of existing housing stock. New home construction slowed to nearly nothing during the Great Recession of 2008-09.

"The reality is the forces of supply and demand are finally kicking in," Mr. Filka said in a statement. "Existing home prices continue to rise in most markets because fewer and fewer choices are available to homebuyers. This price pressure will push more to look at building new."

#### Price: M-STEP Results Opportunity To Improve

House Education Committee Chair Rep. Amanda Price says the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress results should be seen as an opportunity to improve.

"While general statewide data was released in October, this week's information is specific to school districts," Ms. Price said in a statement issued late Friday. "It's clear from the results that there is a need to improve, but we need to emphasize that this is the first year for this specific test. This shows where we are in terms of education across the state of Michigan and should be used as a road map going forward."

Ms. Price also said she was hopeful key education policy items currently before the Legislature would move in 2016.

"My hope is that our work in Lansing in 2016 can go hand-in-hand with what the Department of Education and local districts are doing in the classroom to improve proficiency in all subjects," she said. "That is the ultimate goal, to provide our children with a world class education so they are career or college ready."



Presented To The Governor

By The House

**December 21, 2015**

HB 4095 SUPPLEMENTAL (Pscholka) Provides for supplemental appropriations in for fiscal year 2014-15.

HB 4212 COUNTY BOARDS (Victory) Eliminates sunset on the transfer of functions from a county road commission to the county board of commissioners.

HB 4215 COUNTIES (Victory) Eliminates sunset on powers and duties of county road commissioners to be exercised by the county board of commissioners.

HB 4563 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (Leutheuser) Authorizes contracting for services to assist victims of domestic violence.

HB 4581 LIQUOR (Crawford) Eliminates cap on the per case fee that the commission pays to a vendor to offset cost of vendor contracting with an authorized distribution agent,

HB 4596 CAMPAIGN FINANCE (Lyons) Provides waiver on requirement for filing statement of a committee of an incumbent judge or justice elected or appointed.

HB 4597 CAMPAIGN FINANCE (Lyons) Modifies reporting and disclosure of certain candidates' expenditures.

HB 4658 CIVIL PROCEDURE (McCready) Allows collection of court-ordered financial obligations from judgements against the state.

HB 4680 CORRECTIONS (Page) Extends sunset authority for correctional industries to engage in certain private manufacturing or service enterprises.

HB 4713 MENS REA (McBroom) Establishes default standard for mens rea in criminal statutes.

HB 4742 FAMILY LAW (Kosowski) Repeals uniform interstate family support act and recreates.

HB 4744 FAMILY LAW (Kesto) Updates referenced o the uniform interstate family support act.

HB 4930 PROPERTY TAX (Nesbitt) Excludes certain transfers from definition of transfer of ownership.

HB 5028 COURT ACCESS (Kesto) Allows electronic access to courts.

HB 5029 COURT ACCESS (Heise) Allows electronic access to courts.

HB 5030 COURT ACCESS (Price) Allows electronic access to courts.

By The Senate

**December 21, 2015**

SB 177 CONTROLLING INTEREST (Hune) Requires notice of divesting or acquiring controlling interest in an insurer.

SB 178 RISK AND SOLVENCY ASSESSMENT (Hune) Provides for procedures for own risk and solvency assessment.

SB 418 AVIATION FUEL TAX (Schmidt) Taxes aviation fuel on a percentage of the wholesale price.

SB 425 AVIATION FUEL TAX (Schmidt) Provides for expenditure of wholesale aviation fuel

[SB](#) tax.  
[SB 500](#) TAXABLE WAGES ([Horn](#)) Modifies benefits provision related to taxable wage base reduction.  
[SB 531](#) ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM ([Jones](#)) Authorizes the state court administrative office to establish electronic filing system.  
[SB 532](#) JUDICIAL ELECTRONIC FILING FUND ([Proos](#)) Establishes judicial electronic filing fund.  
[SB 533](#) ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO COURTS ([Schuitmaker](#)) Allows court or court funding unit to charge certain fees for electronic access to courts.  
[SB 538](#) ESCHEATS ([Brandenburg](#)) Streamlines uniform unclaimed property act audit process.  
[SB 552](#) GROUNDWATER DISCHARGE ([Green](#)) Revises groundwater discharge permit fees.  
Supplemental Agency Calendar

## **Tuesday, December 22**

**Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw, Lansing, 1:30 p.m. ([Agenda](#))**

## **Wednesday, January 6**

**Criminal Justice Policy Commission, Senate Appropriations Room, Third Floor, Capitol, Lansing, 9 a.m. ([Agenda](#))**

**124 West Allegan Street, Suite 1200**

**Lansing Michigan 48933**

**Phone: 517-482-3500 | Fax: 517-482-4367 | Email: [gongwer@gongwer.com](mailto:gongwer@gongwer.com)**

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**Click the [icon](#) after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.**

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**From:** GOV Newsroom <govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 29, 2015 2:45 PM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Rick Snyder takes action on initial findings from Flint Water Task Force



Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.  
COWB Statement

**Contacts:** [Dave Murray](#), [Anna Heaton](#) or [Laura Bieh](#)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2015

517-335-6397

## **Gov. Rick Snyder takes action on initial findings from Flint Water Task Force**

*Changes to take place at DEQ, meeting planned with Mayor Karen Weaver*

In response to initial findings from the Flint Water Task Force, Gov. Rick Snyder today issued the following statement:

“When I became aware that the city of Flint’s water showed elevated lead levels and that the state’s handling of the situation was being questioned, I requested funding to switch the source back to the Great Lakes Water Authority and appointed an independent task force to identify possible missteps and areas for improvement.

“The task force has done an exceptional job, reviewing stacks of documents and interviewing scores of Flint, Genesee County, state and federal officials. Although the task force’s final report is not yet completed, members have made me aware of some interim findings and corrective steps that I have decided to take immediately in order to restore trust in how the state keeps its citizens safe and informed.

“We’ll continue to work with the community members to make sure we hear and

respond to their concerns.

"In addition, MDEQ Director Dan Wyant has offered his resignation, and I've determined that it's appropriate to accept it. I'm also making other personnel changes at MDEQ to address problems cited by the task force.

"But changes in leadership and staff are not enough. I understand there can be disagreements within the scientific community. That is why I have directed both the departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services to invite every external scientist who has worked on this issue to be our partners in helping us improve Flint water. Let's share research on water and blood lead level testing so we can arrive at accurate and mutually supported conclusions. Together, we should work to affirm that we're using the very best testing protocols to ensure Flint residents have safe drinking water and that we're taking steps to protect their health over the short and long term.

"I want the Flint community to know how very sorry I am that this has happened. And I want all Michigan citizens to know that we will learn from this experience, because Flint is not the only city that has an aging infrastructure.

"I know many Flint citizens are angry and want more than an apology. That's why I'm taking the actions today to ensure a culture of openness and trust. We've already allocated \$10 million to test the water, distribute water filters, and help in other ways. Last week, I called Flint Mayor Karen Weaver, and we're going to meet soon to discuss other ways the state can offer assistance.

"These are only initial steps - we fully expect to take more actions following the recommendations of our task force. When it comes to matters of health and quality of life, we're committed to doing everything we can to protect the well-being of our citizens."

**# # #**

STAY CONNECTED:



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This email was sent to weissk1@michigan.gov on behalf of, The Executive Office of the Governor • 111 South Capitol Avenue • Lansing, MI 48909 • 517-335-7838

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**From:** Waalkes, Marie (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 05, 2016 9:19 AM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB);Schmittdiel, Cheryl (DTMB);Fedorchuk, Matthew (MCSC);Winters, Jan (MCSC)  
**Subject:** Re: Data manipulation

Thanks Kurt!

"Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)" <[WeissK1@michigan.gov](mailto:WeissK1@michigan.gov)> wrote:

I'm sure you've been following this, but just making sure you are seeing the articles today on the Phelps bill:

[http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2016/01/bill\\_inspired\\_by\\_flint\\_water\\_c.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2016/01/bill_inspired_by_flint_water_c.html#incart_river_index)

Kurt Weiss  
State Budget Office  
517-335-0050



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**From:** Winters, Jan (MCSC)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 05, 2016 10:11 AM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB); Waalkes, Marie (DTMB); Schmittziel, Cheryl (DTMB); Fedorchuk, Matthew (MCSC)  
**Subject:** RE: Data manipulation

Thanks, Kurt. I had not been following this and appreciate the information.

Jan

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**From:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 05, 2016 9:02 AM  
**To:** Waalkes, Marie (DTMB); Schmittziel, Cheryl (DTMB); Fedorchuk, Matthew (MCSC); Winters, Jan (MCSC)  
**Subject:** Data manipulation

I'm sure you've been following this, but just making sure you are seeing the articles today on the Phelps bill:

[http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2016/01/bill\\_inspired\\_by\\_flint\\_water\\_c.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2016/01/bill_inspired_by_flint_water_c.html#incart_river_index)

Kurt Weiss  
State Budget Office  
517-335-0050



---

**From:** Duncan, Nancy (DTMB) <duncann1@michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 6:17 PM  
**To:** Wyant, Dan (DEQ);Khoury, Nick (TREASURY);Saxton, Thomas (Treasury);Lyon, Nick (DHHS);Becker, Timothy (DHHS);Pallone, Maggie (DEQ);Zimmer, Mike (LARA);Pohl, Allan (LARA);Hanley, Farah (DHHS)  
**Cc:** Roberts, John (DTMB);McNeely, Jacques (DTMB);Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB);Harkins, Chris (DTMB);Shoemaker, Lisa (DTMB);Starr, Scott (DTMB);Fosdick, David (DTMB);Kimmith, Dean (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Flint Water Summary for Governor  
**Attachments:** City of Flint Water Funding Solution.pdf  
**Importance:** High

Attached is a summary of the funding commitments to address the Flint Water situation. The total state commitment is \$10.4m; \$7.9m of that amount is GF/GP. [The DHHS number needs to be verified tomorrow morning, but the final number should be close to this estimate.]

The funding will address 4 priority areas:

1. Provision of filters for residential service;
2. 50% of the estimated cost to reconnect temporarily to the Detroit Water System;
3. Funding for testing water samples; and
4. Other state assistance (e.g., home/school/health facility inspections and follow-up for children with elevated blood levels).

We are preparing a formal supplemental request to transmit to the Legislature tomorrow. John intends to talk with Rep. Pscholka and Sen. Hildenbrand about including this funding in HB 4102, the pending supplemental bill now awaiting House concurrence. Assuming that they agree, we would ask for final action next week.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about our planned approach.

Nancy

**City of Flint Water - Funding Solution  
State of Michigan Commitment**

Agency	GF/GP	Gross	Comments
<b>Filters:</b>			
Health & Human Services	\$1,016,000	\$1,016,000	AY15 work project
Health & Human Services	\$0	\$1,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Funds provided to HHS Emergency Services local office (FY16 appropriation).
<b>Subtotal Filters:</b>	<b>\$1,016,000</b>	<b>\$2,016,000</b>	
<b>Reconnect to DSW:</b>			<b>Reconnection costs ~\$1.3m/month x 9 mos. to be shared by state &amp; Flint</b>
Environmental Quality	\$5,000,000	\$6,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Fund of \$1m; balance GF/GP
<b>Subtotal Reconnect:</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>	<b>\$6,000,000</b>	
<b>Testing Costs:</b>			
Environmental Quality	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	Additional tests at state lab; cost per sample: \$26
<b>Subtotal Testing:</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	
<b>Additional Agency Support:</b>			
LARA	\$0	\$200,000	Support for plumbing inspectors to do schools (public and parochial) and health facilities (hospitals, Long Term Care, etc.).
MSHDA	\$0	\$249,900	
Health & Human Services	\$600,000	\$600,000	Follow-up on children with elevated blood levels
Environmental Quality	\$300,000	\$300,000	Home and school inspections.
<b>Subtotal Additional Support:</b>	<b>\$900,000</b>	<b>\$1,349,900</b>	
<b>ALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,916,000</b>	<b>\$10,365,900</b>	



**City of Flint Water - Funding Solution**  
**State of Michigan Commitment**

Agency	GF/GP	Gross	Comments
<b>Filters:</b>			
Health & Human Services	\$1,016,000	\$1,016,000	AY15 work project
Health & Human Services	\$0	\$1,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Funds provided to HHS Emergency Services local office (FY16 appropriation).
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<b>Subtotal Reconnect:</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>	<b>\$6,000,000</b>	
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Environmental Quality	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	Additional tests at state lab; cost per sample: \$26
<b>Subtotal Testing:</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	
<b>Additional Agency Support:</b>			
LARA	\$0	\$200,000	Support for plumbing inspectors to do schools (public and parochial) and health facilities (hospitals, Long Term Care, etc.).
MSHDA	\$0	\$249,900	Sufficient spending authority already exists
Health & Human Services	\$850,000	\$850,000	Follow-up on children with elevated blood levels
Environmental Quality	\$300,000	\$300,000	Home and school inspections.
<b>Subtotal Additional Support:</b>	<b>\$1,150,000</b>	<b>\$1,599,900</b>	
<b>ALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,166,000</b>	<b>\$10,615,900</b>	

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**From:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 2:18 PM  
**To:** Wurfel, Sara (GOV)  
**Subject:** FW: Flint Water  
**Attachments:** City of Flint Water Funding Solution.pdf

Here it is electronically as well.

Kurt Weiss  
State Budget Office  
517-335-0050



---

**From:** Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 2:11 PM  
**To:** Kyle Jen ([kjen@house.mi.gov](mailto:kjen@house.mi.gov)); Steve Angelotti ([SAngelotti@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:SAngelotti@senate.michigan.gov)); [mcleary@house.mi.gov](mailto:mcleary@house.mi.gov)  
**Cc:** Starr, Scott (DTMB); Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Flint Water

In follow-up to our meeting this morning, I've attached a spreadsheet outlining the Administration's recommendation for addressing the Flint water situation. A formal supplemental revision will be forthcoming (hopefully later today).

*Nancy Duncan*  
Deputy State Budget Director  
517-373-0870

**City of Flint Water - Funding Solution**  
**State of Michigan Commitment**

(Items in green do not require supplemental appropriations)

Agency	GF/GP	Gross	Comments
<b>Filters:</b>			
Health & Human Services	\$1,016,000	\$1,016,000	AYIS work project
Health & Human Services	\$0	\$1,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Funds provided to HHS Emergency Services local office (FY16 appropriation).
<b>Subtotal Filters:</b>	<b>\$1,016,000</b>	<b>\$2,016,000</b>	
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LARA	\$0	\$200,000	Support for inspectors to do schools (public and parochial) and health facilities (hospitals, Long Term Care, etc.).
MSHDA	\$0	\$249,900	Sufficient spending authority already exists.
Health & Human Services	\$850,000	\$850,000	Follow-up on children with elevated blood levels
Environmental Quality	\$300,000	\$300,000	Home and school inspections.
<b>Subtotal Additional Support:</b>	<b>\$1,150,000</b>	<b>\$1,599,900</b>	
<b>Total Commitment</b>	<b>\$8,166,000</b>	<b>\$10,615,900</b>	
<b>Total Supplemental Appropriations</b>	<b>\$7,150,000</b>	<b>\$9,350,000</b>	

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**From:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 3:03 PM  
**To:** Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS)  
**Cc:** Minicuci, Angela (DHHS);Wurfel, Sara (GOV)  
**Subject:** RE: \$3.5M or \$4M  
**Attachments:** City of Flint Water Funding Solution.pdf

Hi Jennifer,

I am looping in Wurfel on this as I just provided her with the attached spreadsheet. There is some confusion out there on the \$3.5 million and Jonathon Oosting also called on this. Sara, do you want me to just call Eggert and walk him through the spreadsheet so he understands? Oosting just called me directly and I explained it to him, so I can do the same with Eggert.

Kurt Weiss  
State Budget Office  
517-335-0050



---

**From:** Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 2:34 PM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Cc:** Minicuci, Angela (DHHS)  
**Subject:** FW: \$3.5M or \$4M

Hey there Kurt... can you help clarify this for Dave?

Jennifer (Smith) Eisner  
Public Information Officer  
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services  
517-241-2112

---

**From:** Eggert, David [<mailto:DEggert@ap.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 2:18 PM  
**To:** Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS) <[EisnerJ@michigan.gov](mailto:EisnerJ@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** \$3.5M or \$4M

Jennifer,

I thought I heard Snyder mention spending \$4M separately from the \$6M to switch back. News release says \$3.5M. Can you clarify? Thx.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

**David Eggert**  
State government reporter

215 S. Washington Square, Suite 170  
Lansing, MI 48933  
T 517-482-8011  
M 517-899-2991

[deggert@ap.org](mailto:deggert@ap.org)  
[www.ap.org](http://www.ap.org)

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**City of Flint Water - Funding Solution**  
**State of Michigan Commitment**

(Items in green do not require supplemental appropriations)

Agency	GF/GP	Gross	Comments
<b>Filters:</b>			
Health & Human Services	\$1,016,000	\$1,016,000	AYIS work project
Health & Human Services	\$0	\$1,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Funds provided to HHS Emergency Services local office (FY16 appropriation).
<b>Subtotal Filters:</b>	<b>\$1,016,000</b>	<b>\$2,016,000</b>	
<b>Reconnect to DSW:</b>			<b>Reconnection costs ~\$1.3m/month x 9 mos. to be shared by state &amp; Flint</b>
Environmental Quality	\$5,000,000	\$6,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Fund of \$1m; balance GF/GP
<b>Subtotal Reconnect:</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>	<b>\$6,000,000</b>	
<b>Testing Costs:</b>			
Environmental Quality	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	Additional tests at state lab; cost per sample: \$26
<b>Subtotal Testing:</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	
<b>Additional Agency Support:</b>			
LARA	\$0	\$200,000	Support for inspectors to do schools (public and parochial) and health facilities (hospitals, Long Term Care, etc.).
MSHDA	\$0	\$249,900	Sufficient spending authority already exists.
Health & Human Services	\$850,000	\$850,000	Follow-up on children with elevated blood levels
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<b>Total Commitment</b>	<b>\$8,166,000</b>	<b>\$10,615,900</b>	
<b>Total Supplemental Appropriations</b>	<b>\$7,150,000</b>	<b>\$9,350,000</b>	

---

**From:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 3:21 PM  
**To:** Eggert, David  
**Subject:** Flint Water

Hi Dave,

Jennifer passed your note along to me so I wanted to get back to clarify for you. The supplemental request will include \$6 million for reconnection to Detroit, and then almost another \$3.5 million for filters, testing, and additional agency support...so the total supplemental request will be for \$9.35 million. The confusion is coming from the fact that we already announced \$1 million in money from filters last week and that money does not require a supplemental appropriation. The actual total commitment from the state is \$10.6 million...but some of the money won't require a supplemental appropriation. Call me if you have questions. Thanks!

Kurt Weiss  
State Budget Office  
517-335-0050



**From:** Eggert, David [<mailto:DEggert@ap.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 2:18 PM  
**To:** Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS) <[EisnerJ@michigan.gov](mailto:EisnerJ@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** \$3.5M or \$4M

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**ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**David Eggert**  
State government reporter

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**From:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 3:56 PM  
**To:** Wurfel, Sara (GOV);Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS)  
**Subject:** FW: Flint Water

Eggert is all set. I called him and he didn't answer, so just handled via e-mail.

Kurt Weiss  
State Budget Office  
517-335-0050



---

**From:** Eggert, David [<mailto:DEggert@ap.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 3:55 PM  
**To:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RE: Flint Water

Ok thx

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**From:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB) [<mailto:WeissK1@michigan.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 3:21 PM  
**To:** Eggert, David  
**Subject:** Flint Water

Hi Dave,

Jennifer passed your note along to me so I wanted to get back to clarify for you. The supplemental request will include \$6 million for reconnection to Detroit, and then almost another \$3.5 million for filters, testing, and additional agency support...so the total supplemental request will be for \$9.35 million. The confusion is coming from the fact that we already announced \$1 million in money from filters last week and that money does not require a supplemental appropriation. The actual total commitment from the state is \$10.6 million...but some of the money won't require a supplemental appropriation. Call me if you have questions. Thanks!

Kurt Weiss  
State Budget Office  
517-335-0050



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**From:** Eggert, David [<mailto:DEggert@ap.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 2:18 PM  
**To:** Eisner, Jennifer (DHHS) <[EisnerJ@michigan.gov](mailto:EisnerJ@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** \$3.5M or \$4M

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State government reporter

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**From:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Friday, October 09, 2015 3:32 PM  
**To:** Eggert, David  
**Subject:** Re: BC-MI--Flint Water,4th Ld-Writethru

The \$10.6 million does not include the items referenced in the article. The \$10.6 million is the total state commitment to deal with this current problem.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 9, 2015, at 3:24 PM, Eggert, David <[DEggert@ap.org](mailto:DEggert@ap.org)> wrote:

I had forgotten about this. So the \$10.6M is in addition to this?

Doc URL: <http://elvisb.ap.org/News/Stories/CTCB-2015-Feb-03-001277/CTCB-2015-Feb-03-001277.docx>

Slug: BC-MI--Flint Water,4th Ld-Writethru  
Headline: Snyder grants \$2 million to Flint for troubled water system  
Extended Headline: Snyder gives \$2 million to Flint to fix troubled water system as bottle giveaways continue  
Editors Note: Eds: Adds another photo link. With AP Photos.  
Urgency: Non Urgent  
Junkline: stfflsho-drdngjck  
Byline: By JEFF KAROUB  
Bytitle: Associated Press  
Dateline: FLINT, Mich.

FLINT, Mich. (AP) — State officials pledged \$2 million Tuesday for Flint's troubled water system, which has drawn complaints from residents and lost a major industrial customer over quality concerns.

Gov. Rick Snyder's administration announced that the grants, from a program designed for financially distressed communities, will provide \$900,000 to hire a contractor to perform a leak detection survey of city water lines. An additional \$1.1 million will go toward shutting down the current Water Pollution Control Facility incinerator and replacing it with new facilities allowing for waste disposal in landfills.

City officials say the money is welcome and necessary to deal with the city's aging infrastructure. Emergency Manager Jerry Ambrose said it will also free money for the city to

accelerate the replacement of major pipelines, which he said will increase water circulation and improve quality.

He added the city is bringing in experts in the next couple weeks to evaluate its efforts and "make sure we're doing what we need to do" with water treatment and improvements.

"The water today is within all acceptable guidelines — and that's an improvement over where it was a couple months ago," Ambrose said. "That says the water is safe. It doesn't say the quality is acceptable, and that's not acceptable to us."

Flint gets water from the Flint River, but residents have complained about the smell, taste and appearance. They also have complained about rashes and other health problems. The city says the water is safe to drink, but the federal government has cited Flint for high levels of a disinfectant byproduct — a result of treating the water to kill microorganisms that can cause illness.

Residents with infants, older people and those with severely compromised immune systems also have been told to seek advice from a health care provider about drinking the water.

Flint cut ties last year with Detroit's water system to save money and is building a line to Lake Huron that's at least 16 months away.

A General Motors engine plant last year stopped using water from the Flint River after the automaker said it caused rusting on its engine parts. The decision is expected to cost the city about \$400,000 per year in lost revenue.

Earlier Tuesday, U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee's office and volunteers distributed thousands of gallons of bottled water at two locations, drawing hundreds of residents.

Loretta Cole was volunteering, and made sure she took some water home as well.

"The water in the toilet looked soapy," said Cole, 80, who added she treats it with bleach. "It may be all right, but I don't trust it."

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**From:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Monday, December 21, 2015 11:15 AM  
**To:** DeCamp, Greg (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Gongwer

Volume #54, Report #248--Friday, December 18, 2015

**State Adds 'Transformative,' High-Cost Drugs To Medicaid Formulary**

Two so-called "miracle" drugs - one that can apparently cure Hepatitis-C and the other that can dramatically improve the quality of life for children with cystic fibrosis - have been added to the state's Medicaid formulary, but adding the drugs also means the state will have to deal with financing their costs, which could run more than \$100 million.

Addition of the drugs Sovaldi (to treat Hepatitis-C) and Orkambi (for cystic fibrosis) also marks one of the first actions dealing with drugs that Debra Eggleston, chief medical director of the Medical Services Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services, called "transformative," and that many experts believe could significantly change medical treatment in years to come.

Both drugs were added to the state's Medicaid formulary by the Pharmacy and Therapy Committee in DHHS at its December 8 meeting.

Other drugs being reviewed for federal approval include oral chemotherapy medications and new blood lipid lowering drugs that the state will "need to look at very closely," Ms. Eggleston said.

But the costs of these medications can raise eyebrows. The state already has some experience with Sovaldi as the Department of Corrections has used it for the inmates who are the sickest with Hepatitis-C, and Chris Gautz, spokesperson for the department, said it has cost the department \$80,000 for each treatment course. There have been as many as 60 courses performed, and the department was able to secure \$5 million in the 2014-15 budget to cover the costs of Sovaldi.

With the drug now available to treat Medicaid patients with Hepatitis-C, the number of potential patients would be higher and total potential costs higher.

While studies have indicated Sovaldi can cure Hepatitis-C, Orkambi cannot cure cystic fibrosis, but has the potential to limit hospitalizations and greatly improve the quality of life for children with cystic fibrosis. But the estimated cost per year of using the drug is now \$250,000 for each child, said DHHS [Director Nick Lyon](#).

The costs of handling both drugs could approach \$120 million annually, Mr. Lyon said. Covering those costs will require legislative action of some sort, and for the current fiscal year that could include either a supplemental appropriation or a transfer.

The state's Budget Office has already been engaged in discussions on the anticipated costs, officials said.

Corrections is expanding the number of inmates sick with Hepatitis-C who can be treated with Sovaldi (though they would still be among the sickest inmates with the disease), but Mr. Gautz said it was uncertain at this point what the additional treatments would cost.

In terms of Sovaldi, which received federal approval in 2014, Michigan is behind many other states in adding it to its Medicaid formulary. Ms. Eggleston said during the committee review process, it discussed the medication with specialists and looked at the Medicaid systems in other states before adding it to Michigan's formulary.

Orkambi was approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration this past July. While Ms. Eggleston did not know how many states in total have approved the drug, just two other Great Lakes states - Ohio and Wisconsin - had added it to their formularies.

While the costs of the drugs can appear startling, the potential of the drugs to help patients and possibly save the state in more expensive long-term treatments at a later time justify the costs, officials said.

Ms. Eggleston said "studies do demonstrate" that Sovaldi can cure Hepatitis-C.

And while there is no definitive study that Orkambi could prolong life for children with cystic fibrosis, it can improve the quality of their life, she said, and researchers hope it can extend those children's lives.

Mr. Gautz said for the sickest inmates with Hepatitis-C their future could include cancer treatment or liver transplants, which would cost the department or Medicaid (if they are paroled) as much or more than the cost of Sovaldi.

And, "to deny a drug for financial reasons is not supportable," Mr. Gautz said.

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## **Meekhof, Cotter Working Auto Insurance Reforms For Next Year**

While the energy debate and resolving Detroit Public Schools' debt are sure to be main headlines in 2016, Senate Majority Leader Arian Meekhof also plans to continue work on auto insurance reforms sent to the House this year with some help from House Speaker Kevin Cotter.

"We have some of the highest auto insurance rates. Some of it is related to the medical side, some of it is related to the collision side - we're just trying to find a better path," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) said in a recent interview with Gongwer News Service. "This has been an ongoing battle, especially for seniors and folks who don't drive their car very much but they have that piece on there that gets on every car."

Mr. Meekhof said one thing he and the speaker are looking to avoid is "something like Colorado, who went totally away from auto no-fault and it significantly raised their Medicaid rates," the majority leader described.

"My preference would be not to get rid of no-fault. I think there's pieces of it that are really, really good but we need to do it better," he said. "The courts have made some rulings that have made it difficult where we didn't make it clear so we need more clarification."

The Senate sent a pair of bills (~~SB 248~~ and ~~SB 249~~) over to the House in April, and the House Insurance Committee reported them shortly thereafter, but there has been no action on the bills since the end of April.

Mr. Meekhof said those are the bills he and Mr. Cotter are working to try to figure out: "Either amend them and send them back, or concur in pieces of it to get it done," he said.

One point of difference, though, between the House and Senate priorities is on the issue of retail "dark stores." The House has put together a work group on the issue (See [Gongwer Michigan Report, December 11, 2015](#)), but when asked if that would be an item on his list for 2016, Mr. Meekhof said it hadn't come up as a caucus issue just yet.

"But it probably bears a lot of scrutiny, especially in these communities where there's a lot of property owned by the public where they don't have as much opportunity to make up that tax base if something happens," he said. "It's a significant issue in many communities, especially if they don't have economic growth opportunities."

He said [Sen. Tom Casperson](#) (R-Escanaba) was at the forefront of that issue last term and could be the point-person on it again. The issue wasn't resolved, Mr. Meekhof said, simply because other things were in front of it. Mr. Casperson again has introduced legislation on the bill.

"There was no effort to keep it back," Mr. Meekhof said.

**ENERGY AND DPS:** Mr. Meekhof was not shy in stating two major policies as the likely focus for 2016: crafting the right energy policy and getting bipartisan support for a package of bills that would help resolve the request of [Governor Rick Snyder](#) to provide \$715 million for Detroit Public Schools' debt over 10 years.

Mr. Meekhof said he was unsure when the full Senate could vote on an energy policy, "but it's likely Senator Nofs will introduce something in January," he said of the Senate Energy and Technology Committee chair. "Given the other stuff that's on our plate right now, I think Senator Nofs is wise to say, in order for this not to get caught up in the discussion for this year, let's move it into the first part of next year."

"This is one of those policy areas in which if we make some changes here, it has ramifications for 10, 20 and 30 years," Mr. Meekhof said. "He's cognizant of that and wants to make sure he can sell it to his colleagues, land in the right spot for Michigan."

On DPS, the majority leader said the first hurdle the policy has to get over is finding sponsors from the other side of the aisle, "folks that actually represent that geographic area," Mr. Meekhof said.

"Not that they're reluctant, it's just this is difficult stuff. You're talking about peoples' kids" he continued. "Sen. Hansen has done a terrific job walking through this, trying to find a spot to get it introduced. ... The (number one) item to me is performance for those kids - how do we get in front of them performance improvement, that they want to improve, that qualifies them to get those cool jobs in Detroit that continues to attract and build Detroit?"

Mr. Meekhof said part of the discussion between Senate Democrats and Mr. Hansen, among others involved in the issue, is the question of governance structure. Democrats have been adamant that they want to try to return power to school boards and locally elected officials who are closest to the situation in the city.

**MORE ON ROAD FUNDING:** When the Senate finished its work on a road funding solution for the state, Mr. Meekhof indicated that there would likely be more to come yet on the issue, and he maintained that in his interview with Gongwer.

"There's a small group that had a few ideas that didn't make it into the package that they still want to work on," he said.

"What I hope doesn't happen is there's something critical that happens, a bridge fails and we have to re-allocate or do something differently."

But he said he has confidence in the Department of Transportation to know and be held accountable to accomplishing the most critical things first.

"There may be some other things around that, but that would be a case-by-case basis," he said, declining to dive deeper into further specifics.

**GUBERNATORIAL RUN:** As most candidates currently holding office with time to spare would say, Mr. Meekhof said in response to a question about his interest in running for governor in 2018 that he is "very happy" in his current role as majority leader.

"I haven't grown up at my age at 56. I don't think I have to, so I don't know what I want to do," he said. "I still enjoy this job and I'm having a lot of fun doing it. I honestly don't know."

But he did not turn down the possibility either.

"I've said, if I do this job well, I have plenty of opportunities. And that's not why I'm doing this job. I think every one of my colleagues would agree - in the normal course of business, they probably made more money. Nobody cared what they did on the weekend. And people didn't demand you be at every parade and everything like that when you weren't an elected position.

"The burden of leadership is great, but it's also an opportunity to shape Michigan for the future," Mr. Meekhof said. "For most of my colleagues that are my age, a lot of those opportunities may not exist like they do for our kids and grandkids, and we try to make it better for their opportunities."

He said he still maintains his mantra from his first campaign when he talked about the Great Lakes (because he lives on the lakeshore) and how important it is to turn that asset over to kids and grandkids so they can enjoy it just the same.

"We are stewards to that and making sure that can happen, and I think that's true of our economic things and educational institutions," Mr. Meekhof said. "The effort is to try to make it better for them."

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### **Kivela Pleads Guilty To Lesser Drunken Driving Charge**

ST. JOHNS - [Rep. John Kivela](#) on Friday pleaded guilty to operating while intoxicated while a more serious charge of drunken driving with a high blood alcohol content was dropped through a plea deal with the Clinton County prosecutor. Mr. Kivela will be sentenced at 8:30 a.m. January 19. He will be required to pay \$1,510 in fines, will receive six points on his driver's license and faces up to two years' probation, Judge Michael Clarizio with the 65A District Court said.

Mr. Clarizio asked Mr. Kivela a series of questions before accepting his guilty plea to ensure Mr. Kivela understood his rights.

"Are you pleading guilty because you are indeed guilty, sir?" He asked Mr. Kivela.

"Yes, sir," Mr. Kivela responded.

Mr. Kivela's lesser charge comes after he was arrested on November 9 for driving drunk on U.S. 127 just outside of Lansing. He told the judge Friday he had a blood alcohol level of .22 and a .23 when he returned to the police station. Mr. Kivela also told the judge he had consumed beer and vodka the night of his arrest. Mr. Kivela's charge for having an open intoxicant in the vehicle was also dropped, but according to the [Detroit Free Press](#), Mr. Kivela did have an open bottle of whiskey in the vehicle.

The judge also permitted Mr. Kivela to leave the state early next month with his family.

Josh Pugh, a spokesperson for Mr. Kivela with Grassroots Midwest, said Mr. Kivela's alcoholism treatment continues to go well. Mr. Kivela sought treatment immediately after his arrest and is required to stay sober until he is sentenced.

"John's recovery program has been going very well, and today's hearing was a positive step for John and his family," Mr. Pugh said in a statement. "John had a great week of work in Lansing and he's grateful to all of his colleagues, constituents, and friends who have offered their thoughts and prayers."

A message left with the prosecutor's office about why it agreed to the lesser charge was not returned. No one from the prosecutor's office was present in court Friday.

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### **Legislative Black Caucus Requests State Of Emergency In Flint**

As Flint Mayor Karen Weaver and the city council declared a state of emergency in the city because of the ongoing drinking water crisis, the Legislative Black Caucus on Friday asked the administration of Governor Rick Snyder to do the same, though city officials have not yet asked for that from the state, a Department of State Police official said. The caucus said in a statement the issuance of a state of emergency would help address continuing health concerns caused by the increased lead levels in the city's water and give the city access to federal dollars.

The city has stopped pulling water from the Flint River, but the caucus said the state of emergency is in response to continuing reports and studies that indicate the presence of coliform bacteria and high levels of lead in the city's drinking water.

Rep. Sheldon Neeley (D-Flint), vice chairman of the LBC, said he is working with local, state and federal officials to find solutions and resources. He said a state-declared health emergency will allow the city to access federal funding.

"Issuing a health emergency is the most responsible thing to do," Mr. Neeley said. "This is a public health crisis, and our children are most at risk. We urge Gov. Snyder to issue the state of emergency so the city of Flint can get immediate monetary relief."

But Chris Kelenske, the deputy state director of emergency management and homeland security with the Department of State Police, said the city and the county are currently operating under the state's emergency protocols and have not yet asked for the state to declare an emergency.

Mr. Kelenske said he currently has an MSP official in the city working as a liaison and the department is plugged in to what is happening in the city.

"Right now what they have done is Flint has put in place their ... emergency operations plan," he said.

To get additional state resources and even federal dollars, the city would have to have a very specific list of the resources they need, he said. He said the federal government's first question would be what specific needs the city has.

"State assistance is used to supplement ... local resources. It is not to be used to simple budgetary relief," he said. "There is a process in place and it is just a matter of making sure that we follow the process as well as looking at other avenues of funding."

Anna Heaton, spokesperson for Governor Rick Snyder, also said the administration has been working closely with officials in Flint. She noted the state has given \$10 million in grants and other assistance to help cover the temporary switch in water source and improve existing water infrastructure.

"The administration also has in place an action plan that includes increased testing, free filters and other steps to help residents," Ms. Heaton said. "The governor also appointed a bipartisan task force charged with reviewing all of the city, state and federal government actions and recommending changes looking forward that can address potential challenges in Flint and other cities."

In its statement, the caucus said blood tests taken before and after the city ended its contract with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and began using Flint River water showed that the number of Flint children with elevated blood-lead levels had jumped from 2.1 percent to 4 percent. Additional tests have disclosed that the blood-lead levels of children living in the poorest Flint neighborhoods have jumped from 2.5 percent to 6.3 percent, the statement said.

"Water is a basic human right," Rep. LaTanya Garrett (D-Detroit) said. "Many of our urban communities have succumb to various water issues. We have a due diligence to work tirelessly to provide relief to our citizens."

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## **Calls Emerge For Snyder To Veto Campaign Finance Bill**

Open government activists and the Michigan Municipal League urged Governor Rick Snyder to veto a hastily assembled last-minute bill passed Wednesday that would crimp the ability of local governments to discuss local ballot proposals and prevent corporations from collecting contributions from employees to union political action committees.

The bill, SB 571, as originally passed by the Senate, dealt with the relatively innocuous matter of letting organizations collect membership dues and PAC contributions at the same time.

But late Wednesday, as the Legislature was wrapping up session for the year, the House more than quadrupled the size of the bill and added several new provisions (See Gongwer Michigan Report, December 16, 2015).

The MML denounced the language that would bar local governments from any communications to the public about local millage proposals, charter amendments or ordinance changes within 60 days of the election.

"This language was inserted without any notice to the League or other local government organizations and moved without any public testimony, let alone public awareness of what was in the new version of the bill," MML lobbyist Chris Hackbarth wrote in a blog post.



Mr. Hackbarth said the limit could amount to a violation of freedom of speech because it does not account for other language in the Michigan Campaign Finance Act that allows elected and appointed officials to speak out on ballot proposals without fear of violating the act. It also would affect community newsletters and programs aired on local public access channels, he said.

"This language puts an undue burden on communities and their residents, blocking access to unbiased, objective communication on the local issues that matter most to the residents in every community in Michigan," Mr. Hackbarth wrote.

Already, Common Cause and the Michigan Campaign Finance Network had criticized the bill, with Common Cause urging a veto, citing the end of the February reporting deadline for independent PACs (deadlines in July, October and January would remain).

"The Michigan Legislature should make real-time reporting of independent expenditures in all elections its highest order of business when it comes to amending the Michigan Campaign Finance Act", Rich Robinson of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network said in a statement. "Citizens should have a right to know who is paying for all campaign messages before Election Day."

A message left with Mr. Snyder's office was not immediately returned, though typically Mr. Snyder would offer no hint of his intention to sign or veto a bill until he actually signs or vetoes it.

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### **DTMB Cited For Technology Storage, Access**

The Department of Management and Budget is not properly restricting access to information technology equipment and is not ensuring that equipment is being properly stored, Auditor General Doug Ringler said in a report released Friday. The performance audit of physical security and environmental controls over information technology resources for the period October 1, 2012, through July 31, 2015, found the department was not always locating communications equipment in separate rooms and, even when it was, those rooms were not always properly secured.

The department was also not ensuring the equipment was protected from conditions that could damage it.

The auditors did find the department was generally adequate in protecting the servers, switches and cabling, but of 163 rooms designated for telecommunications equipment across 83 buildings (the state has 790 buildings), 12 were shared space. Auditors said federal standards require that each building have one dedicated main telecommunications room and that each floor of the building have a room for the equipment on that floor. Those rooms are supposed to be accessible only to authorized staff.

In a related lesser finding, auditors said the department was also not ensuring its access records were up to date. Of the 186 access authorizations across two hosting centers and eight switch rooms, 15 were for former employees and nine were for people who had not undergone a background check.

In addition to controlling access, DTMB was also not controlling the items brought into those rooms, auditors said. The federal standards call for dust and fire control in rooms containing IT equipment and recommend prohibiting food and beverages.

Auditors found evidence of food in five of the eight switch rooms and 20 of the 163 telecommunications rooms in the buildings reviewed. They also found those rooms being used for general storage in the case of one of the three hosting centers, seven of the switch rooms and 122 of the telecommunications rooms.

In an unusual step for an audit report, auditors included photographs of some of the offenses, including several telecommunications rooms with general storage, one with cables hanging into the middle of the room. In one instance, the equipment was installed in a garage above a hose reel.

Department officials agreed with the findings and, as to physical access, said they would review equipment location and move it to a secure room where possible. Officials indicated some challenges meeting the standards in leased buildings. Officials said they had already begun cleaning the rooms and would establish a cleaning schedule for those rooms. The department is also implementing a policy prohibiting general storage in those rooms, as well as possession of food and drinks, and would be posting signs to that effect on the rooms.

Auditors also cited the department for not having replacement schedules for mechanical equipment serving its hosting centers and switch rooms. In two of the three hosting centers and four of the eight switch rooms, auditors found air conditioning units, uninterruptible power supplies and surge suppressors that were beyond their recommended lifespan. DTMB officials said they replace equipment based on technician recommendation and budget capacity but would plan for the coming year to replace the items identified by auditors.

In two other findings, auditors said the department was not keeping accurate inventories of its equipment (they found new items that were not recorded) and was not maintaining preventative maintenance records.

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## 20 States Had Higher Jobless Rates Than Michigan In November

Michigan was one of just 11 states to see its unemployment rate creep up during November, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, but 20 other states had seasonally adjusted unemployment rates higher than Michigan.

At 5.1 percent, Michigan tied with Delaware and Connecticut during November.

And Michigan had the second-highest jobless rate of the Great Lakes states. Illinois was the highest at 5.7 percent. Below Michigan came Pennsylvania at 5 percent, then New York at 4.8 percent, Ohio at 4.5 percent, Indiana at 4.4 percent, Wisconsin at 4.2 percent and then Minnesota at 3.5 percent.

New Mexico had the highest unemployment rate at 6.8 percent, followed by West Virginia and Nevada at 6.5 percent.

Alaska had a jobless rate of 6.4 percent, followed then by Louisiana at 6.3 percent. Three states - Alabama, Arizona and Mississippi - came in at 6 percent. Illinois tied with California, Oregon and North Carolina at 5.7 percent. South Carolina stood at 5.5 percent, New Jersey was at 5.3 percent and Maryland was at 5.2 percent.

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## Capital Notebook

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND CARE:** The Department of Education announced Friday that it is accepting comments on its 2016-18 Child Care and Development Fund plan. The plan is required to be updated every three years beginning in 2016 under the federal law that created the fund.

The plan and information on submitting comment as well as registration for the three webinars scheduled to provide overviews of the plan, is posted at [www.michigan.gov/childcare](http://www.michigan.gov/childcare).

Comments are due February 15 by close of business.

Kurt Weiss  
State Budget Office  
517-335-0050

State Budget

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**From:** Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 23, 2015 8:36 AM  
**To:** DeCamp, Greg (DTMB);Sweeney, Matthew (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RE: Gongwer

Volume #54, Report #250--Tuesday, December 22, 2015

**State Employee Unions Seek To Avoid 'Cadillac Tax' In ACA**

It is too soon to say whether the federal government's recent move to delay the tax on the most generous health insurance plans, known as the "Cadillac Tax," by two years will mean the administration of Governor Rick Snyder seeks another one-year contract on wages and health insurance with state employees, state officials say.

On Friday, President Barack Obama signed into law something his administration had resisted but a bipartisan coalition in Congress strongly sought - a two-year delay, until 2020, of the 40 percent tax on health plans costing at least \$10,200 for individual coverage and \$27,500 for family coverage.

When the state reached tentative agreements with the unions representing state employees in the fall, the Michigan Corrections Organization said the reason the state had sought a one-year deal on wages and health insurance but the traditional three-years on everything else was uncertainty about the implementation of the Cadillac Tax, which at the time was schedule to take effect in January 2018, in the third year of a three-year contract.

State Employer Marie Waalkes had declined to comment on the situation until after the unions had ratified the contracts. That process concluded December 11, and the Civil Service Commission gave final approval to the new contracts last week.

Ms. Waalkes, responding in writing to questions relayed to her via State Budget Office spokesperson Kurt Weiss, said the state and employee unions agreed in the most recent contract to steps to avoid the imposition of the Cadillac Tax on the state. The value of the health plan is calculated by combining the employer share and employee share of premiums as well as employee contributions to a flex spending fund for medical expenses that has a maximum contribution amount of \$2,550.

Had the delay not occurred and the federal government concluded that Michigan's state employee coverage qualified for the Cadillac Tax, the state and employees agreed to reduce as necessary or eliminate the flexible spending plan as a first step to bring the state under the threshold.

Using 40,000 state employees with individual coverage at the minimum level to qualify of \$10,200, the tax would cost the state \$163.2 million.

"The parties also agreed to meet throughout 2016 to discuss options to avoid the excise tax, and agreed that if such options are not successful the parties will negotiate terms of the health insurance plan with an end result that will provide the costs stay below the excise tax threshold," Ms. Waalkes said.

The state, prior to Mr. Obama signing the two-year delay, had been preparing for the U.S. Internal Revenue Service to issue final regulations on the tax next year. The two-year delay will aid in planning, Ms. Waalkes said. That is why the state wanted only a one-year deal on wages and health insurance, so it could fully evaluate whether the state would fall beneath the tax threshold, she said.

"Moving the effective date two years means there will be more time to discuss and evaluate existing health plans and projected increases in costs year after year," she said. "The intent of the employer is to stay below the federal excise tax threshold."

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**Census: State Slowly Growing, Could Lose Congressional Seat**

Michigan's population grew slightly from 2014 to 2015, helped by births and immigration, but the rate of growth is slow enough that the state could lose another congressional seat, figures released Tuesday by the U.S. Census Bureau showed.

In fact, Kurt Metzger, founder of Data Driven Detroit and mayor of Pleasant Ridge, said it is clear that Michigan will lose another U.S. House member following the 2020 census and there is nothing the state can do to stop it.

Mr. Metzger said there is also some troubling data in the latest report, as it shows the number of people leaving the state has grown even though the state's economy has improved.

In fact, the number of people that left Michigan from July 2014 to July 2015 was the largest since 2011, when Governor Rick Snyder first took office and the state began to see improvements in its unemployment rate.

The figures show that Michigan is the nation's 10th most populous state with an estimated 9.922 million. The state grew by just 6,270 people during the past year.

And it was surpassed by North Carolina, now the 9th-largest state with more than 10 million people.

Michigan is still more than 1 million people larger than New Jersey, the 11th-largest state in the nation.

And the state has seen its population grow by some 45,000 people since it stood at 9.877 million people in 2010 (when it was the only state to lose population from 2000 to 2010).

A total of states, even in sunshine areas, lost population during the year: Illinois, West Virginia, Connecticut, Mississippi, Vermont, Maine and New Mexico. North Dakota was in terms of percentage the largest growing state, with growth of 2.3 percent. The state was helped by the energy industry, but still it had a total population of 756,927, the 47th largest state. And Mr. Metzger said because states like North Carolina (which grew by more than 100,000 people in the last year), Texas, Florida and others continue to outpace every other state in growth there is virtually nothing the Midwest can do to counter that kind of growth.

"We might as well prepare ourselves" for losing at least one seat in the U.S. House of Representatives following the 2020 census, Mr. Metzger said. Losing one seat would mean Michigan would have 13 members of the House, the lowest number in more than a century. It would also mark fifth consecutive census that resulted in the state losing at least once congressional member.

From the 1960s to the 1980 census, the state had 19 members of the U.S. House.

The state saw some 24,000 immigrants come into the state and its highest total of births this decade, more than 114,000, which was 24,000 more than the number of deaths.

But the state saw outmigration to other states of more than 38,000 which put the state second behind Illinois in terms of the largest outmigration.

Mr. Metzger said it was unclear what was the cause of that outflow, and officials would have to watch to see if the trend repeats in another year.

While some of it may be due to retirees leaving the state for milder weather, Mr. Metzger said it could also be that younger people are searching out what they see as better job opportunities.

Michigan has seen job growth over the last five years, but much of it may be in lower paying jobs such as retail trade, Mr. Metzger said. There are indications that graduates of the state's best known universities, Michigan State University and the University of Michigan, are still more likely to go to other states than graduates of the other schools.

Mr. Metzger said the state has a significant split on the age ranges of its residents. While the Detroit metro area is the third most concentrated in the nation in terms of Baby Boomers, he said, it is 49th in terms of Millennials.

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### **Library Association Joins Protest On Ballot Issues Bill**

Michigan's libraries have joined with other public agencies protesting a major rewrite of the state's campaign finance law that the libraries said could result in librarians going to jail if they provide information on local ballot issues.

The libraries have also started an online petition - which as of Tuesday had nearly 2,000 signatures - calling on Governor Rick Snyder to veto SB 571.

SB 571 has not yet been presented to Mr. Snyder. The bill's initial purpose was to make clear it is legal for organizations to accept in one payment membership dues and a political action committee contribution.

However, the Legislature also added a provision that for 60 days before an election on a local ballot issue, a public body or a person acting for a public body (which could include local employees or elected board members) could not "use public funds for a communication by means of radio, television, mass mailing or prerecorded telephone message if that communication references a local ballot question and is targeted to the relevant electorate where the local ballot question appears on the ballot."

That would prevent public local officials from distributing information even to simply tell voters there is an issue on the ballot in the two months before the election, even if it takes no position on the issue.

Libraries have been a local source of information on election issues in the past.

In a statement, the Michigan Library Association said the measure would "block access to unbiased, objective, communications and dissemination of information, the very definition of a library's purpose. It reduces transparency and impedes open communications between libraries and their communities."

And the organization says the "hastily crafted legislation does not respect the need to inform and educate voters."

Other organizations such as the Michigan Municipal League and the Michigan Association of School Administrators have also called on Mr. Snyder to veto the bill, saying it is so broadly written city council and school board members could not even discuss a ballot issue during a meeting, if the meeting were broadcast on public access television.

Supporters of the bill have accused opponents of trying to obscure what they said is an attempt to stop government funded "propaganda" in favor of ballot issues, especially tax issues. Local officials can speak out on ballot issues, but not use local money to do so.

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## **Michigan Has 'Reasonable Path' To Compliance Of EPA Rule, Officials Determine**

Michigan is well on its way to compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan on reducing emissions, a preliminary review by the Michigan Agency for Energy and Department of Environmental Quality has found, and could continue maintaining business as usual for at least another decade.

The two agencies announced Tuesday they completed preliminary baseline modeling showing that if Michigan maintains the status quo with 1 percent annual energy waste reduction per year - less than the amount utilities are actually achieving at around 1.4 percent - and the state's electric demand doesn't exceed 1.2 percent growth per year (which would be more than the historical average), it is set to be in compliance with the EPA rule through at least 2025, and in one scenario, 2028.

"This helps us much better understand in relation to the rule. We were able to, just with some technical experts, feel comfortable there was a path to compliance," MAE Executive Director Valerie Brader said in a press call. "With these modeling results, we have a much clearer path to compliance."

The announcement was the first step in a series of actions the two will take before finally submitting a draft proposal to the U.S. EPA in September 2016. At that time, it will also request a two-year extension on compliance, a provision which was included in the final proposal by the federal agency and one that numerous states expect to request.

The deadline for a fully enforceable plan is September 6, 2018.

If the request is denied, DEQ Director Dan Wyant said in the press call, Michigan would be unable to comply with the federal rule, but he and Ms. Brader are cautiously optimistic about their chances given the provision was something that was added after extensive input from all the states on the Clean Power Plan.

"We think they understand that is required," he said. "That's a decision they'll have to make at that time but the construction of the rule recognized that giving any less than three years would make it difficult for states, including Michigan, to comply."

And some investments would need to be made prior to 2025 in order to continue compliance for the federal rule, Ms. Brader said. The federal rule hopes to achieve 32 percent less carbon pollution than industries had contributed in 2005 by 2030 when the Clean Power Plan is fully implemented.

Michigan specifically is expected to reduce its emissions 31 percent by 2030. Ms. Brader said the initial outlook considered previously announced coal plant retirements, and in fact that is one of the reasons Michigan can rest easy for a little while. Between 2013 and 2020, 25 different coal units will retire in Michigan, Ms. Brader noted.

"In addition, the continuation of our energy waste reduction is helpful," she said, as is the fact that Michigan already has some renewable energy units to help adapt to demand.

DTE Energy on Monday announced it would break ground in the spring of 2016 on 45 megawatts of new solar generating capacity at two projects sites in Lapeer - enough to generate power for 9,000 average-sized homes, it said in a statement. When completed, DTE said it will be the largest operating utility-owned photovoltaic solar array east of the Mississippi and the third-largest in the county.

The projects come with the approval by the Public Service Commission of DTE's contract with Inovateus Solar MI, LLC. The only potential downside of the announcement by the MAE and DEQ is that it assumed natural gas prices would remain relatively low, and some did not agree with that assumption.

"We urge Governor Snyder and his team not to rely too heavily on natural gas at the expense of clean, renewable energy like wind and solar when it comes to meeting Michigan's energy needs," said Liesl Clark, president of the Michigan

Energy Innovation Business Council, in a statement. "The initial Clean Power Plan modeling released today by the state of Michigan assumes the lowest-cost scenario for natural gas, which also poses the greatest risk for residential and business ratepayers. Clean energy will reduce that risk should the 'best-case' scenario for energy prices fail to materialize."

But the announcement is indeed only the first step in a longer process. Ms. Brader said the state will launch its carbon rule website in mid-January, which will include information on how to be involved in the stakeholder process and offer opportunity to comment on plan development. It will also have the compliance process timeline, results of state modeling efforts, news, documents and more.

She expects to take the first round of public input between January and March, and a summary of reports should be available by late April. The DEQ will then prepare an initial draft of that state plan in the spring, making adjustments through the summer until finally submitting a draft proposal September 6, 2016.

Ms. Brader said they will continue looking at different modeling to see what Michigan will have to do after this decade of basic compliance as well as how Michigan could fare if it had more renewable energy units that emit far fewer, if any, carbon emissions. But she said she would expect that given how cheap renewable energy projects are coming for incumbent utilities that they would continue moving in that direction with or without a mandate from the state.

Some legislators have introduced legislation to allow the Legislature to review whatever greenhouse gas emissions plan the administration comes up with before it sends it to the federal government ([SB 439](#) and [SB 455](#)). That legislation came on the heels of Ms. Brader and Mr. Wyant saying the state would develop its own plan on greenhouse gas emissions, and a plan that would not need legislative approval (See [Gongwer Michigan Report, September 1, 2015](#)).

Ms. Brader maintained that mantra on Tuesday. She some helpful points in legislation currently before the House and still being debated in a Senate committee are the provisions for allowing for a greater planning process. The House proposal also allows the state to look at reliability, affordability, adaptability and other variables in that planning process, she said. But "the state of Michigan already has the authority it needs to develop this plan" without the Legislature, Ms. Brader said Tuesday, though having both plans "is helpful" no less.

[Sen. Mike Shirkey](#) (R-Clarklake) is the sponsor of one of those bills to require legislative input on the plan, though he notes that input is different from approval. He said he and [Sen. Tom Casperson](#) (R-Escanaba) still view their legislation as a high priority.

"We ran out of bandwidth (in 2015) and it's a high priority in 2016 because of things like this," he said. "We're going to be faced more and more with federal requirements and states having to respond."

He said there is a tendency for the state or bureaucrats to fix an issue themselves and that's the reason for the legislation, so the Legislature has a chance for a real review of a major issue.

He also questioned the true level of urgency to address Michigan's energy policy if what the two departments said is true in terms of the state's ability to maintain the status quo.

"If that's the case, then we've been fed some interesting information from incumbent utilities when they claim all the problems we've got to address. It just adds further skepticism to what urgency there is to us having to upgrade our energy policy," Mr. Shirkey said. "That's not to say it's not time for us to do it, it's just I'm not convinced it's the emergency (some would have us believe)."

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## **SFA Revenue Outlook Offers Mixed Bag**

The Senate Fiscal Agency on Tuesday issued its economic outlook on revenues through fiscal year 2017-18 showing more-than-expected revenues for the General Fund and School Aid Fund for the most recent fiscal year but a potentially tight revenue year for the current fiscal year.

Preliminary final fiscal year 2014-15 General Fund and School Aid Fund revenue totaled \$21.9 billion, the SFA [analysis](#) determined, up 6.8 percent from fiscal year 2013-14 and \$320.3 million above the May 2015 consensus estimate.

"The increase reflects an improving economy that boosted income tax revenue, and less-than-expected refunds under the Michigan Business Tax and individual income tax," the analysis noted.

The January revenue estimating conference will involve this estimate, as well as those from the House Fiscal Agency and the Department of Treasury.

But the economy will grow more slowly in the 2015-16 fiscal year than the most recent fiscal year, the SFA said, and MBT refunds are expected to increase. As a result, the combined GF and SAF revenue will total an estimated \$22.1 billion, it

said, a 0.6 percent increase from fiscal year 2014-15. That revised forecast is \$55.1 million below the May 2015 consensus estimate.

And in fiscal year 2016-17, the combined GF and SAF revenue will total an estimated \$22.6 billion, the SFA estimated, a 2.6 percent increase from the current fiscal year but \$80.6 million below the May 2015 consensus estimate.

Specifically, it expects GF revenue will total an estimated \$10.2 billion, an increase of 2.7 percent from the current fiscal year that reflects slower employment growth and increased revenue reductions attributable to personal property tax reform, it said. But SAF revenue will rise to an estimated \$12.4 billion, a 2.5 percent increase.

In terms of year-end balance estimates, the SFA estimated the fiscal year 2014-15 GF budget will close the fiscal year with an \$815.9 million balance, and the SAF budget will close with a \$217.4 million balance, it said, based on accounting of state revenue and expenditures as of December 17, 2015.

And a comparison of the SFA's fiscal year 2015-16 revenue estimates with enacted and projected appropriations leads to a \$701.2 million GF balance and a \$59.8 million balance in the School Aid Fund.

Looking ahead to the fiscal year 2016-17 budget, there is a projected GF balance of \$345.4 million if the agency's revenue estimate is compared with GF estimated expenditures that freeze ongoing and one-time spending at the fiscal year 2015-16 level and are adjusted for caseload and costs, as well as economic factors.

As for the SAF, the comparison estimated expenditures that adjust the fiscal year 2015-16 level of funding for estimated pupils and other costs, the projected SAF surplus for fiscal year 2016-17 is \$17.4 million

"Although the year-end balance estimates are healthy, future budget pressures, such as GF/GP funding for road projects, increases in Medicaid costs, and potential aid for school districts in financial distress, will require more state resources," the agency cautioned. "The magnitude of this requirement will pose challenges to balancing the state's budget going forward."

**NOVEMBER REVENUES:** Revenues to the state's General and School Aid funds fell almost \$80 million below expectations in Novembers, thanks to larger than expected Michigan Business Tax refunds, the Senate Fiscal Agency reported Tuesday.

General Fund revenues fell \$77.5 million below expectations while revenues to the School Aid Fund were down \$6.2 million from the forecasted level.

The major culprit was the Michigan Business Tax, which produced \$98.9 million in negative revenue as a result of higher than expected refunds.

The income tax, however, was up from November 2014 by 8.9 percent and the sales tax also was up, by 3.8 percent. Reflecting strong performance in the auto industry, sales tax revenues from motor vehicles was up 14 percent from November 2014.

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## **PSC Directs Utilities To File Assessments On Meeting Customer Demand**

The Public Service Commission on Tuesday directed all Michigan-regulated electric utilities to file, by April 21, 2016, assessments of their ability to meet customers' expected electric requirements in the 2016 through 2020 timeframe. The order (Case U-17992) also asks alternative electric supplier to file similar assessments by that date, as well as requests that the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, PJM Interconnection, American Transmission Company, LLC, Michigan Electric Transmission Company and International Transmission Company submit comments by May 12, 2016, on relevant issues to the investigation.

"Last year's assessment covering five years provided the MPSC with a meaningful picture of the supply outlook and associated risks for the state as a whole and for individual providers," said PSC Chair John Quackenbush, in a statement.

"Today's order again calls for five years of information that will assist the MPSC as it works toward assuring that Michigan's energy future is one that is built on adaptability, reliability, affordability and environmental protection as the focus."

Persons wishing to comment on the filed assessments and/or the possibility of future capacity needs have until May 12, 2016 to do so. Comments referencing the case number may be emailed to [mpscedockets@michigan.gov](mailto:mpscedockets@michigan.gov), the PSC said.

All information submitted to the commission in this matter will become public information, available on the commission's website, and subject to disclosure.

**CLOVERLAND ELECTRIC:** The PSC also approved a settlement (case [U-17313-R](#)) to reconcile its 2014 power supply cost recover costs and increase its rates by more than \$1.9 million annually, resulting in an increase of \$1.73 on the

monthly bills of residential customers on the Farm and Home Service Rate using 500 kilowatt-hours of electricity a month. Former Edison Sault residential customers on the Rate R-1 using the same amount of electricity a month will see an increase of \$1.36 on their monthly bills. Both increases are effective with the next full billing cycle.

The PSC also determined, in a separate case (Case [U-17971](#)), that Cloverland Electric Cooperative has met legal requirements to become member-regulated effective January 19, 2016.

**CONSUMERS ENERGY:** The PSC also approved on Tuesday an agreement authorizing Consumers Energy to amend its energy optimization plan for 2016 and 2017, resulting in a decrease of 1 cent on the monthly bills of residential electric customers using 500 kilowatt-hours of electricity a month, and a decrease of 7 cents on the monthly bills of natural gas customer using 100 ccf of natural gas a month. Both are effective January 2016 (case [U-17771](#)).

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### **Lincoln Park Back To Local Control, No Municipal Emergency Managers Active**

For the first time in 15 years, there are no emergency managers in charge of a municipal government in the state as Lincoln Park has been turned back to local control.

Governor Rick Snyder on Tuesday accepted the recommendation of Lincoln Park Emergency Manager Brad Coulter that the Detroit suburb's financial emergency is resolved.

In accepting the recommendation, Mr. Snyder also named a receivership transition advisory board to help ensure the city maintains fiscal stability.

With the release of Lincoln Park, Mr. Snyder called it a great day for Michigan as the city has shown how the system can work to resolve ongoing financial problems.

While no city emergency managers are operating, three school districts - Detroit, Highland Park and Muskegon Heights - are under emergency management. Among the cities that have seen emergency managers under Mr. Snyder have been Detroit (which also underwent a bankruptcy), Pontiac, Benton Harbor and Flint.

Because of the drinking water crisis in Flint, the emergency manager system has come under sharp criticism for the role the manager took in moving the city off the Detroit water system to use Flint River water. That improperly treated water interacted with antiquated plumbing systems and led to increased lead levels in many children and older residents.

Such a situation did not occur in Lincoln Park. And in some 18 months, the city has eliminated a general fund deficit of more than \$1 million, reduced retiree health care costs by \$3 million (much of which is now going to the city's pension system), negotiated a reduction in firefighter overtime costs and reduced costs with its primary health-care provider.

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### **Snyder Signs Court E-Filing Bills**

Bills setting up a statewide electronic filing system for all district and circuit courts were signed into law Tuesday by

Governor Rick Snyder.

With new fees designed to generate the \$40 million to \$45 million to establish the system, the bills would help bring those Michigan courts still stuck in a paper-only era into the electronic age.

Under the bills, a person who is found unable to pay the filing fees would be able to get them waived, otherwise the following fees apply:

- \$25 in the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Court of Claims, circuit court and probate court;
- \$20 in district court if a claim for relief is both monetary and nonmonetary;
- \$5 in small claims court; and
- \$10 in district court if the preceding two instances do not apply, including actions for summary proceedings.

"Modernizing state government is a major priority, and as inefficiencies are identified, they are being addressed," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "Enacting an e-filing system statewide for local courts is a common sense change that saves residents a trip to the courthouse when they need to file a document and eases the burden on employees."

The bills, [HB 5028](#) (PA 230), [HB 5029](#) (PA 231), [HB 5030](#) (PA 232), [SB 531](#) (PA 233), [SB 532](#) (PA 234) and [SB 533](#) (PA 235), take effect January 1.

Mr. Snyder also signed [HB 4212](#) (PA 236, immediate effect) and [HB 4215](#) (PA 237, immediate effect) removing the sunset on the law that allows counties to dissolve their road commissions and have their board of commissioners absorb those duties.

And the governor signed legislation altering the escheats process.



Unclaimed property worth \$25 or less would no longer revert to the state under SB 538 (PA 242, immediate effect). The bill also streamlines the Department of Treasury's audit process for businesses with a significant Michigan presence when they request unclaimed property from the state.

Mr. Snyder also signed:

HB 4596, CAMPAIGN FINANCE (Lyons) Provides waiver on requirement for filing statement of a committee of  
PA 238 an incumbent judge or justice elected or appointed.

Signed: December 22, 2015; Effective: March 21, 2016

HB 4597, CAMPAIGN FINANCE (Lyons) Modifies reporting and disclosure of certain candidates' expenditures.  
PA 239

Signed: December 22, 2015; Effective: March 21, 2016

SB 500, PA TAXABLE WAGES (Horn) Modifies benefits provision related to taxable wage base reduction.  
240

Signed: December 22, 2015; Effective: December 22, 2015

HB 4095, SUPPLEMENTAL (Pscholka) Provides for supplemental appropriations in for fiscal year 2014-15.  
PA 241

Signed: December 22, 2015; Effective: December 22, 2015

HB 4930, PROPERTY TAX (Nesbitt) Excludes certain transfers from definition of transfer of ownership.  
PA 243

Signed: December 22, 2015; Effective: December 22, 2015

SB 177, PA CONTROLLING INTEREST (Hune) Requires notice of divesting or acquiring controlling interest in an  
244 insurer.

Signed: December 22, 2015; Effective: December 22, 2015

SB 178, PA RISK AND SOLVENCY ASSESSMENT (Hune) Provides for procedures for own risk and solvency  
245 assessment.

Signed: December 22, 2015; Effective: December 22, 2015

HB 4581, LIQUOR (Crawford) Eliminates cap on the per case fee that the commission pays to a vendor to  
PA 246 offset cost of vendor contracting with an authorized distribution agent,

Signed: December 22, 2015; Effective: March 21, 2016

SB 552, PA GROUNDWATER DISCHARGE (Green) Revises groundwater discharge permit fees.  
247

Signed: December 22, 2015; Effective: December 22, 2015

HB 4563, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (Leutheuser) Authorizes contracting for services to assist victims of  
PA 248 domestic violence.

Signed: December 22, 2015; Effective: March 21, 2016

HB 4680, CORRECTIONS (Pagel) Extends sunset authority for correctional industries to engage in certain  
PA 249 private manufacturing or service enterprises.

Signed: December 22, 2015; Effective: March 21, 2016

HB 4713, MENS REA (McBroom) Establishes default standard for mens rea in criminal statutes.  
PA 250

Signed: December 22, 2015; Effective: December 22, 2015

[Back To Top >>](#)

## **State GOP Official Asked To Pull Down Post Mocking Muslims**

Wayne Bradley, the director of African-American outreach for the Michigan Republican Party, removed a post from his Facebook account over the weekend that suggested a Muslim man would propose to a Muslim woman with a piece of dynamite instead of a ring.

Mr. Bradley posted a meme that featured a woman in a niqab (a veil showing only the eyes) looking tearful with an adjacent photo illustration of a small bomb resting in a box that would typically hold an engagement ring. Underneath the emotional-looking woman is the line, "He went to Jihad's."

Accompanying the post, Mr. Bradley wrote, "Bruh ..." with several emojis laughing with tears.

Progress Michigan circulated the post and called for the Michigan Republican Party to fire Mr. Bradley, saying the post was an outrageous attack on Muslims.

Mr. Bradley posted the meme Sunday evening, but by Monday afternoon, it was gone.

"Wayne made an insensitive joke and we asked him to take it down," said Michigan Republican Party spokesperson Sarah Anderson. "He is still an MRP employee. This is much ado about nothing."

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## Campaign Notes

**SICK TIME BALLOT PROPOSAL ENDORSEMENT:** The group seeking a ballot proposal requiring employers to offer paid sick time to their employees picked up the support Tuesday of the Michigan Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

"I think, for some of us, it's pretty clear that earned paid sick days make sense from public health and social justice perspectives. But what we don't always recognize are the tremendous mental health implications. If someone is experiencing a mental health crisis, it is imperative they have the ability to address the issue without the added stress of not being able to afford to take that time off. This added stress only exacerbates the underlying issues and leads to a less healthy person, physically and mentally," said Maxine Thome, executive director of the National Association of Social Workers of Michigan.

[Back To Top >>](#)

## Capital Notebook

**WATER CLEANUP GRANTS:** The Department of Environmental Quality announced Tuesday it had \$25,000 available for the Volunteer River, Stream, and Creek Cleanup Program.

The program, funded through sale of water quality specialty license plates, provides grants to local governments for the cleanup efforts. The applicant has to provide at least a 25 percent match.

Grant applications are posted on the DEQ [website](#) and are due January 25.

**MINOR TOBACCO SALES:** The state has complied with federal limits on tobacco sales to minors for the past 15 years, the Department of Health and Human Services announced Tuesday.

A survey of retailers showed 15.5 percent of them sold tobacco products to minors during the past year, a 2.5 percent decrease from 2014 and within the 20 percent limit for the state to qualify for federal substance abuse program funds.

DHHS [Director Nick Lyon](#) said the target over the next two years is to bring that number below the 10.6 percent recorded for 2012.

**TRANSPORTATION PLAN:** The Department of Transportation announced Tuesday that it planned to adopt its latest long-range plan on July 23. The plan had been scheduled to be completed in May, but recent state and federal changes now have to be incorporated.

The comment period on the plan is now slated to begin May 10.

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## Appointments By The Governor

**CALHOUN CIRCUIT COURT:** District Court Judge John Hallacy succeeds Judge Conrad Sindt, who resigned, for an appointment expiring January 1, 2017. Mr. Hallacy must run for re-election in 2016 to serve the remainder of the term expiring January 1, 2019.

[Back To Top >>](#)

## Reports Of Auditor General Doug Ringle

Traffic and Safety Section, Department of Transportation: [performance audit](#) for the period October 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015.

[Back To Top >>](#)

## Presented To The Governor

### By The Senate

December 22, 2015

**SB 13** STRAIGHT-TICKET VOTING ([Knollenberg](#)) Eliminate straight-ticket voting procedures.

**SB 426** AVIATION FUEL TAX ([Schmidt](#)) Provides for deposit of wholesale aviation fuel tax.

**SB 446** DEER AND ELK FEEDING ([Jones](#)) Repeals sunset for deer and elk feeding.

**SB 492** EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES ([Brandenburg](#)) Allocates employer responsibilities for employees between

franchisor and franchisee.

- SB 493** **EMPLOYER CONDITIONS (Proos)** Establishes conditions that determine when a franchisor is an employer of an employee of a franchisee.
- SB 518** **FRIEND OF THE COURT (MacGregor)** Updates friend of the court reference to the uniform interstate family support act.
- SB 519** **CHILD SUPPORT (Emmons)** Updates child support reference to the uniform interstate family support act.
- SB 612** **AIRPORT FUND (Schmidt)** Provides definitions related to qualified airport fund.
- SB 613** **AVIATION FUEL (Hansen)** Provides reporting requirement on sales of aviation fuel and earmark of percentage of sales collected on aviation fuel.
- SB 614** **AVIATION FUEL (Schmidt)** Provides reporting requirement on aviation fuel and earmark of percentage collected on aviation fuel.

Kurt Weiss  
State Budget Office  
517-335-0050



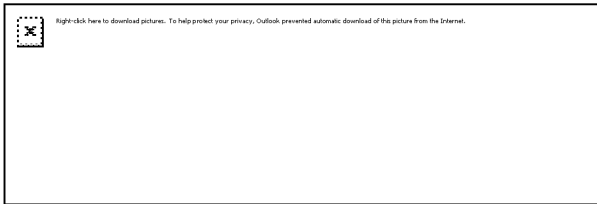
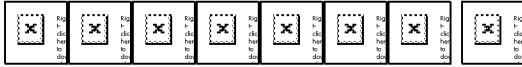
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**From:** DeCamp, Greg (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 23, 2015 8:25 AM  
**To:** Sweeney, Matthew (DTMB); Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Gongwer

Can someone please send me today's Gongwer, or a password. I have mysteriously fallen off their email list. Maybe it's the sarcastic thoughts I have when ready the stories.

---

**From:** Bridge Magazine <ajones@thecenterformichigan.ccsend.com> on behalf of Bridge Magazine <info@thecenterformichigan.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 29, 2015 9:36 AM  
**To:** Wresinski, Francine (DTMB)  
**Subject:** What is the state's role in Flint's water fiasco?



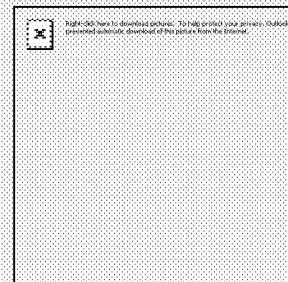
News & Analysis from The Center for Michigan

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## *Cringe over troubled water - Flint's smelly dilemma*

Flint calls on the state to clear up the city's low-quality drinking water. Who is responsible for the city's water problems?

[READ FULL STORY](#)

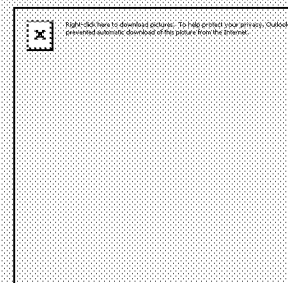


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## *MSU Dean: Obama's free college plan is not best path to a degree*

Where will the money come from? Why would Republicans embrace it? Wouldn't aid be better spent on only those students truly need help? Too many questions for now.

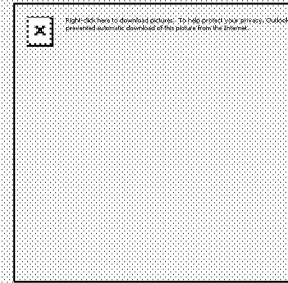
[READ FULL STORY](#)



## *Commentary: Michigan criminal code encroaching on civil liberties*

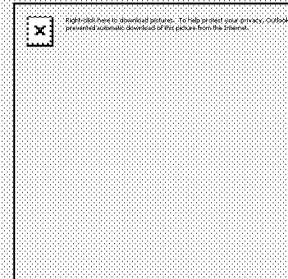
New, get-tough laws requiring DNA swabs or field sobriety tests from people who have not yet been convicted stretch the limits of government power.

[READ FULL STORY](#)



## *Coming Next Week: 2014 Academic State Champs*

Bridge ranks every district, school and charter in the state by how much their students overachieve or underachieve academically, based on their socioeconomic status. The results may surprise you.



[Forward this email](#)



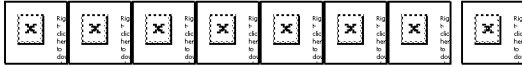
This email was sent to wresinskif@michigan.gov by [info@thecenterformichigan.net](mailto:info@thecenterformichigan.net) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



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---

**From:** Bridge Magazine <ajones@thecenterformichigan.ccsend.com> on behalf of Bridge Magazine <info@thecenterformichigan.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 01, 2015 12:07 AM  
**To:** Wresinski, Francine (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Week in review: Great Start off to a great start



## Week in review

### BRUNCH WITH BRIDGE

Brunch with Bridge columnist Rich Robinson looks at the dawning battles of the political year and sees trying times ahead. And Ken Winter recollects the now 40-year-old PBB crisis in Michigan agriculture.

[New year, old battles and an upcoming year of more of the same \(only worse\)](#)

[After 40 years, effect of Michigan's PBB crisis still not fully known](#)

### NEWS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

[A Great Start to preschool expansion](#)

[How one Michigan community is benefiting from preschool expansion](#)

[Cringe over troubled water - Flint's smelly dilemma](#)

### COMMENTARY

[MSU Dean: Obama's free college plan is not best path to a degree](#)

[Michigan criminal code encroaching on civil liberties](#)

[Conflict is inevitable in policy debates. An outside facilitator can help forge agreement.](#)

[Phil Power: Gov. Snyder goes big, bold in reimagining government programs](#)

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Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105

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**From:** DTMB Facilities <dtmb@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 28, 2015 8:17 AM  
**To:** Wresinski, Francine (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Facility Notification: Constitution Hall



Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.  
Security Notification

## Protest Activity

---

### Date/Time:

Wednesday, October 28, 2015 from 12:00pm to 4:00pm

### Details:

Please be aware that there is a protest event planned for today, October 28, outside of the Constitution Hall from 12:00pm to 4:00pm. The event is being held in response to the water condition in Flint. Please plan your daily activities with this in mind as a large turnout for this event is anticipated. DTMB and MSP will be working together to monitor the situation.

### Contact:

DTMB Customer Service Center, [DTMB-Customerservice@michigan.gov](mailto:DTMB-Customerservice@michigan.gov) or 517-373-6227

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This email was sent to [wresinski@michigan.gov](mailto:wresinski@michigan.gov) using GovDelivery, on behalf of DTMB · Lewis Cass Building · 320 South Walnut Street · Lansing, MI 48933 517-373-1004



**City of Flint Water - Funding Solution  
State of Michigan Commitment**

Agency	GF/GP	Gross	Comments
<b>Filters:</b>			
MSHDA		\$225,000	Tentative
Health & Human Services	\$1,016,000	\$1,016,000	Towards 2nd round of filters. (AY15 work project)
Health & Human Services	\$0	\$1,000,000	Environmental Quality - State Restricted Settlement Funds provided to HHS Emergency Services local office for 1st round of filters.
<b>Subtotal Filters:</b>	<b>\$1,016,000</b>	<b>\$2,241,000</b>	
<b>Reconnect to DSW:</b>			<b>Reconnection costs ~\$1.3m/month x 9 mos. to be shared by state &amp; Flint</b>
Environmental Quality	\$5,000,000	\$6,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Fund of \$1m; balance GF/GP
<b>Subtotal Reconnect:</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>	<b>\$6,000,000</b>	
<b>Testing Costs:</b>			
Environmental Quality	TBD	\$1,000,000	Additional tests at state lab; cost per sample: \$26
<b>Subtotal Testing:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	
<b>Additional Agency Support:</b>			
LARA	\$0	\$200,000	Support for plumbing inspectors to do schools (public and parochial) and health facilities (hospitals, Long Term Care, etc.).
Health & Human Services	TBD	TBD	Follow-up on children with elevated blood levels
Environmental Quality	TBD	\$300,000	Home and school inspections.
<b>Subtotal Additional Support:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	
<b>ALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,016,000</b>	<b>\$9,741,000</b>	

---

**From:** Maxine Murray <mmurray@cityofflint.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 25, 2014 3:42 PM  
**To:** Carter, Jerry (MSP);Kapp, Gene (MSP);Muchmore, Dennis (GOV);Roberts, John (DTMB);Dempkowski, Angela (Treasury);Baird, Richard (GOV);Darnell Earley;Deasy, Thomas (MSP);Koryzno, Edward (Treasury);Clement, Elizabeth (GOV);Elizabeth Murphy;Etue, Kriste (MSP);Hollins, Harvey (GOV);Hill, Darryl (MSP);James Tolbert;Jerry Ambrose;Klotz, Josephine (MSP);Lee, Nichole (MSP);McGowan, Emmitt (MSP);Smith, Paul (GOV);Byrne, Randall (Treasury);Sands, Thomas (MSP);Sipes, Stephen (MSP);O'Neill, Stephen (MSP);Saxton, Thomas (Treasury);Workman, Wayne (TREASURY);West, Samantha (GOV)  
**Subject:** Bi-Weekly Conference Call Agenda  
**Attachments:** Agenda & Attachments 112614 Conf Call with Treasury.pdf

Good afternoon,

Please find attached the agenda for the Wednesday, November 26th, 9:00 am conference call.

Thank you.

--

Maxine Murray  
Executive Assistant to  
Mayor Dayne Walling  
Darnell Earley, Emergency Manager  
1101 S. Saginaw Street  
Flint, MI 48502  
810.237.2035 Telephone  
810.766.7218 Fax

---

**From:** Michigan State Police Alert Notification System <conf-1735095106@everbridge.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 05, 2016 9:46 PM  
**To:** Vargovich, Carol (MCSC)  
**Subject:** S E O C Activation  
  
**Importance:** High

[Please click here to acknowledge receipt of this message](#)

The S E O C will be activated at 8 a.m. on Wednesday January 6, 2016 in response to the Flint water crisis and the Emergency Declaration made by Governor Snyder. An e mail was sent to all primary S E M C's this afternoon requesting your agency's participation in a mandatory briefing which will be conducted at the S E O C at 9 a.m. on Wednesday January 6, 2016. Please coordinate within your agency to assure that a representative will be at this briefing.

*This message is from the Michigan State Police Alert Notification System and is For Official Use Only.*

---

**From:** Collins, Joseph (DHHS)  
**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2015 8:08 PM  
**To:** Waalkes, Marie (DTMB); Winters, Jan (MCSC)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Flint State Buildings

We should look at what other departments are doing. I know Civil Rights has an office downtown where DHHS is the major DTMB tenant. My people say DTMB was not supporting supplying water. Civil Rights is a People Group department so they should be in the same place as DHHS. Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Collins, Joseph (DHHS)" <[CollinsJ@michigan.gov](mailto:CollinsJ@michigan.gov)>  
**Date:** October 12, 2015 at 6:23:38 PM EDT  
**To:** "Warner, Kurt (DHHS)" <[WarnerK5@michigan.gov](mailto:WarnerK5@michigan.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Hanley, Farah (DHHS)" <[hanleyf@michigan.gov](mailto:hanleyf@michigan.gov)>, "Becker, Timothy (DHHS)" <[beckert1@michigan.gov](mailto:beckert1@michigan.gov)>, "Bennett, Pam (DHHS)" <[BennettP3@michigan.gov](mailto:BennettP3@michigan.gov)>, "Shilling, Renee (DHHS)" <[ShillingR@michigan.gov](mailto:ShillingR@michigan.gov)>, "Lasher, Geralyn (DHHS)" <[lasherg@michigan.gov](mailto:lasherg@michigan.gov)>, "Waalkes, Marie (DTMB)" <[WaalkesM1@michigan.gov](mailto:WaalkesM1@michigan.gov)>, "Winters, Jan (MCSC)" <[WintersJ@michigan.gov](mailto:WintersJ@michigan.gov)>, "Beurer, Terrence (DHHS)" <[BeurerT@michigan.gov](mailto:BeurerT@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Flint State Buildings

Perfect thanks Kurt. This will hopefully head off health and safety issues with the unions.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 12, 2015, at 4:34 PM, Warner, Kurt (DHHS) <[WarnerK5@michigan.gov](mailto:WarnerK5@michigan.gov)> wrote:

Our director's in both the office building and at our Clio Road district office have purchased and continue to purchase bottles water for our employees.

Kurt

-----Original Message-----

From: Collins, Joseph (DHHS)  
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2015 4:19 PM  
To: Hanley, Farah (DHHS) <[hanleyf@michigan.gov](mailto:hanleyf@michigan.gov)>; Becker, Timothy (DHHS) <[beckert1@michigan.gov](mailto:beckert1@michigan.gov)>; Warner, Kurt (DHHS) <[WarnerK5@michigan.gov](mailto:WarnerK5@michigan.gov)>; Bennett, Pam (DHHS) <[BennettP3@michigan.gov](mailto:BennettP3@michigan.gov)>; Shilling, Renee (DHHS) <[ShillingR@michigan.gov](mailto:ShillingR@michigan.gov)>; Lasher, Geralyn (DHHS) <[lasherg@michigan.gov](mailto:lasherg@michigan.gov)>  
Cc: Waalkes, Marie (DTMB) <[WaalkesM1@michigan.gov](mailto:WaalkesM1@michigan.gov)>; Winters, Jan (MCSC) <[WintersJ@michigan.gov](mailto:WintersJ@michigan.gov)>

Subject: Flint State Buildings

Are we doing anything in terms of providing bottled water to our employees in the Flint state office buildings?

Sent from my iPhone

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 4102

A bill to make, supplement, and adjust appropriations for various state departments and agencies for the fiscal years ending September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016; to provide for the expenditure of the appropriations; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7

PART 1

LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the various state departments and agencies to supplement appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, from the following funds:

APPROPRIATION SUMMARY



1	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	7,775,000
2	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
3	transfers.....		0
4	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	7,775,000
5	Total federal revenues .....		0
6	Total local revenues .....		0
7	Total private revenues .....		0
8	Total other state restricted revenues .....		1,000,000
9	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	6,775,000
10	<b>Sec. 102. LEGISLATURE</b>		
11	<b>(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY</b>		
12	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	50,000
13	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
14	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
15	transfers.....		0
16	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	50,000
17	Federal revenues:		
18	Total federal revenues .....		0
19	Special revenue funds:		
20	Total local revenues .....		0
21	Total private revenues .....		0
22	Total other state restricted revenues .....		0
23	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	50,000
24	<b>(2) LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL</b>		
25	Criminal justice policy commission .....	\$	<u>50,000</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	50,000



1 Appropriated from:

2 State general fund/general purpose ..... \$ 50,000

3 **Sec. 103. DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE**

4 **(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY**

5 GROSS APPROPRIATION ..... \$ 7,725,000

6 Interdepartmental grant revenues:

7 Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental

8 transfers ..... 0

9 ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION ..... \$ 7,725,000

10 Federal revenues:

11 Total federal revenues ..... 0

12 Special revenue funds:

13 Total local revenues ..... 0

14 Total private revenues ..... 0

15 Total other state restricted revenues ..... 1,000,000

16 State general fund/general purpose ..... \$ 6,725,000

17 **(2) ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS**

18 Legal settlement ..... \$ 7,725,000

19 GROSS APPROPRIATION ..... \$ 7,725,000

20 Appropriated from:

21 Special revenue funds:

22 Risk management revolving fund ..... 1,000,000

23 State general fund/general purpose ..... \$ 6,725,000

24 **Sec. 104. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY**

25 **(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY**





1	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	0
2	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
3	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
4	transfers.....		0
5	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	0
6	Federal revenues:		
7	Total federal revenues .....		0
8	Special revenue funds:		
9	Total local revenues .....		0
10	Total private revenues .....		0
11	Total other state restricted revenues .....		0
12	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	0
13	(2) ONE-TIME BASIS ONLY APPROPRIATIONS		
14	MSF, special grants .....	\$	(500,000)
15	MSF, special grants .....		<u>500,000</u>
16	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	0
17	Appropriated from:		
18	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	0

## PART 1A

## LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

Sec. 151. There is appropriated for the various state departments and agencies to supplement appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the following funds:

## APPROPRIATION SUMMARY



1	Full-time equated classified positions .....	3.0	
2	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....		\$ 9,350,100
3	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
4	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
5	transfers.....		0
6	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....		\$ 9,350,100
7	Federal revenues:		
8	Total federal revenues .....		0
9	Special revenue funds:		
10	Total local revenues .....		0
11	Total private revenues .....		0
12	Total other state restricted revenues .....		2,200,000
13	State general fund/general purpose .....		\$ 7,150,100
14	<b>Sec. 152. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY</b>		
15	<b>(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY</b>		
16	Full-time equated classified positions .....	2.0	
17	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....		\$ 7,300,000
18	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
19	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
20	transfers.....		0
21	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....		\$ 7,300,000
22	Federal revenues:		
23	Total federal revenues .....		0
24	Special revenue funds:		
25	Total local revenues .....		0
26	Total private revenues .....		0



1	Total other state restricted revenues .....	1,000,000
2	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 6,300,000
3	<b>(2) RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION</b>	
4	Full-time equated classified positions .....	2.0
5	City of Flint emergency water services .....	\$ 6,000,000
6	Drinking water and environmental health--2.0 FTE	
7	positions.....	<u>300,000</u>
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 6,300,000
9	Appropriated from:	
10	Special revenue funds:	
11	Settlement funds .....	1,000,000
12	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 5,300,000
13	<b>(3) REMEDIATION AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION</b>	
14	Laboratory services .....	\$ <u>1,000,000</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 1,000,000
16	Appropriated from:	
17	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 1,000,000
18	<b>Sec. 153. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</b>	
19	<b>(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY</b>	
20	Full-time equated classified positions .....	0.0
21	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 1,850,100
22	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
23	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental	
24	transfers.....	0
25	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 1,850,100
26	Federal revenues:	



1	Total federal revenues .....	0
2	Special revenue funds:	
3	Total local revenues .....	0
4	Total private revenues .....	0
5	Total other state restricted revenues .....	1,000,000
6	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 850,100
7	<b>(2) DEPARTMENTWIDE ADMINISTRATION</b>	
8	Rent and state office facilities .....	\$ <u>100</u>
9	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 100
10	Appropriated from:	
11	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 100
12	<b>(3) CHILDREN'S SERVICES AGENCY - JUVENILE JUSTICE</b>	
13	In-home community care .....	\$ (400,000)
14	In-home community care .....	<u>400,000</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 0
16	Appropriated from:	
17	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
18	<b>(4) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE</b>	
19	Emergency services local office allocations .....	\$ <u>1,000,000</u>
20	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 1,000,000
21	Appropriated from:	
22	Special revenue funds:	
23	Total other state restricted revenues .....	1,000,000
24	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
25	<b>(5) FIELD OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES</b>	
26	Full-time equated classified positions .....	0.0
27	Michigan rehabilitation services--(526.0) FTE	



1	positions .....	\$	(130,927,900)
2	Michigan rehabilitation services--526.0 FTE positions		<u>130,927,900</u>
3	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	0
4	Appropriated from:		
5	Federal revenues:		
6	Social security act, temporary assistance for needy		
7	families.....		0
8	Capped federal revenues .....		0
9	Total other federal revenues .....		0
10	Special revenue funds:		
11	Local vocational rehabilitation match .....		0
12	Private funds - gifts, bequests, and donations .....		0
13	Rehabilitation service fees .....		0
14	Second injury fund .....		0
15	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	0
16	<b>(6) FAMILY, MATERNAL, AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH</b>		
17	<b>SERVICES</b>		
18	Childhood lead program .....	\$	<u>850,000</u>
19	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	850,000
20	Appropriated from:		
21	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	850,000
22	<b>Sec. 154. DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY</b>		
23	<b>AFFAIRS</b>		
24	<b>(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY</b>		
25	Full-time equated classified positions .....		1.0
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	200,000



1	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
2	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
3	transfers.....		0
4	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	200,000
5	Federal revenues:		
6	Total federal revenues .....		0
7	Special revenue funds:		
8	Total local revenues .....		0
9	Total private revenues .....		0
10	Total other state restricted revenues .....		200,000
11	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	0
12	<b>(2) OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION</b>		
13	Full-time equated classified positions .....		1.0
14	Bureau of construction codes--1.0 FTE position .....	\$	<u>200,000</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	200,000
16	Appropriated from:		
17	Special revenue funds:		
18	Construction code fund .....		200,000
19	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	0

20 PART 2

21 PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

22 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

23 **GENERAL SECTIONS**

24 Sec. 201. In accordance with the provisions of section 30 of

25 article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending



1 from state resources in this appropriation act for the fiscal year  
2 ending September 30, 2015 is \$7,775,000.00 and state appropriations  
3 paid to local units of government are \$0.00.

4 Sec. 202. The appropriations made and expenditures authorized  
5 under this act and the departments, commissions, boards, offices,  
6 and programs for which appropriations are made under this act are  
7 subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101  
8 to 18.1594.

9 **DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

10 Sec. 301. (1) From unexpended and unencumbered funds  
11 appropriated in 2010 PA 191 for branch and central operations,  
12 \$6,000,000.00 is appropriated for a business application  
13 modernization project and shall be reappropriated for the fiscal  
14 year ending September 30, 2015 in an appropriation line entitled  
15 information technology services and projects.

16 (2) The funds described in subsection (1) shall remain  
17 available for expenditure to implement provisions of business  
18 application modernization ongoing costs. The unexpended funds  
19 reappropriated into the information technology services and  
20 projects line item are considered work project appropriations, and  
21 any unencumbered or unallotted funds are carried forward into the  
22 succeeding fiscal year. The following is in compliance with section  
23 451a(1) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL  
24 18.1451a:

25 (a) The purpose of the projects is to modernize the technical  
26 infrastructure to support the business needs of the department.



1 (b) The projects will be completed by contract staff and state  
2 employees.

3 (c) The total estimated cost of all projects is \$6,000,000.00.

4 (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2019.

5 Sec. 302. (1) Unexpended and unencumbered amounts of funding  
6 remaining in accounts appropriated in section 301 of 2011 PA 83,  
7 for implementation of the help America vote act of 2002, 42 USC  
8 15031 to 15545, for the secretary of state, shall be reappropriated  
9 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015 in an appropriation  
10 line item entitled help America vote act.

11 (2) The funds described in subsection (1) shall remain  
12 available for expenditure to implement provisions of the help  
13 America vote act of 2002, 42 USC 15031 to 15545, section 37 of the  
14 Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.37, and other election  
15 reforms. Consistent with the help America vote act of 2002, 42 USC  
16 15031 to 15545, the unexpended funds reappropriated into the help  
17 America vote act line item are considered work project  
18 appropriations and any unencumbered or unallotted funds are carried  
19 forward into succeeding fiscal years. The following is in  
20 compliance with section 451a(1) of the management and budget act,  
21 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

22 (a) The purpose of the projects is to implement provisions of  
23 the help America vote act of 2002, 42 USC 15031 to 15545, section  
24 37 of the Michigan election law, 1954 PA 116, MCL 168.37, and other  
25 election reforms.

26 (b) The projects will be completed by state employees, by  
27 contracts with private vendors, or by grants to local units of





1 government.

2 (c) The total estimated cost of these projects is identified  
3 in each line-item appropriation.

4 (d) The tentative completion date for these projects is  
5 September 30, 2019.

6 **STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**

7 Sec. 401. Unexpended and unencumbered amounts of DOT, federal  
8 railroad administration (ARRA) funds appropriated in 2011 PA 157  
9 for high-speed intercity passenger rail (ARRA) shall not lapse  
10 pursuant to section 451a(1) of the management and budget act, 1984  
11 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a, but instead are reappropriated for  
12 expenditure as originally intended and are a work project meeting  
13 the following criteria:

14 (a) The purpose of the project to be carried forward is to  
15 preserve and invest in transportation infrastructure of the state  
16 of Michigan.

17 (b) The projects will be accomplished by state employees and  
18 by contract.

19 (c) The total estimated cost of the project is \$26,711,800.00.

20 (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2017.

21 **DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY**

22 Sec. 501. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
23 special grants, the fund shall allocate \$500,000.00 for the purpose  
24 of funding the cost of GED testing and certification as provided by  
25 this section. The workforce development agency shall administer a



1 Michigan GED-to-school program, which shall cover the cost of  
2 providing the GED test free of charge to individuals who meet all  
3 of the following requirements:

4 (a) The individual has not previously been administered a GED  
5 test free of charge under this section.

6 (b) The individual meets at least 1 of the following  
7 requirements:

8 (i) Prior to taking the GED test, the individual successfully  
9 completed a WDA-approved GED preparation program.

10 (ii) Prior to taking the GED test, the individual completed  
11 the official GED practice test and the individual's score indicated  
12 that he or she is likely to pass.

13 (2) A WDA-approved GED preparation program shall include all  
14 of the following:

15 (a) Instructional and tutorial assistance.

16 (b) GED test practice.

17 (c) Required attendance at program instructional sessions.

18 (d) A curriculum that prepares students for opportunities in  
19 postsecondary education and the job market.

20 (e) Information on potential postsecondary and career  
21 pathways.

22 (f) Counseling on preparing for and applying to college.

23 (g) Personal and job readiness skills development.

24 (h) Comprehensive information on college costs and financial  
25 aid.

26 (i) College and career assessments.

27 (j) Computer-based instruction, practice, or remediation.



1 (3) By January 1, 2016, the workforce development agency shall  
2 post online an announcement of the Michigan GED-to-school program,  
3 minimum standards for GED preparation program approval, and  
4 approval procedures.

5 (4) By April 1, 2016, the workforce development agency shall  
6 do all of the following:

7 (a) Develop procedures consistent with this section under  
8 which individuals can take the GED test without charge.

9 (b) Provide program information for educators and students on  
10 the workforce development agency website, including explanations of  
11 the procedures developed under this subsection, and contact  
12 information for questions about the program.

13 (c) Provide an estimate of the full-year cost of the program  
14 to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on general  
15 government, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state  
16 budget director.

17 (5) By September 30, 2016, the workforce development agency  
18 shall report to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees  
19 on general government, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and  
20 the state budget director on utilization of the GED incentive  
21 program, including numbers of GED certifications issued by  
22 location, year-to-date expenditures, and numbers of participants  
23 qualifying under subsection (1)(b)(i) or (ii), or both.

24 (6) The unexpended funds appropriated for the GED-to-school  
25 program are designated as a work project appropriation, and any  
26 unencumbered or unallotted funds shall not lapse at the end of the  
27 fiscal year and shall be available for expenditure for projects



1 under this section until the projects have been completed. The  
2 following is in compliance with section 451a(1) of the management  
3 and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

4 (a) The purpose of the project is to fund the cost of GED  
5 testing and certification for certain individuals as provided by  
6 this section.

7 (b) The projects will be accomplished by utilizing state  
8 employees or contracts with private vendors, or both.

9 (c) The total estimated cost of the project is \$500,000.00.

10 (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2019.

11 PART 2A

12 PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

13 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

14 **GENERAL SECTIONS**

15 Sec. 1201. In accordance with the provisions of section 30 of  
16 article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending  
17 from state resources in this appropriation act for the fiscal year  
18 ending September 30, 2016 is \$9,350,100.00 and state appropriations  
19 paid to local units of government are \$6,000,000.00.

20 Sec. 1202. The appropriations made and expenditures authorized  
21 under this act and the departments, commissions, boards, offices,  
22 and programs for which appropriations are made under this act are  
23 subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101  
24 to 18.1594.



1 **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

2       Sec. 1251. From the funds appropriated for the city of Flint  
3 emergency water services, the department is authorized to pay up to  
4 \$6,000,000.00 for reconnection services to the Detroit water and  
5 sewerage department or its successor. The payments shall only be  
6 made once a legally executable agreement has been reached between  
7 the parties and a successful reconnection has occurred to the Flint  
8 water system. These funds are intended to pay reconnection costs  
9 through June 30, 2016.

10 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

11       Sec. 1301. From the funds appropriated in part 1A for Michigan  
12 rehabilitation services, the department shall allocate  
13 \$6,100,300.00, including federal matching funds, to service  
14 authorizations with accredited, community-based rehabilitation  
15 organizations for job development and other community employment-  
16 related support services.

17       Sec. 1302. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1A for in-  
18 home community care programs, \$400,000.00 shall be used to expand  
19 or create new in-home care and community-based juvenile justice  
20 services to rural counties through a grant making process. Counties  
21 that received funds for the purpose described in section 587 of  
22 article X of 2013 PA 59 are not eligible to receive the funds in  
23 this section. The department shall have contracts in place for the  
24 full amount of funds for the purpose described in this section by  
25 January 15 of the current fiscal year.

26       (2) By June 30 of the current fiscal year, the department



1 shall submit a report that describes the program expansion and  
2 expenditures in detail to the senate and house appropriations  
3 subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house fiscal  
4 agencies, and the senate and house policy offices.

5 **REPEALERS**

6 Enacting section 1. Sections 587 and 806 of article X of 2015  
7 PA 84 are repealed.

8 Enacting section 2. Section 1069 of article VIII of 2014 PA  
9 252 is repealed.



## Harkins, Chris (DTMB)

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**From:** Duncan, Nancy (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 8:43 AM  
**To:** Wyant, Dan (DEQ); Khouri, Nick (TREASURY); Saxton, Thomas (Treasury); Lyon, Nick (DHHS); Becker, Timothy (DHHS); Pallone, Maggie (DEQ); Zimmer, Mike (LARA); Pohl, Allan (LARA); Hanley, Farah (DHHS)  
**Cc:** Roberts, John (DTMB); McNeely, Jacques (DTMB); Harrison, Jennifer (DTMB); Harkins, Chris (DTMB); Shoemaker, Lisa (DTMB); Starr, Scott (DTMB); Fosdick, David (DTMB); Kimmith, Dean (DTMB); Weiss, Kurt (DTMB)  
**Subject:** RESENT: Flint Water Summary for Governor  
**Attachments:** City of Flint Water Funding Solution.pdf  
**Importance:** High

The DHHS number changed slightly from \$600k to \$850k, bringing the total commitment \$10.6m gross/\$8.2m GF. Revised chart attached.

\*\*\*\*\*

Original message:

Attached is a summary of the funding commitments to address the Flint Water situation. The total state commitment is \$10.4m; \$7.9m of that amount is GF/GP. [The DHHS number needs to be verified tomorrow morning, but the final number should be close to this estimate.]

The funding will address 4 priority areas:

1. Provision of filters for residential service;
2. 50% of the estimated cost to reconnect temporarily to the Detroit Water System;
3. Funding for testing water samples; and
4. Other state assistance (e.g., home/school/health facility inspections and follow-up for children with elevated blood levels).

We are preparing a formal supplemental request to transmit to the Legislature tomorrow. John intends to talk with Rep. Pscholka and Sen. Hildenbrand about including this funding in HB 4102, the pending supplemental bill now awaiting House concurrence. Assuming that they agree, we would ask for final action next week.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about our planned approach.

Nancy

**City of Flint Water - Funding Solution  
State of Michigan Commitment**

Agency	GF/GP	Gross	Comments
<b>Filters:</b>			
MSHDA		\$225,000	Tentative
Health & Human Services	\$1,016,000	\$1,016,000	Towards 2nd round of filters. (AY15 work project)
Health & Human Services	\$0	\$1,000,000	Environmental Quality - State Restricted Settlement Funds provided to HHS Emergency Services local office for 1st round of filters.
<b>Subtotal Filters:</b>	<b>\$1,016,000</b>	<b>\$2,241,000</b>	
<b>Reconnect to DSW:</b>			<b>Reconnection costs ~\$1.3m/month x 9 mos. to be shared by state &amp; Flint</b>
Environmental Quality	\$5,000,000	\$6,000,000	DEQ State Restricted Settlement Fund of \$1m; balance GF/GP
<b>Subtotal Reconnect:</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>	<b>\$6,000,000</b>	
<b>Testing Costs:</b>			
Environmental Quality	TBD	\$1,000,000	Additional tests at state lab; cost per sample: \$26
<b>Subtotal Testing:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	
<b>Additional Agency Support:</b>			
LARA	\$0	\$200,000	Support for plumbing inspectors to do schools (public and parochial) and health facilities (hospitals, Long Term Care, etc.).
Health & Human Services	TBD	TBD	Follow-up on children with elevated blood levels
Environmental Quality	TBD	\$300,000	Home and school inspections.
<b>Subtotal Additional Support:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	
<b>ALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,016,000</b>	<b>\$9,741,000</b>	



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**From:** Howell, Thomas (CEPI)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 07, 2015 12:39 PM  
**To:** Bernosky, Roderick (CEPI); McGroarty, Michael (CEPI); Jones, Carol (CEPI); Handley, Heather (CEPI)  
**Subject:** FW: Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data  
**Attachments:** List of All Flint Schools 9\_30\_15.xlsx; ATT00001.htm; EEMDownloadResults\_Flint.xml  
**Importance:** High

Hello. I need a data file ASAP for the governor's office. I pulled what I need from EEM, but the format is horrendous and I would be structuring for hours (manually).

The attached item from CS is not what they want, but a good attempt. I think they want the following:

All ISD, LEA, PSA and Nonpublic Schools and Programs ACTIVE in Flint (physical entities, not the district, but the schools and ancillary facilities). I need the name of the entity, the physical address, the grades and programs in operation (so they can prioritize using this info). An XML file is attached that I think gets close, but parses out the info I queried line by line. Would take hours to physically manipulate.

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**From:** Starr, Scott (DTMB)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 7, 2015 11:33 AM  
**To:** Jameson, Robbie (DTMB) ; Howell, Thomas (CEPI)  
**Subject:** Time sensitive-Flint Schools Data

Hi Tom,

I believe Maggie from DEQ left you a voicemail on this, but the Governors office needs some data CEPI provided on Flint Schools broken down in greater detail. This is time-sensitive and related to discussions involving the Flint water situation that are happening at a fast pace. Can you please assist?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <[PalloneM@michigan.gov](mailto:PalloneM@michigan.gov)>  
**Date:** October 7, 2015 at 11:28:53 AM EDT  
**To:** "Starr, Scott (DTMB)" <[Starr51@michigan.gov](mailto:Starr51@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Flint Area Schools Request

Scott-  
Here is what I received through MDE last week.

Thanks,  
Maggie

---

**From:** Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)  
**Sent:** Friday, October 2, 2015 12:04 PM  
**To:** Wurfel, Brad (DEQ) <[WurfelB@michigan.gov](mailto:WurfelB@michigan.gov)>; Wurfel, Sara (GOV) <[Wurfels@michigan.gov](mailto:Wurfels@michigan.gov)>;

Tommasulo, Karen (DEQ) <TommasuloK@michigan.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: Flint Area Schools Request

According to CEPI there are 243 (please open file and double check that number) that would qualify- from preschools to u's.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Liethen, Caroline (MDE)" <LiethenC@michigan.gov>

**Date:** September 30, 2015 at 10:31:10 AM EDT

**To:** "Pallone, Maggie (DEQ)" <PalloneM@michigan.gov>

**Subject:** FW: Flint Area Schools Request

See attached for a list of schools w/ addresses in the City of Flint. Let me know if you need anything else.

Sincerely,

Caroline Liethen  
Legislative Analyst  
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs  
Michigan Department of Education  
Office: (517) 373-1948

*Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.*

---

**From:** CEPI

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 10:29 AM

**To:** Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <LiethenC@michigan.gov>

**Cc:** Morse, Connie (CEPI) <MorseC1@michigan.gov>

**Subject:** RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Hi Caroline,

Attached is a list of all schools in Flint with both mailing and physical addresses. This information can be accessed in the EEM by following the instructions below:

1. Go to <https://cepi.state.mi.us/cepi/>
2. On the left-hand side of the screen, click "Search"
3. Click "Detailed"
4. Set the Status field to "Open-Active"
5. Set the Characteristic field to "Physical Address City" (Under the addresses section)
6. Set the Operator field to "Equals"
7. In the Value field, enter the word "Flint"
8. Click "Add Criterion"
9. Click "Search"
10. Near the bottom of the page, click "Download Entity Data"

11. You will see a list of characteristics sorted by Entity Type
12. Put a check in the "Entity Code" and "Official Name of Entity" for each type of entity you are interested in
13. Check the "Include Address Types" box
14. Click "Start Download"
15. The file will be generated in xml format
16. Save the file somewhere on your computer
17. Go to Excel, and open a new spreadsheet
18. Within Excel, click File then Open
19. Locate the saved xml file and open
20. The file will open in Excel with all requested data

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you for your inquiry,

Helena  
CEPI customer support

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Avoid sending personally identifiable information by email. While you can send PIC or UIC numbers when necessary, do not include or attach student names, social security numbers, or other confidential information.

Please let us know how we're doing by completing a quick, anonymous survey about your experience with CEPI support, at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FLB8J7N>.

The [CEPI website](#) includes links to security forms, application deadlines and other resources. If you have further questions, please email [cepi@michigan.gov](mailto:cepi@michigan.gov) or call 517-335-0505 x3.

---

**From:** Liethen, Caroline (MDE)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:33 AM  
**To:** CEPI <[CEPI@michigan.gov](mailto:CEPI@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Schools in the city of Flint. Thank you!

Caroline Liethen  
Legislative Analyst  
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs  
Michigan Department of Education  
Office: (517) 373-1948

*Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education – helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.*

---

**From:** CEPI  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:15 AM  
**To:** Liethen, Caroline (MDE) <[LiethenC@michigan.gov](mailto:LiethenC@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Flint Area Schools Request

Hi Caroline,

We can pull a mailing list for you with this information. Could you please specify what is meant by "Flint area"? We can search by county, city, or zip code, and we would need to know exactly which regions should be included in the search.

Thank you,

Helena  
CEPI customer support

---

Avoid sending personally identifiable information by email. While you can send PIC or UIC numbers when necessary, do not include or attach student names, social security numbers, or other confidential information.

Please let us know how we're doing by completing a quick, anonymous survey about your experience with CEPI support, at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FLB8I7N>.

The [CEPI website](#) includes links to security forms, application deadlines and other resources. If you have further questions, please email [cepi@michigan.gov](mailto:cepi@michigan.gov) or call 517-335-0505 x3.

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**From:** Liethen, Caroline (MDE)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 29, 2015 3:49 PM  
**To:** CEPI <[CEPI@michigan.gov](mailto:CEPI@michigan.gov)>  
**Subject:** Flint Area Schools Request

Good Afternoon,

The Governor's office has requested a list of all schools in the Flint area including traditional public schools, public school academies, private, and parochial schools w/ addresses. Are you able to compile this list, please?

Thank you for your assistance!

Sincerely,

Caroline Liethen  
Legislative Analyst  
Office of Public and Governmental Affairs  
Michigan Department of Education  
Office: (517) 373-1948

*Customer Service is a priority at the Michigan Department of Education -- helping Michigan schools, families, and communities improve the achievement and well-being of ALL our children.*

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	EntityTypeName	EntityId	EntityOfficialName	OriginalEntityCode	EntityAddressId	EntityId2	AddressTypeId
2	LEA School	10600	Academy West Alternative Education	01915	74425	10600	1
3	LEA School	10600	Academy West Alternative Education	01915	74426	10600	2
4	LEA School	1616	Accelerated Learning Academy	05950	51234	1616	1
5	LEA School	1616	Accelerated Learning Academy	05950	51235	1616	2
6	LEA School	1704	Armstrong Middle School	06282	51651	1704	1
7	LEA School	1704	Armstrong Middle School	06282	51652	1704	2
8	LEA School	1674	Bendle/Carman-Ainsworth Alternative Education	07710	51359	1674	1
9	LEA School	1674	Bendle/Carman-Ainsworth Alternative Education	07710	51360	1674	2
10	LEA School	10601	Brownell STEM Academy	01916	74427	10601	1
11	LEA School	10601	Brownell STEM Academy	01916	74428	10601	2
12	LEA School	11194	Carman Park-Baker Career Academy	02790	75766	11194	1
13	LEA School	11194	Carman Park-Baker Career Academy	02790	75765	11194	2
14	LEA School	1688	Carman-Ainsworth High School	05009	51373	1688	1
15	LEA School	1688	Carman-Ainsworth High School	05009	51374	1688	2
16	LEA School	1684	Carman-Ainsworth Middle School	00031	51303	1684	1
17	LEA School	1684	Carman-Ainsworth Middle School	00031	51304	1684	2
18	LEA School	1743	Colonel Donald McMonagle Elementary School	05928	51616	1743	1
19	LEA School	1743	Colonel Donald McMonagle Elementary School	05928	51617	1743	2
20	LEA School	1630	Doyle/Ryder School	03129	51246	1630	1
21	LEA School	1630	Doyle/Ryder School	03129	51247	1630	2
22	LEA School	1651	Durant Tuuri Mott School	00974	51267	1651	1
23	LEA School	1651	Durant Tuuri Mott School	00974	51268	1651	2
24	LEA School	1682	Dye Elementary School	00980	51369	1682	1
25	LEA School	1682	Dye Elementary School	00980	51370	1682	2
26	LEA School	1648	Eisenhower School	01098	51264	1648	1
27	LEA School	1648	Eisenhower School	01098	51265	1648	2
28	LEA School	1646	Freeman School	01320	51197	1646	1
29	LEA School	1646	Freeman School	01320	51198	1646	2
30	LEA School	10531	Gateway to College-Mott Community College	01795	74278	10531	1
31	LEA School	10531	Gateway to College-Mott Community College	01795	74279	10531	2
32	LEA School	7913	Genesee Early College	09774	65104	7913	1
33	LEA School	7913	Genesee Early College	09774	65061	7913	2
34	LEA School	1742	Hamady Community High School	06235	51469	1742	1
35	LEA School	1742	Hamady Community High School	06235	51470	1742	2
36	LEA School	1741	Hamady Middle School	01543	51467	1741	1
37	LEA School	1741	Hamady Middle School	01543	51468	1741	2
38	LEA School	10602	Holmes STEM Academy	01917	74430	10602	1
39	LEA School	10602	Holmes STEM Academy	01917	74429	10602	2
40	LEA School	1698	Kate Dowdall Elementary School	00949	51387	1698	1
41	LEA School	1698	Kate Dowdall Elementary School	00949	51388	1698	2
42	LEA School	1701	Kearsley High School	01993	51645	1701	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
1	AddressTypeCode	Street	AddressLine2	City	State	Zip4	EffDate	MapURL
2	Mailing	3223 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485041247	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
3	Physical	3400 N Jennings Rd		Flint	MI	485041757	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
4	Mailing	G2138 W. Carpenter Road		FLINT	MI	485051977	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
5	Physical	G2138 W. Carpenter Road		Flint	MI	485051977	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
6	Mailing	G-6161 HOPKINS RD		FLINT	MI	48506	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
7	Physical	6161 HOPKINS RD # G		FLINT	MI	485061657	5/19/2011 11:51:33 AM	No Map Found
8	Mailing	G-3493 BEVERIDGE RD		FLINT	MI	48532	10/1/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
9	Physical	3493 Beveridge Rd # G		Flint	MI	48532	10/1/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
10	Mailing	6302 OXLEY DR		FLINT	MI	485041698	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
11	Physical	6302 Oxley Dr		Flint	MI	485041698	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
12	Mailing	3375 Van Campen Rd		Flint	MI	48507	6/25/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
13	Physical	3375 Van Campen Rd		Flint	MI	48507	6/25/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
14	Mailing	1300 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485322366	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
15	Physical	1300 NORTH LINDEN RD		FLINT	MI	485322341	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
16	Mailing	1409 WEST MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485075699	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
17	Physical	1409 WEST MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485075613	5/19/2011 11:53:45 AM	No Map Found
18	Mailing	3484 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
19	Physical	3484 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757	5/19/2011 11:51:47 AM	No Map Found
20	Mailing	1040 NORTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485031736	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
21	Physical	1040 NORTH SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485031736	5/19/2011 11:54:06 AM	No Map Found
22	Mailing	1518 UNIVERSITY AVE		FLINT	MI	485046208	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
23	Physical	1518 UNIVERSITY AVE		FLINT	MI	485046208	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
24	Mailing	1174 SOUTH GRAHAM RD		FLINT	MI	485323562	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
25	Physical	1174 SOUTH GRAHAM RD		FLINT	MI	485323533	5/19/2011 11:53:18 AM	No Map Found
26	Mailing	1235 PERSHING ST		FLINT	MI	485033533	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
27	Physical	1235 PERSHING ST		FLINT	MI	485033533	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
28	Mailing	4001 OGEMA AVE		FLINT	MI	485072887	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
29	Physical	4001 OGEMA AVE		FLINT	MI	485072887	5/19/2011 11:54:24 AM	No Map Found
30	Mailing	923 E KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485031974	2/5/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
31	Physical	1401 E Court St		Flint	MI	485032089	2/5/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
32	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
33	Physical	2413 W Maple Ave		Flint	MI	48507	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
34	Mailing	G-3223 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	48504	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
35	Physical	3223 WEST CARPENTER RD # G		FLINT	MI	485041247	5/19/2011 11:52:39 AM	No Map Found
36	Mailing	G-3223 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	48504	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
37	Physical	3223 WEST CARPENTER RD # G		FLINT	MI	485041247	5/19/2011 11:52:40 AM	No Map Found
38	Mailing	6602 OXLEY DR		FLINT	MI	485041674	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
39	Physical	6602 Oxley Dr		Flint	MI	485041674	5/15/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
40	Mailing	3333 SHILLELAGH DR		FLINT	MI	48506	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
41	Physical	3333 SHILLELAGH DR		FLINT	MI	485062246	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
42	Mailing	G-4302 UNDERHILL DR		FLINT	MI	48506	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
1	AddressTypeName	XLocation	YLocation	Latitude	Longitude	USCongressionalDistrict	MISSenateDistrict	MIHouseDistrict	CGIStatusDate
2	Mailing								
3	Physical	682847.8683	280645.7794	43.05429601	-83.75283278	5	27	49	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
4	Mailing								
5	Physical	685485.0809	283059.2749	43.07537287	-83.71964447	5	27	34	2/16/2015 12:42:41 PM
6	Mailing								
7	Physical	695951.4996	283828.1288	43.07963205	-83.59087384	5	27	48	5/19/2011 11:51:33 AM
8	Mailing								
9	Physical	683206.8885	274037.4649	42.99472586	-83.75062424	5	27	49	12/1/2012 12:00:00 AM
10	Mailing								
11	Physical	684757.797	282346.7266	43.06913831	-83.72881883	5	27	34	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
12	Mailing								
13	Physical	687355.7367	272274.3877	42.97783367	-83.70034397	5	27	49	6/25/2015 2:08:53 PM
14	Mailing								
15	Physical	681274.409	277335.634	43.02464487	-83.7730952	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
16	Mailing								
17	Physical	686841.6851	269757.4285	42.95530569	-83.70750238	5	14	50	5/19/2011 11:53:45 AM
18	Mailing								
19	Physical	682839	281045.1	43.05516364	-83.75284113	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:51:47 AM
20	Mailing								
21	Physical	687789.9	277474.6	43.02552676	-83.6933395	5	27	34	5/19/2011 11:54:06 AM
22	Mailing								
23	Physical	686397.4514	276338.7424	43.014655	-83.71072298	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
24	Mailing								
25	Physical	682529.0348	276096.7463	43.01342699	-83.75825441	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:53:18 AM
26	Mailing								
27	Physical	686559.0213	275144.9047	43.00386911	-83.70914516	5	27	49	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM
28	Mailing								
29	Physical	690548.8	273387.2	42.98741964	-83.66088539	5	27	34	5/19/2011 11:54:24 AM
30	Mailing								
31	Physical	689637.4845	276839.188	43.018348	-83.670809	5	27	49	3/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
32	Mailing								
33	Physical	685162.28	270103.8	42.958839	-83.727966	5	14	50	6/1/2012 12:00:00 AM
34	Mailing								
35	Physical	683677.2	282991.7	43.07525532	-83.74195061	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:52:39 AM
36	Mailing								
37	Physical	683657.025	282723.5105	43.07280012	-83.74220722	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:52:40 AM
38	Mailing								
39	Physical	684753.6416	282513.0083	43.07063603	-83.72881398	5	27	34	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
40	Mailing								
41	Physical	695085.4057	281263.6304	43.05677608	-83.602417	5	27	48	7/26/2011 10:33:59 AM
42	Mailing								





	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
43	LEA School	1701	Kearsley High School	01993	51646	1701	2
44	LEA School	1699	Leota Fiedler Elementary School	01230	51389	1699	1
45	LEA School	1699	Leota Fiedler Elementary School	01230	51390	1699	2
46	LEA School	11161	Milton E. Tucker Middle School	02745	75700	11161	1
47	LEA School	11161	Milton E. Tucker Middle School	02745	75699	11161	2
48	LEA School	1611	Mott Middle College High School	07576	51155	1611	1
49	LEA School	1611	Mott Middle College High School	07576	51156	1611	2
50	LEA School	1632	Neithercut Elementary School	02670	51250	1632	1
51	LEA School	1632	Neithercut Elementary School	02670	51251	1632	2
52	LEA School	1628	Northwestern High School	02777	51173	1628	1
53	LEA School	1628	Northwestern High School	02777	51174	1628	2
54	LEA School	1629	Pierce School	03033	51175	1629	1
55	LEA School	1629	Pierce School	03033	51176	1629	2
56	LEA School	1631	Potter School	03108	51248	1631	1
57	LEA School	1631	Potter School	03108	51249	1631	2
58	LEA School	1686	Randels Elementary School	03147	51307	1686	1
59	LEA School	1686	Randels Elementary School	03147	51308	1686	2
60	LEA School	1624	Southwestern Classical Academy	03554	51242	1624	1
61	LEA School	1624	Southwestern Classical Academy	03554	51243	1624	2
62	Other Non-School Recipient	10501	Alpha Montessori School	990002480	74218	10501	1
63	Other Non-School Recipient	10501	Alpha Montessori School	990002480	74219	10501	2
64	Other Non-School Recipient	9639	Alutiiq Professional Services, LLC	990000250	72194	9639	1
65	Other Non-School Recipient	9639	Alutiiq Professional Services, LLC	990000250	72195	9639	2
66	Other Non-School Recipient	8175	BERRY CHILD CARE CENTER	250000041	66053	8175	1
67	Other Non-School Recipient	8175	BERRY CHILD CARE CENTER	250000041	69911	8175	2
68	Other Non-School Recipient	9420	BRIDONS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER I	25SPX0025	71682	9420	1
69	Other Non-School Recipient	9420	BRIDONS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER I	25SPX0025	71616	9420	2
70	Other Non-School Recipient	8233	CASTILLO ENTERPRISE LLC	250000072	66111	8233	1
71	Other Non-School Recipient	8233	CASTILLO ENTERPRISE LLC	250000072	69964	8233	2
72	Other Non-School Recipient	9469	Children First Child Care Center Corp.	990000160	71808	9469	1
73	Other Non-School Recipient	9469	Children First Child Care Center Corp.	990000160	71809	9469	2
74	Other Non-School Recipient	9083	Connexion, Incorporated	990000070	70790	9083	1
75	Other Non-School Recipient	9083	Connexion, Incorporated	990000070	70791	9083	2
76	Other Non-School Recipient	10861	Eagles Nest Academy	990004408	75056	10861	1
77	Other Non-School Recipient	10861	Eagles Nest Academy	990004408	75057	10861	2
78	Other Non-School Recipient	9010	Eagle's Nest Child Care Center	25SPX0022	66888	9010	1
79	Other Non-School Recipient	9010	Eagle's Nest Child Care Center	25SPX0022	70692	9010	2
80	Other Non-School Recipient	10356	Flint Boy's and Girl's Preparatory Academy	990001945	73852	10356	1
81	Other Non-School Recipient	10356	Flint Boy's and Girl's Preparatory Academy	990001945	73853	10356	2
82	Other Non-School Recipient	9511	Flint Institute of Music	250005113	71893	9511	1
83	Other Non-School Recipient	9511	Flint Institute of Music	250005113	71894	9511	2
84	Other Non-School Recipient	8357	FOOD BANK OF EASTERN MICHIGAN INC	250000066	66235	8357	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
43	Physical	4302 UNDERHILL DR # G		FLINT	MI	485061534	5/19/2011 11:51:35 AM	No Map Found
44	Mailing	6317 NIGHTINGALE DR		FLINT	MI	48506	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
45	Physical	6317 NIGHTINGALE DR		FLINT	MI	485061714	5/19/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
46	Mailing	1020 W COLDWATER RD		FLINT	MI	485054831	5/28/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
47	Physical	G5159 Summit Street		Flint	MI	485051429	5/28/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
48	Mailing	1401 EAST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485036208	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
49	Physical	1401 EAST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485036208	5/19/2011 11:54:31 AM	No Map Found
50	Mailing	2010 CRESTBROOK LN		FLINT	MI	48507	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
51	Physical	2010 CRESTBROOK LN		FLINT	MI	48507	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
52	Mailing	G2138 WEST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485051977	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
53	Physical	G2138 WEST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485051977	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
54	Mailing	1101 WEST VERNON DR		FLINT	MI	485032840	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
55	Physical	1101 WEST VERNON DR		FLINT	MI	485032840	5/19/2011 11:54:28 AM	No Map Found
56	Mailing	2500 NORTH AVERILL AVE		FLINT	MI	485063010	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
57	Physical	2500 NORTH AVERILL AVE		FLINT	MI	485063010	5/19/2011 11:54:05 AM	No Map Found
58	Mailing	6022 BROBECK ST		FLINT	MI	485324006	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
59	Physical	6022 BROBECK ST		FLINT	MI	485324006	5/19/2011 11:53:44 AM	No Map Found
60	Mailing	1420 WEST 12TH ST		FLINT	MI	485071425	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
61	Physical	1420 WEST 12TH ST		FLINT	MI	485071425	6/7/2010 1:48:55 PM	No Map Found
62	Mailing	310 E 3RD ST		FLINT	MI	485021711	1/17/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
63	Physical	310 E 3rd St		Flint	MI	485021711	1/17/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
64	Mailing	2400 N SAGINAW ST		FLINT	MI	485054442	9/21/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
65	Physical	2400 N. Saginaw St.		Flint	MI	48505	5/19/2011 10:22:08 AM	No Map Found
66	Mailing	KATHRYN BERRY	617 HEMPHILL RD	FLINT	MI	48507	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
67	Physical	KATHRYN BERRY	617 HEMPHILL RD	FLINT	MI	48507	5/19/2011 10:20:32 AM	No Map Found
68	Mailing	817 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485032076	5/27/2009 8:25:38 AM	No Map Found
69	Physical	817 EAST KEARSLEY ST	SUITE 3C	FLINT	MI	485032076	5/19/2011 10:26:05 AM	No Map Found
70	Mailing	BRIGHT BEGINNINGS LEARNING	G3393 CLIO RD	FLINT	MI	48504	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
71	Physical	BRIGHT BEGINNINGS LEARNING	G3393 CLIO RD	FLINT	MI	48504	5/19/2011 10:20:24 AM	No Map Found
72	Mailing	1081 HOURAN ST		FLINT	MI	485323630	6/1/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
73	Physical	1081 HOURAN ST		FLINT	MI	485323630	5/19/2011 10:24:29 AM	No Map Found
74	Mailing	1110 ELDON BAKER DR		FLINT	MI	485071923	5/4/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
75	Physical	1110 ELDON BAKER DR		FLINT	MI	485071923	5/19/2011 10:28:10 AM	No Map Found
76	Mailing	5005 CLOVERLAWN DR		FLINT	MI	485042084	3/5/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
77	Physical	5005 Cloverlawn Dr		Flint	MI	485042084	3/5/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
78	Mailing	6103 EAGLE RIDGE LN		FLINT	MI	485056740	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
79	Physical	6103 Eagle Ridge Ln		Flint	MI	485056740	6/3/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
80	Mailing	1185 E FOSS AVE		FLINT	MI	485052324	8/15/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
81	Physical	1185 E Foss Ave		Flint	MI	485052324	8/15/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
82	Mailing	1025 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485031922	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
83	Physical	1025 EAST KEARSLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485031922	5/19/2011 10:23:33 AM	No Map Found
84	Mailing	2312 LAPEER RD		FLINT	MI	485034221	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found



	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
43	2	Validated by CGI	0120081	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
44									8:59:42 AM
45	2	Validated by CGI	0120091	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
46									8:59:42 AM
47	2	Validated by CGI	0103044	55980	049	Genesee	04500		8:59:42 AM
48									8:59:42 AM
49	2	Validated by CGI	0030001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
50									8:59:42 AM
51	2	Validated by CGI	0135005		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
52									8:59:42 AM
53	2	Validated by CGI	0103043		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
54									8:59:42 AM
55	2	Validated by CGI	0030003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
56									8:59:42 AM
57	2	Validated by CGI	0027002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
58									8:59:42 AM
59	2	Validated by CGI	0108134	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
60									8:59:42 AM
61	2	Validated by CGI	0135002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
62									8:59:42 AM
63	2	Validated by CGI	0028002	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
64									8:59:42 AM
65	2	Validated by CGI	0136001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
66	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
67	2	Validated by CGI	0035002		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
68									8:59:42 AM
69	2	Validated by CGI	0029001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
70	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
71	2	Validated by CGI							8:59:42 AM
72									8:59:42 AM
73	2	Validated by CGI	0109112	29020	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
74									8:59:42 AM
75	2	Validated by CGI	0033002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
76									8:59:42 AM
77	2	Validated by CGI	0005001	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
78	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
79	2	Validated by CGI	0017002		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
80									8:59:42 AM
81	2	Validated by CGI	0017002	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
82	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM
83	2	Validated by CGI	0029001	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
84	1	Not Called							8:59:42 AM

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
85	Other Non-School Recipient	8357	FOOD BANK OF EASTERN MICHIGAN INC	250000066	70086	8357	2
86	Other Non-School Recipient	10918	Genesee Area Focus Fund, Inc.	990004592	75169	10918	1
87	Other Non-School Recipient	10918	Genesee Area Focus Fund, Inc.	990004592	75170	10918	2
88	Other Non-School Recipient	8418	GENESEE CHRISTIAN DAY CARE	250000018	66296	8418	1
89	Other Non-School Recipient	8418	GENESEE CHRISTIAN DAY CARE	250000018	70146	8418	2
90	Other Non-School Recipient	8603	Genesee County Community Action Resource Department	250000016	66481	8603	1
91	Other Non-School Recipient	8603	Genesee County Community Action Resource Department	250000016	70326	8603	2
92	Other Non-School Recipient	11125	Genesee ISD Head Start	990005280	75627	11125	1
93	Other Non-School Recipient	11125	Genesee ISD Head Start	990005280	75628	11125	2
94	Other Non-School Recipient	9120	Genesee Valley Regional Center	250008005	70972	9120	1
95	Other Non-School Recipient	9120	Genesee Valley Regional Center	250008005	70898	9120	2
96	Other Non-School Recipient	8386	GLORIAS LITTLE ANGELS INC	25SPX0011	66264	8386	1
97	Other Non-School Recipient	8386	GLORIAS LITTLE ANGELS INC	25SPX0011	70114	8386	2
98	Other Non-School Recipient	8317	GREAT LAKES FIELD SERVICES-DAUCH SCOUT CENTER	82SC07500	66195	8317	1
99	Other Non-School Recipient	8317	GREAT LAKES FIELD SERVICES-DAUCH SCOUT CENTER	82SC07500	70046	8317	2
100	Other Non-School Recipient	9903	HJ&G LLC, Bright Beginnings	990001001	72846	9903	1
101	Other Non-School Recipient	9903	HJ&G LLC, Bright Beginnings	990001001	72847	9903	2
102	Other Non-School Recipient	9750	Honey Bee Palace Child Care Center, Inc.	990000662	72484	9750	1
103	Other Non-School Recipient	9750	Honey Bee Palace Child Care Center, Inc.	990000662	72485	9750	2
104	Other Non-School Recipient	9190	Jireh Outreach Ministries Int	990000089	70997	9190	1
105	Other Non-School Recipient	9190	Jireh Outreach Ministries Int	990000089	70998	9190	2
106	Other Non-School Recipient	8462	KIDDIE KAT CHILDRENS CENTER LLC	25SPX0006	66340	8462	1
107	Other Non-School Recipient	8462	KIDDIE KAT CHILDRENS CENTER LLC	25SPX0006	70190	8462	2
108	Other Non-School Recipient	11039	KIDDIE TIME CHILDCARE CENTER	990004905	75431	11039	1
109	Other Non-School Recipient	11039	KIDDIE TIME CHILDCARE CENTER	990004905	75432	11039	2
110	Other Non-School Recipient	8503	LAZY LEOPARD-FLINT DAY CARE CENTER	250000001	66381	8503	1
111	Other Non-School Recipient	8503	LAZY LEOPARD-FLINT DAY CARE CENTER	250000001	70229	8503	2
112	Other Non-School Recipient	10559	Lifetime Learning Incorporated	990002690	74337	10559	1
113	Other Non-School Recipient	10559	Lifetime Learning Incorporated	990002690	74338	10559	2
114	Other Non-School Recipient	9739	Living Word Ministry Enrichment	990000653	72458	9739	1
115	Other Non-School Recipient	9739	Living Word Ministry Enrichment	990000653	72459	9739	2
116	Other Non-School Recipient	8542	MARY MCGEE	250000038	66420	8542	1
117	Other Non-School Recipient	8542	MARY MCGEE	250000038	70267	8542	2
118	Other Non-School Recipient	11150	Michigan Crossroads Council, Inc., Boy Scouts of America	990005379	75677	11150	1
119	Other Non-School Recipient	11150	Michigan Crossroads Council, Inc., Boy Scouts of America	990005379	75678	11150	2
120	Other Non-School Recipient	9547	Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health	990000208	71960	9547	1
121	Other Non-School Recipient	9547	Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health	990000208	75347	9547	2
122	Other Non-School Recipient	8596	Michigan School for the Deaf and Blind	253300000	66474	8596	1
123	Other Non-School Recipient	8596	Michigan School for the Deaf and Blind	253300000	70319	8596	2
124	Other Non-School Recipient	8562	MIRIAM D CLEMONS/SAND CASTLES	250000060	66440	8562	1
125	Other Non-School Recipient	8562	MIRIAM D CLEMONS/SAND CASTLES	250000060	70286	8562	2
126	Other Non-School Recipient	9857	Motherly Intercession	990000918	72754	9857	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
85	Physical	2312 LAPEER RD		FLINT	MI	485034221	5/19/2011 10:34:23 AM	No Map Found
86	Mailing	519 S SAGINAW ST STE 200	Ste 200	FLINT	MI	485021815	5/16/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
87	Physical	519 S Saginaw St		Flint	MI	485021815	5/16/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
88	Mailing	MAIN OFFICE	G-3237 BEECHER ROAD	FLINT	MI	48532	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
89	Physical	MAIN OFFICE	G-3237 BEECHER ROAD	FLINT	MI	48532	5/19/2011 10:19:40 AM	No Map Found
90	Mailing	719 Harrison Street		Flint	MI	485021613	9/26/2008 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
91	Physical	719 HARRISON ST		FLINT	MI	485021613	5/19/2011 10:32:24 AM	No Map Found
92	Mailing	5075 PILGRIM RD		FLINT	MI	485073909	3/3/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
93	Physical	5075 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909	3/3/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
94	Mailing	4287 WEST PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042342	5/13/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
95	Physical	4287 WEST PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042342	5/19/2011 10:27:02 AM	No Map Found
96	Mailing	ATTN VENITA HILER	2440 LIPPINCOTT BLVD	FLINT	MI	48507	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
97	Physical	ATTN VENITA HILER	2440 LIPPINCOTT BLVD	FLINT	MI	48507	5/19/2011 10:19:46 AM	No Map Found
98	Mailing	1776 WEST WARREN AVE		DETROIT	MI	482082215	5/13/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
99	Physical	507 W Atherton Rd		Flint	MI	485072404	4/18/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
100	Mailing	G3393 Clio Rd		Flint	MI	48504	11/3/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
101	Physical	G3393 Clio Rd		Flint	MI	485041894	11/3/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
102	Mailing	642 E PIERSON RD		FLINT	MI	485053395	5/7/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
103	Physical	642 E Pierson Rd		Flint	MI	51900	5/19/2011 9:30:47 AM	No Map Found
104	Mailing	925 AVON ST		FLINT	MI	485032701	5/16/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
105	Physical	925 AVON ST		FLINT	MI	485032701	5/19/2011 10:26:50 AM	No Map Found
106	Mailing	5003 EAST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485064521	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
107	Physical	5003 EAST CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485064521	5/19/2011 10:33:32 AM	No Map Found
108	Mailing	915 S DORT HWY STE H		FLINT	MI	485032800	9/22/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
109	Physical	915 S Dort Hwy		Flint	MI	485032800	9/22/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
110	Mailing	930 EAST MYRTLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485055519	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
111	Physical	930 EAST MYRTLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485055519	5/19/2011 10:33:09 AM	No Map Found
112	Mailing	1726 Laurel Oak		Flint	MI	48507	3/4/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
113	Physical	1726 Laurel Oak		Flint	MI	485072211	3/4/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
114	Mailing	2001 w carpenter rd		flint	MI	48505	4/30/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
115	Physical	2001 W Carpenter Rd		Flint	MI	50479	5/19/2011 9:30:41 AM	No Map Found
116	Mailing	MS MARYS ECCC	G-5248 N SAGINAW	FLINT	MI	48505	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
117	Physical	MS MARYS ECCC	G-5248 N SAGINAW	FLINT	MI	48505	5/19/2011 10:19:12 AM	No Map Found
118	Mailing	507 West Atherton Road		Flint	MI	48507-2404	5/2/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
119	Physical	507 W Atherton Rd		Flint	MI	48507	5/2/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
120	Mailing	PO Box 25023		Lansing	MI	489095023	7/10/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
121	Physical	2015 Gold Ave		Flint	MI	485032133	8/12/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
122	Mailing	1235 WEST COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485035015	2/12/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
123	Physical	1235 W Court St		Flint	MI	485035015	2/12/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
124	Mailing	3129 CLIO RD		FLINT	MI	485047184	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
125	Physical	3129 CLIO RD		FLINT	MI	485047184	5/19/2011 10:32:43 AM	No Map Found
126	Mailing	817 E KEARSLEY ST	Suite #B	FLINT	MI	485032076	9/11/2010 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
85	Physical	690348.5	275849	43.00923933	-83.66508447	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:34:23 AM
86	Mailing								
87	Physical	688057.0838	276508.8792	43.01577271	-83.69030789	5	27	49	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
88	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
89	Physical	680063.7	275936.1	43.01258	-83.78854	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:19:40 AM
90	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
91	Physical	688297.4	276383.4	43.01454305	-83.68743705	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:32:24 AM
92	Mailing								
93	Physical	685653.0333	269833.2597	42.95628262	-83.72204312	5	14	50	3/1/2015 12:00:00 AM
94	Mailing								
95	Physical	682279.2	279691.2	43.04588466	-83.76010635	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:27:02 AM
96	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
97	Physical	685898.2	270770.6	43.0036284	-83.6521503	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:19:46 AM
98	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
99	Physical	688927.9349	273530.94	42.98874997	-83.68064597	5	27	34	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
100	Mailing								
101	Physical	684503.4622	279790.4107	43.046191	-83.732799	5	27	34	9/1/2010 12:00:00 AM
102	Mailing								
103	Physical	687572.5	281497.6	43.06084342	-83.69563539	5	27	34	5/19/2011 9:30:47 AM
104	Mailing								
105	Physical	689138.6	276568.4	43.01599595	-83.67705509	5	27	49	5/19/2011 10:26:50 AM
106	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
107	Physical	694320	284318.2	43.08434795	-83.61669073	5	27	48	5/19/2011 10:33:32 AM
108	Mailing								
109	Physical	690973.0485	276838.8328	43.01800697	-83.65442631	5	27	34	12/1/2014 12:00:00 AM
110	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
111	Physical	688020.9	280466.8	43.05146936	-83.68843922	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:33:09 AM
112	Mailing								
113	Physical	686849.1431	272837.0035	42.98302345	-83.70636886	5	27	49	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
114	Mailing								
115	Physical	684775.2	282991.3	43.07497851	-83.72841952	5	27	34	5/19/2011 9:30:41 AM
116	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
117	Physical	687671.2	282234.9	43.06741	-83.69308	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:19:12 AM
118	Mailing								
119	Physical	688927.9349	273530.94	42.98874997	-83.68064597	5	27	34	6/1/2015 12:00:00 AM
120	Mailing								
121	Physical	690182.6395	277503.0049	43.02418556	-83.66389268	5	27	34	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
122	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
123	Physical	687300.4209	275504.2638	43.00691923	-83.69993064	5	27	49	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
124	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
125	Physical	684513.1	279487.4	43.04469901	-83.73275911	5	27	34	5/19/2011 10:32:43 AM
126	Mailing								

[illegible]



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
127	Other Non-School Recipient	9857	Motherly Intercession	990000918	72755	9857	2
128	Other Non-School Recipient	9986	Mott Community College	990001218	73041	9986	1
129	Other Non-School Recipient	9986	Mott Community College	990001218	73042	9986	2
130	Other Non-School Recipient	9936	Positive Start Child and Development Center	990001106	72937	9936	1
131	Other Non-School Recipient	9936	Positive Start Child and Development Center	990001106	72938	9936	2
132	Other Non-School Recipient	8794	SHELTER OF FLINT INC	25SPX0003	66672	8794	1
133	Other Non-School Recipient	8794	SHELTER OF FLINT INC	25SPX0003	70495	8794	2
134	Other Non-School Recipient	8803	SOUTH FLINT TABERNACLE INC	250000058	66681	8803	1
135	Other Non-School Recipient	8803	SOUTH FLINT TABERNACLE INC	250000058	70503	8803	2
136	Other Non-School Recipient	9538	SUNNY PATCH LEARNING CENTER, LLC	990000204	71943	9538	1
137	Other Non-School Recipient	9538	SUNNY PATCH LEARNING CENTER, LLC	990000204	71944	9538	2
138	Other Non-School Recipient	8845	TALL PINE COUNCIL	25SC04500	66723	8845	1
139	Other Non-School Recipient	8845	TALL PINE COUNCIL	25SC04500	70543	8845	2
140	Other Non-School Recipient	9978	T-Care's Daycare	990001202	73024	9978	1
141	Other Non-School Recipient	9978	T-Care's Daycare	990001202	73025	9978	2
142	Other Non-School Recipient	8882	U OF M EARLY CHILDHOOD DEV. CENTER	810000039	66760	8882	1
143	Other Non-School Recipient	8882	U OF M EARLY CHILDHOOD DEV. CENTER	810000039	70580	8882	2
144	Other Non-School Recipient	11104	uniquely created children's center Llc	990005147	75564	11104	1
145	Other Non-School Recipient	11104	uniquely created children's center Llc	990005147	75565	11104	2
146	Other Non-School Recipient	10151	village childcare Academy	990001417	73411	10151	1
147	Other Non-School Recipient	10151	village childcare Academy	990001417	73412	10151	2
148	Other Non-School Recipient	10352	Wayne L. Rankins Preschool	990001939	73844	10352	1
149	Other Non-School Recipient	10352	Wayne L. Rankins Preschool	990001939	73845	10352	2
150	Other Non-School Recipient	8908	WEE LITTLE QUACKERS CHILD CARE CTR	25SPX0014	66786	8908	1
151	Other Non-School Recipient	8908	WEE LITTLE QUACKERS CHILD CARE CTR	25SPX0014	70606	8908	2
152	Other Non-School Recipient	9176	Whaley Children's Center	250008002	70962	9176	1
153	Other Non-School Recipient	9176	Whaley Children's Center	250008002	70887	9176	2
154	Higher Education College/University	5061	Baker College Center f/Graduate Studies	08272	58755	5061	1
155	Higher Education College/University	5061	Baker College Center f/Graduate Studies	08272	58756	5061	2
156	Higher Education College/University	5060	Baker College Corporate Services	08271	58753	5060	1
157	Higher Education College/University	5060	Baker College Corporate Services	08271	58754	5060	2
158	Higher Education College/University	5029	Baker College of Flint	06551	58721	5029	1
159	Higher Education College/University	5029	Baker College of Flint	06551	58722	5029	2
160	Higher Education College/University	8008	Baker College Online	09862	65426	8008	1
161	Higher Education College/University	8008	Baker College Online	09862	65427	8008	2
162	Higher Education College/University	8007	Baker College System Office	09861	65424	8007	1
163	Higher Education College/University	8007	Baker College System Office	09861	65425	8007	2
164	Higher Education College/University	8017	Davenport University - Flint	09871	65436	8017	1
165	Higher Education College/University	8017	Davenport University - Flint	09871	65437	8017	2
166	Higher Education College/University	4952	Detroit College of Business-Flint	04776	58629	4952	1
167	Higher Education College/University	4952	Detroit College of Business-Flint	04776	58630	4952	2
168	Higher Education College/University	4976	Kettering University	05114	58600	4976	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
127	Physical	817 E Kearsley St		Flint	MI	485032076	5/19/2011 9:26:46 AM	No Map Found
128	Mailing	1401 E COURT ST		FLINT	MI	485032089	5/11/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
129	Physical	1401 E Court St		Flint	MI	485032089	7/18/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
130	Mailing	3500 W PASADENA AVE		FLINT	MI	485042353	2/15/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
131	Physical	3500 W Pasadena Ave		Flint	MI	485042353	5/19/2011 9:23:22 AM	No Map Found
132	Mailing	924 Cedar Street		Flint	MI	48503	9/4/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
133	Physical	924 Cedar Street		Flint	MI	485033620	9/4/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
134	Mailing	DAYSTAR CHILDCARE CENTER	PO BOX 7008	FLINT	MI	48507	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
135	Physical	DAYSTAR CHILDCARE CENTER	PO BOX 7008	FLINT	MI	485070008	5/19/2011 10:18:37 AM	No Map Found
136	Mailing	1160 DONALDSON BLVD		FLINT	MI	485043217	7/6/2009 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
137	Physical	1160 DONALDSON BLVD		FLINT	MI	485043217	5/19/2011 10:23:15 AM	No Map Found
138	Mailing	BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA	507 W ATHERTON ROAD	FLINT	MI	48507	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
139	Physical	BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA	507 W ATHERTON ROAD	FLINT	MI	48507	5/19/2011 10:18:24 AM	No Map Found
140	Mailing	5711 Fleming Rd		Flint	MI	48504	4/29/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
141	Physical	5711 Fleming Rd		Flint	MI	485045002	7/17/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
142	Mailing	303 EAST KEARSLEY 1313 WSW		FLINT	MI	485020000	9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM	No Map Found
143	Physical	509 Harrison St		Flint	MI	485021715	5/19/2011 9:29:52 AM	No Map Found
144	Mailing	2040 W CARPENTER RD		FLINT	MI	485051908	11/26/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
145	Physical	2040 w carpenter rd		flint	MI	485051908	11/26/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
146	Mailing	G4544 BEECHER RD		FLINT	MI	48532	10/9/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
147	Physical	G4544 BEECHER RD		FLINT	MI	48532	10/9/2011 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
148	Mailing	6436 BRAY RD		FLINT	MI	485051813	8/14/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
149	Physical	6436 Bray Rd		Flint	MI	485051813	8/14/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
150	Mailing	4406 LENNON RD		FLINT	MI	48507	10/18/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
151	Physical	4406 Lennon Rd		Flint	MI	485071029	10/18/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
152	Mailing	1201 NORTH GRAND TRAVERSE ST		FLINT	MI	485031312	5/13/2009 9:11:38 AM	No Map Found
153	Physical	1201 NORTH GRAND TRAVERSE ST		FLINT	MI	485031312	5/19/2011 10:27:10 AM	No Map Found
154	Mailing	1116 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075518	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
155	Physical	1116 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075518	5/19/2011 11:08:01 AM	No Map Found
156	Mailing	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
157	Physical	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	5/19/2011 11:08:01 AM	No Map Found
158	Mailing	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
159	Physical	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	5/19/2011 11:08:15 AM	No Map Found
160	Mailing	1116 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075518	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
161	Physical	1116 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075518	5/19/2011 10:40:57 AM	No Map Found
162	Mailing	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
163	Physical	1050 WEST BRISTOL RD		FLINT	MI	485075516	5/19/2011 10:40:58 AM	No Map Found
164	Mailing	4318 MILLER RD STE A		FLINT	MI	485071267	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
165	Physical	4318 MILLER RD STE A		FLINT	MI	485071267	5/19/2011 10:40:54 AM	No Map Found
166	Mailing	3488 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
167	Physical	3488 NORTH JENNINGS RD		FLINT	MI	485041757	5/19/2011 11:08:50 AM	No Map Found
168	Mailing	1700 UNIVERSITY AVE		FLINT	MI	485046214	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
127	Physical	688709.8	277146.1	43.021008	-83.68268		5	27	49 5/19/2011 9:26:46 AM
128	Mailing								
129	Physical	689637.4845	276839.188	43.01834848	-83.6708089		5	27	49 9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
130	Mailing								
131	Physical	683591.4	279781.1	43.04628852	-83.74400614		5	27	49 5/19/2011 9:23:22 AM
132	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
133	Physical	687438.9474	275569.8441	43.00747544	-83.69820423		5	27	49 9/4/2014 2:34:33 PM
134	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
135	Physical	685898.2	270770.6	42.96466	-83.71872		5	27	49 5/19/2011 10:18:37 AM
136	Mailing								
137	Physical	684574.5	277603.4	43.02623129	-83.73295366		5	27	34 5/19/2011 10:23:15 AM
138	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
139	Physical	685898.2	270770.6	42.98875	-83.680646		5	27	34 5/19/2011 10:18:24 AM
140	Mailing								
141	Physical	685166.4677	281884.5932	43.06487788	-83.72395718		5	27	34 9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
142	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
143	Physical	688153.5	276594.5	43.01647344	-83.68912579		5	27	49 5/19/2011 9:29:52 AM
144	Mailing								
145	Physical	684740.3528	283025.1642	43.07524921	-83.72880504		5	27	49 12/1/2014 12:00:00 AM
146	Mailing								
147	Physical	681937.7488	277941.1174	43.03017212	-83.76489796		5	27	49 12/1/2014 12:00:00 AM
148	Mailing								
149	Physical	690539.7186	286074.0701	43.10124061	-83.65654448		5	27	48 12/1/2012 12:00:00 AM
150	Mailing								9/26/2008 10:30:31 AM
151	Physical	681822.0186	273192.514	42.987457	-83.767885		5	27	49 9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
152	Mailing								
153	Physical	686838.1	277483.8	43.02444284	-83.70452604		5	27	34 5/19/2011 10:27:10 AM
154	Mailing								
155	Physical	687610.6	271629.1	42.97412109	-83.69694496		5	27	49 5/19/2011 11:08:01 AM
156	Mailing								
157	Physical	687872.8	271637.5	42.97416176	-83.6945084		5	27	49 5/19/2011 11:08:01 AM
158	Mailing								
159	Physical	687872.8	271637.5	42.97416176	-83.6945084		5	27	49 5/19/2011 11:08:15 AM
160	Mailing								
161	Physical	687610.6	271629.1	42.97412109	-83.69694496		5	27	49 5/19/2011 10:40:57 AM
162	Mailing								
163	Physical	687872.8	271637.5	42.97416176	-83.6945084		5	27	49 5/19/2011 10:40:58 AM
164	Mailing								
165	Physical	682167.1	272284.2	42.97915519	-83.76393644		5	27	49 5/19/2011 10:40:54 AM
166	Mailing								
167	Physical	682839.1	281040.2	43.05520496	-83.75284154		5	27	49 5/19/2011 11:08:50 AM
168	Mailing								

[illegible]

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
169	Higher Education College/University	4976	Kettering University	05114	58601	4976	2
170	Higher Education College/University	4959	Mott Community College	04863	58578	4959	1
171	Higher Education College/University	4959	Mott Community College	04863	58579	4959	2
172	Higher Education College/University	5023	University of Michigan - Flint	05684	58838	5023	1
173	Higher Education College/University	5023	University of Michigan - Flint	05684	58839	5023	2
174	LEA Unique Education Provider	11162	Beecher Adult Education Center	02746	75702	11162	1
175	LEA Unique Education Provider	11162	Beecher Adult Education Center	02746	75701	11162	2
176	LEA Unique Education Provider	11028	Genesee County Jail	02564	75405	11028	1
177	LEA Unique Education Provider	11028	Genesee County Jail	02564	75406	11028	2
178	LEA Unique Education Provider	11029	Genesee Valley Regional Center	02565	75408	11029	1
179	LEA Unique Education Provider	11029	Genesee Valley Regional Center	02565	75407	11029	2
180	LEA Unique Education Provider	7449	Northwestern Early Childhood Education Center	09347	63960	7449	1
181	LEA Unique Education Provider	7449	Northwestern Early Childhood Education Center	09347	63961	7449	2
182	LEA Unique Education Provider	1690	Stalker Elementary	09054	51379	1690	1
183	LEA Unique Education Provider	1690	Stalker Elementary	09054	51380	1690	2
184	LEA Unique Education Provider	1683	The Learning Community	01220	51371	1683	1
185	LEA Unique Education Provider	1683	The Learning Community	01220	51372	1683	2
186	LEA Unique Education Provider	6561	Thelma Buffey Early Childhood Center	08935	62414	6561	1
187	LEA Unique Education Provider	6561	Thelma Buffey Early Childhood Center	08935	62415	6561	2
188	PSA School	10944	Eagle's Nest Academy	02434	75226	10944	1
189	PSA School	10944	Eagle's Nest Academy	02434	75225	10944	2
190	PSA School	10699	Genesee STEM Academy	02031	74635	10699	1
191	PSA School	10699	Genesee STEM Academy	02031	74634	10699	2
192	PSA School	10573	Greater Heights Academy	01751	74368	10573	1
193	PSA School	10573	Greater Heights Academy	01751	74367	10573	2
194	PSA School	268	International Academy of Flint (K-12)	08732	53646	268	1
195	PSA School	268	International Academy of Flint (K-12)	08732	53647	268	2
196	PSA School	271	Linden Charter Academy	08739	53682	271	1
197	PSA School	271	Linden Charter Academy	08739	53683	271	2
198	PSA School	7561	Madison Academy Elementary/Middle School	09450	64244	7561	1
199	PSA School	7561	Madison Academy Elementary/Middle School	09450	64245	7561	2
200	PSA School	267	Northridge Academy	08721	53510	267	1
201	PSA School	267	Northridge Academy	08721	53511	267	2
202	PSA School	7403	Richfield Public School Academy	09305	64076	7403	1
203	PSA School	7403	Richfield Public School Academy	09305	64077	7403	2
204	PSA School	9580	Richfield Public School Academy K-2	09947	72056	9580	1
205	PSA School	9580	Richfield Public School Academy K-2	09947	72057	9580	2
206	PSA School	10369	The New Standard Academy	01402	73879	10369	1
207	PSA School	10369	The New Standard Academy	01402	73878	10369	2
208	PSA School	10626	WAY Academy - Flint, Flint Campus	01882	74478	10626	1
209	PSA School	10626	WAY Academy - Flint, Flint Campus	01882	74477	10626	2
210	ISD Unique Education Provider	10548	Early On	01804	74312	10548	1

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
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181	Physical	G2138 W Carpenter Rd		Flint	MI	485051977	7/1/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
182	Mailing	3329 Burnell Ave		Flint	MI	485044303	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
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205	Physical	4358 Richfield Rd		Flint	MI	485062016	7/1/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
206	Mailing	2040 W. Carpenter		Flint	MI	48505	8/22/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
207	Physical	2040 W. Carpenter		Flint	MI	48505	8/22/2012 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
208	Mailing	817 E Kearsley St		Flint	MI	48503	9/11/2015 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
209	Physical	817 E Kearsley St		Flint	MI	485032076	10/8/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
210	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	2/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found

	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
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175	Physical	687468.7029	284736.6313	43.08997726	-83.69471741	5	27	49	5/28/2015 1:25:37 PM
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190	Mailing								
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192	Mailing								
193	Physical	683893.084	279786.4296	43.04630546	-83.74029085	5	27	49	6/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
194	Mailing								
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197	Physical	681228.4	280877.2	43.04976933	-83.77253416	5	27	49	5/19/2011 11:38:52 AM
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207	Physical	685949.737	283092.1695	43.07555389	-83.71392822	5	27	48	8/22/2012 9:56:02 AM
208	Mailing								
209	Physical	688662.2166	277107.3733	43.021008	-83.68268	5	27	49	9/1/2013 12:00:00 AM
210	Mailing								

[illegible]



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
211	ISD Unique Education Provider	10548	Early On	01804	74311	10548	2
212	ISD Unique Education Provider	10549	Early On / Special Education	01810	74314	10549	1
213	ISD Unique Education Provider	10549	Early On / Special Education	01810	74313	10549	2
214	ISD Unique Education Provider	10770	Genesee Career Institute	02258	74785	10770	1
215	ISD Unique Education Provider	10770	Genesee Career Institute	02258	74784	10770	2
216	ISD Unique Education Provider	7904	Genesee ISD Transition Center	09765	65094	7904	1
217	ISD Unique Education Provider	7904	Genesee ISD Transition Center	09765	65095	7904	2
218	ISD Unique Education Provider	9582	Health, Safety and Nutrition Services	00055	72318	9582	1
219	ISD Unique Education Provider	9582	Health, Safety and Nutrition Services	00055	72060	9582	2
220	ISD Unique Education Provider	1605	Special Education Services-South	02658	51218	1605	1
221	ISD Unique Education Provider	1605	Special Education Services-South	02658	51219	1605	2
222	ISD School	1607	Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center	06156	51222	1607	1
223	ISD School	1607	Elmer A. Knopf Learning Center	06156	51223	1607	2
224	ISD School	7865	Special Services - North	09725	64849	7865	1
225	ISD School	7865	Special Services - North	09725	64850	7865	2
226	Nonpublic School	5309	Fairhaven SDA School	05098	59672	5309	1
227	Nonpublic School	5309	Fairhaven SDA School	05098	59673	5309	2
228	Nonpublic School	5289	First Flint SDA School	06603	59399	5289	1
229	Nonpublic School	5289	First Flint SDA School	06603	59400	5289	2
230	Nonpublic School	5280	Fr. Luke M. Powers High School	06022	59389	5280	1
231	Nonpublic School	5280	Fr. Luke M. Powers High School	06022	59390	5280	2
232	Nonpublic School	5296	Holy Rosary School	01737	59405	5296	1
233	Nonpublic School	5296	Holy Rosary School	01737	59406	5296	2
234	Nonpublic School	5283	St. John Vianney School	06217	59129	5283	1
235	Nonpublic School	5283	St. John Vianney School	06217	59130	5283	2
236	Nonpublic School	5278	St. Paul Lutheran School	03956	59385	5278	1
237	Nonpublic School	5278	St. Paul Lutheran School	03956	59386	5278	2
238	Nonpublic School	5291	St. Pius X School	03991	59139	5291	1
239	Nonpublic School	5291	St. Pius X School	03991	59140	5291	2
240	State School	6333	Michigan School for the Deaf	02548	61517	6333	1
241	State School	6333	Michigan School for the Deaf	02548	61518	6333	2
242	PSA Unique Education Provider	11209	Richfield Public School Academy Pre-K	02801	75796	11209	1
243	PSA Unique Education Provider	11209	Richfield Public School Academy Pre-K	02801	75795	11209	2

	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
211	Physical	5089 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909	2/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
212	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	2/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
213	Physical	5089 Pilgrim Rd		Flint	MI	485073909	2/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
214	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073493	7/2/2014 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
215	Physical	5081 Torrey Rd		Flint	MI	485075999	9/12/2013 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
216	Mailing	2413 W MAPLE AVE		FLINT	MI	485073429	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
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232	Mailing	5191 RICHFIELD RD		FLINT	MI	485062114	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
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235	Physical	2319 BAGLEY ST		FLINT	MI	485044613	5/19/2011 11:05:11 AM	No Map Found
236	Mailing	402 SOUTH BALLENGER HWY		FLINT	MI	485323637	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
237	Physical	402 SOUTH BALLENGER HWY		FLINT	MI	485323637	5/19/2011 11:03:59 AM	No Map Found
238	Mailing	G3139 HOGARTH AVE		FLINT	MI	485325132	1/1/1900 12:00:00 AM	No Map Found
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	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
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	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF	AG
211	2	Validated by CGI	0129052	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
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213	2	Validated by CGI	0129052	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
214									8:59:42 AM
215	2	Validated by CGI	0129041	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
216									8:59:42 AM
217	2	Validated by CGI	0109121	29020	049	GENESEE	33420		8:59:42 AM
218									8:59:42 AM
219	2	Validated by CGI	0129052	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
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221	2	Validated by CGI	0129052		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
222									8:59:42 AM
223	2	Validated by CGI	0129052	56160	049	GENESEE	07890		8:59:42 AM
224									8:59:42 AM
225	2	Validated by CGI	0129041	56160	049	Genesee	07890		8:59:42 AM
226									8:59:42 AM
227	2	Validated by CGI							8:59:42 AM
228									8:59:42 AM
229	2	Validated by CGI	0016004		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
230									8:59:42 AM
231	2	Validated by CGI	0037003	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM
232									8:59:42 AM
233	2	Validated by CGI	0120082	31800	049	GENESEE	20070		8:59:42 AM
234									8:59:42 AM
235	2	Validated by CGI	0016002	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
236									8:59:42 AM
237	2	Validated by CGI	0016004	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
238									8:59:42 AM
239	2	Validated by CGI	0109113		049	GENESEE			8:59:42 AM
240									8:59:42 AM
241	2	Validated by CGI	0037003	29000	049	GENESEE	14520		8:59:42 AM
242									8:59:42 AM
243	2	Validated by CGI	0017002	29000	049	Genesee	14520		8:59:42 AM

SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 4102

A bill to make, supplement, adjust, and consolidate appropriations for various state departments and agencies, the judicial branch, and the legislative branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016 and other fiscal years; to provide for certain conditions on appropriations; and to provide for the expenditure of the appropriations.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 ARTICLE I  
2 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
3 PART 1  
4 LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS  
5 Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the department of  
6 agriculture and rural development for the fiscal year ending

1 September 30, 2016, from the following funds:

2 **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

3 APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

4	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0	
5	Full-time equated classified positions.....	454.0	
6	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 85,294,000
7	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
8	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
9	transfers .....		317,300
10	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 84,976,700
11	Federal revenues:		
12	Total federal revenues.....		10,427,900
13	Special revenue funds:		
14	Total private revenues.....		128,100
15	Total other state restricted revenues.....		32,047,100
16	State general fund/general purpose.....		\$ 42,373,600
17	<b>Sec. 102. DEPARTMENTWIDE</b>		
18	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0	
19	Full-time equated classified positions.....	28.0	
20	Commissions and boards.....		\$ 23,800
21	Unclassified positions--6.0 FTE positions.....		532,600
22	Executive direction--9.0 FTE positions.....		1,376,100
23	Operational services--15.0 FTE positions.....		1,736,700
24	Statistical reporting service--1.0 FTE position.....		150,400
25	Emergency management--3.0 FTE positions.....		600,300
26	Accounting service center.....		1,115,900
27	Building occupancy charges.....		<u>625,300</u>

1	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	6,161,100
2	Appropriated from:		
3	Federal revenues:		
4	HHS-FDA.....		324,100
5	Special revenue funds:		
6	Private - commodity group revenue.....		77,400
7	Agricultural preservation fund.....		15,100
8	Agriculture licensing and inspection fees.....		367,200
9	Dairy and food safety fund.....		384,400
10	Freshwater protection fund.....		22,300
11	Grain dealers fee fund.....		7,300
12	Industry support funds.....		52,800
13	Migratory housing fund.....		26,200
14	Nonretail liquor fees.....		27,900
15	Refined petroleum fund.....		220,300
16	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	4,636,100
17	<b>Sec. 103. INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY</b>		
18	Information technology services and projects.....	\$	<u>1,372,500</u>
19	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	1,372,500
20	Appropriated from:		
21	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
22	IDG from LARA (LCC), liquor quality testing fees.....		3,200
23	Special revenue funds:		
24	Agricultural preservation fund.....		200
25	Agriculture licensing and inspection fees.....		32,400
26	Freshwater protection fund.....		100
27	Gasoline inspection and testing fund.....		31,400

1	Nonretail liquor fees.....	500
2	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 1,304,700
3	<b>Sec. 104. FOOD AND DAIRY</b>	
4	Full-time equated classified positions.....	121.0
5	Food safety and quality assurance--91.0 FTE positions	\$ 13,537,800
6	Milk safety and quality assurance--30.0 FTE positions	<u>4,170,600</u>
7	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 17,708,400
8	Appropriated from:	
9	Federal revenues:	
10	HHS-FDA.....	1,172,000
11	USDA, multiple grants.....	133,800
12	Special revenue funds:	
13	Consumer and industry food safety education fund.....	348,800
14	Dairy and food safety fund.....	4,486,300
15	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 11,567,500
16	<b>Sec. 105. ANIMAL INDUSTRY</b>	
17	Full-time equated classified positions.....	60.0
18	Animal disease prevention and response--60.0 FTE	
19	positions .....	\$ 8,881,000
20	Indemnification - livestock depredation.....	<u>50,000</u>
21	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 8,931,000
22	Appropriated from:	
23	Federal revenues:	
24	HHS-FDA.....	65,600
25	USDA, multiple grants.....	518,600
26	Special revenue funds:	
27	Private commodity group revenue.....	29,900



1	Agriculture licensing and inspection fees .....	48,900
2	Animal welfare fund.....	217,100
3	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 8,050,900
4	<b>Sec. 106. PESTICIDE AND PLANT PEST MANAGEMENT</b>	
5	Full-time equated classified positions.....	85.0
6	Pesticide and plant pest management--80.0 FTE	
7	positions .....	\$ 13,271,100
8	Producer security/grain dealers--5.0 FTE positions ...	<u>643,800</u>
9	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 13,914,900
10	Appropriated from:	
11	Federal revenues:	
12	Department of interior.....	222,000
13	EPA, multiple grants.....	319,700
14	HHS-FDA.....	524,300
15	USDA, multiple grants.....	829,800
16	Special revenue funds:	
17	Private - slow-the-spread foundation.....	20,800
18	Agriculture licensing and inspection fees .....	4,864,600
19	Commodity inspection fees.....	508,600
20	Freshwater protection fund.....	151,400
21	Grain dealers fee fund.....	597,900
22	Horticulture fund.....	38,200
23	Industry support funds.....	242,300
24	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 5,595,300
25	<b>Sec. 107. ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP</b>	
26	Full-time equated classified positions.....	55.0
27	Environmental stewardship - MAEAP--23.0 FTE positions	\$ 9,128,500

1	Farmland and open space preservation--7.0 FTE	
2	positions .....	905,200
3	Qualified forest program--9.0 FTE positions .....	2,532,500
4	Commercial forestry audit program.....	300,000
5	Migrant labor housing--9.0 FTE positions .....	1,186,600
6	Right-to-farm--3.0 FTE positions .....	567,900
7	Intercounty drain--4.0 FTE positions .....	<u>474,100</u>
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 15,094,800
9	Appropriated from:	
10	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
11	IDG from MDEQ, biosolids.....	101,200
12	Federal revenues:	
13	Department of interior.....	120,600
14	EPA, multiple grants.....	604,700
15	USDA, multiple grants.....	916,700
16	Special revenue funds:	
17	Agricultural preservation fund.....	583,600
18	Freshwater protection fund.....	6,142,800
19	Migratory labor housing fund.....	138,200
20	Private forestland enhancement fund.....	284,900
21	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 6,202,100
22	<b>Sec. 108. LABORATORY PROGRAM</b>	
23	Full-time equated classified positions..... 90.0	
24	Laboratory services--37.0 FTE positions .....	\$ 5,322,000
25	USDA monitoring--13.0 FTE positions .....	1,596,700
26	Consumer protection program--40.0 FTE positions .....	<u>6,072,200</u>
27	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 12,990,900

1	Appropriated from:		
2	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
3	IDG from LARA (LCC), liquor quality testing fees .....		212,900
4	Federal revenues:		
5	EPA, multiple grants .....		168,500
6	HHS-FDA .....		611,700
7	USDA, multiple grants .....		1,597,600
8	Special revenue funds:		
9	Agriculture equine industry development fund .....		610,300
10	Agriculture licensing and inspection fees .....		3,200
11	Gasoline inspection and testing fund .....		2,587,500
12	Refined petroleum fund .....		3,654,300
13	Renewable fuels fund .....		51,800
14	Testing fees .....		287,600
15	Weights and measures regulation fees .....		1,000,400
16	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	2,205,100
17	<b>Sec. 109. AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT</b>		
18	Full-time equated classified positions .....	14.0	
19	Agriculture development--11.0 FTE positions .....	\$	3,576,700
20	Strategic growth initiative .....		1,100,000
21	Grape and wine program--3.0 FTE positions .....		<u>856,500</u>
22	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	5,533,200
23	Appropriated from:		
24	Federal revenues:		
25	USDA, multiple grants .....		2,298,200
26	Special revenue funds:		
27	Industry support funds .....		131,600

1	Nonretail liquor fees.....		811,500
2	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	2,291,900
3	<b>Sec. 110. FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS</b>		
4	Full-time equated classified positions..... 1.0		
5	Fairs and racing--1.0 FTE position.....	\$	256,600
6	County fairs capital improvement grants.....		170,000
7	Purses and supplements - fairs/licensed tracks.....		708,300
8	Licensed tracks - light horse racing.....		40,300
9	Light horse racing - breeders' awards.....		20,000
10	Standardbred breeders' awards.....		285,900
11	Standardbred purses and supplements - licensed tracks		527,800
12	Standardbred sire stakes.....		239,000
13	Thoroughbred supplements - licensed tracks.....		385,900
14	Thoroughbred breeders' awards.....		358,600
15	Thoroughbred sire stakes.....		<u>244,800</u>
16	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	3,237,200
17	Appropriated from:		
18	Special revenue funds:		
19	Agriculture equine industry development fund.....		3,067,200
20	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	170,000
21	<b>Sec. 111. ONE-TIME BASIS ONLY</b>		
22	Laboratory equipment.....	\$	<u>350,000</u>
23	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	350,000
24	Appropriated from:		
25	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	350,000

## PART 2

## PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

GENERAL SECTIONS

Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$74,420,700.00 and state spending from state resources to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$4,750,000.00. The itemized statement below identifies appropriations from which spending to local units of government will occur:

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Environmental stewardship - MAEAP .....	\$	3,250,000
Qualified forest program .....		<u>1,500,000</u>
TOTAL .....	\$	4,750,000

Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under part 1 and this part are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

Sec. 203. As used in part 1 and this part:

(a) "Department" means the department of agriculture and rural development.

(b) "Director" means the director of the department.

(c) "EPA" means the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

(d) "Fiscal agencies" means the Michigan house fiscal agency and the Michigan senate fiscal agency.

(e) "FTE" means full-time equated.

1 (f) "HHS-FDA" means the United States Department of Health and  
2 Human Services - Food and Drug Administration.

3 (g) "IDG" means interdepartmental grant.

4 (h) "LARA" means the Michigan department of licensing and  
5 regulatory affairs.

6 (i) "LCC" means the Michigan liquor control commission.

7 (j) "MDEQ" means the Michigan department of environmental  
8 quality.

9 (k) "MDNR" means the Michigan department of natural resources.

10 (l) "MOU" means memorandum of understanding.

11 (m) "Subcommittees" means all members of the subcommittees of  
12 the house and senate appropriations committees with jurisdiction  
13 over the budget for the department.

14 (n) "TB" means tuberculosis.

15 (o) "USDA" means the United States Department of Agriculture.

16 Sec. 205. (1) For each new program or program expansion for  
17 which funds in excess of \$500,000.00 are appropriated in part 1,  
18 the department shall identify specific benchmarks intended to  
19 measure the performance or return on taxpayer investment of the  
20 program and its associated expenditures. Not later than November 1,  
21 2015, the department shall report the proposed benchmarks to the  
22 house and senate appropriations subcommittees for that department,  
23 the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
24 director. The department shall provide an update on its progress in  
25 achieving those benchmarks at an appropriations subcommittee  
26 meeting called for the purpose of discussing benchmarks and their  
27 status.

1           (2) It is the intent of the legislature that, beginning with  
2 the budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, any  
3 proposal for a new program or an expansion of an existing program  
4 in excess of \$500,000.00 initiated by the executive branch or the  
5 legislature shall include, as part of the original proposal or  
6 budget request, a list of benchmarks intended to measure the  
7 performance or return on taxpayer investment of the program or  
8 spending increase.

9           Sec. 206. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
10 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.00 for  
11 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
12 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
13 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
14 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

15           (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
16 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$6,000,000.00 for state  
17 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
18 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
19 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
20 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

21           (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
22 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for local  
23 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
24 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
25 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
26 MCL 18.1393.

27           (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is

1 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for private  
2 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
3 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
4 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
5 MCL 18.1393.

6 Sec. 207. The department shall cooperate with the department  
7 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable  
8 website accessible by the public at no cost that includes, but is  
9 not limited to, all of the following:

10 (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

11 (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

12 (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
13 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
14 payment description.

15 (d) The number of active department employees by job  
16 classification.

17 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

18 Sec. 208. The departments and agencies receiving  
19 appropriations in part 1 shall use the Internet to fulfill the  
20 reporting requirements of this part. This requirement may include  
21 transmission of reports via electronic mail to the recipients  
22 identified for each reporting requirement, or it may include  
23 placement of reports on an Internet or intranet site.

24 Sec. 209. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used for  
25 the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
26 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
27 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to



1 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
2 businesses, if they are competitively priced and of comparable  
3 quality. In addition, preference shall be given to goods or  
4 services, or both, that are manufactured or provided by Michigan  
5 businesses owned and operated by veterans, if they are  
6 competitively priced and of comparable quality.

7       Sec. 210. The director shall take all reasonable steps to  
8 ensure businesses in deprived and depressed communities compete for  
9 and perform contracts to provide services or supplies, or both.

10 Each director shall strongly encourage firms with which the  
11 department contracts to subcontract with certified businesses in  
12 depressed and deprived communities for services, supplies, or both.

13       Sec. 212. The department and agencies receiving appropriations  
14 in part 1 shall receive and retain copies of all reports funded  
15 from appropriations in part 1. Federal and state guidelines for  
16 short-term and long-term retention of records shall be followed.  
17 The department may electronically retain copies of reports unless  
18 otherwise required by federal and state guidelines.

19       Sec. 215. The department shall not take disciplinary action  
20 against an employee for communicating with a member of the  
21 legislature or his or her staff.

22       Sec. 218. The departments and agencies receiving  
23 appropriations in part 1 shall prepare a report on out-of-state  
24 travel expenses not later than January 1 of each year. The travel  
25 report shall be a listing of all travel by classified and  
26 unclassified employees outside this state in the immediately  
27 preceding fiscal year that was funded in whole or in part with

1 funds appropriated in the department's budget. The report shall be  
2 submitted to the house and senate appropriations committees, the  
3 house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.

4 The report shall include the following information:

5 (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

6 (b) The transportation and related costs of each travel  
7 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
8 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
9 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
10 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

11 Sec. 228. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
12 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
13 the total general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses at the  
14 close of the prior fiscal year. This report shall summarize the  
15 projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriation  
16 lapses by major departmental program or program areas. The report  
17 shall be transmitted to the chairpersons of the senate and house of  
18 representatives standing committees on appropriations and the  
19 senate and house fiscal agencies.

20 Sec. 229. Within 14 days after the release of the executive  
21 budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate with the  
22 state budget office to provide the senate and house appropriations  
23 chairs, the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on  
24 agriculture and rural development, respectively, and the senate and  
25 house fiscal agencies with an annual report on estimated state  
26 restricted fund balances, state restricted fund projected revenues,  
27 and state restricted fund expenditures for the fiscal years ending

1 September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016.

2       Sec. 230. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used by a  
3 principal executive department, state agency, or authority to hire  
4 a person to provide legal services that are the responsibility of  
5 the attorney general. This prohibition does not apply to legal  
6 services for bonding activities and for those outside services that  
7 the attorney general authorizes.

8       Sec. 231. The department shall maintain, on a publicly  
9 accessible website, a department scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
10 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
11 improve the agency's performance.

12       Sec. 232. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
13 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
14 30, 2016 is \$12,751,500.00. From this amount, total agency  
15 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
16 \$7,237,700.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care  
17 legacy costs are estimated at \$5,513,800.00.

18 **DEPARTMENTWIDE**

19       Sec. 301. (1) Pursuant to the appropriations in part 1, the  
20 department may receive and expend revenue and use that revenue to  
21 cover necessary expenses related to publications, audit and  
22 licensing functions, livestock sales, certification of nursery  
23 stock, and laboratory analyses as specified in the following:

24       (a) Management services publications.

25       (b) Management services audit and licensing functions.

26       (c) Pesticide and plant pest management propagation and

1 certification of virus-free foundation stock.

2 (d) Pesticide and plant pest management grading services.

3 (e) Laboratory support testing for testing horses in draft  
4 horse pulling contests at county fairs when local jurisdictions  
5 request state assistance.

6 (f) Laboratory support analyses to determine foreign  
7 substances in horses engaged in racing or pulling contests at  
8 tracks.

9 (g) Laboratory support analyses of food, livestock, and  
10 agricultural products for disease, foreign products for disease,  
11 toxic materials, foreign substances, and quality standards.

12 (h) Laboratory support test samples for other agencies and  
13 organizations.

14 (i) Fruit and vegetable inspection at shipping and termination  
15 points and processing plants.

16 (2) The department shall notify the subcommittees and the  
17 fiscal agencies 30 days prior to proposing changes in fees  
18 authorized under this section or under section 5 of 1915 PA 91, MCL  
19 285.35.

20 (3) Annually, before February 1, the department shall provide  
21 a report to the subcommittees and the fiscal agencies detailing all  
22 the fees charged by the department under the authorization provided  
23 in this section, including, but not limited to, rates, number of  
24 individuals paying each fee, and the revenue generated by each fee  
25 in the previous fiscal year.

26 Sec. 302. Of the funds appropriated in part 1 that are other  
27 than line-item grants, the department shall not provide grants to

1 local government agencies, institutions of higher education, or  
2 nonprofit organizations unless the department provides notice of  
3 the grant to the subcommittees and fiscal agencies at least 10 days  
4 before the grant is issued. The grants shall be used to support  
5 research or other related activities for the purpose of enhancing  
6 the agricultural industries in this state.

7       Sec. 303. It is the intent of the legislature that the  
8 department use revenue from licensing and inspection fees to  
9 increase the use of technology in licensing and inspection  
10 activities to make licensing and inspection functions, including  
11 reporting, more efficient. The department shall work to ensure that  
12 all license and registration applications can be completed online  
13 through a secure web portal.

#### 14 **FOOD AND DAIRY**

15       Sec. 401. (1) From the increased funds appropriated in part 1  
16 for the food safety and quality assurance line item, the department  
17 shall increase the number of inspections performed at licensed food  
18 establishments in the current fiscal year. The purpose of this  
19 increase is to improve the monthly rate of compliance with the  
20 Michigan food law at licensed establishments.

21       (2) The department shall identify specific outcomes and  
22 performance measures for this initiative, including, but not  
23 limited to, that the number of licensed food establishments that  
24 are in compliance with the Michigan food law will increase as a  
25 result of the department's ability to improve the frequency of  
26 initial food safety evaluations.

1       Sec. 402. The department shall provide information on  
2       significant food-borne outbreaks and emergencies, including any  
3       enforcement actions taken related to food safety during the  
4       immediately preceding fiscal year in the food and dairy annual  
5       report and post that report on the department's website no later  
6       than April 1. The department shall provide electronic notification  
7       of where the report can be found on the department's website to the  
8       appropriation subcommittees, fiscal agencies, and state budget  
9       office.

10    **ANIMAL INDUSTRY**

11       Sec. 451. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
12       department shall pay for all whole herd testing costs and  
13       individual animal testing costs in the modified accredited zone to  
14       maintain split-state status requirements. These costs include  
15       indemnity and compensation for injury causing death or downer to  
16       animals.

17       Sec. 453. (1) Of the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
18       department may provide for indemnity as provided for pursuant to  
19       the animal industry act, 1988 PA 466, MCL 287.701 to 287.746, not  
20       to exceed \$100,000.00 per order from any line item for the current  
21       fiscal year. Before the department provides for an indemnification  
22       under this section, the department shall report the reason for the  
23       indemnification, the amount of the indemnification, and to whom the  
24       indemnification is to be paid. The report shall be given to the  
25       subcommittees and the fiscal agencies.

26       (2) The department of agriculture and rural development shall

1 make an indemnification payment for the fair market value of  
2 livestock killed by a wolf, coyote, or cougar, if the kill is  
3 verified by the department of natural resources. The fair market  
4 value of the livestock shall be determined pursuant to the  
5 indemnification procedures prescribed in the animal industry act,  
6 1988 PA 466, MCL 287.701 to 287.746.

7 (3) The funds appropriated in part 1 for indemnification -  
8 livestock depredation are appropriated for indemnification payments  
9 and related department costs under subsection (2). On or before  
10 March 1 of the current fiscal year, the department shall report to  
11 the subcommittees and the fiscal agencies on costs incurred in the  
12 previous 2 fiscal years for indemnification payments to producers  
13 made under subsection (2) and related department costs.

14 Sec. 454. The department shall use its resources to  
15 collaborate with the USDA to monitor bovine TB, consistent with the  
16 May 2014 memorandum of understanding between the department and the  
17 USDA.

18 Sec. 456. Of the funds appropriated in part 1, no funds shall  
19 be used to enforce the mandatory electronic animal identification  
20 program for any domestic animals other than cattle until specific  
21 procedures and guidelines for electronic animal identification are  
22 outlined in statute.

23 Sec. 457. On or before October 15 of the current fiscal year  
24 and on a quarterly basis thereafter, the department shall report to  
25 the senate and house agriculture committees, the subcommittees, and  
26 the fiscal agencies on the department's progress toward meeting the  
27 USDA requirements as outlined in the March 2007 bovine TB program

1 review. The report shall include, but is not limited to,  
2 information and data on: wildlife risk mitigation plan  
3 implementation in the modified accredited zone; implementation of a  
4 movement certificate process; progress toward annual surveillance  
5 test requirements set out in the June 2007 MOU; efforts to work  
6 with slaughter facilities in Michigan, as well as those that  
7 slaughter a significant number of animals from Michigan;  
8 educational programs and information for Michigan's livestock  
9 community; any other item the legislature should be aware of that  
10 will promote or hinder efforts to achieve bovine TB-free status for  
11 Michigan.

12       Sec. 459. It is the intent of the legislature that the  
13 department shall not conduct whole herd bovine TB testing on any 1  
14 herd in a TB-free zone more often than every 4 years or re-test  
15 until all other herds in their county have been tested, unless  
16 involved in an epidemiological investigation, there is an outbreak  
17 within a 10-radius-mile area, or is not on a verified wildlife risk  
18 mitigated premises. If there is an outbreak within a 10 radius mile  
19 area, protocols outlined by the current memorandum of understanding  
20 with the USDA shall be used.

#### 21 **PESTICIDE AND PLANT PEST MANAGEMENT**

22       Sec. 501. From the increased funds appropriated in part 1 for  
23 the pesticide and plant pest management line item, the department  
24 shall improve the department's ability to perform proper  
25 surveillance of the fertilizer and pesticide industries in the  
26 current fiscal year. The purpose of this surveillance is to ensure



1 that statutory requirements related to use and storage are being  
2 met, specifically those intended to protect the environment or the  
3 food supply.

#### 4 **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**

5 Sec. 601. The funds appropriated in part 1 for environmental  
6 stewardship/MAEAP shall be used to support department agriculture  
7 pollution prevention programs, including groundwater and freshwater  
8 protection programs under part 87 of the Michigan natural resources  
9 and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.8701 to  
10 324.8717, and technical assistance in implementing conservation  
11 grants available under the federal farm bill of 2014.

12 Sec. 604. (1) Federal revenues authorized by and available  
13 from the federal government in excess of the appropriation in part  
14 1 under section 107 are appropriated and may be received and  
15 expended by the department for purposes authorized under state law  
16 and subject to federal requirements.

17 (2) The department shall notify the subcommittees and fiscal  
18 agencies prior to expending federal revenues received and  
19 appropriated under subsection (1).

20 Sec. 608. (1) The appropriations in part 1 for qualified  
21 forest affidavit program are for the purpose of increasing the  
22 knowledge of nonindustrial private forestland owners of sound  
23 forest management practices and increasing the amount of commercial  
24 timber production from those lands.

25 (2) The department shall work in partnership with stakeholder  
26 groups and other state and federal agencies to increase the active

1 management of nonindustrial private forestland to foster the growth  
2 of Michigan's timber product industry.

3       Sec. 609. (1) From the appropriation in part 1 for commercial  
4 forestry audit program, the department shall develop an analysis  
5 and audit of forestry best management practices for water quality  
6 and the related forest ecosystem, including native plant and animal  
7 species and wildlife habitat. The analysis and audit shall have a  
8 statewide perspective. The best management practices audit shall be  
9 performed by an audit team composed of qualified professionals,  
10 including, but not limited to, the department, the department of  
11 environmental quality, university faculty, and conservation groups.

12       (2) At the close of the fiscal year, the unexpended portion of  
13 the commercial forestry audit program is considered a work project  
14 appropriation in accordance with section 451a of the management and  
15 budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a.

16       (3) At the completion of the analysis and audit, the  
17 department shall provide a report to the house and senate  
18 appropriations subcommittees on agriculture and rural development,  
19 and the house and senate fiscal agencies, describing the results of  
20 the analysis and audit.

## 21 **AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT**

22       Sec. 706. On or before April 1, the department shall report to  
23 the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on agriculture  
24 and rural development, and the house and senate fiscal agencies, on  
25 the department's agriculture development and export market  
26 development activities. The report shall include the following

1 information on agriculture industry, rural development, and  
2 strategic growth grants awarded during the prior fiscal year:

3 (a) The name of the grantee.

4 (b) The amount of the grant.

5 (c) The purpose of the grant, including measurable outcomes.

6 (d) Additional state, federal, private, or local funds  
7 contributed to the grant project.

8 (e) The completion date of grant-funded activities.

9 Sec. 709. (1) Not later than April 1 of the current fiscal  
10 year, the department shall provide a report to the subcommittees  
11 and the fiscal agencies describing the activities of the grape and  
12 wine industry council established under section 303 of the Michigan  
13 liquor control act of 1998, 1998 PA 58, MCL 436.1303.

14 (2) The report shall include all of the following:

15 (a) Council activities and accomplishments for the previous  
16 fiscal year.

17 (b) Council expenditures for the previous fiscal year by  
18 category of administration, industry support, research and  
19 education grants, and promotion and consumer education.

20 (c) Grants awarded during the prior fiscal year and the  
21 results of research grant projects completed during the prior  
22 fiscal year.

23 Sec. 711. (1) The department shall establish and administer  
24 the strategic growth initiative. The program shall use a grant  
25 process to support research, education, and technical assistance  
26 efforts focused on removing barriers and leveraging opportunities  
27 identified by those in the food and agriculture industry as

critical to business development and growth within the state.

(2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, the department of agriculture and rural development may receive and expend funds received from outside sources for the strategic growth initiative.

(3) The director shall establish a consortium of interested parties including those involved in the food and agriculture industry sector to develop the program priorities described in subsection (1).

(4) The department shall award grants from the funds appropriated in part 1 or received from outside sources under subsection (2) for strategic growth initiative grants. Grantees will be required to identify measurable project outcomes.

(5) A joint evaluation committee selected by the director shall evaluate applications and provide recommendations to the director for final approval of grant awards.

(6) The department may expend money from the funds appropriated in part 1 for the strategic growth initiative for administering the program.

## **FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS**

Sec. 801. All appropriations from the agriculture equine industry development fund shall be spent on equine-related purposes. No funds from the agriculture equine industry development fund shall be expended for nonequine-related purposes without prior approval of the legislature.

Sec. 802. All appropriations from the agriculture equine

1 industry development fund, except for the Michigan gaming control  
2 board's regulatory expenses and the department's expenses to  
3 administer horse racing programs and laboratory analysis, shall be  
4 reduced proportionately if revenues to the agriculture equine  
5 industry development fund decline during the preceding fiscal year  
6 to a level lower than the amounts appropriated in part 1.

7       Sec. 803. (1) In the event that there is no live thoroughbred  
8 race meet in 2015 or 2016, all purse money and program money  
9 appropriated for the thoroughbred industry in fiscal year 2014-2015  
10 and fiscal year 2015-2016 shall be held in escrow for a period not  
11 to exceed 18 months, or until a thoroughbred race meet license is  
12 applied for and granted by the Michigan gaming control board.

13       (2) In the event that there is no live standardbred race meet  
14 in 2015 or 2016, all purse money and program money appropriated for  
15 the standardbred industry in fiscal year 2014-2015 and fiscal year  
16 2015-2016 shall be held in escrow for a period not to exceed 18  
17 months, or until a standardbred race meet license is applied for  
18 and granted by the Michigan gaming control board.

19       Sec. 804. It is the intent of the legislature that the  
20 Michigan gaming control board shall use actual expenditure data in  
21 determining the actual regulatory costs of conducting racing dates  
22 and shall provide that data to the senate and house of  
23 representatives appropriations subcommittees on agriculture and  
24 rural development and general government and the fiscal agencies by  
25 November 1 of the current fiscal year. The Michigan gaming control  
26 board shall not be reimbursed for more than the actual regulatory  
27 cost of conducting race dates. If a certified horsemen's

1 organization funds more than the actual regulatory cost, the  
2 balance shall remain in the agriculture equine industry development  
3 fund to be used to fund subsequent race dates conducted by race  
4 meeting licensees with which the certified horsemen's organization  
5 has contracts. If a certified horsemen's organization funds less  
6 than the actual regulatory costs of the additional horse racing  
7 dates, the Michigan gaming control board shall reduce the number of  
8 future race dates conducted by race meeting licensees with which  
9 the certified horsemen's organization has contracts. Prior to the  
10 reduction in the number of authorized race dates due to budget  
11 deficits, the executive director of the Michigan gaming control  
12 board shall provide notice to the certified horsemen's  
13 organizations with an opportunity to respond with alternatives. In  
14 determining actual costs, the Michigan gaming control board shall  
15 take into account that each specific breed may require different  
16 regulatory mechanisms.

17 Sec. 805. (1) The department shall establish and administer a  
18 county fairs capital improvement grant program. The program shall  
19 assist in the promotion of building improvements or other capital  
20 improvements at county fairgrounds of the state.

21 (2) The department shall award grants on a competitive basis  
22 to county fair organizations from the funds appropriated in part 1  
23 for county fairs capital improvements grants. Grantees will be  
24 required to provide a dollar-for-dollar cash match with grant  
25 awards and identify measurable project outcomes.

26 (3) The department shall identify criteria, evaluate  
27 applications, and provide recommendations to the director for final

1 approval of grant awards.

2 (4) The department may expend money from the funds  
3 appropriated in part 1 for the county fairs capital improvement  
4 grants for administering the program.

5 (5) The unexpended portion of the county fairs capital  
6 improvement grant program is considered a work project  
7 appropriation in accordance with the management and budget act,  
8 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

9 (6) The department shall provide a year-end report no later  
10 than December 1, 2016 to the subcommittees and the fiscal agencies,  
11 including the grantees, award amount, match funding, and project  
12 outcomes.

#### 13 ARTICLE IV

#### 14 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

#### 15 PART 1

#### 16 LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

17 Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the department of  
18 community health for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016,  
19 from the following funds:

#### 20 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

#### 21 APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

22	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0
23	Full-time equated classified positions.....	3,677.1
24	Average population .....	893.0
25	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 18,932,657,100

1	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
2	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental	
3	transfers .....	9,678,100
4	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 18,922,979,000
5	Federal revenues:	
6	Total federal revenues .....	13,439,841,000
7	Social security act, temporary assistance for needy	
8	families .....	17,814,100
9	Special revenue funds:	
10	Total local revenues .....	85,961,700
11	Total private revenues .....	127,698,700
12	Merit award trust fund .....	105,834,700
13	Total other state restricted revenues .....	2,024,731,500
14	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 3,121,097,300
15	<b>Sec. 102. DEPARTMENTWIDE ADMINISTRATION</b>	
16	Full-time equated unclassified positions..... 6.0	
17	Full-time equated classified positions..... 190.7	
18	Director and other unclassified--6.0 FTE positions ...	\$ 385,500
19	Departmental administration and management--180.7 FTE	
20	positions .....	26,399,500
21	Worker's compensation program .....	5,205,700
22	Rent and building occupancy .....	10,602,500
23	Developmental disabilities council and projects--10.0	
24	FTE positions .....	3,038,900
25	Human trafficking intervention services .....	<u>200,000</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 45,832,100
27	Appropriated from:	



1	Federal revenues:	
2	Total federal revenues .....	16,096,300
3	Special revenue funds:	
4	Total private revenues .....	35,200
5	Total other state restricted revenues .....	834,500
6	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 28,866,100
7	<b>Sec. 103. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION</b>	
8	<b>AND SPECIAL PROJECTS</b>	
9	Full-time equated classified positions..... 106.0	
10	Behavioral health program administration--105.0 FTE	
11	positions .....	\$ 63,352,600
12	Gambling addiction--1.0 FTE position.....	3,003,700
13	Protection and advocacy services support .....	194,400
14	Community residential and support services .....	592,100
15	Federal and other special projects .....	2,535,600
16	Family support subsidy.....	17,633,600
17	Housing and support services .....	<u>13,238,800</u>
18	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 100,550,800
19	Appropriated from:	
20	Federal revenues:	
21	Total federal revenues .....	48,812,500
22	Social security act, temporary assistance for needy	
23	families .....	17,814,100
24	Special revenue funds:	
25	Total private revenues .....	1,000,000
26	Total other state restricted revenues .....	3,003,700
27	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 29,920,500

1	<b>Sec. 104. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES</b>	
2	Full-time equated classified positions.....	9.5
3	Medicaid mental health services.....	\$ 2,365,893,200
4	Community mental health non-Medicaid services.....	117,050,400
5	Mental health services for special populations.....	8,842,800
6	Medicaid substance use disorder services.....	46,967,800
7	Civil service charges.....	1,499,300
8	Federal mental health block grant--2.5 FTE positions.	15,444,600
9	State disability assistance program substance use	
10	disorder services .....	2,018,800
11	Community substance use disorder prevention,	
12	education, and treatment .....	74,725,000
13	Children's waiver home care program.....	20,000,000
14	Nursing home PAS/ARR-OBRA--7.0 FTE positions.....	12,258,800
15	Children with serious emotional disturbance waiver...	12,647,900
16	Health homes.....	3,369,000
17	Healthy Michigan plan - behavioral health.....	310,767,700
18	Autism services.....	<u>36,769,400</u>
19	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 3,028,254,700
20	Appropriated from:	
21	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
22	Interdepartmental grant from the department of human	
23	services .....	6,340,500
24	Federal revenues:	
25	Total federal revenues.....	2,027,932,300
26	Special revenue funds:	
27	Total local revenues.....	25,475,800

1	Total other state restricted revenues .....	23,425,900
2	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 945,080,200
3	<b>Sec. 105. STATE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS AND FORENSIC</b>	
4	<b>MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES</b>	
5	Total average population .....	893.0
6	Full-time equated classified positions.....	2,130.9
7	Caro Regional Mental Health Center - psychiatric	
8	hospital - adult--461.3 FTE positions.....	\$ 56,358,300
9	Average population .....	185.0
10	Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital - adult--466.1 FTE	
11	positions .....	64,510,900
12	Average population .....	189.0
13	Walter P. Reuther Psychiatric Hospital - adult--420.8	
14	FTE positions .....	55,849,100
15	Average population .....	234.0
16	Hawthorn Center - psychiatric hospital - children and	
17	adolescents--226.4 FTE positions.....	28,746,000
18	Average population .....	75.0
19	Center for forensic psychiatry--556.3 FTE positions..	72,558,600
20	Average population .....	210.0
21	Revenue recapture.....	750,000
22	IDEA, federal special education.....	120,000
23	Special maintenance.....	332,500
24	Purchase of medical services for residents of	
25	hospitals and centers .....	445,600
26	Gifts and bequests for patient living and treatment	
27	environment .....	<u>1,000,000</u>

1	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	280,671,000
2	Appropriated from:		
3	Federal revenues:		
4	Total federal revenues.....		34,720,700
5	Special revenue funds:		
6	Total local revenues.....		19,490,600
7	Total private revenues.....		1,000,000
8	Total other state restricted revenues.....		18,878,700
9	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	206,581,000
10	<b>Sec. 106. PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION</b>		
11	Full-time equated classified positions..... 100.4		
12	Public health administration--7.3 FTE positions .....	\$	1,567,800
13	Health and wellness initiatives--11.7 FTE positions ..		8,946,400
14	Vital records and health statistics--81.4 FTE		
15	positions .....		<u>11,763,400</u>
16	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	22,277,600
17	Appropriated from:		
18	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
19	Interdepartmental grant from the department of human		
20	services .....		1,206,100
21	Federal revenues:		
22	Total federal revenues.....		3,650,800
23	Special revenue funds:		
24	Total other state restricted revenues.....		12,337,600
25	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	5,083,100
26	<b>Sec. 107. HEALTH POLICY</b>		
27	Full-time equated classified positions..... 64.8		

1	Certificate of need program administration--12.3 FTE	
2	positions .....	\$ 2,781,400
3	Emergency medical services program--23.0 FTE positions	6,415,200
4	Health innovation grants.....	100
5	Health policy administration--24.1 FTE positions .....	53,106,300
6	Michigan essential health provider.....	3,591,300
7	Minority health grants and contracts.....	612,700
8	Nurse education and research program--3.0 FTE	
9	positions .....	1,041,500
10	Primary care services--1.4 FTE positions.....	4,067,500
11	Rural health services--1.0 FTE position.....	<u>1,555,500</u>
12	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 73,171,500
13	Appropriated from:	
14	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
15	Interdepartmental grant from the department of	
16	licensing and regulatory affairs.....	1,041,500
17	Interdepartmental grant from the department of	
18	treasury, Michigan state hospital finance authority.	116,000
19	Federal revenues:	
20	Total federal revenues.....	57,987,200
21	Special revenue funds:	
22	Total private revenues.....	865,000
23	Total other state restricted revenues.....	6,561,700
24	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 6,600,100
25	<b>Sec. 108. LABORATORY SERVICES</b>	
26	Full-time equated classified positions..... 100.0	
27	Laboratory services--100.0 FTE positions.....	\$ <u>20,295,500</u>

1	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	20,295,500
2	Appropriated from:		
3	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
4	Interdepartmental grant from the department of		
5	environmental quality .....		974,000
6	Federal revenues:		
7	Total federal revenues.....		2,294,400
8	Special revenue funds:		
9	Total other state restricted revenues.....		10,261,900
10	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	6,765,200
11	<b>Sec. 109. EPIDEMIOLOGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE</b>		
12	Full-time equated classified positions..... 144.9		
13	AIDS surveillance and prevention program.....	\$	1,854,100
14	Bioterrorism preparedness--52.0 FTE positions .....		30,077,600
15	Epidemiology administration--41.6 FTE positions .....		12,455,700
16	Healthy homes program--8.0 FTE positions .....		4,384,300
17	Immunization program--12.8 FTE positions .....		16,317,900
18	Newborn screening follow-up and treatment services--		
19	10.5 FTE positions .....		7,223,000
20	Sexually transmitted disease control program--20.0 FTE		
21	positions .....		6,246,900
22	Tuberculosis control and prevention.....		<u>867,000</u>
23	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	79,426,500
24	Appropriated from:		
25	Federal revenues:		
26	Total federal revenues.....		60,864,000
27	Special revenue funds:		

1	Total private revenues.....	339,000
2	Total other state restricted revenues.....	11,577,900
3	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 6,645,600
4	<b>Sec. 110. LOCAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AND GRANTS</b>	
5	Full-time equated classified positions.....	2.0
6	Essential local public health services.....	\$ 40,886,100
7	Implementation of 1993 PA 133, MCL 333.17015.....	20,000
8	Local health services--2.0 FTE positions.....	536,100
9	Medicaid outreach cost reimbursement to local health	
10	departments .....	<u>9,000,000</u>
11	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 50,442,200
12	Appropriated from:	
13	Federal revenues:	
14	Total federal revenues.....	9,536,100
15	Special revenue funds:	
16	Total local revenues.....	5,150,000
17	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 35,756,100
18	<b>Sec. 111. CHRONIC DISEASE AND INJURY PREVENTION AND</b>	
19	<b>HEALTH PROMOTION</b>	
20	Full-time equated classified positions.....	113.0
21	AIDS prevention, testing, and care programs--47.7 FTE	
22	positions .....	\$ 70,423,000
23	Cancer prevention and control program--13.0 FTE	
24	positions .....	15,005,800
25	Chronic disease control and health promotion	
26	administration--29.4 FTE positions.....	6,356,200
27	Diabetes and kidney program--8.0 FTE positions.....	3,038,100

1	Smoking prevention program--12.0 FTE positions .....	2,107,600
2	Violence prevention--2.9 FTE positions .....	<u>1,823,700</u>
3	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 98,754,400
4	Appropriated from:	
5	Federal revenues:	
6	Total federal revenues.....	52,671,100
7	Special revenue funds:	
8	Total private revenues.....	38,778,400
9	Total other state restricted revenues.....	5,534,000
10	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 1,770,900
11	<b>Sec. 112. FAMILY, MATERNAL, AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH</b>	
12	<b>SERVICES</b>	
13	Full-time equated classified positions.....	69.6
14	Childhood lead program--2.5 FTE positions .....	\$ 1,563,300
15	Dental programs--3.0 FTE positions .....	1,667,200
16	Dental program for persons with developmental	
17	disabilities .....	151,000
18	Family, maternal, and children's health services	
19	administration--50.1 FTE positions.....	8,437,000
20	Family planning local agreements.....	8,310,700
21	Local MCH services.....	7,018,100
22	Pregnancy prevention program.....	602,100
23	Prenatal care outreach and service delivery support--	
24	14.0 FTE positions .....	18,933,000
25	Special projects.....	6,289,100
26	Sudden infant death syndrome program.....	<u>321,300</u>
27	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 53,292,800



1	Appropriated from:	
2	Federal revenues:	
3	Total federal revenues.....	42,214,500
4	Special revenue funds:	
5	Total local revenues.....	75,000
6	Total private revenues.....	874,500
7	Total other state restricted revenues.....	20,000
8	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 10,108,800
9	<b>Sec. 113. WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN FOOD AND</b>	
10	<b>NUTRITION PROGRAM</b>	
11	Full-time equated classified positions..... 45.0	
12	Women, infants, and children program administration	
13	and special projects--45.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 17,905,900
14	Women, infants, and children program local agreements	
15	and food costs .....	<u>256,285,000</u>
16	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 274,190,900
17	Appropriated from:	
18	Federal revenues:	
19	Total federal revenues.....	213,113,000
20	Special revenue funds:	
21	Total private revenues.....	61,077,900
22	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
23	<b>Sec. 114. CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES</b>	
24	Full-time equated classified positions..... 46.8	
25	Children's special health care services	
26	administration--44.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 5,897,900
27	Bequests for care and services--2.8 FTE positions....	1,528,200

1	Outreach and advocacy.....	5,510,000
2	Nonemergency medical transportation.....	905,900
3	Medical care and treatment.....	<u>189,966,200</u>
4	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 203,808,200
5	Appropriated from:	
6	Federal revenues:	
7	Total federal revenues.....	107,080,900
8	Special revenue funds:	
9	Total private revenues.....	1,008,900
10	Total other state restricted revenues.....	3,858,400
11	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 91,860,000
12	<b>Sec. 115. CRIME VICTIM SERVICES COMMISSION</b>	
13	Full-time equated classified positions.....	13.0
14	Grants administration services--13.0 FTE positions ...	\$ 2,129,800
15	Justice assistance grants.....	15,000,000
16	Crime victim rights services grants.....	<u>16,870,000</u>
17	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 33,999,800
18	Appropriated from:	
19	Federal revenues:	
20	Total federal revenues.....	18,697,500
21	Special revenue funds:	
22	Total other state restricted revenues.....	15,302,300
23	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
24	<b>Sec. 116. OFFICE OF SERVICES TO THE AGING</b>	
25	Full-time equated classified positions.....	40.0
26	Office of services to aging administration--40.0 FTE	
27	positions .....	\$ 7,784,500

1	Community services.....	39,013,900
2	Nutrition services.....	39,044,000
3	Foster grandparent volunteer program.....	2,233,600
4	Retired and senior volunteer program.....	627,300
5	Senior companion volunteer program.....	1,604,400
6	Employment assistance.....	3,500,000
7	Respite care program.....	<u>5,868,700</u>
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 99,676,400
9	Appropriated from:	
10	Federal revenues:	
11	Total federal revenues.....	57,525,800
12	Special revenue funds:	
13	Total private revenues.....	520,000
14	Merit award trust fund.....	4,068,700
15	Total other state restricted revenues.....	1,400,000
16	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 36,161,900
17	<b>Sec. 117. MEDICAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION</b>	
18	Full-time equated classified positions..... 500.5	
19	Medical services administration--440.5 FTE positions .	\$ 90,248,500
20	Healthy Michigan plan administration--36.0 FTE	
21	positions .....	49,342,300
22	Facility inspection contract.....	132,800
23	MICHild administration.....	3,500,000
24	Electronic health record incentive program--24.0 FTE	
25	positions .....	<u>144,226,200</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 287,449,800
27	Appropriated from:	

1	Federal revenues:	
2	Total federal revenues.....	241,588,100
3	Special revenue funds:	
4	Total local revenues.....	105,700
5	Total private revenues.....	99,800
6	Total other state restricted revenues.....	331,300
7	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 45,324,900
8	<b>Sec. 118. MEDICAL SERVICES</b>	
9	Hospital services and therapy.....	\$ 1,212,378,900
10	Hospital disproportionate share payments.....	45,000,000
11	Physician services.....	361,890,200
12	Medicare premium payments.....	408,503,400
13	Pharmaceutical services.....	297,891,800
14	Home health services.....	5,804,700
15	Hospice services.....	111,982,500
16	Transportation.....	21,888,200
17	Auxiliary medical services.....	7,268,800
18	Dental services.....	222,143,900
19	Ambulance services.....	11,000,000
20	Long-term care services.....	1,440,328,500
21	Integrated care organizations.....	454,700,100
22	Medicaid home- and community-based services waiver ...	325,318,000
23	Adult home help services.....	262,816,800
24	Personal care services.....	12,237,000
25	Program of all-inclusive care for the elderly.....	75,738,600
26	Health plan services.....	4,861,568,800
27	MIChild program.....	18,022,600

1	Federal Medicare pharmaceutical program.....	198,811,800
2	Maternal and child health.....	20,279,500
3	Healthy Michigan plan.....	3,215,577,600
4	Subtotal basic medical services program.....	13,591,151,700
5	School-based services.....	112,102,700
6	Special Medicaid reimbursement.....	388,891,700
7	Subtotal special medical services payments.....	<u>500,994,400</u>
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 14,092,146,100
9	Appropriated from:	
10	Federal revenues:	
11	Total federal revenues.....	10,399,603,000
12	Special revenue funds:	
13	Total local revenues.....	35,664,600
14	Total private revenues.....	2,100,000
15	Merit award trust fund.....	101,766,000
16	Total other state restricted revenues.....	1,909,417,800
17	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 1,643,594,700
18	<b>Sec. 119. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>	
19	Information technology services and projects.....	\$ 36,715,100
20	Michigan Medicaid information system.....	<u>50,201,100</u>
21	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 86,916,200
22	Appropriated from:	
23	Federal revenues:	
24	Total federal revenues.....	45,452,800
25	Special revenue funds:	
26	Total private revenues.....	20,000,000
27	Total other state restricted revenues.....	1,985,800

1	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	19,477,600
2	<b>Sec. 120. ONE-TIME BASIS ONLY APPROPRIATIONS</b>		
3	University autism programs .....	\$	100
4	Pay for success contracts .....		100
5	Child and adolescent health services .....		100
6	Mental health commission recommendations .....		1,500,000
7	Dental clinic program .....		100
8	Drug policy initiatives .....		100
9	Hospice services .....		<u>100</u>
10	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	1,500,600
11	Appropriated from: .....		
12	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	1,500,600

13	PART 1B		
14	SUPPLEMENTAL LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS		
15	Sec. 191. There is appropriated for the department of		
16	community health for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015,		
17	from the following funds:		
18	<b>DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH</b>		
19	APPROPRIATION SUMMARY		
20	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	361,118,400
21	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
22	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
23	transfers .....		0
24	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	361,118,400

1	Federal revenues:		
2	Total federal revenues.....		361,118,400
3	Special revenue funds:		
4	Total local revenues.....		0
5	Total private revenues.....		0
6	Total other state restricted revenues.....		0
7	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	0
8	<b>Sec. 192. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES</b>		
9	Healthy Michigan plan - behavioral health.....	\$	<u>(10,575,200)</u>
10	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	(10,575,200)
11	Appropriated from:		
12	Federal revenues:		
13	Total federal revenues.....		(10,575,200)
14	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	0
15	<b>Sec. 193. MEDICAL SERVICES</b>		
16	Healthy Michigan plan.....	\$	371,693,600
17	Subtotal basic medical services program.....		<u>371,693,600</u>
18	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	371,693,600
19	Appropriated from:		
20	Federal revenues:		
21	Total federal revenues.....		371,693,600
22	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	0

23 PART 2

24 PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

## FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

**GENERAL SECTIONS**

Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$5,251,663,500.00 and state spending from state resources to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$1,126,972,500.00. The itemized statement below identifies appropriations from which spending to local units of government will occur:

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

Community residential and support services.....	\$	592,100
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Housing and support services.....		667,400
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## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Medicaid mental health services.....	\$	785,127,300
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Community mental health non-Medicaid services.....		117,050,400
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Mental health services for special populations.....		8,842,800
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Medicaid substance use disorder services.....		16,157,300
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State disability assistance program substance use		
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disorder services .....		2,018,000
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Community substance use disorder prevention,		
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education, and treatment .....		14,553,400
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Children's waiver home care program.....		6,880,000
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Nursing home PAS/ARR-OBRA.....		2,725,300
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## LABORATORY SERVICES

Laboratory services.....	\$	5,000
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## EPIDEMIOLOGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE



1	Sexually transmitted disease control program.....	\$	377,000
2	LOCAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AND GRANTS		
3	Essential local public health services.....	\$	34,199,500
4	Implementation of 1993 PA 133, MCL 333.17015 .....		300
5	CHRONIC DISEASE AND INJURY PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION		
6	AIDS prevention, testing, and care programs.....	\$	606,100
7	Cancer prevention and control program.....		116,700
8	FAMILY, MATERNAL, AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH SERVICES		
9	Prenatal care outreach and service delivery support ..	\$	2,044,900
10	CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES		
11	Outreach and advocacy.....	\$	2,204,000
12	Medical care and treatment.....		949,800
13	CRIME VICTIM SERVICES COMMISSION		
14	Crime victim rights services grants.....	\$	6,389,800
15	OFFICE OF SERVICES TO THE AGING		
16	Community services.....	\$	13,333,500
17	Nutrition services.....		9,287,000
18	Foster grandparent volunteer program.....		579,200
19	Retired and senior volunteer program.....		197,300
20	Senior companion volunteer program.....		351,400
21	Respite care program.....		5,868,700
22	MEDICAL SERVICES		
23	Hospital services and therapy.....	\$	2,449,500
24	Physician services.....		10,665,900
25	Dental services.....		1,202,000
26	Long-term care services.....		<u>81,530,900</u>
27	TOTAL OF PAYMENTS TO LOCAL UNITS		

1 OF GOVERNMENT..... \$ 1,126,972,500

2 Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under this part and  
3 part 1 are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
4 MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

5 Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

6 (a) "AIDS" means acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.

7 (b) "CMHSP" means a community mental health services program  
8 as that term is defined in section 100a of the mental health code,  
9 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1100a.

10 (c) "Current fiscal year" means the fiscal year ending  
11 September 30, 2016.

12 (d) "Department" means the department of community health.

13 (e) "Director" means the director of the department.

14 (f) "DSH" means disproportionate share hospital.

15 (g) "EPSDT" means early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and  
16 treatment.

17 (h) "Federal poverty level" means the poverty guidelines  
18 published annually in the federal register by the United States  
19 Department of Health and Human Services under its authority to  
20 revise the poverty line under 42 USC 9902.

21 (i) "FTE" means full-time equated.

22 (j) "GME" means graduate medical education.

23 (k) "Health plan" means, at a minimum, an organization that  
24 meets the criteria for delivering the comprehensive package of  
25 services under the department's comprehensive health plan.

26 (l) "HEDIS" means healthcare effectiveness data and  
27 information set.

1 (m) "HMO" means health maintenance organization.

2 (n) "IDEA" means the individuals with disabilities education  
3 act, 20 USC 1400 to 1482.

4 (o) "MCH" means maternal and child health.

5 (p) "Medicare" means subchapter XVIII of the social security  
6 act, 42 USC 1395 to 1395III.

7 (q) "MIChild" means the program described in section 1670.

8 (r) "PAS/ARR-OBRA" means the preadmission screening and annual  
9 resident review required under the omnibus budget reconciliation  
10 act of 1987, section 1919(e)(7) of the social security act, 42 USC  
11 1396r.

12 (s) "PIHP" means a governmental entity designated by the  
13 department as a regional entity or a specialty prepaid inpatient  
14 health plan for Medicaid mental health services, services to  
15 individuals with developmental disabilities, and substance use  
16 disorder services. Regional entities are described in section 204b  
17 of the mental health code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1204b. Specialty  
18 prepaid inpatient health plans are described in section 232b of the  
19 mental health code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1232b.

20 (t) "Temporary assistance for needy families" means part A of  
21 subchapter IV of the social security act, 42 USC 601 to 619.

22 (u) "Title X" means title X of the public health service act,  
23 42 USC 300 to 300a-8, that establishes grants to states for family  
24 planning services.

25 (v) "Title XIX" and "Medicaid" mean subchapter XIX of the  
26 social security act, 42 USC 1396 to 1396w-5.

27 Sec. 204. It is the intent of the legislature that any

1 proposal for a new program or an expansion of an existing program  
2 in excess of \$1,000,000.00 initiated by the executive branch or the  
3 legislature shall include, as part of the original proposal or  
4 budget request, a list of benchmarks intended to measure the  
5 performance or return on taxpayer investment of the program or  
6 spending increase.

7       Sec. 206. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
8 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$200,000,000.00 for  
9 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
10 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
11 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
12 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

13       (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
14 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$40,000,000.00 for state  
15 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
16 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
17 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
18 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

19       (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
20 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$20,000,000.00 for local  
21 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
22 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
23 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
24 MCL 18.1393.

25       (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
26 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$40,000,000.00 for private  
27 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure

1 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
2 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
3 MCL 18.1393.

4 Sec. 207. The department shall maintain, on a public  
5 accessible website, a department scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
6 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
7 improve the department's performance.

8 Sec. 208. The departments and agencies receiving  
9 appropriations in part 1 shall use the Internet to fulfill the  
10 reporting requirements of this part and part 1. This requirement  
11 may include transmission of reports via electronic mail to the  
12 recipients identified for each reporting requirement, or it may  
13 include placement of reports on the Internet.

14 Sec. 209. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used for  
15 the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
16 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
17 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to  
18 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
19 businesses if they are competitively priced and of comparable  
20 quality. In addition, preference shall be given to goods or  
21 services, or both, that are manufactured or provided by Michigan  
22 businesses owned and operated by veterans if they are competitively  
23 priced and of comparable quality.

24 Sec. 210. The director and the director of the office of  
25 services to the aging shall take all reasonable steps to ensure  
26 businesses in deprived and depressed communities compete for and  
27 perform contracts to provide services or supplies, or both. The

1 director and the director of the office of services to the aging  
2 shall strongly encourage firms with which the department contracts  
3 to subcontract with certified businesses in depressed and deprived  
4 communities for services, supplies, or both.

5       Sec. 211. If the revenue collected by the department from fees  
6 and collections exceeds the amount appropriated in part 1, the  
7 revenue may be carried forward with the approval of the state  
8 budget director into the subsequent fiscal year. The revenue  
9 carried forward under this section shall be used as the first  
10 source of funds in the subsequent fiscal year.

11       Sec. 212. (1) On or before February 1 of the current fiscal  
12 year, the department shall report to the house and senate  
13 appropriations subcommittees on community health, the house and  
14 senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director on the  
15 detailed name and amounts of federal, restricted, private, and  
16 local sources of revenue that support the appropriations in each of  
17 the line items in part 1.

18       (2) Upon the release of the next fiscal year executive budget  
19 recommendation, the department shall report to the same parties in  
20 subsection (1) on the amounts and detailed sources of federal,  
21 restricted, private, and local revenue proposed to support the  
22 total funds appropriated in each of the line items in part 1 of the  
23 next fiscal year executive budget proposal.

24       Sec. 213. The state departments, agencies, and commissions  
25 receiving tobacco tax funds and Healthy Michigan fund revenue from  
26 part 1 shall report by April 1 of the current fiscal year to the  
27 senate and house appropriations committees, the senate and house

1 fiscal agencies, and the state budget director on the following:

2 (a) Detailed spending plan by appropriation line item  
3 including description of programs and a summary of organizations  
4 receiving these funds.

5 (b) Description of allocations or bid processes including need  
6 or demand indicators used to determine allocations.

7 (c) Eligibility criteria for program participation and maximum  
8 benefit levels where applicable.

9 (d) Outcome measures used to evaluate programs, including  
10 measures of the effectiveness of these programs in improving the  
11 health of Michigan residents.

12 (e) Any other information considered necessary by the house of  
13 representatives or senate appropriations committees or the state  
14 budget director.

15 Sec. 216. (1) In addition to funds appropriated in part 1 for  
16 all programs and services, there is appropriated for write-offs of  
17 accounts receivable, deferrals, and for prior year obligations in  
18 excess of applicable prior year appropriations, an amount equal to  
19 total write-offs and prior year obligations, but not to exceed  
20 amounts available in prior year revenues.

21 (2) The department's ability to satisfy appropriation  
22 deductions in part 1 shall not be limited to collections and  
23 accruals pertaining to services provided in the current fiscal  
24 year, but shall also include reimbursements, refunds, adjustments,  
25 and settlements from prior years.

26 Sec. 218. The department shall include the following in its  
27 annual list of proposed basic health services as required in part

23 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.2301 to  
333.2321:

(a) Immunizations.

(b) Communicable disease control.

(c) Sexually transmitted disease control.

(d) Tuberculosis control.

(e) Prevention of gonorrhea eye infection in newborns.

(f) Screening newborns for the conditions listed in section  
5431 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.5431, or  
recommended by the newborn screening quality assurance advisory  
committee created under section 5430 of the public health code,  
1978 PA 368, MCL 333.5430.

(g) Community health annex of the Michigan emergency  
management plan.

(h) Prenatal care.

Sec. 219. (1) The department may contract with the Michigan  
Public Health Institute for the design and implementation of  
projects and for other public health-related activities prescribed  
in section 2611 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL  
333.2611. The department may develop a master agreement with the  
Institute to carry out these purposes for up to a 3-year period.  
The department shall report to the house and senate appropriations  
subcommittees on community health, the house and senate fiscal  
agencies, and the state budget director on or before January 1 of  
the current fiscal year all of the following:

(a) A detailed description of each funded project.

(b) The amount allocated for each project, the appropriation



1 line item from which the allocation is funded, and the source of  
2 financing for each project.

3 (c) The expected project duration.

4 (d) A detailed spending plan for each project, including a  
5 list of all subgrantees and the amount allocated to each  
6 subgrantee.

7 (2) On or before September 30 of the current fiscal year, the  
8 department shall provide to the same parties listed in subsection  
9 (1) a copy of all reports, studies, and publications produced by  
10 the Michigan Public Health Institute, its subcontractors, or the  
11 department with the funds appropriated in part 1 and allocated to  
12 the Michigan Public Health Institute.

13 Sec. 223. The department may establish and collect fees for  
14 publications, videos and related materials, conferences, and  
15 workshops. Collected fees shall be used to offset expenditures to  
16 pay for printing and mailing costs of the publications, videos and  
17 related materials, and costs of the workshops and conferences. The  
18 department shall not collect fees under this section that exceed  
19 the cost of the expenditures.

20 Sec. 264. (1) Upon submission of a Medicaid waiver, a Medicaid  
21 state plan amendment, or a similar proposal to the Centers for  
22 Medicare and Medicaid Services, the department shall notify the  
23 house and senate appropriations subcommittees on community health,  
24 the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget office  
25 of the submission.

26 (2) The department shall provide written or verbal biannual  
27 reports to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on

1 community health, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the  
2 state budget office summarizing the status of any new or ongoing  
3 discussions with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services or  
4 the United States Department of Health and Human Services regarding  
5 potential or future Medicaid waiver applications.

6 (3) The department shall inform the senate and house  
7 appropriations subcommittees on community health and the senate and  
8 house fiscal agencies of any alterations or adjustments made to the  
9 published plan for integrated care for individuals who are eligible  
10 for both Medicare and Medicaid when the final version of the plan  
11 has been submitted to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid  
12 Services or the United States Department of Health and Human  
13 Services.

14 Sec. 266. The departments and agencies receiving  
15 appropriations in part 1 shall prepare a report on out-of-state  
16 travel expenses not later than January 1 of each year. The travel  
17 report shall be a listing of all travel by classified and  
18 unclassified employees outside this state in the immediately  
19 preceding fiscal year that was funded in whole or in part with  
20 funds appropriated in the department's budget. The report shall be  
21 submitted to the senate and house appropriations committees, the  
22 house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.  
23 The report shall include the following information:

24 (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

25 (b) The transportation and related costs of each travel  
26 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
27 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state

1 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
2 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

3 Sec. 267. The department shall not take disciplinary action  
4 against an employee for communicating with a member of the  
5 legislature or his or her staff.

6 Sec. 270. The department shall advise the legislature of the  
7 receipt of a notification from the attorney general's office of a  
8 legal action in which expenses had been recovered pursuant to  
9 section 106(4) of the social welfare act, 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.106,  
10 or any other statute under which the department has the right to  
11 recover expenses. By March 1 and September 1 of the current fiscal  
12 year, the department shall submit a written report to the house and  
13 senate appropriations subcommittees on community health, the house  
14 and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget office which  
15 includes, at a minimum, all of the following:

16 (a) The total amount recovered from the legal action.

17 (b) The program or service for which the money was originally  
18 expended.

19 (c) Details on the disposition of the funds recovered such as  
20 the appropriation or revenue account in which the money was  
21 deposited.

22 (d) A description of the facts involved in the legal action.

23 Sec. 276. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used by a  
24 principal executive department, state agency, or authority to hire  
25 a person to provide legal services that are the responsibility of  
26 the attorney general. This prohibition does not apply to legal  
27 services for bonding activities and for those outside services that

1 the attorney general authorizes.

2       Sec. 282. (1) The department shall work with the department of  
3 technology, management, and budget to plan for the development of  
4 an automated annual metric collection, validation, and reporting  
5 system for contracts. The department shall report the status of  
6 this work to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on  
7 community health and the house and senate fiscal agencies by  
8 February 1 of the current fiscal year.

9       (2) It is the intent of the legislature that the automated  
10 system established in subsection (1) shall be able to generate a  
11 report to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on  
12 community health and the house and senate fiscal agencies that  
13 presents performance metrics on all new or existing contracts at  
14 renewal of \$1,000,000.00 or more funded only with state general  
15 fund/general purpose or state restricted resources. The performance  
16 metrics shall include, at a minimum, service delivery volumes and  
17 provider or beneficiary outcomes.

18       Sec. 285. The department shall participate in a work group to  
19 investigate means of minimizing fraud in the MIBridges benefits  
20 programs. The members of the workgroup shall include, but are not  
21 limited to, the department and the departments of human services,  
22 state, and state police, and members of the house of  
23 representatives and the senate. The workgroup shall, at a minimum,  
24 address the following possibilities and make recommendations on the  
25 implementation of any of the following items considered feasible:

26       (a) Whether the department of human services' policies  
27 concerning the replacement of lost bridge cards sufficiently deter

1 improper use of those cards.

2 (b) What technologies may exist to deter the sale or other  
3 improper use of bridge cards.

4 (c) Whether a state driver license or state identification  
5 card might be used to replace the existing bridge cards.

6 (d) What federal policies exist that may inhibit or enhance  
7 adoption of fraud minimization actions.

8 Sec. 287. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
9 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
10 the total general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses at the  
11 close of the prior fiscal year. This report shall summarize the  
12 projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriation  
13 lapses by major departmental program or program areas. The report  
14 shall be transmitted to the chairpersons of the senate and house  
15 appropriations committees, and the senate and house fiscal  
16 agencies.

17 Sec. 288. (1) Beginning October 1 of the current fiscal year,  
18 no less than 90% of a new department contract supported solely from  
19 state restricted funds or general fund/general purpose funds and  
20 designated in this part or part 1 for a specific entity for the  
21 purpose of providing services to individuals shall be expended for  
22 such services after the first year of the contract.

23 (2) The department may allow a contract to exceed the  
24 limitation on administrative and services costs if it can be  
25 demonstrated that an exception should be made to the provision in  
26 subsection (1).

27 (3) By September 30 of the current fiscal year, the department

1 shall report to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees  
2 on community health, house and senate fiscal agencies, and state  
3 budget office on the rationale for all exceptions made to the  
4 provision in subsection (1) and the number of contracts terminated  
5 due to violations of subsection (1).

6       Sec. 290. By the first day of each month of the current fiscal  
7 year, the department shall report on the status of the merger,  
8 executed under Executive Order No. 2015-4, of the department of  
9 community health and the department of human services to create the  
10 department of health and human services. The department shall  
11 provide the report to the house and senate appropriations  
12 subcommittees on community health, the house and senate  
13 appropriations subcommittees on human services, and the house and  
14 senate fiscal agencies. The report must include, but not be limited  
15 to, the current status of FTE positions, facilities in use,  
16 services including restructuring or consolidation, efficiencies,  
17 and estimated savings or costs associated with the merger. The  
18 report must indicate changes from the prior report.

19       Sec. 292. The department shall cooperate with the department  
20 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable  
21 website accessible by the public at no cost that includes, but is  
22 not limited to, all of the following for each department or agency:

23       (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

24       (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

25       (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
26 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
27 payment description.

1 (d) The number of active department employees by job  
2 classification.

3 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

4 Sec. 296. Within 14 days after the release of the executive  
5 budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate with the  
6 state budget office to provide the senate and house appropriations  
7 chairs, the senate and house appropriations subcommittees chairs,  
8 and the senate and house fiscal agencies with an annual report on  
9 estimated state restricted fund balances, state restricted fund  
10 projected revenues, and state restricted fund expenditures for the  
11 fiscal years ending September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016.

12 Sec. 297. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
13 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
14 30, 2016 are \$87,425,100.00. From this amount, total agency  
15 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
16 \$49,623,700.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care  
17 legacy costs are estimated at \$37,801,400.00.

18 Sec. 298. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
19 Michigan Medicaid information system line item, \$20,000,000.00 in  
20 private revenue will be allocated for the Michigan-Illinois  
21 alliance Medicaid management information systems project.

22 Sec. 299. No state department or agency shall issue a request  
23 for proposal (RFP) for a contract in excess of \$5,000,000.00,  
24 unless the department or agency has first considered issuing a  
25 request for information (RFI) or a request for qualification (RFQ)  
26 relative to that contract to better enable the department or agency  
27 to learn more about the market for the products or services that

1 are the subject of the RFP. The department or agency shall notify  
2 the department of technology, management, and budget of the  
3 evaluation process used to determine if an RFI or RFQ was not  
4 necessary prior to issuing the RFP.

#### 5 **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES**

6       Sec. 401. Funds appropriated in part 1 are intended to support  
7 a system of comprehensive community mental health services under  
8 the full authority and responsibility of local CMHSPs or PIHPs in  
9 accordance with the mental health code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1001  
10 to 330.2106, the Medicaid provider manual, federal Medicaid  
11 waivers, and all other applicable federal and state laws.

12       Sec. 402. (1) From funds appropriated in part 1, final  
13 authorizations to CMHSPs or PIHPs shall be made upon the execution  
14 of contracts between the department and CMHSPs or PIHPs. The  
15 contracts shall contain an approved plan and budget as well as  
16 policies and procedures governing the obligations and  
17 responsibilities of both parties to the contracts. Each contract  
18 with a CMHSP or PIHP that the department is authorized to enter  
19 into under this subsection shall include a provision that the  
20 contract is not valid unless the total dollar obligation for all of  
21 the contracts between the department and the CMHSPs or PIHPs  
22 entered into under this subsection for the current fiscal year does  
23 not exceed the amount of money appropriated in part 1 for the  
24 contracts authorized under this subsection.

25       (2) The department shall immediately report to the senate and  
26 house appropriations subcommittees on community health, the senate



1 and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director if either  
2 of the following occurs:

3 (a) Any new contracts with CMHSPs or PIHPs that would affect  
4 rates or expenditures are enacted.

5 (b) Any amendments to contracts with CMHSPs or PIHPs that  
6 would affect rates or expenditures are enacted.

7 (3) The report required by subsection (2) shall include  
8 information about the changes and their effects on rates and  
9 expenditures.

10 Sec. 403. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for mental  
11 health services for special populations, the department may require  
12 each contractor to provide data and information on performance-  
13 related metrics. These metrics may include, but are not limited to,  
14 all of the following:

15 (a) Each contractor or subcontractor shall have a mission that  
16 is consistent with the purpose of multicultural integration  
17 funding.

18 (b) Each contractor shall validate that any subcontractors  
19 utilized within these appropriations share the same mission as the  
20 lead agency receiving funding.

21 (c) Each contractor or subcontractor shall demonstrate cost-  
22 effectiveness.

23 (d) Each contractor or subcontractor shall ensure its ability  
24 to leverage private dollars to strengthen and maximize service  
25 provision.

26 (e) Each contractor or subcontractor shall provide timely and  
27 accurate reports regarding the number of clients served, units of

1 service provision, and ability to meet its stated goals.

2 (2) The department shall require an annual report from the  
3 contractors that receive mental health services for special  
4 populations funding. The annual report, due 60 days following the  
5 end of the contract period, shall include specific information on  
6 services and programs provided, the client base to which the  
7 services and programs were provided, information on any wraparound  
8 services provided, and the expenditures for those services. The  
9 department shall provide the annual reports to the senate and house  
10 appropriations subcommittees on community health, the senate and  
11 house fiscal agencies, and the state budget office.

12 (3) The department of human services and the department shall  
13 convene a workgroup to discuss and make recommendations on  
14 including accreditation in the contractor specifications and  
15 potentially moving toward competitive bidding. Each contractor  
16 required to provide data per this section shall be invited to  
17 participate in the workgroup.

18 Sec. 404. (1) Not later than May 31 of the current fiscal  
19 year, the department shall provide a report on the CMHSPs, PIHPs,  
20 regional entities designated by the department as PIHPs, and  
21 managing entities for substance use disorders to the members of the  
22 house and senate appropriations subcommittees on community health,  
23 the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director  
24 that includes the information required by this section.

25 (2) The report shall contain information for each CMHSP, PIHP,  
26 regional entity designated by the department as a PIHP, and  
27 managing entity for substance use disorders and a statewide

1 summary, each of which shall include at least the following  
2 information:

3 (a) A demographic description of service recipients which,  
4 minimally, shall include reimbursement eligibility, client  
5 population, age, ethnicity, housing arrangements, and diagnosis.

6 (b) Per capita expenditures by client population group and  
7 cultural and ethnic groups of the services area, including the deaf  
8 and hard of hearing population.

9 (c) Financial information that, minimally, includes a  
10 description of funding authorized; expenditures by client group and  
11 fund source; and cost information by Medicaid and Healthy Michigan  
12 plan service category, including administration and funds specified  
13 for all outside contracts for services and products. Financial  
14 information must include the amount of funding, from each fund  
15 source, used to cover services and supports. Service category  
16 includes all department-approved services. General fund  
17 expenditures should reflect those funds used to cover uninsured  
18 individuals including Medicaid spenddowns.

19 (d) Data describing service outcomes that include, but are not  
20 limited to, an evaluation of consumer satisfaction, consumer  
21 choice, and quality of life concerns including, but not limited to,  
22 housing and employment.

23 (e) Information about access to community mental health  
24 services programs that includes, but is not limited to, the  
25 following:

26 (i) The number of people receiving requested services.

27 (ii) The number of people who requested services but did not

1 receive services.

2 (f) The number of second opinions requested under the code and  
3 the determination of any appeals.

4 (g) An analysis of information provided by CMHSPs in response  
5 to the needs assessment requirements of the mental health code,  
6 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1001 to 330.2106.

7 (h) Lapses and carryforwards during the immediately preceding  
8 fiscal year for CMHSPs, PIHPs, regional entities designated by the  
9 department as PIHPs, and managing entities for substance use  
10 disorders.

11 (i) Information about contracts for both administrative and  
12 mental health services entered into by CMHSPs, PIHPs, regional  
13 entities designated by the department as PIHPs, and managing  
14 entities for substance use disorders with providers and others,  
15 including, but not limited to, all of the following:

16 (i) The amount of the contract, organized by type of service  
17 provided.

18 (ii) Payment rates, organized by the type of service provided.

19 (iii) Administrative costs, including contract and consultant  
20 costs, for services provided to CMHSPs, PIHPs, regional entities  
21 designated by the department as PIHPs, and managing entities for  
22 substance use disorders.

23 (j) Information on the community mental health Medicaid  
24 managed care and Healthy Michigan plan programs, including, but not  
25 limited to, the following:

26 (i) Expenditures by each CMHSP, PIHP, regional entity  
27 designated by the department as a PIHP, and managing entity for

1 substance use disorders organized by Medicaid eligibility group,  
2 including per eligible individual expenditure averages.

3 (ii) Expenditures on, and utilization of, each Medicaid and  
4 Healthy Michigan plan service category by each CMHSP, PIHP,  
5 regional entity designated by the department as a PIHP, and  
6 managing entity for substance use disorders.

7 (iii) Performance indicator information required to be  
8 submitted to the department in the contracts with CMHSPs, PIHPs,  
9 regional entities designated by the department as PIHPs, and  
10 managing entities for substance use disorders.

11 (k) An estimate of the number of direct care workers, and the  
12 average rate of pay for those direct care workers, providing  
13 services in local residential settings and the number of  
14 paraprofessional and other nonprofessional direct care workers, and  
15 the average rate of pay for those paraprofessional and  
16 nonprofessional direct care workers, providing services in settings  
17 where skill building, community living supports and training, and  
18 personal care services are provided by CMHSPs, PIHPs, regional  
19 entities designated by the department as PIHPs, and managing  
20 entities for substance use disorders as of September 30 of the  
21 prior fiscal year employed directly or through contracts with  
22 provider organizations.

23 (l) Administrative expenditures of each CMHSP, PIHP, regional  
24 entity designated by the department as a PIHP, and managing entity  
25 for substance use disorders that includes a breakout of the salary,  
26 benefits, and pension of each executive level staff and shall  
27 include the director, chief executive, and chief operating officers

1 and other members identified as executive staff.

2 (3) The department shall include data reporting requirements  
3 listed in subsection (2) in the annual contract with each  
4 individual CMHSP, PIHP, regional entity designated by the  
5 department as a PIHP, and managing entity for substance use  
6 disorders.

7 (4) The department shall take all reasonable actions to ensure  
8 that the data required are complete and consistent among all  
9 CMHSPs, PIHPs, regional entities designated by the department as  
10 PIHPs, and managing entities for substance use disorders.

11 Sec. 406. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for the state  
12 disability assistance substance use disorder services program shall  
13 be used to support per diem room and board payments in substance  
14 use disorder residential facilities. Eligibility of clients for the  
15 state disability assistance substance use disorder services program  
16 shall include needy persons 18 years of age or older, or  
17 emancipated minors, who reside in a substance use disorder  
18 treatment center.

19 (2) The department shall reimburse all licensed substance use  
20 disorder programs eligible to participate in the program at a rate  
21 equivalent to that paid by the department of human services to  
22 adult foster care providers. Programs accredited by department-  
23 approved accrediting organizations shall be reimbursed at the  
24 personal care rate, while all other eligible programs shall be  
25 reimbursed at the domiciliary care rate.

26 Sec. 407. (1) The amount appropriated in part 1 for substance  
27 use disorder prevention, education, and treatment grants shall be

1 expended to coordinate care and services provided to individuals  
2 with severe and persistent mental illness and substance use  
3 disorder diagnoses.

4 (2) The department shall approve managing entity fee schedules  
5 for providing substance use disorder services and charge  
6 participants in accordance with their ability to pay.

7 (3) The managing entity shall continue current efforts to  
8 collaborate on the delivery of services to those clients with  
9 mental illness and substance use disorder diagnoses with the goal  
10 of providing services in an administratively efficient manner.

11 Sec. 408. (1) By April 1 of the current fiscal year, the  
12 department shall report the following data from the prior fiscal  
13 year on substance use disorder prevention, education, and treatment  
14 programs to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on  
15 community health, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the  
16 state budget office:

17 (a) Expenditures stratified by department-designated community  
18 mental health entity, by central diagnosis and referral agency, by  
19 fund source, by subcontractor, by population served, and by service  
20 type. Additionally, data on administrative expenditures by  
21 department-designated community mental health entity shall be  
22 reported.

23 (b) Expenditures per state client, with data on the  
24 distribution of expenditures reported using a histogram approach.

25 (c) Number of services provided by central diagnosis and  
26 referral agency, by subcontractor, and by service type.  
27 Additionally, data on length of stay, referral source, and

1 participation in other state programs.

2 (d) Collections from other first- or third-party payers,  
3 private donations, or other state or local programs, by department-  
4 designated community mental health entity, by subcontractor, by  
5 population served, and by service type.

6 (2) The department shall take all reasonable actions to ensure  
7 that the required data reported are complete and consistent among  
8 all department-designated community mental health entities.

9 Sec. 410. The department shall assure that substance use  
10 disorder treatment is provided to applicants and recipients of  
11 public assistance through the department of human services who are  
12 required to obtain substance use disorder treatment as a condition  
13 of eligibility for public assistance.

14 Sec. 411. (1) The department shall ensure that each contract  
15 with a CMHSP or PIHP requires the CMHSP or PIHP to implement  
16 programs to encourage diversion of individuals with serious mental  
17 illness, serious emotional disturbance, or developmental disability  
18 from possible jail incarceration when appropriate.

19 (2) Each CMHSP or PIHP shall have jail diversion services and  
20 shall work toward establishing working relationships with  
21 representative staff of local law enforcement agencies, including  
22 county prosecutors' offices, county sheriffs' offices, county  
23 jails, municipal police agencies, municipal detention facilities,  
24 and the courts. Written interagency agreements describing what  
25 services each participating agency is prepared to commit to the  
26 local jail diversion effort and the procedures to be used by local  
27 law enforcement agencies to access mental health jail diversion



1 services are strongly encouraged.

2       Sec. 418. On or before the twenty-fifth of each month, the  
3 department shall report to the senate and house appropriations  
4 subcommittees on community health, the senate and house fiscal  
5 agencies, and the state budget director on the amount of funding  
6 paid to PIHPs to support the Medicaid managed mental health care  
7 program in the preceding month. The information shall include the  
8 total paid to each PIHP, per capita rate paid for each eligibility  
9 group for each PIHP, and number of cases in each eligibility group  
10 for each PIHP, and year-to-date summary of eligibles and  
11 expenditures for the Medicaid managed mental health care program.

12       Sec. 424. Each PIHP that contracts with the department to  
13 provide services to the Medicaid population shall adhere to the  
14 following timely claims processing and payment procedure for claims  
15 submitted by health professionals and facilities:

16       (a) A "clean claim" as described in section 111i of the social  
17 welfare act, 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.111i, shall be paid within 45  
18 days after receipt of the claim by the PIHP. A clean claim that is  
19 not paid within this time frame shall bear simple interest at a  
20 rate of 12% per annum.

21       (b) A PIHP shall state in writing to the health professional  
22 or facility any defect in the claim within 30 days after receipt of  
23 the claim.

24       (c) A health professional and a health facility have 30 days  
25 after receipt of a notice that a claim or a portion of a claim is  
26 defective within which to correct the defect. The PIHP shall pay  
27 the claim within 30 days after the defect is corrected.

1       Sec. 428. Each PIHP shall provide, from internal resources,  
2   local funds to be used as a bona fide part of the state match  
3   required under the Medicaid program in order to increase capitation  
4   rates for PIHPs. These funds shall not include either state funds  
5   received by a CMHSP for services provided to non-Medicaid  
6   recipients or the state matching portion of the Medicaid capitation  
7   payments made to a PIHP.

8       Sec. 435. A county required under the provisions of the mental  
9   health code, 1974 PA 258, MCL 330.1001 to 330.2106, to provide  
10   matching funds to a CMHSP for mental health services rendered to  
11   residents in its jurisdiction shall pay the matching funds in equal  
12   installments on not less than a quarterly basis throughout the  
13   fiscal year, with the first payment being made by October 1 of the  
14   current fiscal year.

15       Sec. 436. Of the funds appropriated to the Detroit Wayne  
16   County Mental Health Authority, \$8,900,000.00 shall be used to fund  
17   mental health services at the Wayne County adult and juvenile  
18   detention facilities.

19       Sec. 458. Medicaid services shall include treatment for autism  
20   spectrum disorders as defined in the federally approved Medicaid  
21   state plan. Such alternatives may be coordinated with the Medicaid  
22   health plans and the Michigan Association of Health Plans.

23       Sec. 494. (1) Contingent upon federal approval, if a CMHSP,  
24   PIHP, or subcontracting provider agency is reviewed and accredited  
25   by a national accrediting entity for behavioral health care  
26   services, the department, by April 1 of the current fiscal year,  
27   shall consider that CMHSP, PIHP, or subcontracting provider agency

1 in compliance with state program review and audit requirements that  
2 are addressed and reviewed by that national accrediting entity.

3 (2) By June 1 of the current fiscal year, the department shall  
4 report to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on  
5 community health, the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the  
6 state budget office all of the following:

7 (a) A list of each CMHSP, PIHP, and subcontracting provider  
8 agency that is considered in compliance with state program review  
9 and audit requirements under subsection (1).

10 (b) For each CMHSP, PIHP, or subcontracting provider agency  
11 described in subdivision (a), all of the following:

12 (i) The state program review and audit requirements that the  
13 CMHSP, PIHP, or subcontracting provider agency is considered in  
14 compliance with.

15 (ii) The national accrediting entity that reviewed and  
16 accredited the CMHSP, PIHP, or subcontracting provider agency.

17 (3) The department shall continue to comply with state and  
18 federal law and shall not initiate an action that negatively  
19 impacts beneficiary safety.

20 (4) As used in this section, "national accrediting entity"  
21 means the Joint Commission, formerly known as the Joint Commission  
22 on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the Commission on  
23 Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, the Council on  
24 Accreditation, the URAC, formerly known as the Utilization Review  
25 Accreditation Commission, the National Committee for Quality  
26 Assurance, or other appropriate entity, as approved by the  
27 department.

1       Sec. 495. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for behavioral  
2 health program administration, \$4,350,000.00 is intended to address  
3 the recommendations of the mental health diversion council.

4       Sec. 497. The population data used in determining the  
5 distribution of substance use disorder block grant funds shall be  
6 from the most recent federal census.

7       Sec. 498. For distribution of state general funds to CMHSPs,  
8 if the department decides to use census data, the department shall  
9 use the most recent federal decennial census data available.

10       Sec. 502. (1) The department shall continue developing an  
11 outreach program on fetal alcohol syndrome services.

12       (2) The department shall explore federal grant funding to  
13 address prevention services for fetal alcohol syndrome and reduce  
14 alcohol consumption among pregnant women.

15       Sec. 503. The department shall notify the Michigan Association  
16 of Community Mental Health Boards when developing policies and  
17 procedures that will impact PIHPs or CMHSPs.

18       Sec. 504. (1) The department shall continue to work with the  
19 workgroup created to make recommendations to achieve more  
20 uniformity in capitation payments made to the PIHPs.

21       (2) The workgroup shall include but not be limited to  
22 representatives of the department, PIHPs, and CMHSPs.

23       (3) The department shall provide the workgroup's  
24 recommendations to the senate and house appropriations  
25 subcommittees on community health, the senate and house fiscal  
26 agencies, and the state budget director by March 1 of the current  
27 fiscal year.

1       Sec. 505. For the purposes of special projects involving high-  
2   need children or adults, including the not guilty by reason of  
3   insanity population, the department may contract directly with  
4   providers of services to these identified populations.

5       Sec. 506. No later than June 1 of the current fiscal year, the  
6   department shall provide the house and senate appropriations  
7   subcommittees on community health, the house and senate fiscal  
8   agencies, and the state budget office with the most recent cost  
9   data information submitted by the CMHSPs on how the funds  
10   appropriated in part 1 for the community mental health services  
11   non-Medicaid services line item were expended by each CMHSP. At a  
12   minimum, the information must include CMHSPs general fund/general  
13   purpose costs for each of the following categories: administration,  
14   prevention, jail diversion and treatment services, MICHild program,  
15   children's waiver home care program, children with serious  
16   emotional disturbance waiver program, services provided to  
17   individuals with mental illness and developmental disabilities who  
18   are not eligible for Medicaid, and the Medicaid spenddown  
19   population.

20       Sec. 507. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
21   behavioral health program administration, the department shall  
22   establish a psychiatric residential treatment facility and  
23   children's behavioral action team. These services will augment the  
24   continuum of behavioral health services for high-need youth and  
25   provide additional continuity of care and transition into  
26   supportive community-based services.

27       (2) Outcomes and performance measures for this initiative

1 include, but are not limited to, the following:

2 (a) The rate of rehospitalization for youth served through the  
3 program at 30 and 180 days.

4 (b) Measured change in the Child and Adolescent Functional  
5 Assessment Scale for children served through the program.

6 **STATE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS AND FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

7 Sec. 601. The department shall continue a revenue recapture  
8 project to generate additional revenues from third parties related  
9 to cases that have been closed or are inactive. A portion of  
10 revenues collected through project efforts may be used for  
11 departmental costs and contractual fees associated with these  
12 retroactive collections and to improve ongoing departmental  
13 reimbursement management functions.

14 Sec. 602. The purpose of gifts and bequests for patient living  
15 and treatment environments is to use additional private funds to  
16 provide specific enhancements for individuals residing at state-  
17 operated facilities. Use of the gifts and bequests shall be  
18 consistent with the stipulation of the donor. The expected  
19 completion date for the use of gifts and bequests donations is  
20 within 3 years unless otherwise stipulated by the donor.

21 Sec. 605. (1) The department shall not implement any closures  
22 or consolidations of state hospitals, centers, or agencies until  
23 CMHSPs or PIHPs have programs and services in place for those  
24 individuals currently in those facilities and a plan for service  
25 provision for those individuals who would have been admitted to  
26 those facilities.

1           (2) All closures or consolidations are dependent upon adequate  
2 department-approved CMHSP and PIHP plans that include a discharge  
3 and aftercare plan for each individual currently in the facility. A  
4 discharge and aftercare plan shall address the individual's housing  
5 needs. A homeless shelter or similar temporary shelter arrangements  
6 are inadequate to meet the individual's housing needs.

7           (3) Four months after the certification of closure required in  
8 section 19(6) of the state employees' retirement act, 1943 PA 240,  
9 MCL 38.19, the department shall provide a closure plan to the house  
10 and senate appropriations subcommittees on community health and the  
11 state budget director.

12           (4) Upon the closure of state-run operations and after  
13 transitional costs have been paid, the remaining balances of funds  
14 appropriated for that operation shall be transferred to CMHSPs or  
15 PIHPs responsible for providing services for individuals previously  
16 served by the operations.

17           Sec. 606. The department may collect revenue for patient  
18 reimbursement from first- and third-party payers, including  
19 Medicaid and local county CMHSP payers, to cover the cost of  
20 placement in state hospitals and centers. The department is  
21 authorized to adjust financing sources for patient reimbursement  
22 based on actual revenues earned. If the revenue collected exceeds  
23 current year expenditures, the revenue may be carried forward with  
24 approval of the state budget director. The revenue carried forward  
25 shall be used as a first source of funds in the subsequent year.

26           Sec. 608. Effective October 1 of the current fiscal year, the  
27 department, in consultation with the department of technology,

1 management, and budget, may maintain a bid process to identify 1 or  
2 more private contractors to provide food service and custodial  
3 services for the administrative areas at any state hospital  
4 identified by the department as capable of generating savings  
5 through the outsourcing of such services.

#### 6 PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

7       Sec. 651. The department shall work with the Michigan health  
8 endowment fund corporation established pursuant to section 653 of  
9 the nonprofit health care corporation reform act, 1980 PA 350, MCL  
10 550.1653, to explore ways to expand health and wellness programs.

11       Sec. 654. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for health and  
12 wellness initiatives, \$1,000,000.00 shall be allocated for a school  
13 children's healthy exercise program to promote and advance physical  
14 health for school children in kindergarten through grade 8. The  
15 department shall recommend model programs for sites to implement  
16 that incorporate evidence-based best practices. The department  
17 shall grant no less than 1/2 of the funds appropriated in part 1  
18 for before- and after-school programs. The department shall  
19 establish guidelines for program sites, which may include schools,  
20 community-based organizations, private facilities, recreation  
21 centers, or other similar sites. The program format shall encourage  
22 local determination of site activities and shall encourage local  
23 inclusion of youth in the decision-making regarding site  
24 activities. Program goals shall include children experiencing  
25 improved physical health and access to physical activity  
26 opportunities, the reduction of obesity, providing a safe place to



1 play and exercise, and nutrition education. To be eligible to  
2 participate, program sites shall provide a 20% match to the state  
3 funding, which may be provided in full, or in part, by a  
4 corporation, foundation, or private partner. The department shall  
5 seek financial support from corporate, foundation, or other private  
6 partners for the program or for individual program sites.

#### 7 HEALTH POLICY

8       Sec. 712. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for primary  
9 care services, \$250,000.00 shall be allocated to free health  
10 clinics operating in the state. The department shall distribute the  
11 funds equally to each free health clinic. For the purpose of this  
12 appropriation, "free health clinics" means nonprofit organizations  
13 that use volunteer health professionals to provide care to  
14 uninsured individuals.

15       Sec. 713. The department shall continue support of  
16 multicultural agencies that provide primary care services from the  
17 funds appropriated in part 1.

18       Sec. 715. The department shall continue to seek means to  
19 increase retention of Michigan medical school students for  
20 completion of their primary care residency requirements within this  
21 state and ultimately, for some period of time, to remain in this  
22 state and serve as primary care physicians. The department is  
23 encouraged to work with Michigan institutions of higher education.

24       Sec. 717. The department may award health innovation grants to  
25 address emerging issues and encourage cutting edge advances in  
26 health care including strategic partners in both the public and

1 private sectors.

2       Sec. 718. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for health  
3 policy administration, the department shall allocate the federal  
4 state innovation model grant funding that supports implementation  
5 of the health delivery system innovations detailed in this state's  
6 "Reinventing Michigan's Health Care System: Blueprint for Health  
7 Innovation" document. Over the next 4 years this initiative will  
8 test new payment methodologies, support improved population health  
9 outcomes, and support improved infrastructure for technology and  
10 data sharing and reporting. The funds will be used to provide  
11 financial support directly to regions participating in the model  
12 test and to support statewide stakeholder guidance and technical  
13 support.

14       (2) Outcomes and performance measures for the initiative under  
15 subsection (1) include, but are not limited to, the following:

16       (a) Increasing the number of physician practices fulfilling  
17 patient-centered medical home functions.

18       (b) Reducing inappropriate health utilization, specifically  
19 reducing preventable emergency department visits, reducing the  
20 proportion of hospitalizations for ambulatory sensitive conditions,  
21 and reducing this state's 30-day hospital readmission rate.

22       (3) By March 1 and September 1 of the current fiscal year, the  
23 department shall submit a written report to the house and senate  
24 appropriations subcommittees on community health, the house and  
25 senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget office on the status  
26 of the program and progress made since the prior report.

1 **EPIDEMIOLOGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE**

2       Sec. 851. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
3 healthy homes program, no less than \$1,750,000.00 shall be  
4 allocated for lead abatement of homes.

5       Sec. 852. The department shall implement a plan designed to  
6 improve Michigan's childhood and adolescent immunization rates. The  
7 department shall engage organizations working to provide  
8 immunizations and education about the value of vaccines, including,  
9 but not limited to, statewide organizations representing health  
10 care providers, local public health departments, child health  
11 interest groups, and private foundations with a mission to increase  
12 immunization rates.

13 **LOCAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AND GRANTS**

14       Sec. 901. The amount appropriated in part 1 for implementation  
15 of the 1993 additions of or amendments to sections 9161, 16221,  
16 16226, 17014, 17015, and 17515 of the public health code, 1978 PA  
17 368, MCL 333.9161, 333.16221, 333.16226, 333.17014, 333.17015, and  
18 333.17515, shall be used to reimburse local health departments for  
19 costs incurred related to implementation of section 17015(18) of  
20 the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.17015.

21       Sec. 902. If a county that has participated in a district  
22 health department or an associated arrangement with other local  
23 health departments takes action to cease to participate in such an  
24 arrangement after October 1 of the current fiscal year, the  
25 department shall have the authority to assess a penalty from the  
26 local health department's operational accounts in an amount equal

1 to no more than 6.25% of the local health department's essential  
2 local public health services funding. This penalty shall only be  
3 assessed to the local county that requests the dissolution of the  
4 health department.

5       Sec. 904. (1) Funds appropriated in part 1 for essential local  
6 public health services shall be prospectively allocated to local  
7 health departments to support immunizations, infectious disease  
8 control, sexually transmitted disease control and prevention,  
9 hearing screening, vision services, food protection, public water  
10 supply, private groundwater supply, and on-site sewage management.  
11 Food protection shall be provided in consultation with the  
12 department of agriculture and rural development. Public water  
13 supply, private groundwater supply, and on-site sewage management  
14 shall be provided in consultation with the department of  
15 environmental quality.

16       (2) Local public health departments shall be held to  
17 contractual standards for the services in subsection (1).

18       (3) Distributions in subsection (1) shall be made only to  
19 counties that maintain local spending in the current fiscal year of  
20 at least the amount expended in fiscal year 1992-1993 for the  
21 services described in subsection (1).

## 22 **FAMILY, MATERNAL, AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH SERVICES**

23       Sec. 1103. By January 3 of the current fiscal year the  
24 department shall annually issue to the legislature, and to the  
25 public on the Internet, a report providing estimated public funds  
26 administered by the department for family planning, sexually

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1 transmitted infection prevention and treatment, and pregnancies and  
2 births, as well as demographics collected by the department as  
3 voluntarily self-reported by individuals utilizing those services.  
4 The department shall provide the actual expenditures by marital  
5 status or, where actual expenditures are not available, shall  
6 provide estimated expenditures by marital status. The department  
7 may utilize the DCH-1426 application for health coverage and help  
8 paying costs or any other official application for public  
9 assistance for medical coverage to determine the actual or  
10 estimated public expenditures based on marital status.

11       Sec. 1106. Each family planning program receiving federal  
12 title X family planning funds under 42 USC 300 to 300a-8 shall be  
13 in compliance with all performance and quality assurance indicators  
14 that the office of population affairs within the United States  
15 Department of Health and Human Services specifies in the program  
16 guidelines for project grants for family planning services. An  
17 agency not in compliance with the indicators shall not receive  
18 supplemental or reallocated funds.

[Sec. 1107. The department shall not contract with an organization which provides elective abortions, abortion counseling, or abortion referrals, for services that are to be funded with state restricted or state general fund/general purpose funds appropriated in part 1 for family planning local agreements. An organization under contract with the department shall not subcontract with an organization which provides elective abortions, abortion counseling, or abortion referrals, for services that are to be funded with state restricted or state general fund/general purpose funds appropriated in part 1 for family planning local agreements.]

19       Sec. 1108. The department shall not use state restricted funds  
20 or state general funds appropriated in part 1 in the pregnancy  
21 prevention program or family planning local agreements  
22 appropriation line items for abortion counseling, referrals, or  
23 services.

24       Sec. 1109. (1) From the amounts appropriated in part 1 for  
25 dental programs, funds shall be allocated to the Michigan Dental  
26 Association for the administration of a volunteer dental program  
27 that provides dental services to the uninsured.

1           (2) Not later than December 1 of the current fiscal year, the  
2 department shall report to the senate and house appropriations  
3 subcommittees on community health and the senate and house standing  
4 committees on health policy the number of individual patients  
5 treated, number of procedures performed, and approximate total  
6 market value of those procedures from the immediately preceding  
7 fiscal year.

8           Sec. 1136. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for prenatal  
9 care outreach and service delivery support, \$50,000.00 shall be  
10 allocated for a pregnancy and parenting support services program,  
11 which program must promote childbirth, alternatives to abortion,  
12 and grief counseling. The department shall establish a program with  
13 a qualified contractor that will contract with qualified service  
14 providers to provide free counseling, support, and referral  
15 services to eligible women during pregnancy through 12 months after  
16 birth. As appropriate, the goals for client outcomes shall include  
17 an increase in client support, an increase in childbirth choice, an  
18 increase in adoption knowledge, an improvement in parenting skills,  
19 and improved reproductive health through abstinence education. The  
20 contractor of the program shall provide for program training,  
21 client educational material, program marketing, and annual service  
22 provider site monitoring. The department shall submit a report to  
23 the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on community  
24 health and the house and senate fiscal agencies by April 1 of the  
25 current fiscal year on the number of clients served.

26           Sec. 1137. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for prenatal  
27 care outreach and service delivery support, not less than

1 \$500,000.00 of funding shall be allocated for evidence-based  
2 programs to reduce infant mortality including nurse family  
3 partnership programs. The funds shall be used for enhanced support  
4 and education to nursing teams or other teams of qualified health  
5 professionals, client recruitment in areas designated as  
6 underserved for obstetrical and gynecological services and other  
7 high-need communities, strategic planning to expand and sustain  
8 programs, and marketing and communications of programs to raise  
9 awareness, engage stakeholders, and recruit nurses.

10 Sec. 1138. The department shall allocate funds appropriated in  
11 section 112 of part 1 for family, maternal, and children's health  
12 services pursuant to section 1 of 2002 PA 360, MCL 333.1091.

13 Sec. 1139. The department shall continue to work jointly with  
14 the department of human services, the Michigan state housing  
15 development authority, and the joint task force established under  
16 article IV of 2014 PA 252 to review housing rehabilitation, energy  
17 and weatherization, and hazard abatement program policies and to  
18 make recommendations for integrating and coordinating project  
19 delivery with the goals of serving more families and achieving  
20 better outcomes by maximizing state and federal resources. The  
21 joint task force may provide recommendations to the departments.  
22 Recommendations of the joint task force must give consideration to  
23 best practices and cost effectiveness.

24 **WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAM**

25 Sec. 1151. For the women, infants, and children special  
26 supplemental food and nutrition program, the department shall make

1 national brand products available if it is determined by the  
2 department that the price per unit is more cost effective and  
3 satisfies nutritional requirements of the federal program. The  
4 determination must be made during the biannual food authorization  
5 evaluation.

#### 6 CHILDREN'S SPECIAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

7 Sec. 1202. The department may do 1 or more of the following:

8 (a) Provide special formula for eligible clients with  
9 specified metabolic and allergic disorders.

10 (b) Provide medical care and treatment to eligible patients  
11 with cystic fibrosis who are 21 years of age or older.

12 (c) Provide medical care and treatment to eligible patients  
13 with hereditary coagulation defects, commonly known as hemophilia,  
14 who are 21 years of age or older.

15 (d) Provide human growth hormone to eligible patients.

16 Sec. 1205. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for medical  
17 care and treatment, the department is authorized to spend those  
18 funds for the continued development and expansion of telemedicine  
19 capacity to allow families with children in the children's special  
20 health care services program to access specialty providers more  
21 readily and in a more timely manner.

#### 22 CRIME VICTIM SERVICES COMMISSION

23 Sec. 1302. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for justice  
24 assistance grants, the department shall continue to support  
25 forensic nurse examiner programs to facilitate training for



1 improved evidence collection for the prosecution of sexual assault.  
2 The funds shall be used for program coordination and training.

3 **OFFICE OF SERVICES TO THE AGING**

4 Sec. 1403. (1) By February 1 of the current fiscal year, the  
5 office of services to the aging shall require each region to report  
6 to the office of services to the aging and to the legislature home-  
7 delivered meals waiting lists based upon standard criteria.  
8 Determining criteria shall include all of the following:

9 (a) The recipient's degree of frailty.

10 (b) The recipient's inability to prepare his or her own meals  
11 safely.

12 (c) Whether the recipient has another care provider available.

13 (d) Any other qualifications normally necessary for the  
14 recipient to receive home-delivered meals.

15 (2) Data required in subsection (1) shall be recorded only for  
16 individuals who have applied for participation in the home-  
17 delivered meals program and who are initially determined as likely  
18 to be eligible for home-delivered meals.

19 Sec. 1417. The department shall provide to the senate and  
20 house appropriations subcommittees on community health, senate and  
21 house fiscal agencies, and state budget director a report by March  
22 30 of the current fiscal year that contains all of the following:

23 (a) The total allocation of state resources made to each area  
24 agency on aging by individual program and administration.

25 (b) Detail expenditure by each area agency on aging by  
26 individual program and administration including both state-funded

resources and locally-funded resources.

Sec. 1421. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for community services, \$1,100,000.00 shall be allocated to area agencies on aging for locally determined needs.

#### **MEDICAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION**

Sec. 1501. The unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for the electronic health records incentive program are considered work project appropriations, and any unencumbered or unallotted funds are carried forward into the following fiscal year. The following is in compliance with section 451a(1) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

(a) The purpose of the project to be carried forward is to implement the Medicaid electronic health record program that provides financial incentive payments to Medicaid health care providers to encourage the adoption and meaningful use of electronic health records to improve quality, increase efficiency, and promote safety.

(b) The projects will be accomplished according to the approved federal advanced planning document.

(c) The estimated cost of this project phase is identified in the appropriation line item.

(d) The tentative completion date for the work project is September 30, 2020.

Sec. 1503. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for Healthy Michigan plan administration, the department shall maintain an accounting structure within the Michigan administrative information

1 network that will allow expenditures associated with the  
2 administration of the Healthy Michigan plan to be identified.

### 3 MEDICAL SERVICES

4 Sec. 1601. The cost of remedial services incurred by residents  
5 of licensed adult foster care homes and licensed homes for the aged  
6 shall be used in determining financial eligibility for the  
7 medically needy. Remedial services include basic self-care and  
8 rehabilitation training for a resident.

9 Sec. 1603. (1) The department may establish a program for  
10 individuals to purchase medical coverage at a rate determined by  
11 the department.

12 (2) The department may receive and expend premiums for the  
13 buy-in of medical coverage in addition to the amounts appropriated  
14 in part 1.

15 (3) The premiums described in this section shall be classified  
16 as private funds.

17 Sec. 1605. The protected income level for Medicaid coverage  
18 determined pursuant to section 106(1)(b)(iii) of the social welfare  
19 act, 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.106, shall be 100% of the related public  
20 assistance standard.

21 Sec. 1606. For the purpose of guardian and conservator  
22 charges, the department may deduct up to \$60.00 per month as an  
23 allowable expense against a recipient's income when determining  
24 medical services eligibility and patient pay amounts.

25 Sec. 1607. (1) An applicant for Medicaid, whose qualifying  
26 condition is pregnancy, shall immediately be presumed to be

1 eligible for Medicaid coverage unless the preponderance of evidence  
2 in her application indicates otherwise. The applicant who is  
3 qualified as described in this subsection shall be allowed to  
4 select or remain with the Medicaid participating obstetrician of  
5 her choice.

6 (2) An applicant qualified as described in subsection (1)  
7 shall be given a letter of authorization to receive Medicaid  
8 covered services related to her pregnancy. All qualifying  
9 applicants shall be entitled to receive all medically necessary  
10 obstetrical and prenatal care without preauthorization from a  
11 health plan. All claims submitted for payment for obstetrical and  
12 prenatal care shall be paid at the Medicaid fee-for-service rate in  
13 the event a contract does not exist between the Medicaid  
14 participating obstetrical or prenatal care provider and the managed  
15 care plan. The applicant shall receive a listing of Medicaid  
16 physicians and managed care plans in the immediate vicinity of the  
17 applicant's residence.

18 (3) In the event that an applicant, presumed to be eligible  
19 pursuant to subsection (1), is subsequently found to be ineligible,  
20 a Medicaid physician or managed care plan that has been providing  
21 pregnancy services to an applicant under this section is entitled  
22 to reimbursement for those services until such time as they are  
23 notified by the department that the applicant was found to be  
24 ineligible for Medicaid.

25 (4) If the preponderance of evidence in an application  
26 indicates that the applicant is not eligible for Medicaid, the  
27 department shall refer that applicant to the nearest public health

1 clinic or similar entity as a potential source for receiving  
2 pregnancy-related services.

3 (5) The department shall develop an enrollment process for  
4 pregnant women covered under this section that facilitates the  
5 selection of a managed care plan at the time of application.

6 (6) The department shall mandate enrollment of women, whose  
7 qualifying condition is pregnancy, into Medicaid managed care  
8 plans.

9 (7) The department shall encourage physicians to provide  
10 women, whose qualifying condition for Medicaid is pregnancy, with a  
11 referral to a Medicaid participating dentist at the first  
12 pregnancy-related appointment.

13 Sec. 1611. (1) For care provided to medical services  
14 recipients with other third-party sources of payment, medical  
15 services reimbursement shall not exceed, in combination with such  
16 other resources, including Medicare, those amounts established for  
17 medical services-only patients. The medical services payment rate  
18 shall be accepted as payment in full. Other than an approved  
19 medical services co-payment, no portion of a provider's charge  
20 shall be billed to the recipient or any person acting on behalf of  
21 the recipient. Nothing in this section shall be considered to  
22 affect the level of payment from a third-party source other than  
23 the medical services program. The department shall require a  
24 nonenrolled provider to accept medical services payments as payment  
25 in full.

26 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), medical services  
27 reimbursement for hospital services provided to dual

1 Medicare/medical services recipients with Medicare part B coverage  
2 only shall equal, when combined with payments for Medicare and  
3 other third-party resources, if any, those amounts established for  
4 medical services-only patients, including capital payments.

5       Sec. 1620. (1) For fee-for-service recipients who do not  
6 reside in nursing homes, the pharmaceutical dispensing fee shall be  
7 \$2.75 or the pharmacy's usual or customary cash charge, whichever  
8 is less. For nursing home residents, the pharmaceutical dispensing  
9 fee shall be \$3.00 or the pharmacy's usual or customary cash  
10 charge, whichever is less.

11       (2) The department shall require a prescription co-payment for  
12 Medicaid recipients of \$1.00 for a generic drug and \$3.00 for a  
13 brand-name drug, except as prohibited by federal or state law or  
14 regulation.

15       Sec. 1625. The department and the contracted Medicaid health  
16 plans shall work together to successfully achieve the  
17 pharmaceutical formulary savings in part 1 through a mutually  
18 agreed upon developmental and implementation process. By March 1 of  
19 the current fiscal year, the department shall provide a report on  
20 the progress of the implementation to the house and senate  
21 appropriations subcommittees on community health and the house and  
22 senate fiscal agencies.

23       Sec. 1629. The department shall utilize maximum allowable cost  
24 pricing for generic drugs that is based on wholesaler pricing to  
25 providers that is available from at least 2 wholesalers who deliver  
26 in this state.

27       Sec. 1631. (1) The department shall require co-payments on

1 dental, podiatric, and vision services provided to Medicaid  
2 recipients, except as prohibited by federal or state law or  
3 regulation.

4 (2) Except as otherwise prohibited by federal or state law or  
5 regulations, the department shall require Medicaid recipients to  
6 pay not less than the following co-payments:

7 (a) Two dollars for a physician office visit.

8 (b) Three dollars for a hospital emergency room visit.

9 (c) Fifty dollars for the first day of an inpatient hospital  
10 stay.

11 (d) One dollar for an outpatient hospital visit.

12 Sec. 1641. An institutional provider that is required to  
13 submit a cost report under the medical services program shall  
14 submit cost reports completed in full within 5 months after the end  
15 of its fiscal year.

16 Sec. 1657. (1) Reimbursement for medical services to screen  
17 and stabilize a Medicaid recipient, including stabilization of a  
18 psychiatric crisis, in a hospital emergency room shall not be made  
19 contingent on obtaining prior authorization from the recipient's  
20 HMO. If the recipient is discharged from the emergency room, the  
21 hospital shall notify the recipient's HMO within 24 hours of the  
22 diagnosis and treatment received.

23 (2) If the treating hospital determines that the recipient  
24 will require further medical service or hospitalization beyond the  
25 point of stabilization, that hospital shall receive authorization  
26 from the recipient's HMO prior to admitting the recipient.

27 (3) Subsections (1) and (2) do not require an alteration to an

1 existing agreement between an HMO and its contracting hospitals and  
2 do not require an HMO to reimburse for services that are not  
3 considered to be medically necessary.

4 Sec. 1659. The following sections of this part are the only  
5 ones that shall apply to the following Medicaid managed care  
6 programs, including the comprehensive plan, MIChoice long-term care  
7 plan, and the mental health, substance use disorder, and  
8 developmentally disabled services program: 404, 411, 418, 428, 494,  
9 1607, 1625, 1657, 1662, 1699, 1764, 1820, 1881, and 1888.

10 Sec. 1662. (1) The department shall assure that an external  
11 quality review of each contracting HMO is performed that results in  
12 an analysis and evaluation of aggregated information on quality,  
13 timeliness, and access to health care services that the HMO or its  
14 contractors furnish to Medicaid beneficiaries.

15 (2) The department shall require Medicaid HMOs to provide  
16 EPSDT utilization data through the encounter data system, and HEDIS  
17 well child health measures in accordance with the National  
18 Committee for Quality Assurance prescribed methodology.

19 (3) The department shall provide a copy of the analysis of the  
20 Medicaid HMO annual audited HEDIS reports and the annual external  
21 quality review report to the senate and house of representatives  
22 appropriations subcommittees on community health, the senate and  
23 house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director, within 30  
24 days of the department's receipt of the final reports from the  
25 contractors.

26 Sec. 1670. (1) The appropriation in part 1 for the MIChild  
27 program is to be used to provide comprehensive health care to all



1 children under age 19 who reside in families with income at or  
2 below 212% of the federal poverty level, who are uninsured and have  
3 not had coverage by other comprehensive health insurance within 6  
4 months of making application for MICHild benefits, and who are  
5 residents of this state. The department shall develop detailed  
6 eligibility criteria through the medical services administration  
7 public concurrence process, consistent with the provisions of this  
8 part and part 1.

9 (2) The department may provide up to 1 year of continuous  
10 eligibility to children eligible for the MICHild program unless the  
11 family fails to pay the monthly premium, a child reaches age 19, or  
12 the status of the children's family changes and its members no  
13 longer meet the eligibility criteria as specified in the federally  
14 approved MICHild state plan.

15 (3) Children whose category of eligibility changes between the  
16 Medicaid and MICHild programs shall be assured of keeping their  
17 current health care providers through the current prescribed course  
18 of treatment for up to 1 year, subject to periodic reviews by the  
19 department if the beneficiary has a serious medical condition and  
20 is undergoing active treatment for that condition.

21 (4) To be eligible for the MICHild program, a child must be  
22 residing in a family with an adjusted gross income of less than or  
23 equal to 212% of the federal poverty level. The department's  
24 verification policy shall be used to determine eligibility.

25 (5) The department shall contract with Medicaid health plans  
26 to provide physical health services to MICHild enrollees. The  
27 department may continue to obtain physical health services for

1 MICHild enrollees from health maintenance organizations and  
2 preferred provider organizations currently under contract for  
3 whatever duration is needed as determined by the department. The  
4 department shall contractually require that health plans pay out-  
5 of-network providers at the department fee schedule. The department  
6 shall contract with qualified dental plans to provide dental  
7 coverage for MICHild enrollees.

8 (6) The department may enter into contracts to obtain certain  
9 MICHild services from community mental health service programs.

10 (7) The department may make payments on behalf of children  
11 enrolled in the MICHild program from the line-item appropriation  
12 associated with the program as described in the MICHild state plan  
13 approved by the United States Department of Health and Human  
14 Services, or from other medical services.

15 (8) The department shall assure that an external quality  
16 review of each MICHild contractor, as described in subsection (5),  
17 is performed, which analyzes and evaluates the aggregated  
18 information on quality, timeliness, and access to health care  
19 services that the contractor furnished to MICHild beneficiaries.

20 (9) The department shall develop an automatic enrollment  
21 algorithm that is based on quality and performance factors.

22 (10) MICHild services shall include treatment for autism  
23 spectrum disorders as defined in the federally approved Medicaid  
24 state plan.

25 Sec. 1673. The department may establish premiums for MICHild  
26 eligible individuals in families with income at or below 212% of  
27 the federal poverty level. The monthly premiums shall be \$10.00 per

1 month.

2       Sec. 1677. The MICHild program shall provide, at a minimum,  
3 all benefits available under the Michigan benchmark plan that are  
4 delivered through contracted providers and consistent with federal  
5 law, including, but not limited to, the following medically  
6 necessary services:

7       (a) Inpatient mental health services, other than substance use  
8 disorder treatment services, including services furnished in a  
9 state-operated mental hospital and residential or other 24-hour  
10 therapeutically planned structured services.

11       (b) Outpatient mental health services, other than substance  
12 use disorder services, including services furnished in a state-  
13 operated mental hospital and community-based services.

14       (c) Durable medical equipment and prosthetic and orthotic  
15 devices.

16       (d) Dental services as outlined in the approved MICHild state  
17 plan.

18       (e) Substance use disorder treatment services that may include  
19 inpatient, outpatient, and residential substance use disorder  
20 treatment services.

21       (f) Care management services for mental health diagnoses.

22       (g) Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and services for  
23 individuals with speech, hearing, and language disorders.

24       (h) Emergency ambulance services.

25       Sec. 1682. (1) In addition to the appropriations in part 1,  
26 the department is authorized to receive and spend penalty money  
27 received as the result of noncompliance with medical services

1 certification regulations. Penalty money, characterized as private  
2 funds, received by the department shall increase authorizations and  
3 allotments in the long-term care accounts.

4 (2) Any unexpended penalty money, at the end of the year,  
5 shall carry forward to the following year.

6 Sec. 1692. (1) The department is authorized to pursue  
7 reimbursement for eligible services provided in Michigan schools  
8 from the federal Medicaid program. The department and the state  
9 budget director are authorized to negotiate and enter into  
10 agreements, together with the department of education, with local  
11 and intermediate school districts regarding the sharing of federal  
12 Medicaid services funds received for these services. The department  
13 is authorized to receive and disburse funds to participating school  
14 districts pursuant to such agreements and state and federal law.

15 (2) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for medical services  
16 school-based services payments, the department is authorized to do  
17 all of the following:

18 (a) Finance activities within the medical services  
19 administration related to this project.

20 (b) Reimburse participating school districts pursuant to the  
21 fund-sharing ratios negotiated in the state-local agreements  
22 authorized in subsection (1).

23 (c) Offset general fund costs associated with the medical  
24 services program.

25 Sec. 1693. The special Medicaid reimbursement appropriation in  
26 part 1 may be increased if the department submits a medical  
27 services state plan amendment pertaining to this line item at a

1 level higher than the appropriation. The department is authorized  
2 to appropriately adjust financing sources in accordance with the  
3 increased appropriation.

4 Sec. 1694. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for special  
5 Medicaid reimbursement, \$386,700.00 of general fund/general purpose  
6 revenue and any associated federal match shall be distributed for  
7 poison control services to an academic health care system that  
8 includes a children's hospital that has a high indigent care  
9 volume.

10 Sec. 1699. (1) The department shall allocate \$45,000,000.00 in  
11 DSH funding using the distribution methodology used in fiscal year  
12 2003-2004.

13 (2) By September 30 of the current fiscal year, the department  
14 shall report to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees  
15 on community health, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the  
16 state budget office on the distribution of funding to each eligible  
17 hospital.

18 Sec. 1724. The department shall allow licensed pharmacies to  
19 purchase injectable drugs for the treatment of respiratory  
20 syncytial virus for shipment to physicians' offices to be  
21 administered to specific patients. If the affected patients are  
22 Medicaid eligible, the department shall reimburse pharmacies for  
23 the dispensing of the injectable drugs and reimburse physicians for  
24 the administration of the injectable drugs.

25 Sec. 1730. (1) The department shall work with the department  
26 of education to evaluate the feasibility of including an assessment  
27 tool to promote literacy development of pregnant women and new

1 mothers in the maternal infant health program.

2 (2) By March 1 of the current fiscal year, the department  
3 shall provide a report to the house and senate appropriations  
4 subcommittees on the department budget, the house and senate fiscal  
5 agencies, and the state budget office on the findings of the  
6 feasibility study on including an assessment tool to promote  
7 literacy development of pregnant women and new mothers in the  
8 maternal infant health program.

9 Sec. 1735. The department shall work with ambulance providers  
10 to explore the feasibility of implementing a quality assurance  
11 assessment for ambulance providers.

12 Sec. 1757. The department shall direct the department of human  
13 services to obtain proof from all Medicaid recipients that they are  
14 legal United States citizens or otherwise legally residing in this  
15 country and that they are residents of this state before approving  
16 Medicaid eligibility.

17 Sec. 1764. The department shall provide a copy of the rate  
18 certification and approval of rates paid to Medicaid health plans  
19 and specialty prepaid inpatient health plans within 5 business days  
20 after certification or approval to the house and senate  
21 appropriations subcommittees on community health and the house and  
22 senate fiscal agencies.

23 Sec. 1775. (1) By March 1 and September 1 of the current  
24 fiscal year, the department shall report to the senate and house  
25 appropriations subcommittees on community health, the senate and  
26 house fiscal agencies, and the state budget office on progress in  
27 implementing the waiver to implement managed care for individuals

1 who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid, known as MI Health  
2 Link, including, but not limited to, a description of how the  
3 department intends to ensure that service delivery is integrated,  
4 how key components of the proposal are implemented effectively, and  
5 any problems and potential solutions as identified by the ombudsman  
6 described in subsection (2).

7 (2) The department shall ensure the existence of an ombudsman  
8 program that is not associated with any project service manager or  
9 provider to assist MI Health Link beneficiaries with navigating  
10 complaint and dispute resolution mechanisms and to identify  
11 problems in the demonstrations and in the complaint and dispute  
12 resolution mechanisms.

13 Sec. 1800. The department shall distribute the \$85,000,000.00  
14 Medicaid value disproportionate share hospital payment pool based  
15 on metrics utilized to determine value.

16 Sec. 1801. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for physician  
17 services and health plan services, the department shall use  
18 \$33,318,800.00 in general fund/general purpose plus associated  
19 federal match to continue the increase to Medicaid rates for  
20 primary care services provided only by primary care providers. For  
21 the purpose of this section, a primary care provider is a  
22 physician, or a practitioner working under the personal supervision  
23 of a physician, who is board-eligible or certified with a specialty  
24 designation of family medicine, general internal medicine, or  
25 pediatric medicine, or a provider who provides the department with  
26 documentation of equivalency. Providers performing a service and  
27 whose primary practice is as a non-primary-care subspecialty is not

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1 eligible for the increase. The department shall establish policies  
2 that most effectively limit the increase to primary care providers  
3 for primary care services only.

4       Sec. 1802. From the funds appropriated in part 1, a lump-sum  
5 payment shall be made to hospitals that qualified for rural  
6 hospital access payments in fiscal year 2013-2014 and that provide  
7 obstetrical care in the current fiscal year. The payment shall be  
8 calculated as \$830.00 for each obstetrical care case payment and  
9 each newborn care case payment for all such cases billed by the  
10 qualified hospitals for fiscal year 2012-2013 and shall be paid  
11 through the Medicaid health plan hospital rate adjustment process  
12 by January 1 of the current fiscal year.

13       Sec. 1804. The department, in cooperation with the department  
14 of human services and the department of military and veterans  
15 affairs, shall work with the federal public assistance reporting  
16 information system to identify Medicaid recipients who are veterans  
17 and who may be eligible for federal veterans health care benefits  
18 or other benefits.

[Sec. 1809. The department shall establish the contract performance  
standards for Medicaid health plans by July 1, 2016. The determination of  
performance must be based on recognized concepts such as 1-year  
continuous enrollment and the HEDIS audited data.]

19       Sec. 1820. (1) In order to avoid duplication of efforts, the  
20 department shall utilize applicable national accreditation review  
21 criteria to determine compliance with corresponding state  
22 requirements for Medicaid health plans that have been reviewed and  
23 accredited by a national accrediting entity for health care  
24 services.

25       (2) The department shall continue to comply with state and  
26 federal law and shall not initiate an action that negatively  
27 impacts beneficiary safety.



1           (3) As used in this section, "national accrediting entity"  
2 means the National Committee for Quality Assurance, the URAC,  
3 formerly known as the Utilization Review Accreditation Commission,  
4 or other appropriate entity, as approved by the department.

5           (4) By July 1 of the current fiscal year, the department shall  
6 provide a progress report to the house and senate appropriations  
7 subcommittees on community health, the house and senate fiscal  
8 agencies, and the state budget office on implementation of this  
9 section.

10          Sec. 1837. The department shall continue, and expand where  
11 appropriate, utilization of telemedicine and telepsychiatry as  
12 strategies to increase access to services for Medicaid recipients  
13 in medically underserved areas.

14          Sec. 1842. (1) Subject to the availability of funds, the  
15 department shall adjust the hospital outpatient Medicaid  
16 reimbursement rate for qualifying hospitals as provided in this  
17 section. The Medicaid reimbursement rate for qualifying hospitals  
18 shall be adjusted to provide each qualifying hospital with its  
19 actual cost of delivering outpatient services to Medicaid  
20 recipients.

21          (2) As used in this section, "qualifying hospital" means a  
22 hospital that has not more than 50 staffed beds and is either  
23 located outside a metropolitan statistical area or in a  
24 metropolitan statistical area but within a city, village, or  
25 township with a population of not more than 12,000 according to the  
26 official 2010 federal decennial census and within a county with a  
27 population of not more than 165,000 according to the official 2010

1 federal decennial census.

2 Sec. 1846. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for graduate  
3 medical education, the department shall distribute the funds with  
4 an emphasis on the following health care workforce goals:

5 (a) The encouragement of the training of physicians in  
6 specialties, including primary care, that are necessary to meet the  
7 future needs of residents of this state.

8 (b) The training of physicians in settings that include  
9 ambulatory sites and rural locations.

10 Sec. 1861. The department shall encourage cooperation between  
11 the Medicaid managed care health plans and the nonprofit entities  
12 providing nonemergency transportation services to pilot a  
13 nonemergency transportation system in at least 2 counties with  
14 priority given to Berrien and Muskegon Counties.

15 Sec. 1862. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
16 department shall maintain payment rates for Medicaid obstetrical  
17 services at 95% of Medicare levels effective October 1, 2014.

18 Sec. 1866. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
19 hospital services and therapy, \$10,000,000.00 in general  
20 fund/general purpose revenue and any associated federal match shall  
21 be awarded to hospitals that meet criteria established by the  
22 department for services to low-income rural residents. One of the  
23 reimbursement components of the distribution formula shall be  
24 assistance with labor and delivery services.

25 (2) No hospital or hospital system shall receive more than  
26 10.0% of the total funding referenced in subsection (1).

27 (3) To allow hospitals to understand their rural payment

1 amounts under this section, the department shall provide hospitals  
2 with the methodology for distribution under this section and  
3 provide each hospital with its applicable data that are used to  
4 determine the payment amounts by August 1 of the current fiscal  
5 year. The department shall publish the distribution of payments for  
6 the current fiscal year and the immediately preceding fiscal year.

7 (4) The department shall report to the senate and house  
8 appropriations subcommittees on community health and the senate and  
9 house fiscal agencies on the distribution of funds referenced in  
10 subsection (1) by April 1 of the current fiscal year.

11 Sec. 1870. It is the intent of the legislature that the  
12 department work in collaboration with Michigan-based medical  
13 schools that choose to participate in the creation of a graduate  
14 medical education consortium known as MIDocs. The purpose of MIDocs  
15 is to develop freestanding residency training programs in primary  
16 care and other ambulatory care-based specialties. MIDocs shall  
17 design residency training programs to address physician shortage  
18 needs in this state, including placing physicians post-residency in  
19 underserved communities across this state. MIDocs shall give  
20 special consideration to small and rural hospitals with a GME  
21 program director. MIDocs' voting members will include any Michigan-  
22 based university with a medical school or an affiliated faculty  
23 practice physician group that is making a substantial contribution  
24 to MIDocs programs. The department shall be a permanent nonvoting  
25 member of MIDocs. The department, in collaboration with MIDocs  
26 voting members, may also appoint nonvoting members to MIDocs to  
27 represent various stakeholders. As the sponsoring institution and

1 fiduciary, MIDocs shall assure initial and continued accreditation  
2 from the accreditation council for graduate medical education or  
3 ACGME, financial accountability, clinical quality, and compliance.  
4 The department shall require an annual report from MIDocs detailing  
5 per resident costs for medical training and clinical quality  
6 measures. The department shall create MIDocs no later than January  
7 10, 2015. MIDocs shall provide the department with a report  
8 proposing the creation of new residency programs and an actionable  
9 plan for retaining consortium related students post-residency,  
10 especially in underserved communities.

11       Sec. 1881. The department shall create a default eligibility  
12 and enrollment determination for newborns so that newborns are  
13 assigned to the same Medicaid health plan as the mother at the time  
14 of birth.

15       Sec. 1886. The department shall continue to work in  
16 conjunction with the workgroup established by the department of  
17 human services to determine how the state can maximize federal  
18 revenues for community-based and outpatient treatment services to  
19 foster care children and adjudicated youths who are placed in  
20 community-based treatment programs. The department shall report to  
21 the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on community  
22 health, the senate and house fiscal agencies, the senate and house  
23 policy offices, and the state budget office by March 1 of the  
24 current fiscal year on the progress in implementing the  
25 recommendations of the workgroup.

26       Sec. 1888. The department shall establish contract performance  
27 standards associated with the capitation withhold provisions for

1 Medicaid health plans at least 3 months in advance of the  
2 implementation of those standards. The determination of whether  
3 performance standards have been met shall be based primarily on  
4 recognized concepts such as 1-year continuous enrollment and the  
5 healthcare effectiveness data and information set, HEDIS, audited  
6 data.

7       Sec. 1890. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
8 pharmaceutical services, the department shall ensure Medicaid  
9 recipients access to breast pumps to support and encourage  
10 breastfeeding. The department shall adjust Medicaid policy to, at a  
11 minimum, provide an individual double electric style pump to a  
12 breastfeeding mother when a physician prescribes such a device  
13 based on diagnosis of mother or infant. If the distribution method  
14 for pumps or other equipment is a department contract with durable  
15 medical equipment providers, the department shall guarantee  
16 providers stock and rent to Medicaid recipients without delay or  
17 undue restriction.

18       Sec. 1894. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
19 dental services, the department shall expand the healthy kids  
20 dental program to children who have not yet reached the age of 9 in  
21 Kent, Oakland, and Wayne Counties. This program expansion will  
22 improve access to necessary dental services for Medicaid-enrolled  
23 children.

24       (2) Outcomes and performance measures for the initiative under  
25 subsection (1) include, but are not limited to, the following:

26       (a) The number of Medicaid-enrolled children under the age of  
27 9 in Kent, Oakland, and Wayne Counties who visited the dentist in

1 the prior year.

2 (b) The number of dentists in Kent, Oakland, and Wayne  
3 Counties who will accept Medicaid payment for services to children.

4 (c) The change in dental utilization in Kent, Oakland, and  
5 Wayne Counties, before and after implementation.

6 (3) It is the intent of the legislature that the healthy kids  
7 dental program be expanded in the fiscal year ending September 30,  
8 2017 to cover additional children in Kent, Oakland, and Wayne  
9 Counties.

10 Sec. 1897. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
11 department shall take steps to identify the performance of the  
12 Medicaid program on all diabetes-specific performance measures as  
13 measured by the National Committee for Quality Assurance and the  
14 URAC, formerly known as the Utilization Review Accreditation  
15 Commission. These steps shall include:

16 (a) Reviewing Medicaid claims information and data to  
17 determine the performance of the Medicaid program's fee for service  
18 and managed care plans for diabetes-specific and diabetes-related  
19 measures as assessed by the National Committee for Quality  
20 assurance and the URAC over the past 5 years.

21 (b) Comparing the claims information and data to the national  
22 averages for diabetes-specific and diabetes-related measures as  
23 assessed by the National Committee for Quality Assurance and the  
24 URAC over the past 5 years.

25 (c) Identifying areas of strength and deficiencies for these  
26 measures specific to the Medicaid program.

27 (2) Upon request, the department shall make available a report

1 on steps taken and proposed to improve National Committee for  
2 Quality Assurance and URAC measure scores for all forms of diabetes  
3 within the Medicaid program to the legislature.

4 Sec. 1899. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for personal  
5 care services, the department shall maintain the 6% rate increase  
6 for personal care services effective October 1, 2014.

7 **ONE-TIME BASIS ONLY APPROPRIATIONS**

8 Sec. 1902. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
9 university autism programs, the department shall allocate funds to  
10 universities for programs to increase the number of applied  
11 behavioral analysis therapists in this state.

12 (2) Outcomes and performance measures for this initiative  
13 include the number of applied behavioral analysis therapists  
14 trained by recipient universities.

15 Sec. 1906. (1) The department may initiate pay for success  
16 pilot projects to identify and deliver services to improve outcomes  
17 and lower costs for government services in this state. From the  
18 funds appropriated in part 1 for pay for success contracts, the  
19 department may initiate contracts with private and not-for-profit  
20 vendors, selected through a competitive bid process, to implement  
21 these pilot projects. Payments shall not be issued to funding  
22 intermediaries or vendors until contractual performance measures  
23 have been achieved and project savings have been confirmed by a  
24 third-party evaluator, certified by the department, and approved by  
25 the state budget director.

26 (2) Unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for pay for

1 success contracts are designated as work project appropriations,  
2 and any unencumbered or unallotted funds shall not lapse at the end  
3 of the fiscal year and shall be available for expenditures for the  
4 pay for success contracts under this section until the projects  
5 have been completed. All of the following are in compliance with  
6 section 451a of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL  
7 18.1451a:

8 (a) The purpose of the projects is to coordinate cost-saving  
9 projects to the state with public-private partnerships.

10 (b) The projects will be carried out through contracts with  
11 private and not-for-profit vendors.

12 (c) The estimated cost of this work project is \$100.00.

13 (d) The estimated work project completion date is September  
14 30, 2020.

15 Sec. 1907. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for drug  
16 policy initiatives, the department shall develop and begin  
17 implementation of a comprehensive plan that addresses the problem  
18 of drug abuse.

19 (2) Outcomes and performance measures for the new initiative  
20 under subsection (1) include, but are not limited to, the  
21 following:

22 (a) A decrease in the number of residents of this state aged  
23 12 and older who have experienced substance dependence or abuse in  
24 the past year.

25 (b) A decrease in the number of residents of this state who  
26 have engaged in the nonmedical use of pain relievers or engaged in  
27 binge alcohol use.



1 (c) A decrease in the number of residents of this state who  
2 suffered an overdose or death from the use of prescription drugs,  
3 alcohol, or an illegal drug, such as heroin.

4 PART 2A

5 PROVISIONS CONCERNING ANTICIPATED APPROPRIATIONS

6 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

7 GENERAL SECTIONS

8 Sec. 2001. It is the intent of the legislature to provide  
9 appropriations for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2017 for  
10 the line items listed in part 1. The fiscal year 2016-2017  
11 appropriations are anticipated to be the same as those for fiscal  
12 year 2015-2016, except that the line items will be adjusted for  
13 changes in caseload and related costs, federal fund match rates,  
14 economic factors, and available revenue. These adjustments will be  
15 determined after the January 2016 consensus revenue estimating  
16 conference.

17 PART 2B

18 PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

19 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

20 GENERAL SECTIONS

21 Sec. 3001. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state  
22 constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources

1 under part 1B for fiscal year 2014-2015 is \$0.00 and state spending  
 2 from state resources to be paid to local units of government for  
 3 fiscal year 2014-2015 is \$0.00.

4 Sec. 3002. The appropriations authorized under this part and  
 5 part 1B are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
 6 MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

7 ARTICLE V

8 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

9 PART 1

10 LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

11 Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the department of  
 12 corrections for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the  
 13 following funds:

14 **DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

15 APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

16	Average population.....	44,997	
17	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	16.0	
18	Full-time equated classified positions.....	14,174.3	
19	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 1,966,226,000	
20	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
21	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
22	transfers .....	225,000	
23	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 1,966,001,000	
24	Federal revenues:		
25	Total federal revenues.....	5,568,700	

1	Special revenue funds:	
2	Total local revenues.....	8,533,200
3	Total private revenues.....	0
4	Total other state restricted revenues.....	42,950,700
5	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 1,908,948,400
6	<b>Sec. 102. EXECUTIVE</b>	
7	Full-time equated unclassified positions..... 16.0	
8	Full-time equated classified positions..... 20.0	
9	Unclassified positions--16.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 1,750,000
10	Executive direction--20.0 FTE positions.....	<u>4,127,100</u>
11	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 5,877,100
12	Appropriated from:	
13	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 5,877,100
14	<b>Sec. 103. PRISONER REENTRY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT</b>	
15	Full-time equated classified positions..... 339.4	
16	Prisoner reentry local service providers.....	\$ 13,208,600
17	Prisoner reentry MDOC programs.....	11,124,000
18	Prisoner reentry federal grants.....	250,000
19	Reentry services--67.0 FTE positions.....	14,391,700
20	Education program--272.4 FTE positions.....	35,852,400
21	Community corrections comprehensive plans and services	12,158,000
22	Felony drunk driver jail reduction and community	
23	treatment program .....	1,440,100
24	Residential services.....	<u>15,475,500</u>
25	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 103,900,300
26	Appropriated from:	
27	Federal revenues:	

1	DOJ, prisoner reintegration.....	250,000
2	DED, vocational education equipment.....	152,200
3	DED-OESE, title 1.....	899,400
4	DED-OVAE, adult education.....	353,400
5	DED-OSERS.....	115,200
6	DED, youthful offender/Specter grant.....	201,900
7	Special revenue funds:	
8	Program and special equipment fund.....	11,782,900
9	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 90,145,300
10	<b>Sec. 104. BUDGET AND OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION</b>	
11	Full-time equated classified positions.....	172.0
12	Budget and operations administration--172.0 FTE	
13	positions .....	\$ 21,946,100
14	New custody staff training.....	9,079,500
15	Compensatory buyout and union leave bank.....	100
16	Worker's compensation.....	16,500,000
17	Rent.....	2,349,100
18	Equipment and special maintenance.....	1,559,600
19	Administrative hearings officers.....	3,226,400
20	Judicial data warehouse user fees.....	50,000
21	Sheriffs' coordinating and training office.....	100,000
22	Prosecutorial and detainer expenses.....	5,001,000
23	County jail reimbursement program.....	<u>13,597,100</u>
24	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 73,408,900
25	Appropriated from:	
26	Special revenue funds:	
27	Jail reimbursement program fund.....	5,900,000

1	Local corrections officer training fund.....	100,000
2	Correctional industries revolving fund.....	600,500
3	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 66,808,400
4	<b>Sec. 105. FIELD OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION</b>	
5	Full-time equated classified positions.....	1,920.9
6	Field operations--1,887.9 FTE positions.....	\$ 208,458,800
7	Parole board operations--33.0 FTE positions.....	3,734,900
8	Parole/probation services.....	<u>940,000</u>
9	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 213,133,700
10	Appropriated from:	
11	Special revenue funds:	
12	Local - community tether program reimbursement.....	200,900
13	Reentry center offender reimbursements.....	23,800
14	Parole and probation oversight fees.....	4,331,900
15	Parole and probation oversight fees set-aside.....	940,000
16	Tether program participant contributions.....	2,426,700
17	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 205,210,400
18	<b>Sec. 106. CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES ADMINISTRATION</b>	
19	Full-time equated classified positions.....	469.0
20	Correctional facilities administration--22.0 FTE	
21	positions .....	\$ 6,259,000
22	Prison food service.....	52,558,900
23	Transportation--208.0 FTE positions.....	23,752,200
24	Central records--53.0 FTE positions.....	5,591,800
25	Inmate legal services.....	790,900
26	Housing inmates in federal institutions.....	511,000
27	Prison store operations--63.0 FTE positions.....	5,649,200

1	Prison industries operations--123.0 FTE positions ....	9,977,900
2	Federal school lunch program.....	812,800
3	Leased beds and alternatives to leased beds .....	5,150,000
4	Cost-effective housing initiative .....	100
5	Inmate housing fund.....	<u>100</u>
6	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 111,053,900
7	Appropriated from:	
8	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
9	IDG-MDHS, Maxey/Woodland Center food service .....	225,000
10	Federal revenues:	
11	DAG-FNS, national school lunch.....	812,800
12	DOJ-BOP, federal prisoner reimbursement .....	411,000
13	DOJ, prison rape elimination act grant .....	659,500
14	SSA-SSI, incentive payment .....	268,000
15	Special revenue funds:	
16	Correctional industries revolving fund.....	9,977,900
17	Resident stores.....	5,649,200
18	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 93,050,500
19	<b>Sec. 107. HEALTH CARE</b>	
20	Full-time equated classified positions..... 1,484.9	
21	Clinical and mental health services and support--	
22	1,461.9 FTE positions .....	\$ 209,665,900
23	Prisoner health care services .....	75,180,400
24	Vaccination program.....	691,200
25	Interdepartmental grant to human services, eligibility	
26	specialists .....	100,000
27	Substance abuse testing and treatment services--11.0	

1	FTE positions .....	21,791,300
2	Healthy Michigan plan administration--12.0 FTE	
3	positions .....	<u>1,076,000</u>
4	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 308,504,800
5	Appropriated from:	
6	Federal revenues:	
7	Federal revenues and reimbursements .....	247,900
8	DOJ, office of justice programs, RSAT.....	185,400
9	Special revenue funds:	
10	Prisoner health care copayments .....	252,700
11	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 307,818,800
12	<b>Sec. 108. CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES</b>	
13	Average population .....	44,997
14	Full-time equated classified positions.....	9,768.1
15	Alger Correctional Facility - Munising--260.2 FTE	
16	positions .....	\$ 29,943,600
17	Baraga Correctional Facility - Baraga--295.8 FTE	
18	positions .....	34,636,600
19	Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility - Ionia--389.2 FTE	
20	positions .....	42,754,300
21	Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility - Muskegon--	
22	442.9 FTE positions .....	49,684,800
23	Carson City Correctional Facility - Carson City--424.4	
24	FTE positions .....	47,371,800
25	Central Michigan Correctional Facility - St. Louis--	
26	391.6 FTE positions .....	45,566,600
27	Chippewa Correctional Facility - Kincheloe--435.1 FTE	

1	positions .....	49,228,800
2	Cooper Street Correctional Facility - Jackson--260.1	
3	FTE positions .....	28,733,600
4	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility - Jackson--	
5	390.1 FTE positions .....	43,194,100
6	Detroit Detention Center--63.1 FTE positions .....	8,332,300
7	Detroit Reentry Center--215.6 FTE positions .....	26,772,500
8	Charles E. Egeler Correctional Facility - Jackson--	
9	373.7 FTE positions .....	43,926,700
10	Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility - Ionia--	
11	251.7 FTE positions .....	29,037,900
12	Gus Harrison Correctional Facility - Adrian--441.6 FTE	
13	positions .....	48,151,300
14	Ionia Correctional Facility - Ionia--285.8 FTE	
15	positions .....	32,910,300
16	Kinross Correctional Facility - Kincheloe--323.8 FTE	
17	positions .....	35,662,100
18	Lakeland Correctional Facility - Coldwater--280.5 FTE	
19	positions .....	32,637,200
20	Macomb Correctional Facility - New Haven--294.8 FTE	
21	positions .....	33,853,600
22	Marquette Branch Prison - Marquette--321.7 FTE	
23	positions .....	38,368,400
24	Michigan Reformatory - Ionia--310.7 FTE positions ....	34,564,800
25	Muskegon Correctional Facility - Muskegon--205.0 FTE	
26	positions .....	24,325,000
27	Newberry Correctional Facility - Newberry--200.1 FTE	



1	positions .....	23,800,300
2	Oaks Correctional Facility - Eastlake--290.4 FTE	
3	positions .....	33,349,500
4	Ojibway Correctional Facility - Marenisco--203.1 FTE	
5	positions .....	22,938,500
6	Parnall Correctional Facility - Jackson--258.0 FTE	
7	positions .....	27,508,600
8	Pugsley Correctional Facility - Kingsley--209.9 FTE	
9	positions .....	24,354,900
10	Saginaw Correctional Facility - Freeland--274.9 FTE	
11	positions .....	32,184,500
12	Special alternative incarceration program (Camp	
13	Cassidy Lake)--119.0 FTE positions.....	13,431,500
14	St. Louis Correctional Facility - St. Louis--303.6 FTE	
15	positions .....	35,827,900
16	Thumb Correctional Facility - Lapeer--284.4 FTE	
17	positions .....	32,340,300
18	Womens Huron Valley Correctional Complex - Ypsilanti--	
19	501.9 FTE positions .....	58,003,600
20	Woodland Correctional Facility - Whitmore Lake--285.4	
21	FTE positions .....	32,617,900
22	Northern region administration and support--48.0 FTE	
23	positions .....	4,325,700
24	Southern region administration and support--132.0 FTE	
25	positions .....	<u>24,607,000</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 1,124,946,500
27	Appropriated from:	

1	Federal revenues:	
2	DOJ, state criminal alien assistance program.....	1,012,000
3	Special revenue funds:	
4	Local revenues.....	8,332,300
5	State restricted revenues and reimbursements.....	99,800
6	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 1,115,502,400
7	<b>Sec. 109. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>	
8	Information technology services and projects.....	\$ <u>25,400,800</u>
9	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 25,400,800
10	Appropriated from:	
11	Special revenue funds:	
12	Correctional industries revolving fund.....	175,800
13	Parole and probation oversight fees set-aside.....	689,500
14	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 24,535,500

15 PART 2

16 PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

17 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

18 **GENERAL SECTIONS**

19 Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state

20 constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources

21 under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$1,951,899,100.00 and

22 state spending from state resources to be paid to local units of

23 government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$109,723,600.00. The

24 itemized statement below identifies appropriations from which

25 spending to local units of government will occur:

## 1 DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

2 Field operations - assumption of county

3 probation staff ..... \$ 60,402,900

4 Community corrections comprehensive plans

5 and services ..... 12,158,000

6 Reentry services - intensive detention reentry program 1,500,000

7 Residential services..... 15,475,500

8 County jail reimbursement program..... 13,597,100

9 Felony drunk driver jail reduction and

10 community treatment program ..... 1,440,100

11 Leased beds and alternatives to leased beds ..... 5,150,000

12 TOTAL..... \$ 109,723,600

13 Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under this part and  
 14 part 1 are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
 15 MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

16 Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

17 (a) "Administrative segregation" means confinement for  
 18 maintenance of order or discipline to a cell or room apart from  
 19 accommodations provided for inmates who are participating in  
 20 programs of the facility.

21 (b) "Cost per prisoner" means the sum total of the funds  
 22 appropriated under part 1 for the following, divided by the  
 23 projected prisoner population in fiscal year 2015-2016:

24 (i) Correctional facilities.

25 (ii) Northern and southern region administration and support.

26 (iii) Clinical and mental health services and support.

27 (iv) Prisoner health care services.

1 (v) Vaccination program.

2 (vi) Prison food service and federal school lunch program.

3 (vii) Transportation.

4 (viii) Inmate legal services.

5 (ix) Correctional facilities administration.

6 (x) Central records.

7 (xi) Worker's compensation.

8 (xii) New custody staff training.

9 (xiii) Prison store operations.

10 (xiv) Education program.

11 (c) "DAG" means the United States Department of Agriculture.

12 (d) "DAG-FNS" means the DAG Food and Nutrition Service.

13 (e) "DED" means the United States Department of Education.

14 (f) "DED-OESE" means the DED Office of Elementary and  
15 Secondary Education.

16 (g) "DED-OSERS" means the DED Office of Special Education and  
17 Rehabilitative Services.

18 (h) "DED-OVAE" means the DED Office of Vocational and Adult  
19 Education.

20 (i) "Department" or "MDOC" means the Michigan department of  
21 corrections.

22 (j) "DOJ" means the United States Department of Justice.

23 (k) "DOJ-BOP" means the DOJ Bureau of Prisons.

24 (l) "DOJ-OJP" means the DOJ Office of Justice Programs.

25 (m) "Evidence-based practices" or "EBP" means a decision-  
26 making process that integrates the best available research,  
27 clinician expertise, and client characteristics.

1 (n) "FTE" means full-time equated.

2 (o) "GED" means general educational development certificate.

3 (p) "Goal" means the intended or projected result of a  
4 comprehensive corrections plan or community corrections program to  
5 reduce repeat offending, criminogenic and high-risk behaviors,  
6 prison commitment rates, to reduce the length of stay in a jail, or  
7 to improve the utilization of a jail.

8 (q) "IDG" means interdepartmental grant.

9 (r) "Jail" means a facility operated by a local unit of  
10 government for the physical detention and correction of persons  
11 charged with or convicted of criminal offenses.

12 (s) "MDCH" means the Michigan department of community health.

13 (t) "MDHS" means the Michigan department of human services.

14 (u) "MDSP" means the Michigan department of state police.

15 (v) "Medicaid benefit" means a benefit paid or payable under a  
16 program for medical assistance under the social welfare act, 1939  
17 PA 280, MCL 400.1 to 400.119b.

18 (w) "Objective risk and needs assessment" means an evaluation  
19 of an offender's criminal history; the offender's noncriminal  
20 history; and any other factors relevant to the risk the offender  
21 would present to the public safety, including, but not limited to,  
22 having demonstrated a pattern of violent behavior, and a criminal  
23 record that indicates a pattern of violent offenses.

24 (x) "Offender eligibility criteria" means particular criminal  
25 violations, state felony sentencing guidelines descriptors, and  
26 offender characteristics developed by advisory boards and approved  
27 by local units of government that identify the offenders suitable

1 for community corrections programs funded through the office of  
2 community corrections.

3 (y) "Offender success" means that an offender has, with the  
4 support of the community, intervention of the field agent, and  
5 benefit of any participation in programs and treatment, made an  
6 adjustment while at liberty in the community such that he or she  
7 has not been sentenced to or returned to prison for the conviction  
8 of a new crime or the revocation of probation or parole.

9 (z) "Offender target population" means felons or misdemeanants  
10 who would likely be sentenced to imprisonment in a state  
11 correctional facility or jail, who would not likely increase the  
12 risk to the public safety based on an objective risk and needs  
13 assessment that indicates that the offender can be safely treated  
14 and supervised in the community.

15 (aa) "Offender who would likely be sentenced to imprisonment"  
16 means either of the following:

17 (i) A felon or misdemeanor who receives a sentencing  
18 disposition that appears to be in place of incarceration in a state  
19 correctional facility or jail, according to historical local  
20 sentencing patterns.

21 (ii) A currently incarcerated felon or misdemeanor who is  
22 granted early release from incarceration to a community corrections  
23 program or who is granted early release from incarceration as a  
24 result of a community corrections program.

25 (bb) "Programmatic success" means that the department program  
26 or initiative has ensured that the offender has accomplished all of  
27 the following:

1 (i) Obtained employment, has enrolled or participated in a  
2 program of education or job training, or has investigated all bona  
3 fide employment opportunities.

4 (ii) Obtained housing.

5 (iii) Obtained a state identification card.

6 (cc) "Recidivism" means the return of an individual to prison  
7 within 3 years after he or she is released either with a new  
8 sentence to prison or as a technical violator of parole conditions.

9 (dd) "RSAT" means residential substance abuse treatment.

10 (ee) "Serious emotional disturbance" means that term as  
11 defined in section 100d(2) of the mental health code, 1974 PA 328,  
12 MCL 330.1100d.

13 (ff) "Serious mental illness" means that term as defined in  
14 section 100d(3) of the mental health code, 1974 PA 328, MCL  
15 330.1100d.

16 (gg) "SSA" means the United States Social Security  
17 Administration.

18 (hh) "SSA-SSI" means SSA supplemental security income.

19 Sec. 206. The department shall not take disciplinary action  
20 against an employee or a prisoner for communicating with a member  
21 of the legislature or his or her staff.

22 Sec. 208. The department shall use the Internet to fulfill the  
23 reporting requirements of this part. This requirement may include  
24 transmission of reports via electronic mail to the recipients  
25 identified for each reporting requirement or it may include  
26 placement of reports on an Internet or intranet site.

27 Sec. 209. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used for

1 the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
2 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
3 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to  
4 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
5 businesses, if they are competitively priced and of comparable  
6 quality. In addition, preference should be given to goods or  
7 services, or both, that are manufactured or provided by Michigan  
8 businesses owned and operated by veterans, if they are  
9 competitively priced and of comparable quality.

10 Sec. 211. The department may charge fees and collect revenues  
11 in excess of appropriations in part 1 not to exceed the cost of  
12 offender services and programming, employee meals, parolee loans,  
13 academic/vocational services, custody escorts, compassionate  
14 visits, union steward activities, and public works programs and  
15 services provided to local units of government or private nonprofit  
16 organizations. The revenues and fees collected are appropriated for  
17 all expenses associated with these services and activities.

18 Sec. 214. The department shall receive and retain copies of  
19 all reports funded from appropriations in part 1. Federal and state  
20 guidelines for short-term and long-term retention of records shall  
21 be followed. The department may electronically retain copies of  
22 reports unless otherwise required by federal and state guidelines.

23 Sec. 216. The department shall prepare a report on out-of-  
24 state travel expenses not later than January 1 of each year. The  
25 travel report shall be a listing of all travel by classified and  
26 unclassified employees outside this state in the immediately  
27 preceding fiscal year that was funded in whole or in part with



1 funds appropriated in the department's budget. The report shall be  
2 submitted to the senate and house standing committees on  
3 appropriations, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state  
4 budget director. The report shall include the following  
5 information:

6 (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

7 (b) The total transportation and related costs of each travel  
8 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
9 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
10 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
11 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

12 Sec. 219. (1) Any contract for prisoner telephone services  
13 entered into after the effective date of this section shall include  
14 a condition that fee schedules for prisoner telephone calls,  
15 including rates and any surcharges other than those necessary to  
16 meet program costs, be the same as fee schedules for calls placed  
17 from outside of correctional facilities.

18 (2) Revenues appropriated and collected for program and  
19 special equipment funds shall be considered state restricted  
20 revenue. The revenue shall be used for prisoner programming.  
21 Unexpended funds remaining at the close of the fiscal year shall  
22 not lapse to the general fund but shall be carried forward and be  
23 available for appropriation in subsequent fiscal years.

24 (3) The department shall submit a report to the senate and  
25 house appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the senate and  
26 house fiscal agencies, the legislative corrections ombudsman, and  
27 the state budget director by February 1 outlining revenues and

1 expenditures from program and special equipment funds. The report  
2 shall include all of the following:

3 (a) Amounts expended and purpose of expenditures in the  
4 immediately preceding fiscal year.

5 (b) Plans for expenditures and purpose of planned expenditures  
6 during the current fiscal year.

7 (c) A review of expenditures and purpose of expenditures  
8 planned for future fiscal years.

9 Sec. 220. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
10 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
11 the total general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses at the  
12 close of the fiscal year. This report shall summarize the projected  
13 year-end general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses by major  
14 departmental program or program areas. The report shall be  
15 transmitted to the chairpersons of the senate and house of  
16 representatives standing committees on appropriations and the  
17 senate and house fiscal agencies.

18 Sec. 221. The department shall cooperate with the department  
19 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable  
20 website accessible by the public at no cost that includes, but is  
21 not limited to, all of the following for the department:

22 (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

23 (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

24 (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
25 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
26 payment description.

27 (d) The number of active department employees by job

1 classification.

2 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

3 Sec. 223. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
4 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 for  
5 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
6 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
7 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
8 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

9 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
10 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.00 for state  
11 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
12 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
13 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
14 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

15 (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
16 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 for local  
17 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
18 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
19 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
20 MCL 18.1393.

21 (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
22 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 for private  
23 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
24 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
25 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
26 MCL 18.1393.

27 Sec. 229. Within 14 days after the release of the executive

1 budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate with the  
2 state budget office to provide the chairpersons of the senate and  
3 house appropriations committees, the chairpersons of the senate and  
4 house appropriations subcommittees on corrections, and the senate  
5 and house fiscal agencies with an annual report on estimated state  
6 restricted fund balances, state restricted fund projected revenues,  
7 and state restricted fund expenditures for the fiscal years ending  
8 September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016.

9       Sec. 230. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used by  
10 the department to hire a person to provide legal services that are  
11 the responsibility of the attorney general. This prohibition does  
12 not apply to legal services for bonding activities and for those  
13 outside services that the attorney general authorizes.

14       Sec. 231. The department shall maintain, on a publicly  
15 accessible website, a department scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
16 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
17 improve the department's performance.

18       Sec. 239. It is the intent of the legislature that the  
19 department establish and maintain a management-to-staff ratio of  
20 not more than 1 supervisor for each 8 employees at the department's  
21 central office in Lansing and at both the northern and southern  
22 region administration offices.

23       Sec. 246. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
24 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
25 30, 2016 are \$332,330,600.00. From this amount, total department  
26 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
27 \$188,628,700.00. Total department appropriations for retiree health

1 care legacy costs are estimated at \$143,701,900.00.

2 Sec. 247. (1) For each new program or program expansion for  
3 which funds in excess of \$500,000.00 are appropriated in part 1,  
4 the department shall identify specific benchmarks intended to  
5 measure the performance or return on taxpayer investment of the  
6 program and its associated expenditures.

7 (2) By November 1, the department shall report the proposed  
8 benchmarks to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on  
9 corrections, to the senate and house fiscal agencies, and to the  
10 state budget director.

11 (3) The department shall provide an update on its progress in  
12 achieving those benchmarks at an appropriations subcommittee  
13 meeting called for the purpose of discussing benchmarks and their  
14 status.

15 (4) It is the intent of the legislature that, beginning with  
16 the budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, any  
17 proposal for a new program or an expansion of an existing program  
18 in excess of \$500,000.00 initiated by the executive branch or the  
19 legislature shall include, as part of the original proposal or  
20 budget request, a list of benchmarks intended to measure the  
21 performance or return on taxpayer investment of the program or  
22 spending increase.

## 23 EXECUTIVE

24 Sec. 301. For 3 years after a felony offender is released from  
25 the department's jurisdiction, the department shall maintain the  
26 offender's file on the offender tracking information system and

1 make it publicly accessible in the same manner as the file of the  
2 current offender. However, the department shall immediately remove  
3 the offender's file from the offender tracking information system  
4 upon determination that the offender was wrongfully convicted and  
5 the offender's file is not otherwise required to be maintained on  
6 the offender tracking information system.

7 **PRISONER REENTRY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

8       Sec. 401. The department shall submit 3-year and 5-year prison  
9 population projection updates concurrent with submission of the  
10 executive budget to the senate and house appropriations  
11 subcommittees on corrections, the legislative corrections  
12 ombudsman, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state  
13 budget director. The report shall include explanations of the  
14 methodology and assumptions used in developing the projection  
15 updates.

16       Sec. 402. By March 1, the department shall provide a report on  
17 prisoner reentry expenditures and allocations to the members of the  
18 senate and house appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the  
19 legislative corrections ombudsman, the senate and house fiscal  
20 agencies, and the state budget director. At a minimum, the report  
21 shall include information on both of the following:

22       (a) Details on prior-year expenditures, including amounts  
23 spent on each project funded, itemized by service provided and  
24 service provider.

25       (b) Allocations and planned expenditures for each project  
26 funded and for each project to be funded, itemized by service to be

1 provided and service provider. The department shall provide an  
2 amended report quarterly, if any revisions to allocations or  
3 planned expenditures occurred during that quarter.

4 Sec. 405. By March 1, the department shall report to the  
5 senate and house appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the  
6 legislative corrections ombudsman, the senate and house fiscal  
7 agencies, and the state budget director on substance abuse testing  
8 and treatment program objectives, outcome measures, and results,  
9 including program impact on offender success and programmatic  
10 success.

11 Sec. 407. (1) By June 30, the department shall place the  
12 statistical report from the immediately preceding calendar year on  
13 an Internet site. The statistical report shall include, but not be  
14 limited to, the information as provided in the 2004 statistical  
15 report.

16 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that the statistical  
17 report be placed on an Internet site within 6 months after the end  
18 of each calendar year.

19 Sec. 408. The department shall measure the recidivism rates of  
20 offenders.

21 Sec. 410. (1) The funds included in part 1 for community  
22 corrections comprehensive plans and services are to encourage the  
23 development through technical assistance grants, implementation,  
24 and operation of community corrections programs that enhance  
25 offender success and that also may serve as an alternative to  
26 incarceration in a state facility or jail. The comprehensive  
27 corrections plans shall include an explanation of how the public

1 safety will be maintained, the goals for the local jurisdiction,  
2 offender target populations intended to be affected, offender  
3 eligibility criteria for purposes outlined in the plan, and how the  
4 plans will meet the following objectives, consistent with section  
5 8(4) of the community corrections act, 1988 PA 511, MCL 791.408:

6 (a) Reduce admissions to prison of offenders who would likely  
7 be sentenced to imprisonment, including probation violators.

8 (b) Improve the appropriate utilization of jail facilities,  
9 the first priority of which is to open jail beds intended to house  
10 otherwise prison-bound felons, and the second priority being to  
11 appropriately utilize jail beds so that jail crowding does not  
12 occur.

13 (c) Open jail beds through the increase of pretrial release  
14 options.

15 (d) Reduce the readmission to prison of parole violators.

16 (e) Reduce the admission or readmission to prison of  
17 offenders, including probation violators and parole violators, for  
18 substance abuse violations.

19 (f) Contribute to offender success.

20 (2) The award of community corrections comprehensive plans and  
21 residential services funds shall be based on criteria that include,  
22 but are not limited to, the prison commitment rate by category of  
23 offenders, trends in prison commitment rates and jail utilization,  
24 historical trends in community corrections program capacity and  
25 program utilization, and the projected impact and outcome of annual  
26 policies and procedures of programs on offender success, prison  
27 commitment rates, and jail utilization.



1           (3) Funds awarded for residential services in part 1 shall  
2 provide for a per diem reimbursement of not more than \$47.50 for  
3 nonaccredited facilities, or of not more than \$48.50 for facilities  
4 that have been accredited by the American Corrections Association  
5 or a similar organization as approved by the department.

6           Sec. 414. (1) The department shall administer a county jail  
7 reimbursement program from the funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
8 purpose of reimbursing counties for housing in jails certain felons  
9 who otherwise would have been sentenced to prison.

10          (2) The county jail reimbursement program shall reimburse  
11 counties for convicted felons in the custody of the sheriff if the  
12 conviction was for a crime committed on or after January 1, 1999  
13 and 1 of the following applies:

14          (a) The felon's sentencing guidelines recommended range upper  
15 limit is more than 18 months, the felon's sentencing guidelines  
16 recommended range lower limit is 12 months or less, the felon's  
17 prior record variable score is 35 or more points, and the felon's  
18 sentence is not for commission of a crime in crime class G or crime  
19 class H or a nonperson crime in crime class F under chapter XVII of  
20 the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 777.1 to 777.69.

21          (b) The felon's minimum sentencing guidelines range minimum is  
22 more than 12 months under the sentencing guidelines described in  
23 subdivision (a).

24          (c) The felon was sentenced to jail for a felony committed  
25 while he or she was on parole and under the jurisdiction of the  
26 parole board and for which the sentencing guidelines recommended  
27 range for the minimum sentence has an upper limit of more than 18

1 months.

2 (3) State reimbursement under this subsection shall be \$60.00  
3 per diem per diverted offender for offenders with a presumptive  
4 prison guideline score, \$50.00 per diem per diverted offender for  
5 offenders with a straddle cell guideline for a group 1 crime, and  
6 \$35.00 per diem per diverted offender for offenders with a straddle  
7 cell guideline for a group 2 crime. Reimbursements shall be paid  
8 for sentences up to a 1-year total.

9 (4) As used in this subsection:

10 (a) "Group 1 crime" means a crime in 1 or more of the  
11 following offense categories: arson, assault, assaultive other,  
12 burglary, criminal sexual conduct, homicide or resulting in death,  
13 other sex offenses, robbery, and weapon possession as determined by  
14 the department of corrections based on specific crimes for which  
15 counties received reimbursement under the county jail reimbursement  
16 program in fiscal year 2007 and fiscal year 2008, and listed in the  
17 county jail reimbursement program document titled "FY 2007 and FY  
18 2008 Group One Crimes Reimbursed", dated March 31, 2009.

19 (b) "Group 2 crime" means a crime that is not a group 1 crime,  
20 including larceny, fraud, forgery, embezzlement, motor vehicle,  
21 malicious destruction of property, controlled substance offense,  
22 felony drunk driving, and other nonassaultive offenses.

23 (c) "In the custody of the sheriff" means that the convicted  
24 felon has been sentenced to the county jail and is either housed in  
25 the county jail or has been released from jail and is being  
26 monitored through the use of the sheriff's electronic monitoring  
27 system.

1           (5) County jail reimbursement program expenditures shall not  
2 exceed the amount appropriated in part 1 for the county jail  
3 reimbursement program. Payments to counties under the county jail  
4 reimbursement program shall be made in the order in which properly  
5 documented requests for reimbursements are received. A request  
6 shall be considered to be properly documented if it meets MDOC  
7 requirements for documentation. By October 15, the department shall  
8 distribute the documentation requirements to all counties.

9           Sec. 416. Allowable uses of felony drunk driver jail reduction  
10 and community treatment program funding shall include reimbursing  
11 counties for transportation, treatment costs, and housing felony  
12 drunk drivers during a period of assessment for treatment and case  
13 planning. Reimbursements for housing during the assessment process  
14 shall be at the rate of \$43.50 per day per offender, up to a  
15 maximum of 5 days per offender.

16           Sec. 417. (1) By March 1, the department shall report to the  
17 members of the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on  
18 corrections, the legislative corrections ombudsman, the senate and  
19 house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director on each of the  
20 following programs from the previous fiscal year:

21           (a) The county jail reimbursement program.

22           (b) The felony drunk driver jail reduction and community  
23 treatment program.

24           (c) Any new initiatives to control prison population growth  
25 funded or proposed to be funded under part 1.

26           (2) For each program listed under subsection (1), the report  
27 shall include information on each of the following:

1 (a) Program objectives and outcome measures, including, but  
2 not limited to, the number of offenders who successfully completed  
3 the program, and the number of offenders who successfully remained  
4 in the community during the 3 years following termination from the  
5 program.

6 (b) Expenditures by location.

7 (c) The impact on jail utilization.

8 (d) The impact on prison admissions.

9 (e) Other information relevant to an evaluation of the  
10 program.

11 Sec. 418. (1) The department shall collaborate with the state  
12 court administrative office on facilitating changes to Michigan  
13 court rules that would require the court to collect at the time of  
14 sentencing the state operator's license, state identification card,  
15 or other documentation used to establish the identity of the  
16 individual to be admitted to the department. The department shall  
17 maintain those documents in the prisoner's personal file.

18 (2) The department shall cooperate with MDCH to create and  
19 maintain a process by which prisoners can obtain their Michigan  
20 birth certificates if necessary. The department shall describe a  
21 process for obtaining birth certificates from other states, and in  
22 situations where the prisoner's effort fails, the department shall  
23 assist in obtaining the birth certificate.

24 (3) The department shall collaborate with the department of  
25 military and veterans affairs to create and maintain a process by  
26 which prisoners can obtain a copy of their DD Form 214 or other  
27 military discharge documentation if necessary.

1       Sec. 419. (1) The department shall provide weekly electronic  
2 mail reports to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees  
3 on corrections, the legislative corrections ombudsman, the senate  
4 and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director on  
5 prisoner populations by security levels by facility, prison  
6 facility capacities, and parolee and probationer populations.

7       (2) The department shall provide monthly electronic mail  
8 reports to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on  
9 corrections, the legislative corrections ombudsman, the senate and  
10 house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director. The reports  
11 shall include information on end-of-month prisoner populations in  
12 county jails, the net operating capacity according to the most  
13 recent certification report, identified by date, and end-of-month  
14 data, year-to-date data, and comparisons to the prior year for the  
15 following:

16       (a) Community residential program populations, separated by  
17 centers and electronic monitoring.

18       (b) Parole populations.

19       (c) Probation populations, with identification of the number  
20 in special alternative incarceration.

21       (d) Prison and camp populations, with separate identification  
22 of the number in special alternative incarceration and the number  
23 of lifers.

24       (e) Prisoners classified as past their earliest release date.

25       (f) Parole board activity, including the numbers and  
26 percentages of parole grants and parole denials.

27       (g) Prisoner exits, identifying transfers to community

1 placement, paroles from prisons and camps, paroles from community  
2 placement, total movements to parole, prison intake, prisoner  
3 deaths, prisoners discharging on the maximum sentence, and other  
4 prisoner exits.

5 (h) Prison intake and returns, including probation violators,  
6 new court commitments, violators with new sentences, escaper new  
7 sentences, total prison intake, returns from court with additional  
8 sentences, community placement returns, technical parole violator  
9 returns, and total returns to prison and camp.

#### 10 **BUDGET AND OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION**

11 Sec. 501. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
12 prosecutorial and detainer expenses, the department shall reimburse  
13 counties for housing and custody of parole violators and offenders  
14 being returned by the department from community placement who are  
15 available for return to institutional status and for prisoners who  
16 volunteer for placement in a county jail.

17 Sec. 502. Funds included in part 1 for the sheriffs'  
18 coordinating and training office are appropriated for and may be  
19 expended to defray costs of continuing education, certification,  
20 recertification, decertification, and training of local corrections  
21 officers, the personnel and administrative costs of the sheriffs'  
22 coordinating and training office, the local corrections officers  
23 advisory board, and the sheriffs' coordinating and training council  
24 under the local corrections officers training act, 2003 PA 125, MCL  
25 791.531 to 791.546.

26 Sec. 508. The department shall issue a report for all

1 correctional facilities to the senate and house appropriations  
2 subcommittees on corrections, the senate and house fiscal agencies,  
3 and the legislative corrections ombudsman by October 1 setting  
4 forth the following information for each facility: its name, street  
5 address, and date of construction; its current maintenance costs;  
6 any maintenance planned; its current utility costs; its expected  
7 future capital improvement costs; and its expected future useful  
8 life.

9 **FIELD OPERATIONS ADMINISTRATION**

10 Sec. 603. (1) All prisoners, probationers, and parolees  
11 involved with the curfew monitoring program shall reimburse the  
12 department for costs associated with their participation in the  
13 program. The department may require community service work  
14 reimbursement as a means of payment for those able-bodied  
15 individuals unable to pay for the costs of the equipment.

16 (2) Program participant contributions and local program  
17 reimbursement for the curfew monitoring program appropriated in  
18 part 1 are related to program expenditures and may be used to  
19 offset expenditures for this purpose.

20 (3) Included in the appropriation in part 1 is adequate  
21 funding to implement the curfew monitoring program to be  
22 administered by the department. The curfew monitoring program is  
23 intended to provide sentencing judges and county sheriffs in  
24 coordination with local community corrections advisory boards  
25 access to the state's curfew monitoring program to reduce prison  
26 admissions and improve local jail utilization. The department shall

1 determine the appropriate distribution of the curfew monitor units  
2 throughout the state based upon locally developed comprehensive  
3 corrections plans under the community corrections act, 1988 PA 511,  
4 MCL 791.401 to 791.414.

5 (4) For a fee determined by the department, the department  
6 shall provide counties with the curfew monitor equipment,  
7 replacement parts, administrative oversight of the equipment's  
8 operation, notification of violators, and periodic reports  
9 regarding county program participants. Counties are responsible for  
10 curfew monitor equipment installation and service. For an  
11 additional fee as determined by the department, the department  
12 shall provide staff to install and service the equipment. Counties  
13 are responsible for the coordination and apprehension of program  
14 violators.

15 (5) Any county with curfew monitor charges outstanding over 60  
16 days shall be considered in violation of the community curfew  
17 monitor program agreement and lose access to the program.

18 Sec. 611. The department shall prepare by March 1 individual  
19 reports for the community reentry program, the electronic  
20 monitoring program, and the special alternative to incarceration  
21 program. The reports shall be submitted to the senate and house  
22 appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the legislative  
23 corrections ombudsman, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and  
24 the state budget director. Each program's report shall include  
25 information on all of the following:

26 (a) Monthly new participants by type of offender. Community  
27 reentry program participants shall be categorized by reason for



1 placement. For technical rule violators, the report shall sort  
2 offenders by length of time since release from prison, by the most  
3 recent violation, and by the number of violations occurring since  
4 release from prison.

5 (b) Monthly participant unsuccessful terminations, including  
6 cause.

7 (c) Number of successful terminations.

8 (d) End month population by facility/program.

9 (e) Average length of placement.

10 (f) Return to prison statistics.

11 (g) Description of each program location or locations,  
12 capacity, and staffing.

13 (h) Sentencing guideline scores and actual sentence statistics  
14 for participants, if applicable.

15 (i) Comparison with prior year statistics.

16 (j) Analysis of the impact on prison admissions and jail  
17 utilization and the cost effectiveness of the program.

18 Sec. 612. By April 1, the department shall provide a report to  
19 the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on corrections,  
20 the legislative corrections ombudsman, the senate and house fiscal  
21 agencies, and the state budget director on the number of all  
22 parolees returned to prison and probationers sentenced to prison  
23 for either a technical violation or new sentence during the  
24 preceding fiscal year. The report shall include the following  
25 information for probationers, for parolees after their first  
26 parole, and for parolees who have been paroled more than once:

27 (a) The numbers of parole and probation violators returned to

1 or sent to prison for a new crime with a comparison of original  
2 versus new offenses by major offense type: assaultive,  
3 nonassaultive, drug, and sex.

4 (b) The numbers of parole and probation violators returned to  
5 or sent to prison for a technical violation and the type of  
6 violation, including, but not limited to, zero gun tolerance and  
7 substance abuse violations. For parole technical rule violators,  
8 the report shall list violations by type, by length of time since  
9 release from prison, by the most recent violation, and by the  
10 number of violations occurring since release from prison.

11 (c) The educational history of those offenders, including how  
12 many had a GED or high school diploma prior to incarceration in  
13 prison, how many received a GED while in prison, and how many  
14 received a vocational certificate while in prison.

15 (d) The number of offenders who participated in the reentry  
16 program versus the number of those who did not.

17 (e) The unduplicated number of offenders who participated in  
18 substance abuse treatment programs, mental health treatment  
19 programs, or both, while in prison, itemized by diagnosis.

20 Sec. 615. The department shall submit a report containing a  
21 list detailing the number of prisoners who have received life  
22 imprisonment sentences with the possibility of parole and who are  
23 currently eligible for parole to the senate and house  
24 appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the senate and house  
25 fiscal agencies, the legislative corrections ombudsman, and the  
26 state budget director by January 1.

1 HEALTH CARE

2       Sec. 802. As a condition of expenditure of the funds  
3 appropriated in part 1, the department shall provide the senate and  
4 house of representatives appropriations subcommittees on  
5 corrections, the legislative corrections ombudsman, the senate and  
6 house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director with quarterly  
7 reports on physical and mental health care detailing quarterly and  
8 fiscal year-to-date expenditures itemized by vendor, allocations,  
9 status of payments from contractors to vendors, and projected year-  
10 end expenditures from accounts for prisoner health care, mental  
11 health care, pharmaceutical services, and durable medical  
12 equipment.

13       Sec. 803. (1) The department shall assure that all prisoners,  
14 upon any health care treatment, are given the opportunity to sign a  
15 release of information form designating a family member or other  
16 individual to whom the department shall release records information  
17 regarding a prisoner. A release of information form signed by a  
18 prisoner shall remain in effect for 1 year, and the prisoner may  
19 elect to withdraw or amend the release form at any time.

20       (2) The department shall assure that any such signed release  
21 forms follow a prisoner upon transfer to another department  
22 facility or to the supervision of a parole officer.

23       (3) The form shall be placed on an online, public website  
24 managed by the department.

25       Sec. 804. The department shall report quarterly to the senate  
26 and house appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the  
27 legislative corrections ombudsman, the senate and house fiscal

1 agencies, and the state budget director on prisoner health care  
2 utilization. The report shall include the number of inpatient  
3 hospital days, outpatient visits, emergency room visits, and  
4 prisoners receiving off-site inpatient medical care in the previous  
5 quarter, by facility.

6 **CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES ADMINISTRATION**

7       Sec. 907. The department shall report by March 1 to the senate  
8 and house appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the  
9 legislative corrections ombudsman, the senate and house fiscal  
10 agencies, and the state budget director on academic and vocational  
11 programs. The report shall provide information relevant to an  
12 assessment of the department's academic and vocational programs,  
13 including, but not limited to, all of the following:

14       (a) The number of instructors and the number of instructor  
15 vacancies, by program and facility.

16       (b) The number of prisoners enrolled in each program, the  
17 number of prisoners completing each program, the number of  
18 prisoners who fail each program, the number of prisoners who do not  
19 complete each program and the reason for not completing the  
20 program, the number of prisoners transferred to another facility  
21 while enrolled in a program and the reason for transfer, the number  
22 of prisoners enrolled who are repeating the program by reason, and  
23 the number of prisoners on waiting lists for each program, all  
24 itemized by facility.

25       (c) The steps the department has undertaken to improve  
26 programs, track records, accommodate transfers and prisoners with

1 health care needs, and reduce waiting lists.

2 (d) The number of prisoners paroled without a high school  
3 diploma and the number of prisoners paroled without a GED.

4 (e) An explanation of the value and purpose of each program,  
5 for example, to improve employability, reduce recidivism, reduce  
6 prisoner idleness, or some combination of these and other factors.

7 (f) An identification of program outcomes for each academic  
8 and vocational program.

9 (g) An explanation of the department's plans for academic and  
10 vocational programs, including plans to contract with intermediate  
11 school districts for GED and high school diploma programs.

12 (h) The number of prisoners not paroled at their earliest  
13 release date due to lack of a GED, and the reason those prisoners  
14 have not obtained a GED.

15 Sec. 910. The department shall allow the Michigan Braille  
16 transcribing fund program to operate at its current location. The  
17 donation of the building by the Michigan Braille transcribing fund  
18 at the G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility in Jackson is  
19 acknowledged and appreciated. The department shall continue to  
20 encourage the Michigan Braille transcribing fund program to produce  
21 high-quality materials for use by the visually impaired.

22 Sec. 911. By March 1, the department shall report to the  
23 senate and house appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the  
24 senate and house fiscal agencies, the legislative corrections  
25 ombudsman, and the state budget director the number of critical  
26 incidents occurring each month by type and the number and severity  
27 of assaults, escape attempts, suicides, and attempted suicides

1 occurring each month at each facility during the immediately  
2 preceding calendar year.

3 Sec. 912. The department shall report to the senate and house  
4 appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the legislative  
5 corrections ombudsman, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and  
6 the state budget director by March 1 on the ratio of correctional  
7 officers to prisoners for each correctional institution, the ratio  
8 of shift command staff to line custody staff, and the ratio of  
9 noncustody institutional staff to prisoners for each correctional  
10 institution.

11 Sec. 913. (1) It is the intent of the legislature that any  
12 prisoner required to complete a violence prevention program, sexual  
13 offender program, or other program as a condition of parole shall  
14 be transferred to a facility where that program is available in  
15 order to accomplish timely completion of that program prior to the  
16 expiration of his or her minimum sentence and eligibility for  
17 parole. Nothing in this section should be deemed to make parole  
18 denial appealable in court.

19 (2) The department shall submit a quarterly report to the  
20 members of the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on  
21 corrections, the senate and house fiscal agencies, the state budget  
22 director, and the legislative corrections ombudsman detailing  
23 enrollment in sex offender programming, assaultive offender  
24 programming, violent offender programming, and thinking for change.  
25 At a minimum, the report shall include the following:

26 (a) A full accounting of the number of individuals who are  
27 required to complete the programming, but have not yet done so.

1 (b) The number of individuals who have reached their earliest  
2 release date, but who have not completed required programming.

3 (c) A plan of action for addressing any waiting lists or  
4 backlogs for programming that may exist.

5 Sec. 924. The department shall evaluate all prisoners at  
6 intake for substance abuse disorders, serious developmental  
7 disorders, serious mental illness, and other mental health  
8 disorders. Prisoners with serious mental illness or serious  
9 developmental disorders shall not be removed from the general  
10 population as a punitive response to behavior caused by their  
11 serious mental illness or serious developmental disorder. Due to  
12 persistent high violence risk or severe disruptive behavior that is  
13 unresponsive to treatment, prisoners with serious mental illness or  
14 serious developmental disorders may be placed in secure residential  
15 housing programs that will facilitate access to institutional  
16 programming and ongoing mental health services. A prisoner with  
17 serious mental illness or serious developmental disorder who is  
18 confined in these specialized housing programs shall be evaluated  
19 or monitored by a medical professional at a frequency of not less  
20 than every 12 hours.

21 Sec. 925. By March 1, the department shall report to the  
22 senate and house appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the  
23 senate and house fiscal agencies, the legislative corrections  
24 ombudsman, and the state budget director on the annual number of  
25 prisoners in administrative segregation between October 1, 2014 and  
26 September 30, 2015, and the annual number of prisoners in  
27 administrative segregation between October 1, 2014 and September

1 30, 2015 who at any time during the current or prior prison term  
2 were diagnosed with serious mental illness or have a developmental  
3 disorder and the number of days each of the prisoners with serious  
4 mental illness or a developmental disorder have been confined to  
5 administrative segregation.

6 Sec. 929. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
7 department shall do all of the following:

8 (a) Ensure that any inmate care and control staff in contact  
9 with prisoners less than 18 years of age are adequately trained  
10 with regard to the developmental and mental health needs of  
11 prisoners less than 18 years of age. By April 1, the department  
12 shall report to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees  
13 on corrections, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state  
14 budget director on the training curriculum used and the number and  
15 types of staff receiving annual training under that curriculum.

16 (b) Provide appropriate placement for prisoners less than 18  
17 years of age who have serious mental illness, serious emotional  
18 disturbance, or a serious developmental disorder and need to be  
19 housed separately from the general population. Prisoners less than  
20 18 years of age who have serious mental illness, serious emotional  
21 disturbance, or a serious developmental disorder shall not be  
22 removed from an existing placement as a punitive response to  
23 behavior caused by their serious mental illness, serious emotional  
24 disturbance, or a serious developmental disorder. Due to persistent  
25 high violence risk or severe disruptive behavior that is  
26 unresponsive to treatment, prisoners less than 18 years of age with  
27 serious emotional disturbance, serious mental illness, or serious



1 developmental disorders may be placed in secure residential housing  
2 programs that will facilitate access to institutional programming  
3 and ongoing mental health services. A prisoner less than 18 years  
4 of age with serious mental illness, serious emotional disturbance,  
5 or a serious developmental disorder who is confined in these  
6 specialized housing programs shall be evaluated or monitored by a  
7 medical professional at a frequency of not less than every 12  
8 hours.

9 (c) Implement a specialized reentry program that recognizes  
10 the needs of prisoners less than 18 years old for supervised  
11 reentry.

12 Sec. 942. The department shall ensure that any contract with a  
13 public or private party to operate a facility to house state  
14 prisoners includes a provision to allow access by both the office  
15 of the legislative auditor general and the office of the  
16 legislative corrections ombudsman to the facility and to  
17 appropriate records and documents related to the operation of the  
18 facility. These access rights for both offices shall be the same  
19 for the contracted facility as for a general state-operated  
20 correctional facility.

## 21 MISCELLANEOUS

22 Sec. 1009. The department shall make an information packet for  
23 the families of incoming prisoners available on the department's  
24 website. The information packet shall be updated by February 1 of  
25 each year thereafter. The packet shall provide information on  
26 topics including, but not limited to: how to put money into

1 prisoner accounts, how to make phone calls or create Jpay email  
 2 accounts, how to visit in person, proper procedures for filing  
 3 complaints or grievances, the rights of prisoners to physical and  
 4 mental health care, how to utilize the offender tracking  
 5 information system (OTIS), truth-in-sentencing and how it applies  
 6 to minimum sentences, the parole process, and guidance on the  
 7 importance of the role of families in the reentry process. The  
 8 department is encouraged to partner with external advocacy groups  
 9 and actual families of prisoners in the packet-writing process to  
 10 ensure that the information is useful and complete.

11 ARTICLE VI  
 12 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
 13 PART 1  
 14 LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

15 Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the department of  
 16 education for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the  
 17 following funds:

18 **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

19 APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

20	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0	
21	Full-time equated classified positions.....	599.5	
22	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	303,549,800
23	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
24	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
25	transfers .....		0

1	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	303,549,800
2	Federal revenues:		
3	Total federal revenues .....		212,921,900
4	Special revenue funds:		
5	Total local revenues .....		5,633,700
6	Total private revenues .....		2,033,300
7	Total other state restricted revenues .....		7,669,600
8	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	75,291,300
9	<b>Sec. 102. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION/OFFICE OF THE</b>		
10	<b>SUPERINTENDENT</b>		
11	Full-time equated unclassified positions..... 6.0		
12	Full-time equated classified positions..... 11.0		
13	State board of education, per diem payments .....	\$	24,400
14	Unclassified positions--6.0 FTE positions .....		807,000
15	State board/superintendent operations--11.0 FTE		
16	positions .....		<u>2,092,100</u>
17	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	2,923,500
18	Appropriated from:		
19	Federal revenues:		
20	Federal revenues .....		222,100
21	Special revenue funds:		
22	Private foundations .....		28,100
23	Certification fees .....		856,500
24	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	1,816,800
25	<b>Sec. 103. CENTRAL SUPPORT</b>		
26	Full-time equated classified positions..... 23.6		
27	Central support operations--23.6 FTE positions .....	\$	3,614,900

1	Worker's compensation.....	28,700
2	Building occupancy charges - property management	
3	services .....	3,110,100
4	Training and orientation workshops .....	150,000
5	Terminal leave payments.....	<u>554,700</u>
6	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 7,458,400
7	Appropriated from:	
8	Federal revenues:	
9	Federal revenues.....	1,659,900
10	Federal indirect funds.....	2,545,500
11	Special revenue funds:	
12	Certification fees.....	405,500
13	Teacher testing fees.....	3,900
14	Training and orientation workshop fees .....	150,000
15	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 2,693,600
16	<b>Sec. 104. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES</b>	
17	Information technology operations.....	\$ <u>4,179,800</u>
18	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 4,179,800
19	Appropriated from:	
20	Federal revenues:	
21	Federal revenues.....	604,000
22	Federal indirect funds.....	1,784,500
23	Special revenue funds:	
24	Local cost sharing (schools for deaf/blind) .....	76,500
25	Certification fees.....	389,200
26	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 1,325,600
27	<b>Sec. 105. SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES</b>	

1	Full-time equated classified positions.....	47.0	
2	Special education operations--47.0 FTE positions .....		\$ <u>8,920,000</u>
3	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 8,920,000
4	Appropriated from:		
5	Federal revenues:		
6	Federal revenues.....		8,440,900
7	Special revenue funds:		
8	Private foundations.....		110,100
9	Certification fees.....		44,000
10	State general fund/general purpose.....		\$ 325,000
11	<b>Sec. 106. MICHIGAN SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND</b>		
12	Full-time equated classified positions.....	77.0	
13	Michigan schools for the deaf and blind operations--		
14	76.0 FTE positions .....		\$ 12,651,600
15	Camp Tuhsmeheeta--1.0 FTE position.....		295,100
16	Private gifts - blind.....		200,000
17	Private gifts - deaf.....		<u>150,000</u>
18	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 13,296,700
19	Appropriated from:		
20	Federal revenues:		
21	Federal revenues.....		6,887,500
22	Special revenue funds:		
23	Local cost sharing (schools for deaf/blind) .....		5,233,000
24	Local school district service fees.....		312,500
25	Gifts, bequests, and donations.....		645,100
26	Student insurance revenue.....		218,600
27	State general fund/general purpose.....		\$ 0

1	<b>Sec. 107. PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION SERVICES</b>		
2	Full-time equated classified positions.....	34.0	
3	Professional preparation operations--34.0 FTE		
4	positions .....		\$ <u>5,662,600</u>
5	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 5,662,600
6	Appropriated from:		
7	Federal revenues:		
8	Federal revenues.....		1,442,100
9	Special revenue funds:		
10	Certification fees.....		3,586,300
11	Teacher college review fees.....		55,300
12	Teacher testing fees.....		358,600
13	State general fund/general purpose.....		\$ 220,300
14	<b>Sec. 108. MICHIGAN OFFICE OF GREAT START</b>		
15	Full-time equated classified positions.....	65.0	
16	Office of great start operations--64.0 FTE positions .		\$ 22,808,600
17	Child development and care external support .....		17,735,000
18	Head start collaboration office--1.0 FTE position ....		307,400
19	Child development and care public assistance .....		<u>131,503,300</u>
20	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 172,354,300
21	Appropriated from:		
22	Federal revenues:		
23	Federal revenues.....		133,824,300
24	Special revenue funds:		
25	Private foundations.....		250,000
26	Certification fees.....		64,100
27	State general fund/general purpose.....		\$ 38,215,900

1	<b>Sec. 109. STATE AID AND SCHOOL FINANCE SERVICES</b>		
2	Full-time equated classified positions.....	10.5	
3	State aid and school finance operations--9.5 FTE		
4	positions .....	\$	1,358,500
5	Financial independence team operations--1.0 FTE		
6	position .....		<u>149,500</u>
7	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	1,508,000
8	Appropriated from:		
9	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	1,508,000
10	<b>Sec. 110. AUDIT SERVICES</b>		
11	Full-time equated classified positions.....	4.5	
12	Audit operations--4.5 FTE positions .....	\$	<u>601,800</u>
13	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	601,800
14	Appropriated from:		
15	Federal revenues:		
16	Federal indirect funds .....		478,300
17	Special revenue funds:		
18	Certification fees .....		61,200
19	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	62,300
20	<b>Sec. 111. ADMINISTRATIVE LAW SERVICES</b>		
21	Full-time equated classified positions.....	2.0	
22	Administrative law operations--2.0 FTE positions .....	\$	<u>1,332,000</u>
23	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	1,332,000
24	Appropriated from:		
25	Federal revenues:		
26	Federal revenues .....		550,300
27	Special revenue funds:		

1	Certification fees.....	685,200
2	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 96,500
3	<b>Sec. 112. ACCOUNTABILITY SERVICES</b>	
4	Full-time equated classified positions.....	65.6
5	Accountability services operations--65.6 FTE positions	\$ <u>14,616,400</u>
6	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 14,616,400
7	Appropriated from:	
8	Federal revenues:	
9	Federal revenues.....	13,441,100
10	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 1,175,300
11	<b>Sec. 113. SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES</b>	
12	Full-time equated classified positions.....	82.6
13	School support services operations--82.6 FTE positions	\$ 15,087,200
14	Federal and private grants.....	<u>3,000,000</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 18,087,200
16	Appropriated from:	
17	Federal revenues:	
18	Federal revenues.....	16,240,500
19	Special revenue funds:	
20	Local school district service fees.....	11,700
21	Private foundations.....	1,000,000
22	Certification fees.....	85,600
23	Commodity distribution fees.....	71,700
24	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 677,700
25	<b>Sec. 114. FIELD SERVICES</b>	
26	Full-time equated classified positions.....	45.0
27	Field services operations--45.0 FTE positions.....	\$ <u>9,174,400</u>



1	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	9,174,400
2	Appropriated from:		
3	Federal revenues:		
4	Federal revenues.....		8,874,900
5	Special revenue funds:		
6	Certification fees.....		77,000
7	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	222,500
8	<b>Sec. 115. EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT AND INNOVATION</b>		
9	<b>SERVICES</b>		
10	Full-time equated classified positions.....	59.7	
11	Educational improvement and innovation operations--		
12	59.7 FTE positions .....	\$	<u>9,323,400</u>
13	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	9,323,400
14	Appropriated from:		
15	Federal revenues:		
16	Federal revenues.....		6,500,600
17	Special revenue funds:		
18	Certification fees.....		556,900
19	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	2,265,900
20	<b>Sec. 116. CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION</b>		
21	Full-time equated classified positions.....	27.0	
22	Career and technical education operations--27.0 FTE		
23	positions .....	\$	<u>4,748,800</u>
24	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	4,748,800
25	Appropriated from:		
26	Federal revenues:		
27	Federal revenues.....		3,818,600

1	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	930,200
2	<b>Sec. 117. LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN</b>		
3	Full-time equated classified positions.....	33.0	
4	Library of Michigan operations--32.0 FTE positions ...	\$	4,408,800
5	Library services and technology program--1.0 FTE		
6	position .....		5,606,800
7	State aid to libraries .....		9,876,000
8	Michigan eLibrary .....		1,750,000
9	Renaissance zone reimbursements .....		<u>5,300,000</u>
10	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	26,941,600
11	Appropriated from:		
12	Federal revenues:		
13	IMLS, library services and technology act .....		5,606,800
14	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	21,334,800
15	<b>Sec. 118. SCHOOL REFORM OFFICE</b>		
16	Full-time equated classified positions.....	12.0	
17	School reform office operations--12.0 FTE positions ..	\$	<u>2,420,900</u>
18	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	2,420,900
19	Appropriated from:		
20	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	2,420,900

PART 2

PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

**GENERAL SECTIONS**

Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state

constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources under part 1 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016 is \$82,960,900.00 and state spending from state resources to be paid to local units of government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016 is \$15,176,000.00. The itemized statement below identifies appropriations from which spending to local units of government will occur:

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

State aid to libraries.....	\$	9,876,000
Renaissance zone reimbursements.....		<u>5,300,000</u>
Total department of education.....	\$	15,176,000

Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under this part and part 1 are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

(a) "Department" means the Michigan department of education.

(b) "District" means a local school district as defined in section 6 of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.6, or a public school academy as defined in section 5 of the revised school code, 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.5.

(c) "FTE" means full-time equated.

(d) "IMLS" means institute of museum and library services.

Sec. 204. The state superintendent of public instruction shall take all reasonable steps to ensure businesses in deprived and depressed communities compete for and perform contracts to provide services or supplies, or both. The state superintendent of public instruction shall strongly encourage firms with which the

1 department contracts to subcontract with certified businesses in  
2 depressed and deprived communities for services, supplies, or both.

3 Sec. 205. The departments and agencies shall use the Internet  
4 to fulfill the reporting requirements of this part. This  
5 requirement may include transmission of reports via electronic mail  
6 to the recipients identified for each reporting requirement, or it  
7 may include placement of reports on an Internet or intranet site.

8 Sec. 206. The department shall provide through the Internet  
9 the state board of education agenda and all supporting documents,  
10 and shall notify the state budget director and the senate and house  
11 fiscal agencies that the agenda and supporting documents are  
12 available on the Internet, at the time the agenda and supporting  
13 documents are provided to state board of education members.

14 Sec. 207. The department shall cooperate with the department  
15 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable  
16 website accessible by the public at no cost that includes, but is  
17 not limited to, all of the following for each department or agency:

18 (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

19 (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

20 (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
21 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
22 payment description.

23 (d) The number of active department employees by job  
24 classification.

25 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

26 Sec. 208. The department shall require all districts and  
27 intermediate school districts to maintain complete records within

1 the personnel file of a teacher or school employee of any  
2 disciplinary actions taken by the governing board against the  
3 teacher or employee for sexual misconduct. The records shall not be  
4 destroyed or removed from the teacher's or employee's personnel  
5 file except as required by a court order.

6 Sec. 211. To the extent the state continues to identify  
7 schools as meeting proficiency targets, before publishing a list of  
8 schools or districts determined to have failed to make adequate  
9 yearly progress as required by the no child left behind act of  
10 2001, Public Law 107-110, the department shall allow a school or  
11 district to appeal that determination. The department shall  
12 consider and act upon the appeal within 30 days after it is  
13 submitted and shall not publish the list until after all appeals  
14 have been considered and decided.

15 Sec. 212. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used for  
16 the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
17 competitively priced and comparable quality American goods or  
18 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to  
19 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
20 businesses if they are competitively priced and of comparable  
21 quality. In addition, preference should be given to goods or  
22 services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan businesses  
23 owned and operated by veterans if they are competitively priced and  
24 of comparable quality.

25 Sec. 214. The department and agencies receiving appropriations  
26 in part 1 shall prepare a report on out-of-state travel expenses  
27 not later than January 1 of each year. The travel report shall be a

1 listing of all travel by classified and unclassified employees  
2 outside this state in the immediately preceding fiscal year that  
3 was funded in whole or in part with funds appropriated in the  
4 department's budget. The report shall be submitted to the senate  
5 and house appropriations committees, the house and senate fiscal  
6 agencies, and the state budget director. The report must include  
7 the following information:

8 (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

9 (b) The transportation and related costs of each travel  
10 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
11 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
12 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
13 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

14 Sec. 216. The department shall not take disciplinary action  
15 against an employee who communicates truthfully and factually with  
16 a member of the legislature or his or her staff.

17 Sec. 218. The department and agencies receiving appropriations  
18 in part 1 shall receive and retain copies of all reports funded  
19 from appropriations in part 1. Federal and state guidelines for  
20 short-term and long-term retention of records shall be followed.  
21 The department may electronically retain copies of reports unless  
22 otherwise required by federal and state guidelines.

23 Sec. 219. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
24 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.00 for  
25 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
26 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
27 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,

1 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

2 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
3 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$700,000.00 for state  
4 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
5 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
6 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
7 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

8 (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
9 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00 for local  
10 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
11 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
12 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
13 MCL 18.1393.

14 (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
15 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000.00 for private  
16 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
17 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
18 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
19 MCL 18.1393.

20 Sec. 220. (1) The department shall provide data requested by a  
21 member of the legislature, his or her staff, or the house and  
22 senate fiscal agencies in a timely manner. If the department fails  
23 to provide reasonably requested data within 30 days after the  
24 request, the state money appropriated in part 1 for state  
25 board/superintendent operations shall be reduced by 1%.

26 (2) If the department fails to provide to the legislature  
27 reports and other data required by boilerplate or statute within 30

1 days after the date the information is due, the state money  
2 appropriated in part 1 for state board/superintendent operations  
3 shall be reduced by 1%.

4       Sec. 221. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used by a  
5 principal executive department, state agency, or authority to hire  
6 a person to provide legal services that are the responsibility of  
7 the attorney general. This prohibition does not apply to legal  
8 services for bonding activities and for those activities that the  
9 attorney general authorizes.

10       Sec. 222. The department shall maintain, on a publicly  
11 accessible website, a department scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
12 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
13 improve the agency's performance.

14       Sec. 226. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
15 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
16 the total general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses at the  
17 close of the prior fiscal year. This report shall summarize the  
18 projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriation  
19 lapses by major departmental program or program areas. The report  
20 shall be transmitted to the office of the state budget, the  
21 chairpersons of the senate and house appropriations committees, and  
22 the senate and house fiscal agencies.

23       Sec. 227. Within 14 days after the release of the executive  
24 budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate with the  
25 state budget office to provide the senate and house appropriations  
26 chairs, the senate and house appropriations subcommittees  
27 responsible for the department budget, respectively, and the senate



1 and house fiscal agencies with an annual report on estimated state  
2 restricted fund balances, state restricted fund projected revenues,  
3 and state restricted fund expenditures for the fiscal years ending  
4 September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016.

5       Sec. 230. The department may assist the department of  
6 community health, other departments, and local school districts to  
7 secure reimbursement for eligible services provided in Michigan  
8 schools from the federal Medicaid program. The department may  
9 submit reports of direct expenses related to this effort to the  
10 department of community health for reimbursement.

11       Sec. 231. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
12 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
13 30, 2016 is estimated at \$15,932,000.00. Total agency  
14 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
15 \$9,042,900.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care  
16 legacy costs are estimated at \$6,889,100.00.

17       Sec. 233. No state department or agency shall issue a request  
18 for proposal (RFP) for a contract in excess of \$1,000,000.00,  
19 unless the department or agency has first considered issuing a  
20 request for information (RFI) or a request for qualification (RFQ)  
21 relative to that contract to better enable the department or agency  
22 to learn more about the market for the products or services that  
23 are the subject of the future RFP. The department or agency shall  
24 notify the department of technology, management, and budget of the  
25 evaluation process used to determine if an RFI or RFQ was not  
26 necessary prior to issuing the RFP.

27       Sec. 234. (1) For each new program or program expansion for

1 which funds in excess of \$500,000.00 are appropriated in part 1,  
2 the department shall identify specific benchmarks intended to  
3 measure the performance or return on taxpayer investment of the  
4 program and its associated expenditures. Not later than November 1,  
5 2015, the department shall report the proposed benchmarks to the  
6 house and senate appropriations subcommittees for that department,  
7 the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
8 director. The department shall provide an update on its progress in  
9 achieving those benchmarks at an appropriations subcommittee  
10 meeting called for the purpose of discussing benchmarks and their  
11 status.

12 (2) Beginning with the budget for the fiscal year ending  
13 September 30, 2016, any proposal for a new program or an expansion  
14 of an existing program in excess of \$500,000.00 initiated by the  
15 executive branch or the legislature shall include, as part of the  
16 original proposal or budget request, a list of benchmarks intended  
17 to measure the performance or return on taxpayer investment of the  
18 program or spending increase.

19 Sec. 235. The department shall not enter into a contract  
20 funded under part 1 that exceeds \$1,000,000.00 or seek a federal  
21 waiver from the no child left behind act of 2001, Public Law 107-  
22 110, or an amendment to the federal waiver, until after  
23 notification of the content to both the house and senate  
24 appropriations committees.

25 Sec. 236. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
26 department shall compile a report that identifies the mandates  
27 required of nonpublic schools. In compiling the report, the

1 department may consult with relevant statewide education  
2 associations in Michigan. The report compiled by the department  
3 shall indicate the type of mandate, including, but not limited to,  
4 student health, student or building safety, accountability, and  
5 educational requirements, and shall indicate whether a school has  
6 to report on the specified mandates. The report required under this  
7 section shall be completed by April 1, 2016 and transmitted to the  
8 state budget director, the house and senate appropriations  
9 subcommittees responsible for the department of education, and the  
10 senate and house fiscal agencies not later than April 15, 2016.

11 Sec. 237. The department shall identify fund-raisers that are  
12 exempt from federal nutrition standards and take any other action  
13 as may be necessary for public schools in this state to be able to  
14 allow fund-raising sales on school premises during school hours of  
15 foods and beverages that do not meet federal nutrition standards  
16 prescribed by the United States Department of Agriculture.

17 **STATE BOARD/OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

18 Sec. 301. (1) The appropriations in part 1 may be used for per  
19 diem payments to the state board for meetings at which a quorum is  
20 present or for performing official business authorized by the state  
21 board. The per diem payments shall be at a rate as follows:

22 (a) State board of education - president - \$110.00 per day.

23 (b) State board of education - member other than president -  
24 \$100.00 per day.

25 (2) A state board of education member shall not be paid a per  
26 diem for more than 30 days per year.

1       Sec. 302. From the amount appropriated in part 1 to the state  
2 board of education, not more than \$35,000.00 for the fiscal year  
3 ending September 30, 2016 shall be expended for in-state travel and  
4 out-of-state travel directly related to the duties of the state  
5 board of education.

6       MICHIGAN SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND

7       Sec. 401. The employees at the Michigan schools for the deaf  
8 and blind who work on a school year basis are considered annual  
9 employees for purposes of service credits, retirement, and  
10 insurance benefits.

11       Sec. 402. For each student enrolled at the Michigan schools  
12 for the deaf and blind, the department shall assess the  
13 intermediate school district of residence 100% of the cost of  
14 operating the student's instructional program. The amount shall  
15 exclude room and board related costs and the cost of weekend  
16 transportation between the school and the student's home.

17       Sec. 406. (1) The Michigan schools for the deaf and blind may  
18 promote its residential program as a possible appropriate option  
19 for children who are deaf or hard of hearing or who are blind or  
20 visually impaired. The Michigan schools for the deaf and blind  
21 shall distribute information detailing its services to all  
22 intermediate school districts in the state.

23       (2) Upon knowledge of or recognition by an intermediate school  
24 district that a child in the district is deaf or hard of hearing or  
25 blind or visually impaired, the intermediate school district shall  
26 provide to the parents of the child the literature distributed by

1 the Michigan schools for the deaf and blind to intermediate school  
2 districts under subsection (1).

3 (3) Parents will continue to have a choice regarding the  
4 educational placement of their deaf or hard-of-hearing children.

5 Sec. 407. Revenue received by the Michigan schools for the  
6 deaf and blind from gifts, bequests, donations, and local district  
7 service fees that is unexpended at the end of the state fiscal year  
8 may be carried over to the succeeding fiscal year and shall not  
9 revert to the general fund.

10 Sec. 408. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
11 funds collected by the Michigan schools for the deaf and the low  
12 incidence outreach program for document reproduction and services;  
13 conferences, workshops, and training classes; and the use of  
14 specialized equipment, facilities, and software are appropriated  
15 for all expenses necessary to provide the required services. These  
16 funds are available for expenditure when they are received and may  
17 be carried forward into the next succeeding fiscal year.

#### 18 **PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION SERVICES**

19 Sec. 501. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
20 professional preparation services, the department shall maintain  
21 the registry of educational personnel and certificate  
22 revocation/felony conviction files.

23 Sec. 502. The department shall authorize teacher preparation  
24 institutions to provide an alternative program by which up to 1/2  
25 of the required student internship or student teaching credits may  
26 be earned through substitute teaching. The department shall require

1 that teacher preparation institutions collaborate with school  
2 districts to ensure that the quality of instruction provided to  
3 student teachers is comparable to that required in a traditional  
4 student teaching program.

5 Sec. 506. Revenue received from teacher testing fees that is  
6 unexpended at the end of the state fiscal year may be carried over  
7 to the succeeding fiscal year and shall not revert to the general  
8 fund.

9 **STATE AID AND SCHOOL FINANCE SERVICES**

10 Sec. 601. Funds appropriated in part 1 for the financial  
11 independence team shall be expended for the purpose of implementing  
12 an early warning system to identify districts and intermediate  
13 school districts that are in need of financial attention. The  
14 financial independence team shall provide expertise, technical  
15 assistance, and the resources necessary to address the financial  
16 needs for those identified distressed districts and intermediate  
17 school districts.

18 **LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN**

19 Sec. 801. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
20 funds collected by the department for document reproduction and  
21 services; conferences, workshops, and training classes; and the use  
22 of specialized equipment, facilities, and software are appropriated  
23 for all expenses necessary to provide the required services. These  
24 funds are available for expenditure when they are received and may  
25 be carried forward into the next succeeding fiscal year.

1       Sec. 803. It is the intent of the legislature that the library  
2 of Michigan and the component programs currently within the library  
3 of Michigan with the exception of the genealogical collections  
4 shall be kept together in a state department.

5       Sec. 804. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for renaissance  
6 zone reimbursements shall be used to reimburse public libraries  
7 under section 12 of the Michigan renaissance zone act, 1996 PA 376,  
8 MCL 125.2692, for taxes levied in 2015. The allocations shall be  
9 made not later than 60 days after the department of treasury  
10 certifies to the department and to the state budget director that  
11 the department of treasury has received all necessary information  
12 to properly determine the amounts due to each eligible recipient.

13       (2) If the amount appropriated under this section is not  
14 sufficient to fully pay obligations under this section, payments  
15 shall be prorated on an equal basis among all eligible public  
16 libraries.

#### 17 **SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES**

18       Sec. 901. Within 10 days of the receipt of a grant  
19 appropriated in the federal and private grants line item in part 1,  
20 the department shall notify the house and senate chairpersons of  
21 the appropriations subcommittees responsible for the department  
22 budget, the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
23 director of the receipt of the grant, including the funding source,  
24 purpose, and amount of the grant.

#### 25 **MICHIGAN OFFICE OF GREAT START**

1       Sec. 1001. By November 1, 2015, the department shall submit a  
2 report to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on the  
3 department of education budget and the house and senate fiscal  
4 agencies on the number of eligible child care providers by type  
5 receiving payment for child care services from the department on  
6 October 1, 2015.

7       Sec. 1003. (1) The department shall provide the house and  
8 senate appropriations subcommittees on the department budget with  
9 an annual report on all funding appropriated to the early childhood  
10 investment corporation (ECIC) by the state for fiscal year 2014-  
11 2015. The report is due by February 15 and shall contain at least  
12 the following information:

13       (a) Total funding appropriated to the early childhood  
14 investment corporation by the state for fiscal year 2014-2015.

15       (b) The amount of funding for each grant awarded.

16       (c) The grant recipients.

17       (d) The activities funded by each grant.

18       (e) An analysis of each grant recipient's success in  
19 addressing the development of a comprehensive system of early  
20 childhood services and supports.

21       (2) All department contracts for early childhood comprehensive  
22 systems planning shall be bid out through a statewide request-for-  
23 proposal process.

24       **SCHOOL REFORM OFFICE**

25       Sec. 1101. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
26 department shall assure all of the following:



1 (a) That public schools that are removed from the control of a  
2 district by action of the state reform/redesign officer,  
3 superintendent of public instruction, or any other entity remain in  
4 compliance with all applicable state and federal law concerning  
5 special education.

6 (b) That students at public schools described in subdivision  
7 (a) with individualized education programs are afforded special  
8 education services in accordance with applicable state and federal  
9 law concerning special education.

10 (2) The department shall report to the legislature on the  
11 number of students in public schools described in subsection (1)(a)  
12 who have an individualized education program and the performance  
13 results of those students after the change in governance of the  
14 public school.

15 PART 2A

16 PROVISIONS CONCERNING ANTICIPATED APPROPRIATIONS

17 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

18 **GENERAL SECTIONS**

19 Sec. 1201. It is the intent of the legislature to provide  
20 appropriations for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2017 for  
21 the line items listed in part 1. The fiscal year 2016-2017  
22 appropriations are anticipated to be the same as those for fiscal  
23 year 2015-2016, except that the line items will be adjusted for  
24 changes in caseload and related costs, federal fund match rates,  
25 economic factors, and available revenue. These adjustments will be

1 determined after the January 2016 consensus revenue estimating  
2 conference.

### 3 ARTICLE VII

#### 4 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

##### 5 PART 1

##### 6 LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

7 Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the department of  
8 environmental quality for the fiscal year ending September 30,  
9 2016, from the following funds:

#### 10 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

##### 11 APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

12	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0	
13	Full-time equated classified positions.....	1,221.0	
14	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	487,912,900
15	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
16	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
17	transfers .....		9,115,300
18	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	478,797,600
19	Federal revenues:		
20	Total federal revenues.....		138,163,100
21	Special revenue funds:		
22	Total local revenues.....		0
23	Total private revenues.....		546,000
24	Total other state restricted revenues.....		305,010,800
25	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	35,077,700

## 1 FUND SOURCE SUMMARY

2	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0	
3	Full-time equated classified positions.....	1,221.0	
4	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 487,912,900
5	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
6	IDG, MDSP.....		1,720,100
7	IDG, MDOT - Michigan transportation fund.....		1,310,500
8	IDT, interdivisional charges.....		2,053,400
9	IDT, laboratory services.....		4,031,300
10	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
11	transfers .....		9,115,300
12	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 478,797,600
13	Federal revenues:		
14	Federal funds.....		138,163,100
15	Total federal revenues.....		138,163,100
16	Special revenue funds:		
17	Private funds.....		546,000
18	Total private revenues.....		546,000
19	Air emissions fees.....		11,910,500
20	Aquatic nuisance control fund.....		897,800
21	Campground fund.....		309,300
22	Clean Michigan initiative - clean water fund.....		2,617,100
23	Clean Michigan initiative - contaminated sediment....		1,565,000
24	Clean Michigan initiative - nonpoint source.....		2,000,000
25	Clean Michigan initiative - response activities.....		1,500,000
26	Cleanup and redevelopment fund.....		19,105,000
27	Community pollution prevention fund.....		250,000

1	Electronic waste recycling fund.....	320,700
2	Environmental education fund.....	164,000
3	Environmental pollution prevention fund.....	7,824,700
4	Environmental protection bond fund.....	126,800
5	Environmental protection fund.....	2,379,800
6	Environmental response fund.....	3,719,000
7	Fees and collections.....	421,500
8	Financial instruments.....	9,347,200
9	Great Lakes protection fund.....	234,800
10	Groundwater discharge permit fees.....	1,719,500
11	Infrastructure construction fund.....	50,000
12	Land and water permit fees.....	3,150,700
13	Landfill maintenance trust fund.....	30,300
14	Medical waste emergency response fund.....	325,100
15	Metallic mining surveillance fee revenue.....	98,900
16	Mineral well regulatory fee revenue.....	217,200
17	Nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance.....	353,600
18	NPDES fees.....	4,459,100
19	Oil and gas regulatory fund.....	10,349,200
20	Orphan well fund.....	2,372,300
21	Public swimming pool fund.....	638,500
22	Public utility assessments.....	257,400
23	Public water supply fees.....	4,861,300
24	Refined petroleum fund.....	40,685,600
25	Retired engineers technical assistance fund.....	669,600
26	Revitalization revolving loan fund.....	100,700
27	Revolving loan revenue bonds.....	11,400,000

1	Sand extraction fee revenue.....	91,100
2	Scrap tire regulatory fund.....	5,066,600
3	Septage waste contingency fund.....	18,100
4	Septage waste program fund.....	520,400
5	Settlement funds.....	419,000
6	Sewage sludge land application fee.....	1,114,800
7	Small business pollution prevention revolving loan	
8	fund .....	162,600
9	Soil erosion and sedimentation control training fund.	167,000
10	Solid waste management fund - staff account .....	4,956,400
11	Stormwater permit fees.....	3,059,700
12	Strategic water quality initiatives fund.....	116,173,600
13	Underground storage tank cleanup fund.....	20,000,000
14	Wastewater operator training fees.....	579,300
15	Water analysis fees.....	2,204,200
16	Water pollution control revolving fund.....	3,667,500
17	Water quality protection fund.....	100,000
18	Water use reporting fees.....	278,300
19	Total other state restricted revenues.....	305,010,800
20	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 35,077,700
21	<b>Sec. 102. EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS</b>	
22	Full-time equated unclassified positions..... 6.0	
23	Full-time equated classified positions..... 13.0	
24	Unclassified salaries--6.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 735,600
25	Executive direction--13.0 FTE positions.....	<u>2,058,000</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 2,793,600
27	Appropriated from:	

1	Federal revenues:		
2	Federal funds.....		27,100
3	Special revenue funds:		
4	Environmental protection fund.....		298,100
5	Environmental response fund.....		169,300
6	Oil and gas regulatory fund.....		221,800
7	Refined petroleum fund.....		590,900
8	Settlement funds.....		11,400
9	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	1,475,000
10	<b>Sec. 103. OFFICE OF THE GREAT LAKES</b>		
11	Full-time equated classified positions..... 12.0		
12	Office of the Great Lakes--12.0 FTE positions.....	\$	2,141,200
13	Coastal management grants.....		<u>1,250,000</u>
14	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	3,391,200
15	Appropriated from:		
16	Federal revenues:		
17	Federal funds.....		2,176,300
18	Special revenue funds:		
19	Great Lakes protection fund.....		213,500
20	Settlement funds.....		111,900
21	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	889,500
22	<b>Sec. 104. GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE</b>		
23	Full-time equated classified positions..... 6.0		
24	Great Lakes restoration initiative--6.0 FTE positions	\$	<u>15,046,100</u>
25	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	15,046,100
26	Appropriated from:		
27	Federal revenues:		

1	Federal funds.....		15,046,100
2	Special revenue funds:		
3	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	0
4	<b>Sec. 105. DEPARTMENT SUPPORT SERVICES</b>		
5	Full-time equated classified positions.....	34.0	
6	Central support services--34.0 FTE positions.....	\$	4,073,300
7	Accounting service center.....		1,362,200
8	Administrative hearings.....		372,200
9	Automated data processing.....		2,053,400
10	Building occupancy charges.....		4,438,600
11	Environmental support projects.....		5,000,000
12	Rent - privately owned property.....		<u>2,281,200</u>
13	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	19,580,900
14	Appropriated from:		
15	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
16	IDG, MDSP.....		59,100
17	IDT, interdivisional charges.....		2,053,400
18	IDT, laboratory services.....		150,200
19	Special revenue funds:		
20	Air emissions fees.....		1,230,600
21	Campground fund.....		13,900
22	Cleanup and redevelopment fund.....		1,408,500
23	Electronic waste recycling fund.....		15,000
24	Environmental pollution prevention fund.....		759,700
25	Environmental response fund.....		213,400
26	Fees and collections.....		26,100
27	Financial instruments.....		7,218,700

1	Great Lakes protection fund.....	13,800
2	Groundwater discharge permit fees.....	178,900
3	Land and water permit fees.....	515,600
4	Medical waste emergency response fund.....	15,600
5	Metallic mining surveillance fee revenue.....	4,400
6	Mineral well regulatory fee revenue.....	7,800
7	Nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance.....	800
8	NPDES fees.....	217,700
9	Oil and gas regulatory fund.....	593,400
10	Orphan well fund.....	45,900
11	Public swimming pool fund.....	23,800
12	Public utility assessments.....	19,900
13	Public water supply fees.....	168,800
14	Refined petroleum fund.....	1,611,500
15	Sand extraction fee revenue.....	3,700
16	Scrap tire regulatory fund.....	154,000
17	Septage waste program fund.....	17,500
18	Settlement funds.....	36,500
19	Sewage sludge land application fee.....	117,600
20	Small business pollution prevention revolving loan	
21	fund .....	16,900
22	Soil erosion and sedimentation control training fund.	16,500
23	Solid waste management fund - staff account.....	298,300
24	Stormwater permit fees.....	111,600
25	Wastewater operator training fees.....	30,000
26	Water analysis fees.....	134,300
27	Water use reporting fees.....	21,500



1	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	2,056,000
2	<b>Sec. 106. OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE</b>		
3	Full-time equated classified positions.....	40.0	
4	Office of environmental assistance--40.0 FTE positions	\$	7,233,000
5	Pollution prevention local grants .....		<u>250,000</u>
6	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	7,483,000
7	Appropriated from:		
8	Federal revenues:		
9	Federal funds.....		779,100
10	Special revenue funds:		
11	Private funds.....		359,200
12	Air emissions fees.....		134,600
13	Community pollution prevention fund.....		250,000
14	Environmental education fund.....		164,000
15	Environmental pollution prevention fund.....		1,481,700
16	Fees and collections.....		118,500
17	Retired engineers technical assistance fund.....		669,600
18	Settlement funds.....		259,200
19	Small business pollution prevention revolving loan		
20	fund .....		132,500
21	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	3,134,600
22	<b>Sec. 107. WATER RESOURCES DIVISION</b>		
23	Full-time equated classified positions.....	316.0	
24	Land and water interface permit programs--82.0 FTE		
25	positions .....	\$	11,439,100
26	Program direction and project assistance--27.0 FTE		
27	positions .....		2,972,900

1	Water withdrawal assessment program--4.0 FTE positions	611,900
2	Expedited water/wastewater permits--1.0 FTE position.	50,000
3	Fish contaminant monitoring.....	316,100
4	NPDES nonstormwater program--83.0 FTE positions.....	12,777,900
5	Surface water--86.0 FTE positions.....	15,638,200
6	Aquatic nuisance control program--6.0 FTE positions..	897,800
7	Groundwater discharge--22.0 FTE positions.....	3,157,800
8	Federal - Great Lakes remedial action plan grants....	583,800
9	Federal - nonpoint source water pollution grants.....	4,083,300
10	Water quality protection grants.....	100,000
11	Water quality and use initiative--5.0 FTE positions..	1,624,000
12	Real-time beach monitoring.....	500,000
13	Wetlands program.....	1,000,000
14	Wetland mitigation banking grants and loans.....	3,000,000
15	Contaminated lake and river sediment cleanup program.	1,565,000
16	Nonpoint source pollution prevention and control	
17	project program .....	<u>2,000,000</u>
18	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 62,317,800
19	Appropriated from:	
20	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
21	IDG, MDOT - Michigan transportation fund.....	1,225,400
22	Federal revenues:	
23	Federal funds.....	19,233,000
24	Special revenue funds:	
25	Aquatic nuisance control fund.....	897,800
26	Clean Michigan initiative fund - clean water fund....	2,617,100
27	Clean Michigan initiative fund - contaminated sediment	1,565,000

1	Clean Michigan initiative fund - nonpoint source .....	2,000,000
2	Environmental response fund.....	201,600
3	Groundwater discharge permit fees.....	1,446,200
4	Infrastructure construction fund.....	50,000
5	Land and water permit fees.....	2,295,900
6	NPDES fees.....	4,070,300
7	Refined petroleum fund.....	440,600
8	Sewage sludge land application fee.....	936,200
9	Soil erosion and sedimentation control training fund.	137,600
10	Stormwater permit fees.....	2,860,700
11	Strategic water quality initiatives fund.....	3,000,000
12	Wastewater operator training fees.....	276,600
13	Water pollution control revolving fund.....	809,500
14	Water quality protection fund.....	100,000
15	Water use reporting fees.....	240,500
16	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 17,913,800
17	<b>Sec. 108. LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION</b>	
18	Full-time equated classified positions.....	14.0
19	Environmental investigations--14.0 FTE positions .....	\$ <u>2,809,200</u>
20	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 2,809,200
21	Appropriated from:	
22	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
23	IDT, laboratory services.....	15,700
24	Federal revenues:	
25	Federal funds.....	569,500
26	Special revenue funds:	
27	Air emissions fees.....	55,900

1	Campground fund.....	2,100
2	Cleanup and redevelopment fund.....	185,500
3	Electronic waste recycling fund.....	1,600
4	Environmental pollution prevention fund.....	106,200
5	Environmental response fund.....	40,000
6	Fees and collections.....	4,100
7	Financial instruments.....	513,600
8	Great Lakes protection fund.....	1,500
9	Groundwater discharge permit fees.....	18,700
10	Land and water permit fees.....	76,900
11	Medical waste emergency response fund.....	2,400
12	Metallic mining surveillance fee revenue.....	700
13	Mineral well regulatory fee revenue.....	1,200
14	NPDES fees.....	31,900
15	Oil and gas regulatory fund.....	85,700
16	Orphan well fund.....	7,100
17	Public swimming pool fund.....	3,700
18	Public utility assessments.....	2,000
19	Public water supply fees.....	26,200
20	Refined petroleum fund.....	360,900
21	Sand extraction fee revenue.....	600
22	Scrap tire regulatory fund.....	28,900
23	Septage waste program fund.....	2,700
24	Sewage sludge land application fee.....	12,100
25	Small business pollution prevention revolving loan	
26	fund .....	2,600
27	Soil erosion and sedimentation control training fund.	2,600

1	Solid waste management fund - staff account .....	40,400
2	Stormwater permit fees .....	17,400
3	Wastewater operator training fees .....	4,600
4	Water analysis fees .....	18,100
5	Water use reporting fees .....	3,100
6	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 563,000
7	<b>Sec. 109. AIR QUALITY DIVISION</b>	
8	Full-time equated classified positions .....	189.0
9	Air quality programs--189.0 FTE positions .....	\$ <u>26,868,000</u>
10	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 26,868,000
11	Appropriated from:	
12	Federal revenues:	
13	Federal funds .....	7,322,000
14	Special revenue funds:	
15	Air emissions fees .....	9,831,400
16	Environmental pollution prevention fund .....	1,337,000
17	Fees and collections .....	222,400
18	Oil and gas regulatory fund .....	134,600
19	Refined petroleum fund .....	3,589,900
20	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 4,430,700
21	<b>Sec. 110. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION</b>	
22	Full-time equated classified positions .....	305.0
23	Drinking water and environmental health--106.0 FTE	
24	positions .....	\$ 14,505,000
25	Hazardous waste management program--45.0 FTE positions	6,795,500
26	Low-level radioactive waste authority--2.0 FTE	
27	positions .....	227,700

1	Medical waste program--2.0 FTE positions .....	297,200
2	Municipal assistance--29.0 FTE positions .....	4,724,600
3	Radiological protection program--12.0 FTE positions ..	1,939,200
4	Scrap tire regulatory program--10.0 FTE positions ....	1,320,200
5	Oil, gas, and mineral services--59.0 FTE positions ...	12,012,800
6	Recycling initiative--3.0 FTE positions .....	999,100
7	Solid waste management program--37.0 FTE positions ...	4,925,900
8	Drinking water program grants .....	830,000
9	Noncommunity water grants .....	2,000,000
10	Septage waste compliance grants .....	275,000
11	Strategic water quality initiative grants and loans ..	97,000,000
12	Water pollution control and drinking water revolving	
13	fund .....	84,993,000
14	Scrap tire grants .....	<u>3,500,000</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 236,345,200
16	Appropriated from:	
17	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
18	IDG, MDSP .....	1,635,600
19	Federal revenues:	
20	Federal funds .....	85,785,900
21	Special revenue funds:	
22	Campground fund .....	285,000
23	Electronic waste recycling fund .....	297,700
24	Environmental pollution prevention fund .....	3,686,500
25	Fees and collections .....	34,000
26	Medical waste emergency response fund .....	297,200
27	Metallic mining surveillance fee revenue .....	91,100

1	Mineral well regulatory fee revenue.....	203,300
2	Nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance.....	352,500
3	Oil and gas regulatory fund.....	8,991,200
4	Orphan well fund.....	2,290,200
5	Public swimming pool fund.....	596,000
6	Public utility assessments.....	227,700
7	Public water supply fees.....	4,217,400
8	Refined petroleum fund.....	670,300
9	Revolving loan revenue bonds.....	11,400,000
10	Sand extraction fee revenue.....	84,500
11	Scrap tire regulatory fund.....	4,820,200
12	Septage waste contingency fund.....	18,100
13	Septage waste program fund.....	489,000
14	Solid waste management fund - staff account.....	4,448,700
15	Strategic water quality initiatives fund.....	98,173,600
16	Wastewater operator training fees.....	249,200
17	Water pollution control revolving fund.....	2,814,900
18	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 4,185,400
19	<b>Sec. 111. REMEDIATION AND REDEVELOPMENT DIVISION</b>	
20	Full-time equated classified positions.....	291.0
21	Contaminated site investigations, cleanup and	
22	revitalization--202.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 24,329,900
23	Federal cleanup project management--50.0 FTE positions	8,858,900
24	Laboratory services--39.0 FTE positions.....	6,082,600
25	Brownfield grants.....	1,500,000
26	Emergency cleanup actions.....	4,000,000
27	Environmental bond site reclamation program.....	126,800

1	Environmental cleanup support .....	1,840,000
2	Environmental cleanup and redevelopment program .....	15,000,000
3	Refined petroleum product cleanup program .....	20,000,000
4	Superfund cleanup .....	<u>1,000,000</u>
5	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 82,738,200
6	Appropriated from:	
7	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
8	IDT, laboratory services .....	3,801,400
9	Federal revenues:	
10	Federal funds .....	6,248,100
11	Special revenue funds:	
12	Private funds .....	186,800
13	Clean Michigan initiative - response activities .....	1,500,000
14	Cleanup and redevelopment fund .....	16,758,900
15	Environmental protection bond fund .....	126,800
16	Environmental protection fund .....	1,995,400
17	Environmental response fund .....	2,931,200
18	Landfill maintenance trust fund .....	30,300
19	Public water supply fees .....	302,800
20	Refined petroleum fund .....	31,777,400
21	Revitalization revolving loan fund .....	100,700
22	Strategic water quality initiatives fund .....	15,000,000
23	Water analysis fees .....	1,978,400
24	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
25	<b>Sec. 112. UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK AUTHORITY</b>	
26	Full-time equated classified positions .....	1.0
27	Underground storage tank cleanup program--1.0 FTE	



1	position .....	\$	<u>20,000,000</u>
2	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	20,000,000
3	Appropriated from:		
4	Federal revenues:		
5	Special revenue funds:		
6	Underground storage tank cleanup fund.....		20,000,000
7	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	0
8	<b>Sec. 113. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>		
9	Information technology services and projects.....	\$	<u>8,539,700</u>
10	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	8,539,700
11	Appropriated from:		
12	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
13	IDG, MDSP.....		25,400
14	IDG, MDOT - Michigan transportation fund.....		85,100
15	IDT, laboratory services.....		64,000
16	Federal revenues:		
17	Federal funds.....		976,000
18	Special revenue funds:		
19	Air emission fees.....		658,000
20	Campground fund.....		8,300
21	Cleanup and redevelopment fund.....		752,100
22	Electronic waste recycling fund.....		6,400
23	Environmental pollution prevention fund.....		453,600
24	Environmental protection fund.....		86,300
25	Environmental response fund.....		163,500
26	Fees and collections.....		16,400
27	Financial instruments.....		1,614,900

1	Great Lakes protection fund.....	6,000
2	Groundwater discharge permit fees.....	75,700
3	Land and water permit fees.....	262,300
4	Medical waste emergency response fund.....	9,900
5	Metallic mining surveillance fee revenue.....	2,700
6	Mineral well regulatory fee revenue.....	4,900
7	Nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance.....	300
8	NPDES fees.....	139,200
9	Oil and gas regulatory fund.....	322,500
10	Orphan well fund.....	29,100
11	Public swimming pool fund.....	15,000
12	Public utility assessments.....	7,800
13	Public water supply fees.....	146,100
14	Refined petroleum fund.....	1,644,100
15	Sand extraction fee revenue.....	2,300
16	Scrap tire regulatory fund.....	63,500
17	Septage waste program fund.....	11,200
18	Sewage sludge land application fee.....	48,900
19	Small business pollution prevention revolving loan	
20	fund .....	10,600
21	Soil erosion and sedimentation control training fund.	10,300
22	Solid waste management fund - staff account .....	169,000
23	Stormwater permit fees.....	70,000
24	Wastewater operator training fees.....	18,900
25	Water analysis fees.....	73,400
26	Water pollution control revolving fund.....	43,100
27	Water use reporting fees.....	13,200

1 State general fund/general purpose ..... \$ 429,700

2 PART 2

3 PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

4 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

5 GENERAL SECTIONS

6 Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state  
 7 constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources  
 8 under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$340,088,500.00 and state  
 9 spending from state resources to be paid to local units of  
 10 government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$3,648,500.00. The itemized  
 11 statement below identifies appropriations from which spending to  
 12 local units of government will occur:

13 GRANTS

14	Drinking water and environmental health.....	\$	1,800,000
15	Surface water quality program.....		500,000
16	Waste management programs.....		1,073,500
17	Septage waste compliance program.....		<u>275,000</u>
18	TOTAL.....	\$	3,648,500

19 Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under this part and  
 20 part 1 are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
 21 MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

22 Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

23 (a) "Department" means the department of environmental  
 24 quality.

25 (b) "Director" means the director of the department.

1 (c) "FTE" means full-time equated.

2 (d) "IDG" means interdepartmental grant.

3 (e) "IDT" means intradepartmental transfer.

4 (f) "MDOT" means the state transportation department.

5 (g) "MDSP" means the department of state police.

6 (h) "NPDES" means national pollution discharge elimination  
7 system.

8 Sec. 204. (1) For each new program or program expansion for  
9 which funds in excess of \$500,000.00 are appropriated in part 1,  
10 the department shall identify specific benchmarks intended to  
11 measure the performance or return on taxpayer investment of the  
12 program and its associated expenditures. Not later than November 1,  
13 2015, the department shall report the proposed benchmarks to the  
14 house and senate appropriations subcommittees for that department,  
15 the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
16 director. The department shall provide an update on its progress in  
17 achieving those benchmarks at an appropriations subcommittee  
18 meeting called for the purpose of discussing benchmarks and their  
19 status.

20 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that, beginning with  
21 the budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, any  
22 proposal for a new program or an expansion of an existing program  
23 in excess of \$500,000.00 initiated by the executive branch or the  
24 legislature shall include, as part of the original proposal or  
25 budget request, a list of benchmarks intended to measure the  
26 performance or return on taxpayer investment of the program or  
27 spending increase.

1       Sec. 205. The departments and agencies receiving  
2       appropriations in part 1 shall use the Internet to fulfill the  
3       reporting requirements of this part. This requirement may include  
4       transmission of reports via electronic mail to the recipients  
5       identified for each reporting requirement, or it may include  
6       placement of reports on an Internet or intranet site.

7       Sec. 207. The departments and agencies receiving  
8       appropriations in part 1 shall receive and retain copies of all  
9       reports funded from appropriations in part 1. Federal and state  
10      guidelines for short-term and long-term retention of records shall  
11      be followed. The department may electronically retain copies of  
12      reports unless otherwise required by federal and state guidelines.

13      Sec. 209. The departments and agencies receiving  
14      appropriations in part 1 shall prepare a report on out-of-state  
15      travel expenses not later than January 1 of each year. The travel  
16      report shall be a listing of all travel by classified and  
17      unclassified employees outside this state in the immediately  
18      preceding fiscal year that was funded in whole or in part with  
19      funds appropriated in the department's budget. The report shall be  
20      submitted to the house and senate appropriations committees, the  
21      house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.  
22      The report shall include the following information:

23           (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

24           (b) The total transportation and related costs of each travel  
25      occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
26      fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
27      restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,

1 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

2       Sec. 210. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used for  
3 the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
4 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
5 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to  
6 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
7 businesses and associated subcontractors if they are competitively  
8 priced and of comparable quality. In addition, preference shall be  
9 given to goods or services, or both, that are manufactured or  
10 provided by Michigan businesses owned and operated by veterans, if  
11 they are competitively priced and of comparable quality.

12       Sec. 211. The director shall take all reasonable steps to  
13 ensure businesses in deprived and depressed communities compete for  
14 and perform contracts to provide services or supplies, or both. The  
15 director shall strongly encourage firms with which the department  
16 contracts to subcontract with certified businesses in depressed and  
17 deprived communities for services, supplies, or both.

18       Sec. 212. The department shall not take disciplinary action  
19 against an employee for communicating with a member of the  
20 legislature or his or her staff.

21       Sec. 213. (1) Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used  
22 by the department to promulgate a rule that will apply to a small  
23 business and that will have a disproportionate economic impact on  
24 small businesses because of the size of those businesses if the  
25 department fails to reduce the disproportionate economic impact of  
26 the rule on small businesses as provided under section 40 of the  
27 administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.240.

1 (2) As used in this section:

2 (a) "Rule" means that term as defined under section 7 of the  
3 administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.207.

4 (b) "Small business" means that term as defined under section  
5 7a of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL  
6 24.207a.

7 Sec. 214. Funds appropriated in this part and part 1 shall not  
8 be used by a principal executive department, state agency, or  
9 authority to hire a person to provide legal services that are the  
10 responsibility of the attorney general. This prohibition does not  
11 apply to legal services for bonding activities and for those  
12 activities that the attorney general authorizes.

13 Sec. 215. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
14 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$30,000,000.00 for  
15 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
16 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
17 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
18 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

19 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
20 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.00 for state  
21 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
22 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
23 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
24 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

25 (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
26 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for local  
27 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure

1 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
2 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
3 MCL 18.1393.

4 (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
5 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00 for private  
6 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
7 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
8 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
9 MCL 18.1393.

10 Sec. 216. (1) The department shall report all of the following  
11 information relative to allocations made from appropriations for  
12 the environmental cleanup and redevelopment program, state cleanup,  
13 emergency actions, superfund cleanup, the revitalization revolving  
14 loan program, the brownfield grants and loans program, the leaking  
15 underground storage tank cleanup program, the contaminated lake and  
16 river sediments cleanup program, the refined petroleum product  
17 cleanup program, and the environmental protection bond projects  
18 under section 19508(7) of the natural resources and environmental  
19 protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.19508, to the state budget  
20 director, the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on  
21 environmental quality, and the senate and house fiscal agencies:

22 (a) The name and location of the site for which an allocation  
23 is made.

24 (b) The nature of the problem encountered at the site.

25 (c) A brief description of how the problem will be resolved if  
26 the allocation is made for a response activity.

27 (d) The estimated date that site closure activities will be



1 completed.

2 (e) The amount of the allocation, or the anticipated financing  
3 for the site.

4 (f) A summary of the sites and the total amount of funds  
5 expended at the sites at the conclusion of the fiscal year.

6 (g) The number of brownfield projects that were successfully  
7 redeveloped.

8 (2) The report prepared under subsection (1) shall also  
9 include all of the following:

10 (a) The status of all state-owned facilities that are on the  
11 list compiled under part 201 of the natural resources and  
12 environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.20101 to  
13 324.20142.

14 (b) The report shall include the total amount of funds  
15 expended during the fiscal year and the total amount of funds  
16 awaiting expenditure.

17 (c) The total amount of bonds issued for the environmental  
18 protection bond program pursuant to part 193 of the natural  
19 resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL  
20 324.19301 to 324.19306, and bonds issued pursuant to the clean  
21 Michigan initiative act, 1998 PA 284, MCL 324.95101 to 324.95108.

22 (3) The report shall be made available by March 31 of each  
23 year.

24 Sec. 217. (1) The department may expend amounts remaining from  
25 the current and prior fiscal year appropriations to meet funding  
26 needs of legislatively approved sites for the environmental cleanup  
27 and redevelopment program, the refined petroleum product cleanup

1 program, brownfield grants and loans, waterfront grants, and the  
2 environmental bond site reclamation program.

3 (2) Unexpended and unencumbered amounts remaining from  
4 appropriations from the environmental protection bond fund  
5 contained in 2003 PA 173, 2005 PA 109, 2006 PA 343, 2011 PA 63, and  
6 2012 PA 236 are appropriated for expenditure for any site listed in  
7 this part and part 1 and any site listed in the public acts  
8 referenced in this section.

9 (3) Unexpended and unencumbered amounts remaining from  
10 appropriations from the clean Michigan initiative fund - response  
11 activities contained in 2000 PA 52, 2004 PA 309, 2005 PA 11, 2006  
12 PA 343, 2007 PA 121, 2011 PA 63, 2013 PA 59, and 2014 PA 252 are  
13 appropriated for expenditure for any site listed in this part and  
14 part 1 and any site listed in the public acts referenced in this  
15 section.

16 (4) Unexpended and unencumbered amounts remaining from  
17 appropriations from the refined petroleum fund activities contained  
18 in 2007 PA 121, 2008 PA 247, 2009 PA 118, 2010 PA 189, 2011 PA 63,  
19 2012 PA 200, 2013 PA 59, and 2014 PA 252 are appropriated for  
20 expenditure for any site listed in this part and part 1 and any  
21 site listed in the public acts referenced in this section.

22 (5) Unexpended and unencumbered amounts remaining from the  
23 appropriations from the strategic water quality initiatives fund  
24 contained in 2011 PA 50, 2011 PA 63, 2012 PA 200, 2013 PA 59, and  
25 2014 PA 252 are appropriated for expenditure for any site listed in  
26 this part and part 1 and any site listed in the public acts  
27 referenced in this section.

1       Sec. 219. Unexpended settlement revenues at the end of the  
2       fiscal year may be carried forward into the settlement fund in the  
3       succeeding fiscal year up to a maximum carryforward of  
4       \$2,500,000.00.

5       Sec. 221. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
6       shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
7       the total general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses at the  
8       close of the prior fiscal year. This report shall summarize the  
9       projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriation  
10      lapses by major departmental program or program areas. The report  
11      shall be transmitted to the chairpersons of the senate and house  
12      appropriations committees and the senate and house fiscal agencies.

13      Sec. 222. Within 14 days after the release of the executive  
14      budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate with the  
15      state budget office to provide the senate and house appropriations  
16      chairs, the senate and house appropriations subcommittee chairs,  
17      and the senate and house fiscal agencies with an annual report on  
18      estimated state restricted fund balances, state restricted fund  
19      projected revenues, and state restricted fund expenditures for the  
20      fiscal years ending September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016.

21      Sec. 223. Part 1 provides authorizations to fund classified  
22      positions during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. Line-  
23      item appropriations include limitations on the number of payroll  
24      hours to be funded, on the basis of 2,088 hours per each FTE  
25      position. The department shall report the number of funded FTE  
26      positions within 15 days after the effective date of this part. The  
27      number of classified employees compensated through each line item

1 is limited by the authorized FTE positions indicated in part 1, as  
2 adjusted for the number of reported funded FTE positions. The  
3 report shall be provided to the house and senate appropriations  
4 subcommittees on environmental quality and the house and senate  
5 fiscal agencies.

6 Sec. 225. The department shall cooperate with the department  
7 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable  
8 website accessible by the public at no cost that includes, but is  
9 not limited to, all of the following for each department or agency:

10 (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

11 (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

12 (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
13 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
14 payment description.

15 (d) The number of active department employees by job  
16 classification.

17 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

18 Sec. 228. The department shall provide a report on the  
19 customer satisfaction evaluation program and the feedback received  
20 to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on  
21 environmental quality and the house and senate fiscal agencies by  
22 July 1, 2016.

23 Sec. 229. The department shall provide a report on the  
24 expedited permitting program to the house and senate appropriations  
25 subcommittees on environmental quality and the house and senate  
26 fiscal agencies by July 1, 2016.

27 Sec. 231. The department shall maintain, on a publicly

1 accessible website, a department scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
2 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
3 improve the agency's performance.

4       Sec. 234. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
5 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
6 30, 2016 are \$32,415,600.00. From this amount, total agency  
7 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
8 \$18,399,000.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care  
9 legacy costs are estimated at \$14,016,600.00.

#### 10 **REMEDIATION DIVISION**

11       Sec. 301. Revenues remaining in the interdepartmental  
12 transfers, laboratory services at the end of the fiscal year shall  
13 carry forward into the succeeding fiscal year.

14       Sec. 302. The unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for  
15 emergency cleanup actions, the environmental cleanup and  
16 redevelopment program, and the refined petroleum product cleanup  
17 program are considered work project appropriations and any  
18 unencumbered or unallotted funds are carried forward into the  
19 succeeding fiscal year. The following is in compliance with section  
20 451a(1) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL  
21 18.1451a:

22       (a) The purpose of the projects to be carried forward is to  
23 provide contaminated site cleanup.

24       (b) The projects will be accomplished by contract.

25       (c) The total estimated cost of all projects is identified in  
26 each line-item appropriation.

(d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2020.

Sec. 303. Effective October 1, 2015, surplus funds not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 in the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund are appropriated to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

Sec. 304. Effective October 1, 2015, surplus funds not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 in the community pollution prevention fund created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, are appropriated to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

Sec. 306. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for the refined petroleum product cleanup program shall be used to fund cleanup activities on the following sites:

Site Name	County
Long Lake Super Market	Alpena
11192 S M-43	Barry
Mel's Service	Bay
American Laundry - Benton Harbor	Berrien
Spencer's Cleaners	Berrien
Baker Oil (W. Dickman)	Calhoun
USA MiniMart in Sault Ste. Marie	Chippewa
VanSloten Shell in Rudyard	Chippewa
City of Davison-Mill St	Genesee
Flint FD Fleet Admin	Genesee
Flint Water Department Service Center	Genesee

1	Howard Jameson A+H Racing	Gladwin
2	Clark #1501	Jackson
3	1201 Wealthy	Kent
4	1603 Diamond	Kent
5	2555 Oak Industrial Drive	Kent
6	501 Leonard	Kent
7	857 Wealthy	Kent
8	Market 103	Lapeer
9	Clark 1457 Adrian	Lenawee
10	Blanchard Grocery	Montcalm

11           (2) The department shall provide a report to the legislature  
 12 on the amount actually spent at each site listed in subsection (1)  
 13 and give a detailed account of the work actually performed at each  
 14 site.

15           Sec. 309. The unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
 16 brownfield grant program are considered work project appropriations  
 17 and any unencumbered or unallotted funds are carried forward into  
 18 the succeeding fiscal year. The following is in compliance with  
 19 section 451a(1) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL  
 20 18.1451a:

21           (a) The purpose of the projects to be carried forward is to  
 22 provide contaminated site cleanup.

23           (b) The projects will be accomplished by contract.

24           (c) The total estimated cost of all projects is \$1,500,000.00.

25           (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2020.

26           Sec. 310. (1) Upon approval by the state budget director, the  
 27 department may expend from the general fund of the state an amount

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to meet the cash-flow requirements of projects funded under any of the following that are financed from bond proceeds and for which bonds have been authorized but not yet issued:

(a) Part 52 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.5201 to 324.5206.

(b) Part 193 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.19301 to 324.19306.

(c) Part 196 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.19601 to 324.19616.

(2) Upon the sale of bonds for projects described in subsection (1), the department shall credit the general fund of the state an amount equal to that expended from the general fund.

#### WATER RESOURCES DIVISION

Sec. 401. From funds appropriated in part 1, the department shall conduct a study on the establishment of a statewide septic code.

Sec. 405. If a certified health department does not exist in a city, county, or district or does not fulfill its responsibilities under part 117 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.11701 to 324.11720, then the department may spend funds appropriated in part 1 under the septage waste compliance program in accordance with section 11716 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.11716.

[Sec. 406. The department shall work with stakeholders to revise the groundwater discharge permit fee structure in section 3122 prior to September 30, 2016.]

#### AIR QUALITY DIVISION



1       Sec. 501. (1) From the increased funds appropriated in part 1  
2   for the air quality program, the department shall increase the  
3   funding available for compliance assistance, permitting,  
4   inspections, monitoring, and enforcement of facilities that are  
5   major sources of air pollution. The funding shall be used to assist  
6   with assuring that this state meets national ambient air quality  
7   standards and that this state is in compliance with the clean air  
8   act, 42 USC 7401 to 7671q.

9       (2) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for the additional  
10   air emission fee revenue enacted by the legislature for fiscal year  
11   2015-2016, the department shall hire 1 FTE dedicated to oversight  
12   of the air quality programs for the Upper Peninsula.

13       Sec. 502. The department shall not assess additional penalties  
14   under part 55 of the natural resources and environmental protection  
15   act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.5501 to 324.5542, for violations that  
16   occurred under a previous owner unless compelled by a consent order  
17   or judgment, or other legal requirement.

#### 18   RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

19       Sec. 603. From the funds appropriated in part 1, by December  
20   31, 2015, the department shall compile and make available to the  
21   public on a publicly accessible website a report containing a  
22   summary document of each completed asset management plan for any  
23   stormwater, asset management, or wastewater grant awarded to a  
24   local unit of government to fund the development of a plan. As a  
25   condition of receiving a stormwater, asset management, or  
26   wastewater grant, a local unit of government shall make its asset

1 management plan available to the department upon request when  
2 completed and shall retain copies of the plan that can be made  
3 available to the public for a minimum of 15 years. The department  
4 shall make available a summary document of each plan on a publicly  
5 accessible website by September 30 of the year it was completed.  
6 The summary document shall include a summary of the plan, the  
7 plan's major identified assets, and contact information for the  
8 local unit of government.

9       Sec. 604. Of the funds appropriated in part 1, if the balance  
10 of revenue in the environmental pollution prevention fund is  
11 anticipated to decline below anticipated spending levels at any  
12 point during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016,  
13 appropriations other than the hazardous waste management program  
14 appropriation shall be reduced.

15 **UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK AUTHORITY**

16       Sec. 701. The unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
17 underground storage tank cleanup program are considered work  
18 project appropriations, and any unencumbered or unallotted funds  
19 are carried forward into the succeeding fiscal year. The following  
20 is in compliance with section 451a(1) of the management and budget  
21 act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

22       (a) The purpose of the projects to be carried forward is to  
23 provide contaminated site cleanup.

24       (b) The projects will be accomplished by contract.

25       (c) The total estimated cost of all projects is  
26 \$20,000,000.00.

1 (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2020.

2 ARTICLE VIII  
3 GENERAL GOVERNMENT  
4 PART 1

5 LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

6 Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the legislature, the  
7 executive, the department of attorney general, the department of  
8 state, the department of treasury, the department of technology,  
9 management, and budget, the department of civil service, the  
10 department of civil rights, and certain state purposes related  
11 thereto, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the  
12 following funds:

13 **TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

14 APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

15	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	44.0	
16	Full-time equated classified positions.....	7,798.2	
17	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 4,651,210,800
18	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
19	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
20	transfers .....	742,192,600	
21	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 3,909,018,200
22	Federal revenues:		
23	Total federal revenues.....	688,424,100	
24	Special revenue funds:		
25	Total local revenues.....	17,050,900	

1	Total private revenues.....	6,283,300
2	Total other state restricted revenues.....	2,073,445,800
3	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 1,123,814,100
4	<b>Sec. 102. DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL</b>	
5	<b>(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY</b>	
6	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0
7	Full-time equated classified positions.....	518.5
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 91,941,600
9	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
10	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental	
11	transfers .....	28,533,900
12	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 63,407,700
13	Federal revenues:	
14	Total federal revenues.....	9,278,600
15	Special revenue funds:	
16	Total local revenues.....	0
17	Total private revenues.....	0
18	Total other state restricted revenues.....	17,281,700
19	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 36,847,400
20	<b>(2) ATTORNEY GENERAL OPERATIONS</b>	
21	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0
22	Full-time equated classified positions.....	518.5
23	Attorney general.....	\$ 112,500
24	Unclassified positions--5.0 FTE positions.....	735,600
25	Attorney general operations--475.5 FTE positions.....	81,501,200
26	Child support enforcement--25.0 FTE positions.....	3,434,300

1	Prosecuting attorneys coordinating council--12.0 FTE	
2	positions .....	2,099,500
3	Public safety initiative--1.0 FTE position.....	904,100
4	Sexual assault law enforcement--5.0 FTE positions ....	<u>1,700,000</u>
5	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 90,487,200
6	Appropriated from:	
7	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
8	IDG from MDCH, health policy.....	202,500
9	IDG from MDCH, medical services administration.....	676,400
10	IDG from MDCH, WIC.....	149,300
11	IDG from department of corrections.....	646,400
12	IDG from MDE.....	583,000
13	IDG from MDEQ.....	1,966,100
14	IDG from MDHS.....	5,806,000
15	IDG from MDIFS, financial and insurance services.....	1,187,100
16	IDG from MSF, workforce development agency.....	87,700
17	IDG from MDLARA, fireworks safety fund.....	81,200
18	IDG from MDLARA, health professions.....	2,972,600
19	IDG from MDLARA, licensing and regulation fees.....	328,500
20	IDG from MDLARA, Michigan occupational safety and	
21	health administration .....	105,400
22	IDG from MDLARA, remonumentation fees.....	103,900
23	IDG from MDLARA, securities fees.....	184,300
24	IDG from MDLARA, unlicensed builders.....	327,600
25	IDG from MDMVA.....	161,300
26	IDG from MDOS, children's protection registry.....	44,100
27	IDG from MDOT, comprehensive transportation fund.....	200,100

1	IDG from MDOT, state aeronautics fund.....	173,800
2	IDG from MDOT, state trunkline fund.....	2,377,300
3	IDG from MDSP, Michigan justice training fund.....	162,400
4	IDG from MDSP.....	251,800
5	IDG from MDTMB.....	453,900
6	IDG from MDTMB, civil service commission.....	299,400
7	IDG from MDTMB, risk management revolving fund.....	1,437,000
8	IDG from Michigan state housing development authority	662,200
9	IDG from treasury.....	6,727,400
10	IDG from treasury, Michigan strategic fund.....	175,200
11	Federal revenues:	
12	DAG, state administrative match grant/food stamps....	134,000
13	Federal funds.....	3,081,700
14	HHS, medical assistance, medigrant.....	376,700
15	HHS-OS, state Medicaid fraud control units.....	5,567,300
16	National criminal history improvement program.....	118,900
17	Special revenue funds:	
18	Antitrust enforcement collections.....	746,400
19	Attorney general's operations fund.....	1,207,900
20	Auto repair facilities fees.....	320,500
21	Franchise fees.....	374,300
22	Game and fish protection fund.....	735,100
23	Liquor purchase revolving fund.....	1,428,300
24	Manufactured housing fees.....	245,300
25	Merit award trust fund.....	485,200
26	Michigan employment security act - administrative fund	2,193,700
27	Prisoner reimbursement.....	611,900

1	Prosecuting attorneys training fees .....	404,000
2	Public utility assessments .....	2,033,100
3	Real estate enforcement fund .....	98,600
4	Reinstatement fees .....	252,200
5	Retirement funds .....	1,020,000
6	Second injury fund .....	804,200
7	Self-insurers security fund .....	559,100
8	Silicosis and dust disease fund .....	220,800
9	State building authority revenue .....	118,300
10	State casino gaming fund .....	1,822,100
11	State lottery fund .....	337,800
12	Utility consumers fund .....	764,200
13	Waterways fund .....	137,000
14	Worker's compensation administrative revolving fund ..	361,700
15	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 35,393,000
16	<b>(3) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>	
17	Information technology services and projects .....	\$ <u>1,454,400</u>
18	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 1,454,400
19	Appropriated from:	
20	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 1,454,400
21	<b>Sec. 103. DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS</b>	
22	<b>(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY</b>	
23	Full-time equated unclassified positions .....	6.0
24	Full-time equated classified positions .....	129.0
25	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 16,128,700
26	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	

1	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental	
2	transfers .....	286,700
3	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 15,842,000
4	Federal revenues:	
5	Total federal revenues .....	2,721,700
6	Special revenue funds:	
7	Total local revenues .....	0
8	Total private revenues .....	18,700
9	Total other state restricted revenues .....	151,900
10	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 12,949,700
11	<b>(2) CIVIL RIGHTS OPERATIONS</b>	
12	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0
13	Full-time equated classified positions.....	129.0
14	Unclassified positions--6.0 FTE positions .....	\$ 644,200
15	Civil rights operations--121.0 FTE positions .....	13,660,000
16	Division on deaf and hard of hearing--6.0 FTE	
17	positions .....	784,300
18	Hispanic/Latino commission of Michigan--1.0 FTE	
19	position .....	254,800
20	Asian Pacific American affairs commission--1.0 FTE	
21	position .....	<u>110,900</u>
22	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 15,454,200
23	Appropriated from:	
24	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
25	IDG from DTMB .....	286,700
26	Federal revenues:	
27	EEOC, state and local antidiscrimination agency	



1	contracts .....	1,192,300
2	HUD, grant.....	1,514,400
3	Special revenue funds:	
4	Private revenues.....	18,700
5	Division on deafness fund.....	93,400
6	State restricted indirect funds.....	58,500
7	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 12,290,200
8	<b>(3) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>	
9	Information technology services and projects.....	\$ <u>674,500</u>
10	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 674,500
11	Appropriated from:	
12	Federal revenues:	
13	EEOC, state and local antidiscrimination agency	
14	contracts .....	15,000
15	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 659,500
16	<b>Sec. 104. EXECUTIVE OFFICE</b>	
17	<b>(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY</b>	
18	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	10.0
19	Full-time equated classified positions.....	78.2
20	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 5,916,100
21	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
22	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental	
23	transfers .....	0
24	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 5,916,100
25	Federal revenues:	
26	Total federal revenues.....	0

1	Special revenue funds:	
2	Total local revenues.....	0
3	Total private revenues.....	0
4	Total other state restricted revenues.....	0
5	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 5,916,100
6	<b>(2) EXECUTIVE OFFICE OPERATIONS</b>	
7	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	10.0
8	Full-time equated classified positions.....	78.2
9	Governor.....	\$ 159,300
10	Lieutenant governor.....	111,600
11	Executive office--78.2 FTE positions.....	4,387,900
12	Unclassified positions--8.0 FTE positions.....	<u>1,257,300</u>
13	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 5,916,100
14	Appropriated from:	
15	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 5,916,100
16	<b>Sec. 105. LEGISLATURE</b>	
17	<b>(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY</b>	
18	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 158,594,200
19	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
20	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental	
21	transfers .....	5,392,800
22	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 153,201,400
23	Federal revenues:	
24	Total federal revenues.....	0
25	Special revenue funds:	
26	Total local revenues.....	0

1	Total private revenues.....	400,000
2	Total other state restricted revenues.....	6,179,600
3	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 146,621,800
4	<b>(2) LEGISLATURE</b>	
5	Senate.....	\$ 33,115,400
6	Senate automated data processing.....	2,579,900
7	Senate fiscal agency.....	3,687,600
8	House of representatives.....	50,930,000
9	House automated data processing.....	2,048,300
10	House fiscal agency.....	<u>3,687,600</u>
11	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 96,048,800
12	Appropriated from:	
13	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 96,048,800
14	<b>(3) LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL</b>	
15	Legislative council.....	\$ 11,343,300
16	Legislative service bureau automated data processing.	1,391,900
17	Worker's compensation.....	147,600
18	National association dues.....	443,700
19	Legislative corrections ombudsman.....	<u>711,500</u>
20	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 14,038,000
21	Appropriated from:	
22	Special revenue funds:	
23	Private - gifts and bequests revenues.....	400,000
24	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 13,638,000
25	<b>(4) LEGISLATIVE RETIREMENT SYSTEM</b>	
26	General nonretirement expenses.....	\$ <u>4,847,500</u>
27	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 4,847,500

1	Appropriated from:		
2	Special revenue funds:		
3	Court fees.....		1,132,000
4	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	3,715,500
5	<b>(5) PROPERTY MANAGEMENT</b>		
6	Cora Anderson building.....	\$	10,987,100
7	Farnum building and other properties.....		<u>2,742,100</u>
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	13,729,200
9	Appropriated from:		
10	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	13,729,200
11	<b>(6) STATE CAPITOL HISTORIC SITE</b>		
12	General operations.....	\$	4,104,900
13	Restoration, renewal, and maintenance.....		<u>3,060,000</u>
14	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	7,164,900
15	Appropriated from:		
16	Special revenue funds:		
17	Capitol historic site fund.....		3,060,000
18	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	4,104,900
19	<b>(7) OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL</b>		
20	Unclassified positions.....	\$	329,400
21	Field operations.....		<u>22,436,400</u>
22	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	22,765,800
23	Appropriated from:		
24	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
25	IDG from MDOT, comprehensive transportation fund.....		38,200
26	IDG from MDOT, Michigan transportation fund.....		309,600
27	IDG from MDOT, state aeronautics fund.....		29,700

1	IDG from MDOT, state trunkline fund.....	719,100
2	IDG, single audit act.....	2,856,000
3	IDG, commercial mobile radio system emergency	
4	telephone fund .....	36,100
5	IDG, contract audit administration fees.....	40,600
6	IDG, deferred compensation funds.....	53,300
7	IDG, Michigan finance authority.....	324,300
8	IDG, Michigan economic development corporation.....	94,400
9	IDG, Michigan education trust fund.....	69,400
10	IDG, Michigan justice training commission fund.....	40,100
11	IDG, Michigan strategic fund.....	165,800
12	IDG, office of retirement services.....	214,100
13	IDG, other restricted funding sources.....	372,100
14	IDG from department of human services.....	30,000
15	Special revenue funds:	
16	21st century jobs trust fund.....	94,400
17	Brownfield development fund.....	27,600
18	Clean Michigan initiative implementation bond fund...	53,400
19	Game and fish protection fund.....	30,700
20	Legislative retirement system.....	28,600
21	MDTMB, civil service commission.....	162,900
22	MDLARA, liquor purchase revolving fund.....	28,100
23	Michigan state housing development authority fees....	111,300
24	Michigan veterans' trust fund.....	34,800
25	Motor transport revolving fund.....	7,300
26	Office services revolving fund.....	9,800
27	State disbursement unit, office of child support .....	56,300

1	State services fee fund.....	1,331,300
2	Waterways fund.....	11,100
3	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 15,385,400
4	<b>Sec. 106. DEPARTMENT OF STATE</b>	
5	<b>(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY</b>	
6	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0
7	Full-time equated classified positions.....	1,587.0
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 225,256,700
9	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
10	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental	
11	transfers .....	20,000,000
12	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 205,256,700
13	Federal revenues:	
14	Total federal revenues.....	1,460,000
15	Special revenue funds:	
16	Total local revenues.....	0
17	Total private revenues.....	100
18	Total other state restricted revenues.....	186,635,100
19	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 17,161,500
20	<b>(2) EXECUTIVE DIRECTION</b>	
21	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0
22	Full-time equated classified positions.....	30.0
23	Secretary of state.....	\$ 112,500
24	Unclassified positions--5.0 FTE positions.....	613,500
25	Operations--30.0 FTE positions.....	<u>4,547,100</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 5,273,100

1	Appropriated from:	
2	Special revenue funds:	
3	Auto repair facilities fees.....	68,700
4	Children's protection registry fund.....	270,700
5	Driver fees.....	276,000
6	Enhanced driver license and enhanced official state	
7	personal identification card fund.....	211,400
8	Expedient service fees.....	66,300
9	Parking ticket court fines.....	9,200
10	Personal identification card fees.....	32,100
11	Reinstatement fees - operator licenses.....	248,900
12	Transportation administration collection fund.....	2,488,800
13	Vehicle theft prevention fees.....	40,400
14	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 1,560,600
15	<b>(3) DEPARTMENT SERVICES</b>	
16	Full-time equated classified positions.....	156.0
17	Operations--156.0 FTE positions.....	\$ <u>29,562,200</u>
18	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 29,562,200
19	Appropriated from:	
20	Special revenue funds:	
21	Abandoned vehicle fees.....	481,100
22	Auto repair facilities fees.....	1,605,800
23	Driver fees.....	1,575,900
24	Driver improvement course fund.....	308,600
25	Enhanced driver license and enhanced official state	
26	personal identification card fund.....	545,200
27	Expedient service fees.....	273,600

1	Marine safety fund.....	84,200
2	Personal identification card fees.....	191,300
3	Reinstatement fees - operator licenses.....	1,287,700
4	Scrap tire fund.....	77,200
5	Transportation administration collection fund.....	21,437,500
6	Vehicle theft prevention fees.....	628,800
7	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 1,065,300
8	<b>(4) LEGAL SERVICES</b>	
9	Full-time equated classified positions.....	39.0
10	Operations--39.0 FTE positions.....	\$ <u>8,983,000</u>
11	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 8,983,000
12	Appropriated from:	
13	Special revenue funds:	
14	Auto repair facilities fees.....	1,444,200
15	Driver education provider and instructor fund.....	25,400
16	Driver fees.....	931,700
17	Driver responsibility fees.....	1,000,000
18	Enhanced driver license and enhanced official state	
19	personal identification card fund.....	90,500
20	Personal identification card fees.....	60,800
21	Reinstatement fees - operator licenses.....	713,900
22	Transportation administration collection fund.....	4,240,900
23	Vehicle theft prevention fees.....	463,800
24	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 11,800
25	<b>(5) CUSTOMER DELIVERY SERVICES</b>	
26	Full-time equated classified positions.....	1,317.0
27	Branch operations--922.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 83,462,100



1	Central operations--376.0 FTE positions .....	47,916,300
2	Commemorative license plates--14.0 FTE positions .....	1,897,300
3	Motorcycle safety education administration--2.0 FTE	
4	positions .....	329,200
5	Motorcycle safety education grants .....	1,800,000
6	Credit and debit assessment services .....	6,000,000
7	Specialty license plates--3.0 FTE positions .....	750,000
8	Organ donor program .....	<u>129,100</u>
9	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 142,284,000
10	Appropriated from:	
11	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
12	IDG from MDOT, Michigan transportation fund .....	20,000,000
13	Federal revenues:	
14	Federal funds .....	1,460,000
15	Special revenue funds:	
16	Private funds .....	100
17	Abandoned vehicle fees .....	204,500
18	Auto repair facilities fees .....	1,731,600
19	Child support clearance fees .....	363,600
20	Credit and debit assessment service fee revenue .....	6,000,000
21	Driver education provider and instructor fund .....	49,600
22	Driver fees .....	25,772,300
23	Driver improvement course fund .....	1,246,200
24	Enhanced driver license and enhanced official state	
25	personal identification card fund .....	7,679,100
26	Expedient service fees .....	2,603,600
27	Marine safety fund .....	1,392,300

1	Michigan state police auto theft fund.....	123,700
2	Mobile home commission fees.....	507,500
3	Motorcycle safety fund.....	1,829,200
4	Off-road vehicle title fees.....	167,000
5	Parking ticket court fines.....	1,629,800
6	Personal identification card fees.....	2,274,700
7	Recreation passport fee revenue.....	1,000,000
8	Reinstatement fees - operator licenses.....	2,358,000
9	Snowmobile registration fee revenue.....	390,000
10	Thomas Daley gift of life fund.....	50,000
11	Transportation administration collection fund.....	59,296,800
12	Vehicle theft prevention fees.....	742,200
13	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 3,412,200
14	<b>(6) ELECTION REGULATION</b>	
15	Full-time equated classified positions.....	45.0
16	Election administration and services--45.0 FTE	
17	positions .....	\$ 7,062,100
18	County clerk education and training fund.....	100,000
19	Fees to local units.....	109,800
20	Election machine upgrades.....	<u>100</u>
21	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 7,272,000
22	Appropriated from:	
23	Special revenue funds:	
24	Notary education and training fund.....	100,000
25	Notary fee fund.....	343,500
26	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 6,828,500
27	<b>(7) DEPARTMENTWIDE APPROPRIATIONS</b>	

1	Building occupancy charges/rent .....	\$	9,540,700
2	Worker's compensation .....		<u>396,400</u>
3	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	9,937,100
4	Appropriated from:		
5	Special revenue funds:		
6	Auto repair facilities fees .....		133,200
7	Driver fees .....		727,400
8	Enhanced driver license and enhanced official state		
9	personal identification card fund .....		26,000
10	Parking ticket court fines .....		441,500
11	Transportation administration collection fund .....		5,890,500
12	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	2,718,500
13	<b>(8) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>		
14	Information technology services and projects .....	\$	<u>21,945,300</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	21,945,300
16	Appropriated from:		
17	Special revenue funds:		
18	Administrative order processing fee .....		11,700
19	Auto repair facilities fees .....		190,000
20	Driver fees .....		787,400
21	Enhanced driver license and enhanced official state		
22	personal identification card fund .....		269,500
23	Expedient service fees .....		1,085,100
24	Parking ticket court fines .....		87,600
25	Personal identification card fees .....		171,700
26	Reinstatement fees - operator licenses .....		592,300
27	Transportation administration collection fund .....		17,004,400

1	Vehicle theft prevention fees .....		181,000
2	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	1,564,600

3     **Sec. 107. DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT, AND**  
4     **BUDGET**

5     **(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY**

6	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0	
7	Full-time equated classified positions.....	2,828.0	
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 1,256,406,300
9	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
10	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
11	transfers .....		678,478,500
12	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 577,927,800
13	Federal revenues:		
14	Total federal revenues.....		7,997,300
15	Special revenue funds:		
16	Total local revenues.....		3,587,700
17	Total private revenues.....		190,100
18	Total other state restricted revenues.....		95,771,900
19	State general fund/general purpose .....		\$ 470,380,800

20     **(2) EXECUTIVE DIRECTION**

21	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0	
22	Full-time equated classified positions.....	12.0	
23	Unclassified positions--6.0 FTE positions .....		\$ 837,000
24	Executive operations--12.0 FTE positions .....		<u>2,316,500</u>
25	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 3,153,500
26	Appropriated from:		

1	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
2	IDG from building occupancy and parking charges .....		218,900
3	IDG from technology user fees .....		1,965,500
4	Special revenue funds:		
5	Special revenue, internal service, and pension trust		
6	funds .....		292,900
7	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	676,200
8	<b>(3) DEPARTMENT SERVICES</b>		
9	Full-time equated classified positions.....	714.5	
10	Administrative services--132.5 FTE positions .....	\$	17,570,900
11	Budget and financial management--135.0 FTE positions .		17,620,800
12	Office of the state employer--23.0 FTE positions .....		3,362,400
13	Design and construction services--40.0 FTE positions .		6,375,600
14	Business support services--97.0 FTE positions .....		11,276,700
15	Building operation services--210.0 FTE positions .....		91,946,300
16	Building occupancy charges, rent, and utilities .....		7,627,000
17	Motor vehicle fleet--35.0 FTE positions .....		74,181,300
18	Information technology services and projects .....		29,613,800
19	Bureau of labor market information and strategies--		
20	42.0 FTE positions .....		<u>5,376,400</u>
21	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	264,951,200
22	Appropriated from:		
23	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
24	IDG from accounting service centers user charges .....		2,671,400
25	IDG from building occupancy and parking charges .....		94,034,600
26	IDG from MDLARA .....		100,000
27	IDG from motor transport fund .....		74,181,300

1	IDG from MDCH.....	481,900
2	IDG from MDHS.....	212,600
3	IDG from user fees.....	6,695,100
4	IDG from technology user fees.....	7,429,200
5	Federal revenues:	
6	Federal funds.....	4,934,700
7	Special revenue funds:	
8	Local - MPSCS subscriber and maintenance fees.....	60,100
9	Deferred compensation.....	2,600
10	Health management funds.....	2,219,200
11	MAIN user charges.....	4,434,900
12	Pension trust funds.....	7,413,800
13	Special revenue, internal service, and pension trust	
14	funds .....	17,115,100
15	State restricted indirect funds.....	3,392,200
16	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 39,572,500
17	<b>(4) TECHNOLOGY SERVICES</b>	
18	Full-time equated classified positions.....	1,479.5
19	Education services--29.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 4,100,200
20	Health and human services--617.5 FTE positions.....	282,038,800
21	Public protection--154.5 FTE positions.....	51,772,600
22	Resources services--146.5 FTE positions.....	19,694,900
23	Transportation services--89.5 FTE positions.....	30,831,400
24	General services--329.5 FTE positions.....	93,717,000
25	Enterprisewide information technology investment	
26	projects .....	12,300,000
27	General government and public safety information	

1	technology investment projects.....	30,850,000
2	Health and human services information technology	
3	investment projects .....	6,500,000
4	MAIN system replacement information technology	
5	investment project .....	18,350,000
6	Homeland security initiative/cyber security--13.0 FTE	
7	positions .....	9,063,500
8	Michigan public safety communication system--100.0 FTE	
9	positions .....	<u>39,842,400</u>
10	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 599,060,800
11	Appropriated from:	
12	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
13	IDG from technology user fees.....	482,154,900
14	Special revenue funds:	
15	Local - MPSCS subscriber and maintenance fees.....	2,209,900
16	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 114,696,000
17	<b>(5) STATEWIDE APPROPRIATIONS</b>	
18	Professional development fund - MPE, SEIU, scientific	
19	and engineering unit .....	\$ 150,000
20	Professional development fund - NERE.....	250,000
21	Professional development fund - UAW.....	<u>702,600</u>
22	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 1,102,600
23	Appropriated from:	
24	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
25	IDG from employer contributions.....	1,102,600
26	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
27	<b>(6) SPECIAL PROGRAMS</b>	

1	Full-time equated classified positions.....	176.0	
2	Building occupancy charges - property management		
3	services for executive/legislative building		
4	occupancy .....	\$	1,096,700
5	Retirement services--162.0 FTE positions.....		27,209,000
6	Office of children's ombudsman--14.0 FTE positions...		1,767,300
7	Public private partnership.....		1,500,000
8	Regional prosperity grants.....		<u>2,500,000</u>
9	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	34,073,000
10	Appropriated from:		
11	Special revenue funds:		
12	Deferred compensation.....		2,800,000
13	Pension trust funds.....		19,164,200
14	Public private partnership investment fund.....		1,500,000
15	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	10,608,800
16	<b>(7) STATE BUILDING AUTHORITY RENT</b>		
17	State building authority rent - state agencies.....	\$	52,265,800
18	State building authority rent - department of		
19	corrections .....		36,829,900
20	State building authority rent - universities.....		135,995,300
21	State building authority rent - community colleges...		<u>29,479,600</u>
22	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	254,570,600
23	Appropriated from:		
24	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	254,570,600
25	<b>(8) CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION</b>		
26	Full-time equated classified positions.....	446.0	
27	Agency services--74.0 FTE positions.....	\$	11,975,900



1	Executive direction--40.0 FTE positions .....	9,778,700
2	Employee benefits--16.0 FTE positions .....	5,667,300
3	Training.....	1,300,000
4	Human resources operations--316.0 FTE positions .....	35,878,600
5	Information technology services and projects .....	<u>3,293,600</u>
6	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 67,894,100
7	Appropriated from:	
8	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
9	IDG, training charges.....	1,300,000
10	IDG, 1% special funds.....	3,330,500
11	Federal revenues:	
12	Federal funds 1%.....	3,062,600
13	Special revenue funds:	
14	Local funds 1%.....	1,317,700
15	Private funds 1%.....	190,100
16	State restricted funds 1%.....	21,197,900
17	State restricted indirect funds.....	7,681,300
18	State sponsored group insurance.....	2,737,200
19	State sponsored group insurance, flexible spending	
20	accounts, and COBRA .....	5,820,600
21	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 21,256,200
22	<b>(9) CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>	
23	Major special maintenance, remodeling, and addition	
24	for state agencies .....	\$ 2,000,000
25	Enterprisewide special maintenance for state	
26	facilities .....	<u>28,000,000</u>
27	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 30,000,000

1       Appropriated from:

2       Interdepartmental grant revenues:

3       IDG from building occupancy charges ..... 2,000,000

4       State general fund/general purpose ..... \$ 28,000,000

5       **(10) ONE-TIME BASIS ONLY APPROPRIATIONS**

6       Technology services funding ..... \$ 600,000

7       Legal services ..... 1,000,500

8       GROSS APPROPRIATION ..... \$ 1,600,500

9       Appropriated from:

10       Interdepartmental grant revenues:

11       IDG from technology user fees ..... 600,000

12       State general fund/general purpose ..... \$ 1,000,500

13       **Sec. 108. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY**

14       **(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY**

15       Full-time equated unclassified positions ..... 10.0

16       Full-time equated classified positions ..... 2,657.5

17       GROSS APPROPRIATION ..... \$ 2,896,967,200

18       Interdepartmental grant revenues:

19       Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental

20       transfers ..... 9,500,700

21       ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION ..... \$ 2,887,466,500

22       Federal revenues:

23       Total federal revenues ..... 666,966,500

24       Special revenue funds:

25       Total local revenues ..... 13,463,200

26       Total private revenues ..... 5,674,400

1	Total other state restricted revenues .....	1,767,425,600
2	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 433,936,800
3	<b>(2) EXECUTIVE DIRECTION</b>	
4	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	10.0
5	Full-time equated classified positions.....	24.0
6	Unclassified positions--10.0 FTE positions .....	\$ 1,116,000
7	Executive direction and operations--24.0 FTE positions	<u>4,978,100</u>
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 6,094,100
9	Appropriated from:	
10	Federal revenues:	
11	DED-OPSE, federal lenders allowance .....	20,000
12	DED-OPSE, higher education act of 1965 insured loans .	45,000
13	Special revenue funds:	
14	Delinquent tax collection revenue .....	1,318,200
15	Michigan state housing development authority fees and	
16	charges .....	259,000
17	State lottery fund.....	282,500
18	State services fee fund.....	321,000
19	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 3,848,400
20	<b>(3) DEPARTMENTWIDE APPROPRIATIONS</b>	
21	Rent and building occupancy charges - property	
22	management services .....	\$ 5,937,600
23	Worker's compensation insurance premium.....	<u>36,500</u>
24	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 5,974,100
25	Appropriated from:	
26	Special revenue funds:	
27	Delinquent tax collection revenue .....	2,848,200

1	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	3,125,900
2	<b>(4) LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS</b>		
3	Full-time equated classified positions.....	113.0	
4	Supervision of the general property tax law--88.0 FTE		
5	positions .....	\$	15,149,500
6	Property tax assessor training--4.0 FTE positions ....		1,031,100
7	Local finance--21.0 FTE positions .....		<u>2,565,100</u>
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	18,745,700
9	Appropriated from:		
10	Special revenue funds:		
11	Local - assessor training fees .....		1,031,100
12	Local - audit charges .....		808,600
13	Local - equalization study charge-backs .....		40,000
14	Local - revenue from local government .....		100,000
15	Land reutilization fund.....		1,996,200
16	Municipal finance fees .....		533,600
17	Delinquent tax collection revenue .....		1,493,200
18	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	12,743,000
19	<b>(5) TAX PROGRAMS</b>		
20	Full-time equated classified positions.....	793.0	
21	Tax compliance--345.0 FTE positions .....	\$	44,826,700
22	Tax and economic policy--85.0 FTE positions .....		13,442,900
23	Tax processing--335.0 FTE positions .....		36,880,300
24	Health insurance claims fund program--15.0 FTE		
25	positions .....		2,029,200
26	Home heating assistance .....		3,019,000
27	Bottle act implementation .....		250,000

1	Tobacco tax enforcement--13.0 FTE positions .....	<u>1,475,600</u>
2	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 101,923,700
3	Appropriated from:	
4	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
5	IDG from MDOT, Michigan transportation fund.....	2,300,000
6	IDG from MDOT, state aeronautics fund.....	70,900
7	Federal revenues:	
8	HHS-SSA, low-income energy assistance.....	3,019,000
9	Special revenue funds:	
10	Bottle deposit fund.....	250,000
11	Delinquent tax collection revenue.....	70,135,700
12	Emergency 911 fund.....	155,600
13	Health insurance claims fund.....	2,029,200
14	Tobacco tax revenue.....	4,023,100
15	Waterways fund.....	105,000
16	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 19,835,200
17	<b>(6) FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES</b>	
18	Full-time equated classified positions.....	383.0
19	Departmental services--89.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 9,015,800
20	Unclaimed property--29.0 FTE positions.....	4,765,800
21	Office of collections--203.0 FTE positions.....	26,084,500
22	Office of accounting services--24.0 FTE positions....	2,434,800
23	Office of financial services--38.0 FTE positions.....	<u>4,386,300</u>
24	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 46,687,200
25	Appropriated from:	
26	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
27	IDG, levy/warrant cost assessment fees.....	2,000,000

1	IDG, state agency collection fees .....	2,946,900
2	IDG from MDHS, title IV-D .....	763,900
3	IDG data/collection service fees .....	330,300
4	IDG from accounting service center user charges .....	482,900
5	Special revenue funds:	
6	Delinquent tax collection revenue .....	26,990,700
7	Escheats revenue .....	4,765,800
8	Justice system fund .....	418,300
9	Garnishment fees .....	2,484,000
10	State restricted indirect funds .....	272,200
11	Treasury fees .....	46,100
12	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 5,186,100
13	<b>(7) FINANCIAL PROGRAMS</b>	
14	Full-time equated classified positions .....	210.5
15	Investments--82.0 FTE positions .....	\$ 20,270,400
16	Common cash and debt management--21.5 FTE positions ..	1,629,300
17	Student financial assistance programs--25.5 FTE	
18	positions .....	2,687,100
19	Michigan finance authority - bond finance--72.5 FTE	
20	positions .....	38,686,200
21	John R. Justice grant program .....	287,700
22	Dual enrollment payments .....	1,005,100
23	Financial independence team--9.0 FTE positions .....	<u>2,244,100</u>
24	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 66,809,900
25	Appropriated from:	
26	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
27	IDG, fiscal agent service fees .....	205,800

1	Federal revenues:		
2	DED-OPSE, federal lenders allowance .....	10,615,200	
3	DED-OPSE, higher education act of 1965, insured loans	25,055,800	
4	Federal - John R. Justice grant .....	287,700	
5	Special revenue funds:		
6	Defined contribution administrative fee revenue .....	100,000	
7	Michigan finance authority bond and loan program		
8	revenue .....	3,015,200	
9	Michigan merit award trust fund .....	1,139,800	
10	Retirement funds .....	18,717,000	
11	School bond fees .....	835,400	
12	Treasury fees .....	1,665,000	
13	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 5,173,000	
14	<b>(8) DEBT SERVICE</b>		
15	Quality of life bond .....	\$ 75,959,000	
16	Clean Michigan initiative .....	63,961,000	
17	Great Lakes water quality bond .....	<u>16,529,000</u>	
18	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 156,449,000	
19	Appropriated from:		
20	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 156,449,000	
21	<b>(9) GRANTS</b>		
22	Convention facility development distribution .....	\$ 90,950,000	
23	Senior citizen cooperative housing tax exemption		
24	program .....	10,020,000	
25	Emergency 911 payments .....	27,000,000	
26	Health and safety fund grants .....	9,000,000	
27	Facility for rare isotope beams .....	7,300,000	

1	Urban search and rescue task force .....	300,000
2	Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History .	100
3	City of Wayne recreation grant .....	100
4	Dexter Elmhurst community center .....	100
5	Wayne County Community College career technical	
6	education program .....	<u>100</u>
7	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 144,570,400
8	Appropriated from:	
9	Special revenue funds:	
10	Emergency 911 fund .....	27,000,000
11	Convention facility development fund .....	90,950,000
12	Health and safety fund .....	9,000,000
13	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 17,620,400
14	<b>(10) BUREAU OF STATE LOTTERY</b>	
15	Full-time equated classified positions .....	183.0
16	Lottery operations--183.0 FTE positions .....	\$ 24,323,400
17	Promotion and advertising .....	18,622,000
18	Lottery information technology services and projects .	<u>5,205,500</u>
19	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 48,150,900
20	Appropriated from:	
21	Special revenue funds:	
22	State lottery fund .....	48,150,900
23	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
24	<b>(11) CASINO GAMING</b>	
25	Full-time equated classified positions .....	141.0
26	Michigan gaming control board .....	\$ 50,000
27	Casino gaming control operations--131.0 FTE positions	25,750,800



1	Casino gaming information technology services and	
2	projects .....	1,979,500
3	Racing commission--10.0 FTE positions .....	<u>2,347,400</u>
4	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 30,127,700
5	Appropriated from:	
6	Special revenue funds:	
7	Casino gambling agreements.....	804,100
8	Equine development fund.....	2,470,100
9	Laboratory fees.....	700,000
10	State services fee fund.....	26,153,500
11	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
12	<b>(12) PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES</b>	
13	Commercial forest reserve.....	\$ 3,207,700
14	Purchased lands.....	8,023,900
15	Swamp and tax reverted lands.....	<u>14,862,500</u>
16	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 26,094,100
17	Appropriated from:	
18	Special revenue funds:	
19	Private funds.....	25,400
20	Game and fish protection fund.....	2,780,700
21	Michigan natural resources trust fund.....	1,909,100
22	Michigan state waterways fund.....	241,100
23	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 21,137,800
24	<b>(13) MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND</b>	
25	Full-time equated classified positions..... 403.0	
26	Administrative services--22.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 3,124,700
27	Job creation services--139.0 FTE positions.....	18,971,400

1	Pure Michigan.....	29,000,000
2	Entrepreneurship eco-system.....	25,000,000
3	Business attraction and community revitalization.....	111,100,000
4	Community ventures--7.0 FTE positions.....	9,800,000
5	Community development block grants.....	47,000,000
6	Arts and cultural program.....	10,150,000
7	Michigan film office--6.0 FTE positions.....	653,800
8	Community college skilled trades equipment program...	4,600,000
9	Skilled trades training program.....	10,000,000
10	Special programs.....	1,000,000
11	Energy programs.....	3,610,900
12	Workforce program administration--229.0 FTE positions	33,688,600
13	Workforce development programs.....	391,473,900
14	Workforce development agency rent and property	
15	management .....	870,500
16	Information technology services and projects.....	921,700
17	GED-to-school program.....	<u>100</u>
18	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 700,965,600
19	Appropriated from:	
20	Federal revenues:	
21	DAG, employment and training.....	3,499,400
22	DED-OESE, GEAR-UP.....	4,730,700
23	DED-OVAE, adult education.....	20,000,000
24	DED-OVAE, basic grants to states.....	19,000,000
25	DOE-OEERE, multiple grants.....	3,794,500
26	DOL, federal funds.....	112,769,500
27	DOL-ETA, workforce investment act.....	173,988,600

1	Federal funds.....	5,940,200
2	HUD-CPD, community development block grants.....	49,773,300
3	NFAH-NEA, promotion of the arts, partnership	
4	agreements .....	1,050,000
5	Social security act, temporary assistance for needy	
6	families .....	64,898,800
7	Special revenue funds:	
8	Local revenues.....	4,433,500
9	Private - special project advances.....	250,000
10	Private - Michigan council for the arts fund.....	100,000
11	Private funds.....	5,269,000
12	Private - oil overcharge.....	30,000
13	Defaulted loan collection fees.....	149,800
14	Industry support fees.....	5,500
15	21st century jobs trust fund.....	75,000,000
16	Michigan film promotion fund.....	653,800
17	Public utility assessments.....	871,900
18	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 154,757,100
19	<b>(14) REVENUE SHARING</b>	
20	Constitutional state general revenue sharing grants ..	\$ 788,497,000
21	County revenue sharing payments.....	171,760,000
22	County incentive program.....	42,940,000
23	City, village, and township revenue sharing.....	243,040,000
24	Financially distressed cities, villages, or townships	<u>5,000,000</u>
25	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 1,251,237,000
26	Appropriated from:	
27	Special revenue funds:	

1	Sales tax.....	1,251,237,000
2	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
3	<b>(15) MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND - MICHIGAN STATE</b>	
4	<b>HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY</b>	
5	Full-time equated classified positions.....	353.0
6	Payments on behalf of tenants.....	\$ 166,860,000
7	Housing and rental assistance--347.0 FTE positions ...	57,897,100
8	Land bank fast track authority--6.0 FTE positions ....	5,247,800
9	Lighthouse preservation program.....	307,500
10	Rent and administrative support.....	3,847,900
11	Michigan state housing development authority	
12	technology services and projects.....	<u>3,556,700</u>
13	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 237,717,000
14	Appropriated from:	
15	Federal revenues:	
16	Federal funds.....	1,000,000
17	HUD, lower income housing assistance.....	166,860,000
18	Special revenue funds:	
19	Michigan state housing development authority fees and	
20	charges .....	65,301,700
21	Michigan lighthouse preservation fund.....	307,500
22	Land bank fast track act.....	297,800
23	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 3,950,000
24	<b>(16) STATE BUILDING AUTHORITY</b>	
25	Full-time equated classified positions.....	4.0
26	State building authority--4.0 FTE positions .....	\$ <u>711,100</u>
27	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 711,100

1	Appropriated from:		
2	Special revenue funds:		
3	State building authority revenue.....		711,100
4	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	0
5	<b>(17) CITY INCOME TAX ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM</b>		
6	Full-time equated classified positions.....	50.0	
7	City income tax administration program--50.0 FTE		
8	positions .....	\$	<u>5,850,000</u>
9	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	5,850,000
10	Appropriated from:		
11	Special revenue funds:		
12	Local - city income tax fund.....		5,850,000
13	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	0
14	<b>(18) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>		
15	Treasury operations information technology services		
16	and projects .....	\$	<u>28,959,700</u>
17	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	28,959,700
18	Appropriated from:		
19	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
20	IDG from MDOT, Michigan transportation fund.....		400,000
21	Federal revenues:		
22	DED-OPSE, federal lender allowance.....		618,800
23	Special revenue funds:		
24	Local - city income tax fund.....		1,200,000
25	Delinquent tax collection revenue.....		15,644,900
26	Retirement funds.....		757,600
27	Tobacco tax revenue.....		127,500

1	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	10,210,900
2	<b>(19) ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS</b>		
3	Personal property tax payments .....	\$	19,300,000
4	Treasury online - treasury business portal .....		<u>600,000</u>
5	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	19,900,000
6	Appropriated from:		
7	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	19,900,000

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PART 2

PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

**GENERAL SECTIONS**

Sec. 201. (1) Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$3,197,259,900.00 and state spending from state resources to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$1,462,891,200.00. The itemized statement below identifies appropriations from which spending to local units of government will occur:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Fees to local units .....	\$	109,800
Motorcycle safety grants .....		<u>1,162,300</u>
Subtotal .....	\$	1,272,100

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

Senior citizen cooperative housing tax exemption .....	\$	10,020,000
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1	Health and safety fund grants .....	9,000,000
2	Constitutional state general revenue sharing grants ..	788,497,000
3	City, village, and township revenue sharing .....	243,040,000
4	Convention facility development fund distribution ....	90,950,000
5	Emergency 911 payments .....	27,000,000
6	Financially distressed cities, villages, or townships	5,000,000
7	County incentive program .....	42,940,000
8	County revenue sharing payments .....	171,760,000
9	Airport parking distribution pursuant to section 909 .	19,093,200
10	Payments in lieu of taxes .....	26,094,100
11	Personal property tax reform .....	19,300,000
12	Welfare-to-work programs .....	<u>11,224,800</u>
13	Subtotal .....	\$ <u>1,461,619,100</u>
14	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT .....	\$ 1,462,891,200

15       (2) Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state  
16 constitution of 1963, total state spending from state sources for  
17 fiscal year 2015-2016 is estimated at \$29,982,030,700.00 in the  
18 2015-2016 appropriations acts and total state spending from state  
19 sources paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2015-2016  
20 is estimated at \$16,681,274,400.00. The state-local proportion is  
21 estimated at 55.6% of total state spending from state resources.

22       (3) If payments to local units of government and state  
23 spending from state sources for fiscal year 2015-2016 are different  
24 than the amounts estimated in subsection (2), the state budget  
25 director shall report the payments to local units of government and  
26 state spending from state sources that were made for fiscal year  
27 2015-2016 to the senate and house of representatives standing

1 committees on appropriations within 30 days after the final book-  
2 closing for fiscal year 2015-2016.

3 Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under this part and  
4 part 1 are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
5 MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

6 Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

7 (a) "AFSCME" means American Federation of State, County, and  
8 Municipal Employees.

9 (b) "ATM" means automated teller machine.

10 (c) "COBRA" means the consolidated omnibus budget  
11 reconciliation act of 1985, Public Law 99-272, 100 Stat 82.

12 (d) "DAG" means the United States Department of Agriculture.

13 (e) "DED" means the United States Department of Education.

14 (f) "DED-OESE" means the DED Office of Elementary and  
15 Secondary Education.

16 (g) "DED-OPSE" means the DED Office of Postsecondary  
17 Education.

18 (h) "DED-OVAE" means the DED Office of Vocational and Adult  
19 Education.

20 (i) "DOE-OEERE" means the United States Department of Energy,  
21 Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

22 (j) "DOL-ETA" means the United States Department of Labor,  
23 Employment and Training Administration.

24 (k) "EEOC" means the United States Equal Employment  
25 Opportunity Commission.

26 (l) "EPA" means the United States Environmental Protection  
27 Agency.



1 (m) "FTE" means full-time equated.

2 (n) "Fund" means the Michigan strategic fund.

3 (o) "GEAR-UP" means gaining early awareness and readiness for  
4 undergraduate programs.

5 (p) "GED" means a general educational development certificate.

6 (q) "GF/GP" means general fund/general purpose.

7 (r) "HAVA" means help America vote act.

8 (s) "HHS" means the United States Department of Health and  
9 Human Services.

10 (t) "HHS-OS" means the HHS Office of the Secretary.

11 (u) "HHS-SSA" means the HHS Social Security Administration.

12 (v) "HUD" means the United States Department of Housing and  
13 Urban Development.

14 (w) "HUD-CPD" means the United States Department of Housing  
15 and Urban Development - community planning and development.

16 (x) "IDG" means interdepartmental grant.

17 (y) "JCOS" means the joint capital outlay subcommittee.

18 (z) "MAIN" means the Michigan administrative information  
19 network.

20 (aa) "MCL" means the Michigan Compiled Laws.

21 (bb) "MDCH" means the Michigan department of community health.

22 (cc) "MDE" means the Michigan department of education.

23 (dd) "MDLARA" means the Michigan department of licensing and  
24 regulatory affairs.

25 (ee) "MDEQ" means the Michigan department of environmental  
26 quality.

27 (ff) "MDHS" means the Michigan department of human services.

1 (gg) "MDMVA" means the Michigan department of military and  
2 veterans affairs.

3 (hh) "MDOT" means the Michigan department of transportation.

4 (ii) "MDSP" means the Michigan department of state police.

5 (jj) "MDTMB" means the Michigan department of technology,  
6 management, and budget.

7 (kk) "MEDC" means the Michigan economic development  
8 corporation, which is the public body corporate created under  
9 section 28 of article VII of the state constitution of 1963 and the  
10 urban cooperation act of 1967, 1967 (Ex Sess) PA 7, MCL 124.501 to  
11 124.512, by contractual interlocal agreement effective April 5,  
12 1999, between local participating economic development corporations  
13 formed under the economic development corporations act, 1974 PA  
14 338, MCL 125.1601 to 125.1636, and the Michigan strategic fund.

15 (ll) "MFA" means the Michigan finance authority.

16 (mm) "MPE" means the Michigan public employees.

17 (nn) "MSF" means the Michigan strategic fund.

18 (oo) "MSHDA" means Michigan state housing development  
19 authority.

20 (pp) "NERE" means nonexclusively represented employees.

21 (qq) "NFAH-NEA" means the National Foundation of the Arts and  
22 the Humanities - National Endowment for the Arts.

23 (rr) "PA" means public act.

24 (ss) "PATH" means partnership. accountability. training. hope.

25 (tt) "RFP" means a request for a proposal.

26 (uu) "SEIU" means service employees international union.

27 (vv) "WDA" means the workforce development agency.

1 (ww) "WIC" means women, infants, and children.

2 Sec. 206. The departments and agencies receiving  
3 appropriations in part 1 shall cooperate with the department of  
4 technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable website  
5 that is updated at least quarterly and that is accessible by the  
6 public at no cost that includes, but is not limited to, all of the  
7 following for each department or agency:

8 (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

9 (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

10 (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
11 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
12 payment description.

13 (d) The number of active department employees by job  
14 classification.

15 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

16 Sec. 207. (1) For each new program or program expansion for  
17 which funds in excess of \$500,000.00 are appropriated in part 1,  
18 the department shall identify specific benchmarks intended to  
19 measure the performance or return on taxpayer investment of the  
20 program and its associated expenditures. Not later than November 1,  
21 2015, the department shall report the proposed benchmarks to the  
22 house and senate appropriations subcommittees for that department,  
23 the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
24 director. The department shall provide an update on its progress in  
25 achieving those benchmarks at an appropriations subcommittee  
26 meeting called for the purpose of discussing benchmarks and their  
27 status.

1           (2) It is the intent of the legislature that, beginning with  
2 the budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, any  
3 proposal for a new program or an expansion of an existing program  
4 in excess of \$500,000.00 initiated by the executive branch or the  
5 legislature shall include, as part of the original proposal or  
6 budget request, a list of benchmarks intended to measure the  
7 performance or return on taxpayer investment of the program or  
8 spending increase.

9           Sec. 208. The departments and agencies receiving  
10 appropriations in part 1 shall use the Internet to fulfill the  
11 reporting requirements of this part. This requirement may include  
12 transmission of reports via electronic mail to the recipients  
13 identified for each reporting requirement, or it may include  
14 placement of reports on an Internet or intranet site.

15           Sec. 209. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used for  
16 the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
17 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
18 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to  
19 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
20 businesses, if they are competitively priced and of comparable  
21 quality. In addition, preference should be given to goods or  
22 services, or both, that are manufactured or provided by Michigan  
23 businesses owned and operated by veterans, if they are  
24 competitively priced and of comparable quality.

25           Sec. 210. The director of each department and agency receiving  
26 appropriations in part 1 shall take all reasonable steps to ensure  
27 businesses in deprived and depressed communities compete for and

perform contracts to provide services or supplies, or both. Each director shall strongly encourage firms with which the department contracts to subcontract with certified businesses in depressed and deprived communities for services, supplies, or both.

Sec. 211. (1) Pursuant to section 352 of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1352, which provides for a transfer of state general fund revenue into or out of the countercyclical budget and economic stabilization fund, the calculations required by section 352 of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1352, are determined as follows:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Michigan personal income (millions).	\$402,703	\$420,019	\$438,500
less: transfer payments.....	<u>88,825</u>	<u>94,510</u>	<u>99,897</u>
Subtotal .....	\$313,878	\$325,509	\$338,603
Divided by: Detroit Consumer Price			
Index for 12 months ending June 30	2.210	2.225	2.254
Equals: real adjusted Michigan			
personal income.....	\$142,026	\$146,265	\$150,196
Percentage change.....	2.9%	3.0%	2.7%
Growth rate in excess of 2%?.....	0.9%	1.0%	0.7%
Equals: countercyclical budget and			
economic stabilization fund pay-in			
calculation for the fiscal year ending			
September 30, 2016 (millions).....	\$81.2	\$95.0	\$68.0
Growth rate less than 0%?.....	NO	NO	NO
Equals: countercyclical budget and			
economic stabilization fund pay-out			

1 calculation for the fiscal year ending

2 September 30, 2016 (millions)..... 0.0 N/A \$0.0

3 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), there is appropriated for  
4 the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from general  
5 fund/general purpose revenue for deposit into the countercyclical  
6 budget and economic stabilization fund the sum of \$95,000,000.00.

7 Sec. 212. The departments and agencies receiving  
8 appropriations in part 1 shall receive and retain copies of all  
9 reports funded from appropriations in part 1. Federal and state  
10 guidelines for short-term and long-term retention of records shall  
11 be followed. The department may electronically retain copies of  
12 reports unless otherwise required by federal and state guidelines.

13 Sec. 213. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used by  
14 this state, a department, an agency, or an authority of this state  
15 to purchase an ownership interest in a casino enterprise or a  
16 gambling operation as those terms are defined in the Michigan  
17 gaming control and revenue act, 1996 IL 1, MCL 432.201 to 432.226.

18 Sec. 215. A department or state agency shall not take  
19 disciplinary action against an employee for communicating with a  
20 member of the legislature or his or her staff.

21 Sec. 216. The departments and agencies receiving  
22 appropriations in part 1 shall prepare a report on out-of-state  
23 travel expenses not later than January 1 of each year. The travel  
24 report shall be a listing of all travel by classified and  
25 unclassified employees outside this state in the immediately  
26 preceding fiscal year that was funded in whole or in part with  
27 funds appropriated in the department's budget. The report shall be

1 submitted to the house and senate standing committees on  
2 appropriations, the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state  
3 budget director. The report shall include the following  
4 information:

5 (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

6 (b) The total transportation and related costs of each travel  
7 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
8 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
9 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
10 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

11 Sec. 217. General fund appropriations in part 1 shall not be  
12 expended for items in cases where federal funding is available for  
13 the same expenditures.

14 Sec. 219. The departments and agencies receiving  
15 appropriations in part 1 shall maintain, on a publicly accessible  
16 website, a department or agency scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
17 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
18 improve the department's or agency's performance.

19 Sec. 221. Each department and agency shall report no later  
20 than April 1 on each specific policy change made to implement a  
21 public act affecting the department that took effect during the  
22 prior calendar year to the senate and house of representatives  
23 standing committees on appropriations subcommittees on general  
24 government, the joint committee on administrative rules, and the  
25 senate and house fiscal agencies.

26 Sec. 226. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used by a  
27 principal executive department, state agency, or authority to hire

1 a person to provide legal services that are the responsibility of  
2 the attorney general. This prohibition does not apply to legal  
3 services for bonding activities and for those activities that the  
4 attorney general authorizes.

5 Sec. 227. Within 14 days after the release of the executive  
6 budget recommendation, the departments and agencies receiving  
7 appropriations in part 1 shall cooperate with the state budget  
8 director to provide the chairs of the senate and house of  
9 representatives standing committees on appropriations, the chairs  
10 of the senate and house of representatives standing committees on  
11 appropriations subcommittees on general government, and the senate  
12 and house fiscal agencies with an annual report on estimated state  
13 restricted fund balances, state restricted fund projected revenues,  
14 and state restricted fund expenditures for the fiscal years ending  
15 September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016.

16 Sec. 228. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
17 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
18 the total GF/GP appropriation lapses at the close of the prior  
19 fiscal year. This report shall summarize the projected year-end  
20 GF/GP appropriation lapses by major departmental program or program  
21 areas. The report shall be transmitted to the chairpersons of the  
22 senate and house of representatives standing committees on  
23 appropriations and the senate and house fiscal agencies.

24 Sec. 229. If the office of the auditor general has identified  
25 an initiative or made a recommendation that is related to savings  
26 and efficiencies in an audit report for an executive branch  
27 department or agency, the department or agency shall report within



House Bill No. 4102 as amended April 28, 2015

1 6 months of the release of the audit on their efforts and progress  
2 made toward achieving the savings and efficiencies identified in  
3 the audit report. The report shall be submitted to the chairs of  
4 the senate and house of representatives standing committees on  
5 appropriations, the chairs of the senate and house of  
6 representatives standing committees with jurisdiction over matters  
7 relating to the department that is audited, and the senate and  
8 house fiscal agencies.

9       Sec. 233. In addition to the GF/GP appropriations for special  
10 maintenance, remodeling, and addition - state facilities in part 1,  
11 there is also appropriated related federal and state restricted  
12 funds up to the amounts that will be earned based upon the  
13 initiatives undertaken with the funds in part 1. The state budget  
14 director shall determine and authorize the appropriate manner for  
15 implementing this section.

16       Sec. 234. In addition to the GF/GP appropriations for  
17 enterprisewide information technology investments in part 1, there  
18 is also appropriated related federal and state restricted funds up  
19 to the amounts that will be earned based upon the initiatives  
20 undertaken with the funds in part 1. The state budget director  
21 shall determine and authorize the appropriate manner for  
22 implementing this section.

23       [Sec. 235. (1) Within 14 days of receiving formal notification  
24 from the federal government that a federal funding source of  
25 \$10,000,000.00 or more will be reduced by 10% or greater, the  
26 responsible department shall notify the state budget director, the house  
27 and senate appropriations committees, and the house and senate fiscal

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agencies of the notification from the federal government.

(2) No later than 30 days after a notification under subsection (1), the state budget director, in consultation with the responsible department, shall recommend a contingency plan for the federal funding reduction to the house and senate appropriations committees and the house and senate fiscal agencies.]

### **DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL**

Sec. 301. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 for federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

(2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 for state restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

(3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for local contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

(4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for private contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,

1 MCL 18.1393.

2       Sec. 302. (1) The attorney general shall perform all legal  
3 services, including representation before courts and administrative  
4 agencies rendering legal opinions and providing legal advice to a  
5 principal executive department or state agency. A principal  
6 executive department or state agency shall not employ or enter into  
7 a contract with any other person for services described in this  
8 section.

9       (2) The attorney general shall defend judges of all state  
10 courts if a claim is made or a civil action is commenced for  
11 injuries to persons or property caused by the judge through the  
12 performance of the judge's duties while acting within the scope of  
13 his or her authority as a judge.

14       (3) The attorney general shall perform the duties specified in  
15 1846 RS 12, MCL 14.28 to 14.35, and 1919 PA 232, MCL 14.101 to  
16 14.102, and as otherwise provided by law.

17       Sec. 303. The attorney general may sell copies of the biennial  
18 report in excess of the 350 copies that the attorney general may  
19 distribute on a gratis basis. Gratis copies shall not be provided  
20 to members of the legislature. Electronic copies of biennial  
21 reports shall be made available on the department of attorney  
22 general's website. The attorney general shall sell copies of the  
23 report at not less than the actual cost of the report and shall  
24 deposit the money received into the general fund.

25       Sec. 304. The department of attorney general is responsible  
26 for the legal representation for state of Michigan state employee  
27 worker's disability compensation cases. The risk management

1 revolving fund revenue appropriation in part 1 is to be satisfied  
2 by billings from the department of attorney general for the actual  
3 costs of legal representation, including salaries and support  
4 costs.

5       Sec. 305. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, not  
6 more than \$400,000.00 shall be reimbursed per fiscal year for food  
7 stamp fraud cases heard by the third circuit court of Wayne County  
8 that were initiated by the department of attorney general pursuant  
9 to the existing contract between the department of human services,  
10 the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, and the  
11 department of attorney general. The source of this funding is money  
12 earned by the department of attorney general under the agreement  
13 after the allowance for reimbursement to the department of attorney  
14 general for costs associated with the prosecution of food stamp  
15 fraud cases. It is recognized that the federal funds are earned by  
16 the department of attorney general for its documented progress on  
17 the prosecution of food stamp fraud cases according to the United  
18 States department of agriculture regulations and that, once earned  
19 by this state, the funds become state funds.

20       Sec. 306. Any proceeds from a lawsuit initiated by or  
21 settlement agreement entered into on behalf of this state against a  
22 manufacturer of tobacco products by the attorney general are state  
23 funds and are subject to appropriation as provided by law.

24       Sec. 307. (1) In addition to the antitrust revenues in part 1,  
25 antitrust, securities fraud, consumer protection or class action  
26 enforcement revenues, or attorney fees recovered by the department,  
27 not to exceed \$250,000.00, are appropriated to the department for

1 antitrust, securities fraud, and consumer protection or class  
2 action enforcement cases.

3 (2) Any unexpended funds from antitrust, securities fraud, or  
4 consumer protection or class action enforcement revenues at the end  
5 of the fiscal year, including antitrust funds in part 1, may be  
6 carried forward for expenditure in the following fiscal year up to  
7 the maximum authorization of \$250,000.00.

8 Sec. 308. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
9 there is appropriated up to \$500,000.00 from litigation expense  
10 reimbursements awarded to the state.

11 (2) The funds may be expended for the payment of court  
12 judgments, settlements, arbitration awards or other administrative  
13 and litigation decisions, attorney fees, and litigation costs,  
14 assessed against the office of the governor, the department of the  
15 attorney general, the governor, or the attorney general when acting  
16 in an official capacity as the named party in litigation against  
17 the state. The funds may also be expended for the payment of state  
18 costs incurred under section 16 of chapter X of the code of  
19 criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 770.16.

20 (3) Unexpended funds at the end of the fiscal year may be  
21 carried forward for expenditure in the following year, up to a  
22 maximum authorization of \$500,000.00.

23 Sec. 309. From the prisoner reimbursement funds appropriated  
24 in part 1, the department may spend up to \$611,900.00 on activities  
25 related to the state correctional facility reimbursement act, 1935  
26 PA 253, MCL 800.401 to 800.406. In addition to the funds  
27 appropriated in part 1, if the department collects in excess of

1 \$1,131,000.00 in gross annual prisoner reimbursement receipts  
2 provided to the general fund, the excess, up to a maximum of  
3 \$1,000,000.00, is appropriated to the department of attorney  
4 general and may be spent on the representation of the department of  
5 corrections and its officers, employees, and agents, including, but  
6 not limited to, the defense of litigation against the state, its  
7 departments, officers, employees, or agents in civil actions filed  
8 by prisoners.

9       Sec. 310. (1) For the purposes of providing title IV-D child  
10 support enforcement funding, the department of human services, as  
11 the state IV-D agency, shall maintain a cooperative agreement with  
12 the attorney general for federal IV-D funding to support the child  
13 support enforcement activities within the office of the attorney  
14 general.

15       (2) The attorney general or his or her designee shall, to the  
16 extent allowable under federal law, have access to any information  
17 used by the state to locate parents who fail to pay court-ordered  
18 child support.

19       Sec. 312. The department of attorney general shall not receive  
20 and expend funds in addition to those authorized in part 1 for  
21 legal services provided specifically to other state departments or  
22 agencies except for costs for expert witnesses, court costs, or  
23 other nonsalary litigation expenses associated with a pending legal  
24 action.

25       Sec. 315. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
26 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
27 30, 2016 are \$17,778,100.00. From this amount, total agency

1 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
2 \$10,007,000.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care  
3 legacy costs are estimated at \$7,771,100.00.

4       Sec. 316. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for sexual  
5 assault law enforcement efforts, the department shall use the funds  
6 for testing of backlogged sexual assault kits across the state. The  
7 purpose of this initiative is to eliminate all county sexual  
8 assault kit backlogs by the end of the fiscal year, assist local  
9 prosecutors with investigations and prosecutions of viable cases,  
10 and provide victim services. The department of attorney general  
11 shall provide a detailed work and spending plan outlining  
12 anticipated litigation action and expenditures resulting from  
13 findings of the sexual assault kit testing. The spending plan shall  
14 be transmitted to the state budget office, the senate and house  
15 fiscal agencies, and the senate and house of representatives  
16 standing committees on appropriations subcommittees on general  
17 government. The appropriation shall not be available for  
18 expenditure until the work plan is approved by the state budget  
19 director. The state budget office shall notify the senate and house  
20 of representatives standing committees on appropriations  
21 subcommittees on general government at least 15 days prior to  
22 release of the funds.

23       Sec. 320. The department of attorney general shall provide a  
24 detailed work and spending plan for the appropriation in part 1 for  
25 sexual assault prosecutions outlining the anticipated litigation  
26 action and expenditures resulting from findings of the rape kit  
27 testing results discovered by Michigan state police upon the

1 closure of the Detroit crime lab. The spending plan shall be  
2 transmitted to the state budget office, the senate and house fiscal  
3 agencies, and the senate and house of representatives standing  
4 committees on appropriations subcommittees on general government.  
5 The appropriation shall not be available for expenditure until the  
6 work plan is approved by the state budget director. The state  
7 budget office shall notify the senate and house of representatives  
8 standing committees on appropriations subcommittees on general  
9 government at least 15 days prior to release of the funds.

#### 10 DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS

11       Sec. 401. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
12 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 for  
13 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
14 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
15 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
16 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

17       (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
18 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$750,000.00 for private  
19 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
20 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
21 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
22 MCL 18.1393.

23       Sec. 402. (1) In addition to the appropriations contained in  
24 part 1, the department of civil rights may receive and expend funds  
25 from local or private sources for all of the following purposes:

26       (a) Developing and presenting training for employers on equal



1 employment opportunity law and procedures.

2 (b) The publication and sale of civil rights related  
3 informational material.

4 (c) The provision of copy material made available under  
5 freedom of information requests.

6 (d) Other copy fees, subpoena fees, and witness fees.

7 (e) Developing, presenting, and participating in mediation  
8 processes for certain civil rights cases.

9 (f) Workshops, seminars, and recognition or award programs  
10 consistent with the programmatic mission of the individual unit  
11 sponsoring or coordinating the programs.

12 (g) Staffing costs for all activities included in this  
13 subsection.

14 (2) The department of civil rights shall annually report to  
15 the state budget director, the senate and house of representatives  
16 standing committees on appropriations, and the senate and house  
17 fiscal agencies the amount of funds received and expended for  
18 purposes authorized under this section.

19 Sec. 403. The department of civil rights may contract with  
20 local units of government to review equal employment opportunity  
21 compliance of potential contractors and may charge for and expend  
22 amounts received from local units of government for the purpose of  
23 developing and providing these contractual services.

24 Sec. 404. (1) The department of civil rights shall prepare and  
25 transmit a detailed report that includes, but is not limited to,  
26 the following information for the most recent fiscal year:

27 (a) A detailed description of the department operations.

1 (b) A detailed description of all subunits within the  
2 department, including FTE positions associated with each subunit,  
3 responsibilities of each subunit, and all revenues and expenditures  
4 for each subunit.

5 (c) The number of complaints by type of complaint.

6 (d) The average cost of, and time expended, investigating  
7 complaints.

8 (e) The percentage of complaints that are meritorious and  
9 worthy of investigation or settlement and the percentage of  
10 complaints that have no merit.

11 (f) A listing of amounts awarded to claimants.

12 (g) Expenditures associated with complaint investigation and  
13 enforcement.

14 (h) A listing of complaint investigations closed per FTE  
15 position for each of the past 5 years.

16 (i) A listing of complaint evaluations completed per FTE  
17 position for each of the past 5 years.

18 (j) Productivity projections for the current fiscal year,  
19 including investigations closed per FTE, complaint evaluations  
20 completed per FTE, and average time expended investigating  
21 complaints.

22 (2) The report required under subsection (1) shall be posted  
23 online and transmitted electronically not later than November 30 to  
24 the state budget director, the chairpersons of the senate and house  
25 of representatives standing committees on appropriations, the  
26 senate and house appropriations subcommittees on general  
27 government, and the senate and house fiscal agencies.

1       Sec. 405. The department of civil rights shall notify the  
2 office of the state budget, senate and house of representatives  
3 standing committees on appropriations, and senate and house fiscal  
4 agencies prior to submitting a report or complaint to the United  
5 States commission on civil rights or other federal departments.

6       Sec. 410. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
7 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
8 30, 2016 are \$2,997,500.00. From this amount, total agency  
9 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
10 \$1,701,400.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care  
11 legacy costs are estimated at \$1,296,100.00.

## 12   LEGISLATURE

13       Sec. 600. The senate, the house of representatives, or an  
14 agency within the legislative branch may receive, expend, and  
15 transfer funds in addition to those authorized in part 1.

16       Sec. 601. (1) Funds appropriated in part 1 to an entity within  
17 the legislative branch shall not be expended or transferred to  
18 another account without written approval of the authorized agent of  
19 the legislative entity. If the authorized agent of the legislative  
20 entity notifies the state budget director of its approval of an  
21 expenditure or transfer before the year-end book-closing date for  
22 that legislative entity, the state budget director shall  
23 immediately make the expenditure or transfer. The authorized  
24 legislative entity agency shall be designated by the speaker of the  
25 house of representatives for house entities, the senate majority  
26 leader for senate entities, and the legislative council for

1 legislative council entities.

2 (2) Funds appropriated within the legislative branch, to a  
3 legislative council component, shall not be expended by any agency  
4 or other subgroup included in that component without the approval  
5 of the legislative council.

6 Sec. 602. The senate may charge rent and assess charges for  
7 utility costs. The amounts received for rent charges and utility  
8 assessments are appropriated to the senate for the renovation,  
9 operation, and maintenance of the Farnum Building and other  
10 properties.

11 Sec. 603. The appropriation contained in part 1 for national  
12 association dues is to be distributed by the legislative council.

13 Sec. 604. (1) The appropriation in part 1 to the Michigan  
14 state capitol historic site includes funds to operate the  
15 legislative parking facilities in the capitol area. The Michigan  
16 state capitol commission shall establish rules regarding the  
17 operation of the legislative parking facilities.

18 (2) The Michigan state capitol commission shall collect a fee  
19 from state employees and the general public using certain  
20 legislative parking facilities. The revenues received from the  
21 parking fees shall be allocated by the Michigan state capitol  
22 commission.

23 Sec. 605. The appropriation in part 1 to the legislative  
24 council for publication of the Michigan manual is a work project  
25 account. The unexpended portion remaining on September 30 shall not  
26 lapse and shall be carried forward into the subsequent fiscal year  
27 for use in paying the associated biennial costs of publication of

1 the Michigan manual.

2       Sec. 606. The appropriations in part 1 to the legislative  
3 branch, for property management, shall be used to purchase  
4 equipment and services for building maintenance in order to ensure  
5 a safe and productive work environment. These funds are designated  
6 as work project appropriations and shall not lapse at the end of  
7 the fiscal year, and shall continue to be available for expenditure  
8 until the project has been completed. The total cost is estimated  
9 at \$500,000.00, and the tentative completion date is September 30,  
10 2020.

11       Sec. 607. The appropriations in part 1 to the legislative  
12 branch, for automated data processing, shall be used to purchase  
13 equipment, software, and services in order to support and implement  
14 data processing requirements and technology improvements. These  
15 funds are designated as work project appropriations and shall not  
16 lapse at the end of the fiscal year, and shall continue to be  
17 available for expenditure until the project has been completed. The  
18 total cost is estimated at \$500,000.00, and the tentative  
19 completion date is September 30, 2020.

20       Sec. 608. In addition to funds appropriated in part 1, the  
21 Michigan capitol committee publications save the flags fund account  
22 may accept contributions, gifts, bequests, devises, grants, and  
23 donations. Those funds that are not expended in the fiscal year  
24 ending September 30 shall not lapse at the close of the fiscal  
25 year, and shall be carried forward for expenditure in the following  
26 fiscal years.

27       Sec. 615. Total authorized appropriations from all sources

1 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
2 30, 2016 are \$28,034,000.00. From this amount, total agency  
3 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
4 \$15,465,300.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care  
5 legacy costs are estimated at \$12,568,700.00.

#### 6 LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR GENERAL

7 Sec. 620. Pursuant to section 53 of article IV of the state  
8 constitution of 1963, the auditor general shall conduct audits of  
9 the judicial branch. The audits may include the supreme court and  
10 its administrative units, the court of appeals, and trial courts.

11 Sec. 621. (1) The auditor general shall take all reasonable  
12 steps to ensure that certified minority- and women-owned and  
13 operated accounting firms, and accounting firms owned and operated  
14 by persons with disabilities participate in the audits of the  
15 books, accounts, and financial affairs of each principal executive  
16 department, branch, institution, agency, and office of this state.

17 (2) The auditor general shall strongly encourage firms with  
18 which the auditor general contracts to perform audits of the  
19 principal executive departments and state agencies to subcontract  
20 with certified minority- and women-owned and operated accounting  
21 firms, and accounting firms owned and operated by persons with  
22 disabilities.

23 (3) The auditor general shall compile an annual report  
24 regarding the number of contracts entered into with certified  
25 minority- and women-owned and operated accounting firms, and  
26 accounting firms owned and operated by persons with disabilities.

1 The auditor general shall deliver the report to the state budget  
2 director and the senate and house of representatives standing  
3 committees on appropriations subcommittees on general government by  
4 November 1 of each year.

5 Sec. 622. From the funds appropriated in part 1 to the  
6 legislative auditor general, the auditor general's salary and the  
7 salaries of the remaining 2.0 FTE unclassified positions shall be  
8 set by the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate  
9 majority leader, the house of representatives minority leader, and  
10 the senate minority leader.

11 Sec. 623. Any audits, reviews, or investigations requested of  
12 the auditor general by the legislature or by legislative  
13 leadership, legislative committees, or individual legislators shall  
14 include an estimate of the additional costs involved and, when  
15 those costs exceed \$50,000.00, should provide supplemental funding.  
16 The auditor general shall determine whether to perform those  
17 activities in keeping with Audit Directive No. 29, which describes  
18 the office of the auditor general's policy on responding to  
19 legislative requests.

20 **DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

21 Sec. 701. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
22 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 for  
23 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
24 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
25 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
26 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

1       (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
2 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$7,500,000.00 for state  
3 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
4 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
5 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
6 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

7       (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
8 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 for local  
9 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
10 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
11 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
12 MCL 18.1393.

13       (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
14 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for private  
15 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
16 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
17 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
18 MCL 18.1393.

19       Sec. 703. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
20 department of state shall sell copies of records including, but not  
21 limited to, records of motor vehicles, off-road vehicles,  
22 snowmobiles, watercraft, mobile homes, personal identification  
23 cardholders, drivers, and boat operators and shall charge \$8.00 per  
24 record sold only as authorized in section 208b of the Michigan  
25 vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.208b, section 7 of 1972 PA 222,  
26 MCL 28.297, and sections 80130, 80315, 81114, and 82156 of the  
27 natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451,



1 MCL 324.80130, 324.80315, 324.81114, and 324.82156. The revenue  
2 received from the sale of records shall be credited to the  
3 transportation administration collection fund created under section  
4 810b of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.810b.

5 Sec. 704. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the secretary  
6 of state may enter into agreements with the department of  
7 corrections for the manufacture of vehicle registration plates 15  
8 months before the registration year in which the registration  
9 plates will be used.

10 Sec. 705. (1) The department of state may accept gifts,  
11 donations, contributions, and grants of money and other property  
12 from any private or public source to underwrite, in whole or in  
13 part, the cost of a departmental publication that is prepared and  
14 disseminated under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL  
15 257.1 to 257.923. A private or public funding source may receive  
16 written recognition in the publication and may furnish a traffic  
17 safety message, subject to departmental approval, for inclusion in  
18 the publication. The department may reject a gift, donation,  
19 contribution, or grant. The department may furnish copies of a  
20 publication underwritten, in whole or in part, by a private source  
21 to the underwriter at no charge.

22 (2) The department of state may sell and accept paid  
23 advertising for placement in a departmental publication that is  
24 prepared and disseminated under the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA  
25 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923. The department may charge and receive a  
26 fee for any advertisement appearing in a departmental publication  
27 and shall review and approve the content of each advertisement. The

1 department may refuse to accept advertising from any person or  
2 organization. The department may furnish a reasonable number of  
3 copies of a publication to an advertiser at no charge.

4 (3) Pending expenditure, the funds received under this section  
5 shall be deposited in the Michigan department of state publications  
6 fund created by section 211 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA  
7 300, MCL 257.211. Funds given, donated, or contributed to the  
8 department from a private source are appropriated and allocated for  
9 the purpose for which the revenue is furnished. Funds granted to  
10 the department from a public source are allocated and may be  
11 expended upon receipt. The department shall not accept a gift,  
12 donation, contribution, or grant if receipt is conditioned upon a  
13 commitment of state funding at a future date. Revenue received from  
14 the sale of advertising is appropriated and may be expended upon  
15 receipt.

16 (4) Any unexpended revenues received under this section shall  
17 be carried over into subsequent fiscal years and shall be available  
18 for appropriation for the purposes described in this section.

19 (5) On March 1 of each year, the department of state shall  
20 file a report with the senate and house of representatives standing  
21 committees on appropriations, the senate and house fiscal agencies,  
22 and the state budget director. The report shall include all of the  
23 following information:

24 (a) The amount of gifts, contributions, donations, and grants  
25 of money received by the department under this section for the  
26 prior fiscal year.

27 (b) A listing of the expenditures made from the amounts

1 received by the department as reported in subdivision (a).

2 (c) A listing of any gift, donation, contribution, or grant of  
3 property other than funding received by the department under this  
4 section for the prior year.

5 (d) The total revenue received from the sale of paid  
6 advertising accepted under this section and a statement of the  
7 total number of advertising transactions.

8 (6) In addition to copies delivered without charge as the  
9 secretary of state considers necessary, the department of state may  
10 sell copies of manuals and other publications regarding the sale,  
11 ownership, or operation or regulation of motor vehicles, with  
12 amendments, at prices to be established by the secretary of state.

13 As used in this subsection, the term "manuals and other  
14 publications" includes videos and proprietary electronic  
15 publications. All funds received from sales of these manuals and  
16 other publications shall be credited to the Michigan department of  
17 state publications fund.

18 Sec. 707. Funds collected by the department of state under  
19 section 211 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.211,  
20 are appropriated for all expenses necessary to provide for the  
21 costs of the publication. Funds are allotted for expenditure when  
22 they are received by the department of treasury and shall not lapse  
23 to the general fund at the end of the fiscal year.

24 Sec. 708. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
25 department of state shall use available balances at the end of the  
26 state fiscal year to provide payment to the department of state  
27 police in the amount of \$332,000.00 for the services provided by

1 the traffic accident records program as first appropriated in 1990  
2 PA 196 and 1990 PA 208.

3 Sec. 709. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
4 department of state may restrict funds from miscellaneous revenue  
5 to cover cash shortages created from normal branch office  
6 operations. This amount shall not exceed \$50,000.00 of the total  
7 funds available in miscellaneous revenue.

8 Sec. 710. (1) Commemorative and specialty license plate fee  
9 revenue collected by the department of state and deposited into the  
10 transportation administration collection fund created in section  
11 810b of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.810b, is  
12 authorized for expenditure up to the amount of revenue collected  
13 but not to exceed the amount appropriated to the department of  
14 state in part 1 to administer commemorative and specialty license  
15 plate programs.

16 (2) Commemorative and specialty license plate fee revenue  
17 collected by the department of state and deposited in the  
18 transportation administration collection fund created in section  
19 810b of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.810b, in  
20 addition to the amount appropriated in part 1 to the department of  
21 state, shall remain in the transportation administration collection  
22 fund created in section 810b of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA  
23 300, MCL 257.810b, and be available for future appropriation.

24 Sec. 711. Collector plate and fund-raising registration plate  
25 revenues collected by the department of state are appropriated and  
26 allotted for distribution to the recipient university or public or  
27 private agency overseeing a state-sponsored goal when received.

1 Distributions shall occur on a quarterly basis or as otherwise  
2 authorized by law. Any revenues remaining at the end of the fiscal  
3 year shall not lapse to the general fund but shall remain available  
4 for distribution to the university or agency in the next fiscal  
5 year.

6       Sec. 712. The department of state may produce and sell copies  
7 of a training video designed to inform registered automotive repair  
8 facilities of their obligations under Michigan law. The price shall  
9 not exceed the cost of production and distribution. The money  
10 received from the sale of training videos shall revert to the  
11 department of state and be placed in the auto repair facility  
12 account.

13       Sec. 713. (1) The department of state, in collaboration with  
14 the gift of life transplantation society or its successor federally  
15 designated organ procurement organization, may develop and  
16 administer a public information campaign concerning the Michigan  
17 organ donor program.

18       (2) The department may solicit funds from any private or  
19 public source to underwrite, in whole or in part, the public  
20 information campaign authorized by this section. The department may  
21 accept gifts, donations, contributions, and grants of money and  
22 other property from private and public sources for this purpose. A  
23 private or public funding source underwriting the public  
24 information campaign, in whole or in substantial part, shall  
25 receive sponsorship credit for its financial backing.

26       (3) Funds received under this section, including grants from  
27 state and federal agencies, shall not lapse to the general fund at

1 the end of the fiscal year but shall remain available for  
2 expenditure for the purposes described in this section.

3 (4) Funding appropriated in part 1 for the organ donor program  
4 shall be used for producing a pamphlet to be distributed with  
5 driver licenses and personal identification cards regarding organ  
6 donations. The funds shall be used to update and print a pamphlet  
7 that will explain the organ donor program and encourage people to  
8 become donors by marking a checkoff on driver license and personal  
9 identification card applications.

10 (5) The pamphlet shall include a return reply form addressed  
11 to the gift of life organization. Funding appropriated in part 1  
12 for the organ donor program shall be used to pay for return postage  
13 costs.

14 (6) In addition to the appropriations in part 1, the  
15 department of state may receive and expend funds from the organ and  
16 tissue donation education fund for administrative expenses.

17 Sec. 714. (1) Except as otherwise provided under subsection  
18 (2), at least 180 days before closing a branch office or  
19 consolidating a branch office and at least 60 days before  
20 relocating a branch office, the department of state shall inform  
21 members of the senate and house of representatives standing  
22 committees on appropriations and legislators who represent affected  
23 areas regarding the details of the proposal. The information  
24 provided shall be in written form and include all analyses done  
25 regarding criteria for changes in the location of branch offices,  
26 including, but not limited to, branch transactions, revenue, and  
27 the impact on citizens of the affected area. The impact on citizens

1 shall include information regarding additional distance to branch  
2 office locations resulting from the plan. The written notice  
3 provided by the department of state shall also include detailed  
4 estimates of costs and savings that will result from the overall  
5 changes made to the branch office structure and the same level of  
6 detail regarding costs for new leased facilities and expansions of  
7 current leased space.

8 (2) If the consolidation of a branch office is with another  
9 branch office that is located within the same local unit of  
10 government or the relocation of a branch office is to another  
11 location that is located within the same local unit of government,  
12 the department of state is not required to provide the notification  
13 or written information described in subsection (1).

14 (3) As used in this section, "local unit of government" means  
15 a city, village, township, or county.

16 Sec. 715. (1) Any service assessment collected by the  
17 department of state from the user of a credit or debit card under  
18 section 3 of 1995 PA 144, MCL 11.23, may be used by the department  
19 for necessary expenses related to that service and may be remitted  
20 to a credit or debit card company, bank, or other financial  
21 institution.

22 (2) The service assessment imposed by the department of state  
23 for credit and debit card services may be based either on a  
24 percentage of each individual credit or debit card transaction, or  
25 on a flat rate per transaction, or both, scaled to the amount of  
26 the transaction. However, the department shall not charge any  
27 amount for a service assessment which exceeds the costs billable to

1 the department for service assessments.

2 (3) If there is a balance of service assessments received from  
3 credit and debit card services remaining on September 30, the  
4 balance may be carried forward to the following fiscal year and  
5 appropriated for the same purpose.

6 (4) As used in this section, "service assessment" means and  
7 includes costs associated with service fees imposed by credit and  
8 debit card companies and processing fees imposed by banks and other  
9 financial institutions.

10 Sec. 716b. The department of state shall provide a report that  
11 calculates the total amount of funds expended for the business  
12 application modernization project to date from the inception of the  
13 program. The report shall contain information on the original start  
14 and completion dates for the project, the original cost to complete  
15 the project, and a listing of all revisions to project completion  
16 dates and costs. The report shall include the total amount of funds  
17 paid to the state by the contract provider for penalties. The  
18 report shall be submitted to the senate and house of  
19 representatives standing committees on appropriations, the senate  
20 and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director by January  
21 1.

22 Sec. 717. (1) The department of state may accept nonmonetary  
23 gifts, donations, or contributions of property from any private or  
24 public source to support, in whole or in part, the operation of a  
25 departmental function relating to licensing, regulation, or safety.  
26 The department may recognize a private or public contributor for  
27 making the contribution. The department may reject a gift,



1 donation, or contribution.

2 (2) The department of state shall not accept a gift, donation,  
3 or contribution under subsection (1) if receipt of the gift,  
4 donation, or contribution is conditioned upon a commitment of  
5 future state funding.

6 (3) On March 1 of each year, the department of state shall  
7 file a report with the senate and house of representatives standing  
8 committees on appropriations, the senate and house fiscal agencies,  
9 and the state budget director. The report shall list any gift,  
10 donation, or contribution received by the department under  
11 subsection (1) for the prior calendar year.

12 Sec. 718. From the funds appropriated in part 1 to the  
13 department of state, branch operations, the department shall  
14 maintain a full service secretary of state branch office in Buena  
15 Vista Township.

16 Sec. 721. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
17 department of state may collect ATM commission fees from companies  
18 that have ATMs located in secretary of state branch offices. The  
19 commission received from the use of these ATMs shall be credited to  
20 the transportation administration collection fund created under  
21 section 810b of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL  
22 257.810b.

23 Sec. 722. The department shall participate in a workgroup to  
24 investigate means of minimizing fraud in the MIBridges benefits  
25 programs. The members of the workgroup shall include, but are not  
26 limited to, the department and the departments of community health,  
27 human services, and state police and members of the house of

1 representatives and the senate. The workgroup shall, at a minimum,  
2 address the following possibilities and make recommendations on the  
3 implementation of any of the following items considered feasible:

4 (a) Whether the department of human services' policies  
5 concerning the replacement of lost bridge cards sufficiently deter  
6 improper use of those cards.

7 (b) What technologies may exist to deter the sale or other  
8 improper use of bridge cards.

9 (c) Whether a state driver license or state identification  
10 card might be used to replace the existing bridge cards.

11 (d) What federal policies exist that may inhibit or enhance  
12 adoption of fraud minimization actions.

13 Sec. 725. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
14 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
15 30, 2016 are \$31,253,000.00. From this amount, total agency  
16 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
17 \$17,739,100.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care  
18 legacy costs are estimated at \$13,513,900.00.

19 **DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT, AND BUDGET**

20 Sec. 801. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
21 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000.00 for  
22 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
23 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
24 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
25 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

26 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is

1 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$8,000,000.00 for state  
2 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
3 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
4 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
5 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

6 (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
7 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 for local  
8 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
9 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
10 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
11 MCL 18.1393.

12 (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
13 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for private  
14 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
15 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
16 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
17 MCL 18.1393.

18 Sec. 802. Proceeds in excess of necessary costs incurred in  
19 the conduct of transfers or auctions of state surplus, salvage, or  
20 scrap property made pursuant to section 267 of the management and  
21 budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1267, are appropriated to the  
22 department of technology, management, and budget to offset costs  
23 incurred in the acquisition and distribution of federal surplus  
24 property. The department of technology, management, and budget  
25 shall provide consolidated Internet auction services through the  
26 state's contractors for all local units of government.

27 Sec. 803. (1) The department of technology, management, and

1 budget may receive and expend funds in addition to those authorized  
2 by part 1 for maintenance and operation services provided  
3 specifically to other principal executive departments or state  
4 agencies, the legislative branch, the judicial branch, or private  
5 tenants, or provided in connection with facilities transferred to  
6 the operational jurisdiction of the department of technology,  
7 management, and budget.

8 (2) The department of technology, management, and budget may  
9 receive and expend funds in addition to those authorized by part 1  
10 for real estate, architectural, design, and engineering services  
11 provided specifically to other principal executive departments or  
12 state agencies, the legislative branch, or the judicial branch.

13 (3) The department of technology, management, and budget may  
14 receive and expend funds in addition to those authorized in part 1  
15 for mail pickup and delivery services provided specifically to  
16 other principal executive departments and state agencies, the  
17 legislative branch, or the judicial branch.

18 (4) The department of technology, management, and budget may  
19 receive and expend funds in addition to those authorized in part 1  
20 for purchasing services provided specifically to other principal  
21 executive departments and state agencies, the legislative branch,  
22 or the judicial branch.

23 Sec. 804. (1) The source of financing in part 1 for statewide  
24 appropriations shall be funded by assessments against longevity and  
25 insurance appropriations throughout state government in a manner  
26 prescribed by the department of technology, management, and budget.  
27 Funds shall be used as specified in joint labor/management

1 agreements or through the coordinated compensation hearings  
2 process. Any deposits made under this subsection and any  
3 unencumbered funds are restricted revenues, may be carried over  
4 into the succeeding fiscal years, and are appropriated.

5 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
6 statewide appropriations, the department of technology, management,  
7 and budget may receive and expend funds in such additional amounts  
8 as may be specified in joint labor/management agreements or through  
9 the coordinated compensation hearings process in the same manner  
10 and subject to the same conditions as prescribed in subsection (1).

11 Sec. 805. To the extent a specific appropriation is required  
12 for a detailed source of financing included in part 1 for the  
13 department of technology, management, and budget appropriations  
14 financed from special revenue and internal service and pension  
15 trust funds, or MAIN user charges, the specific amounts are  
16 appropriated within the special revenue internal service and  
17 pension trust funds in portions not to exceed the aggregate amount  
18 appropriated in part 1.

19 Sec. 806. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1 to  
20 the department of technology, management, and budget, the  
21 department may receive and expend funds from other principal  
22 executive departments and state agencies to implement  
23 administrative leave bank transfer provisions as may be specified  
24 in joint labor/management agreements. The amounts may also be  
25 transferred to other principal executive departments and state  
26 agencies under the joint agreement and any amounts transferred  
27 under the joint agreement are authorized for receipt and

1 expenditure by the receiving principal executive department or  
2 state agency. Any amounts received by the department of technology,  
3 management, and budget under this section and intended, under the  
4 joint labor/management agreements, to be available for use beyond  
5 the close of the fiscal year and any unencumbered funds may be  
6 carried over into the succeeding fiscal year.

7       Sec. 807. The source of financing in part 1 for the Michigan  
8 administrative information network shall be funded by proportionate  
9 charges assessed against the respective state funds benefiting from  
10 this project in the amounts determined by the department.

11       Sec. 808. (1) Deposits against the interdepartmental grant  
12 from building occupancy and parking charges appropriated in part 1  
13 shall be collected, in part, from state agencies, the legislative  
14 branch, and the judicial branch based on estimated costs associated  
15 with maintenance and operation of buildings managed by the  
16 department of technology, management, and budget. To the extent  
17 excess revenues are collected due to estimates of building  
18 occupancy charges exceeding actual costs, the excess revenues may  
19 be carried forward into succeeding fiscal years for the purpose of  
20 returning funds to state agencies.

21       (2) Appropriations in part 1 to the department of technology,  
22 management, and budget, for management and budget services from  
23 building occupancy charges and parking charges, may be increased to  
24 return excess revenue collected to state agencies.

25       Sec. 808a. (1) The department of technology, management, and  
26 budget in conjunction with the state budget office shall not charge  
27 building occupancy rates to a state department or agency for

1 unoccupied space if the department or agency has submitted a notice  
2 to the department of technology, management, and budget and the  
3 state budget office to vacate the property at least 12 months prior  
4 to the date to vacate. If the state department or agency does not  
5 vacate the property by the end of the notification date, the state  
6 department or agency shall be charged building occupancy rates for  
7 that space for time the space is occupied beyond the 12-month  
8 notice date to vacate.

9 (2) The department of technology, management, and budget in  
10 conjunction with the state budget office shall require state  
11 departments or agencies to pay building occupancy rates when moving  
12 into a building managed by the department of technology,  
13 management, and budget at the beginning of the start of the fiscal  
14 year immediately following building occupancy.

15 Sec. 809. On a quarterly basis, the department of technology,  
16 management, and budget shall notify the chairpersons of the senate  
17 and house of representatives standing committees on appropriations  
18 and the chairpersons of the senate and house of representatives  
19 standing committees on appropriations subcommittees on general  
20 government on any revisions that increase or decrease current  
21 contracts by more than \$500,000.00 for computer software  
22 development, hardware acquisition, or quality assurance.

23 Sec. 810. The department of technology, management, and budget  
24 shall maintain an Internet website that contains notice of all  
25 invitations for bids and requests for proposals over \$50,000.00  
26 issued by the department or by any state agency operating under  
27 delegated authority. The department shall not accept an invitation

1 for bid or request for proposal in less than 14 days after the  
2 notice is made available on the Internet website, except in  
3 situations where it would be in the best interest of the state and  
4 documented by the department. In addition to the requirements of  
5 this section, the department may advertise the invitations for bids  
6 and requests for proposals in any manner the department determines  
7 appropriate, in order to give the greatest number of individuals  
8 and businesses the opportunity to make bids or requests for  
9 proposals.

10 Sec. 811. The department of technology, management, and budget  
11 may receive and expend funds from the Vietnam veterans memorial  
12 monument fund as provided in the Michigan Vietnam veterans memorial  
13 act, 1988 PA 234, MCL 35.1051 to 35.1057. Funds are appropriated  
14 and allocated when received and may be expended upon receipt.

15 Sec. 812. The Michigan veterans' memorial park commission may  
16 receive and expend money from any source, public or private,  
17 including, but not limited to, gifts, grants, donations of money,  
18 and government appropriations, for the purposes described in  
19 Executive Order No. 2001-10. Funds are appropriated and allocated  
20 when received and may be expended upon receipt. Any deposits made  
21 under this section and unencumbered funds are restricted revenues  
22 and may be carried over into succeeding fiscal years.

23 Sec. 813. (1) Funds in part 1 for motor vehicle fleet are  
24 appropriated to the department of technology, management, and  
25 budget for administration and for the acquisition, lease,  
26 operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and disposal of state  
27 motor vehicles.



1           (2) The appropriation in part 1 for motor vehicle fleet shall  
2 be funded by revenue from rates charged to principal executive  
3 departments and agencies for utilizing vehicle travel services  
4 provided by the department. Revenue in excess of the amount  
5 appropriated in part 1 from the motor transport fund and any  
6 unencumbered funds are restricted revenues and may be carried over  
7 into the succeeding fiscal year.

8           (3) Pursuant to the department of technology, management, and  
9 budget's authority under sections 213 and 215 of the management and  
10 budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1213 and 18.1215, the department  
11 shall maintain a plan regarding the operation of the motor vehicle  
12 fleet. The plan shall include the number of vehicles assigned to,  
13 or authorized for use by, state departments and agencies, efforts  
14 to reduce travel expenditures, the number of cars in the motor  
15 vehicle fleet, the number of miles driven by fleet vehicles, and  
16 the number of gallons of fuel consumed by fleet vehicles. The plan  
17 shall include a calculation of the amount of state motor vehicle  
18 fuel taxes that would have been incurred by fleet vehicles if fleet  
19 vehicles were required by law to pay motor fuel taxes. The plan  
20 shall include a description of fleet garage operations, the goods  
21 sold and services provided by the fleet garage, the cost to operate  
22 the fleet garage, the number of fleet garage locations, and the  
23 number of employees assigned to each fleet garage. The plan may be  
24 adjusted during the fiscal year based on needs and cost savings to  
25 achieve the maximum value and efficiency from the state motor  
26 fleet. Within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year, the  
27 department shall provide a report to the senate and house of

1 representatives standing committees on appropriations and the  
2 senate and house fiscal agencies detailing the current plan and  
3 changes made to the plan during the fiscal year.

4 (4) The department of technology, management, and budget may  
5 charge state agencies for fuel cost increases that exceed \$3.04 per  
6 gallon of unleaded gasoline. The department shall notify state  
7 agencies, in writing or by electronic mail, at least 30 days before  
8 implementing additional charges for fuel cost increases. Revenues  
9 received from these charges are appropriated upon receipt.

10 (5) In order to reduce costs and maintain quality, it is the  
11 intent of the legislature that, excluding the fleet of motor  
12 vehicles for the department of state police, when economically  
13 feasible, the department of technology, management, and budget will  
14 prioritize the utilization of remanufactured parts as the primary  
15 means of maintenance and repair for the state of Michigan's fleet  
16 of motor vehicles.

17 (6) The state budget director, upon notification to the senate  
18 and house of representatives standing committees on appropriations,  
19 may adjust spending authorization and the IDG from motor transport  
20 fund in the department of technology, management, and budget in  
21 order to ensure that the appropriations for motor vehicle fleet in  
22 the department budget equal the expenditures for motor vehicle  
23 fleet in the budgets for all executive branch agencies.

24 Sec. 814. The department of technology, management, and budget  
25 shall develop a plan regarding the use of the funds appropriated in  
26 part 1 for the enterprisewide information technology investment  
27 projects. The plan shall include, but not be limited to, a

1 description of proposed information technology investment projects,  
2 the time frame for completion of the information technology  
3 investment projects, the proposed cost of the information  
4 technology investment projects, the number of employees assigned to  
5 implement each information technology investment project, the  
6 contracts entered into for each information technology investment  
7 project, and any other information the department deems necessary.  
8 The plan shall be distributed to the senate and house of  
9 representatives standing committees on appropriations subcommittees  
10 on general government, as well as the senate and house fiscal  
11 agencies on a quarterly basis. The submitted plan shall also  
12 include anticipated spending reductions or overages for each of the  
13 proposed information technology investment projects. The department  
14 of technology, management, and budget shall notify the senate and  
15 house of representatives standing committees on appropriations  
16 subcommittees on general government and the senate and house fiscal  
17 agencies when a project funded under an information technology  
18 investment project line item in part 1 is expected to require a  
19 transfer of dollars from another project in excess of \$500,000.00.

20       Sec. 816. An RFP issued for the purpose of privatization shall  
21 include all factors used in evaluating and determining price.

22       Sec. 817. The department of technology, management, and budget  
23 may require that any vendor or subcontractor providing call or  
24 contact center services to the state of Michigan disclose to  
25 inbound callers the location from which the call or contact center  
26 services are being provided.

27       Sec. 818. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, the

1 department of technology, management, and budget may receive and  
2 expend money from the Michigan law enforcement officers memorial  
3 monument fund as provided in the Michigan law enforcement officers  
4 memorial act, 2004 PA 177, MCL 28.781 to 28.787.

5 Sec. 819. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
6 department of technology, management, and budget may receive and  
7 expend money from the Ronald Wilson Reagan memorial monument fund  
8 as provided in the Ronald Wilson Reagan memorial monument fund  
9 commission act, 2004 PA 489, MCL 399.261 to 399.266.

10 Sec. 820. The department shall make available to the public a  
11 list of all parcels of real property owned by the state that are  
12 available for purchase. The list shall be posted on the Internet  
13 through the department's website.

14 Sec. 821. The department of technology, management, and budget  
15 shall annually update the office space consolidation project plan,  
16 including the use of the funds appropriated pursuant to  
17 2012 PA 200 for the space consolidation fund. By February 15, the  
18 department shall report to the senate and house of representatives  
19 committees on appropriations subcommittees on general government  
20 and the senate and house fiscal agencies on the revised plan and  
21 plan implementation. The report shall include, but is not limited  
22 to, the description of the proposed office space to be  
23 consolidated, the time frame for completion of the office space  
24 consolidation, the proposed itemized cost of the office space  
25 consolidation, the number of employees assigned to implement the  
26 office space consolidation, the contracts entered into for the  
27 office space consolidation, information on completed projects,

1 anticipated savings, savings achieved, and any other information  
2 the department deems necessary.

3       Sec. 822. The department of technology, management, and budget  
4 shall compile a report by January 1 pertaining to the salaries of  
5 unclassified employees, as well as gubernatorial appointees, within  
6 all state departments and agencies. The report shall enumerate each  
7 unclassified employee and gubernatorial appointee and his or her  
8 annual salary individually. The report shall be distributed to the  
9 chairs of the senate and house of representatives standing  
10 committees on appropriations subcommittees on general government,  
11 as well as the senate and house fiscal agencies and be made  
12 available electronically and posted online.

13       Sec. 822b. (1) A public-private partnership investment fund is  
14 created in MDTMB. Subject to subsections (2) and (3), public-  
15 private partnership investments shall include, but are not limited  
16 to, all of the following:

17       (a) Capital asset improvements including buildings, land, or  
18 structures.

19       (b) Energy resource exploration, extraction, generation, and  
20 sales.

21       (c) Financial and investment incentive opportunities.

22       (d) Infrastructure construction, maintenance, and operation.

23       (e) Public-private sector joint ventures that provide economic  
24 benefit to an area or to the state.

25       (2) Public-private investments shall not include projects,  
26 consultant expenses, staff effort, or any other activity related to  
27 the development, financing, construction, operation, or

1 implementation of the Detroit River International Crossing or any  
2 successor project unless the project is approved by the legislature  
3 and signed into law.

4 (3) The state budget director shall determine whether or not a  
5 specific public-private partnership investment opportunity  
6 qualifies for funding under subsection (1).

7 (4) Investment development revenue, including a portion of the  
8 proceeds from the sale of any public-private partnership investment  
9 designated in subsection (1), shall be deposited into the fund  
10 created in subsection (1) and shall be available for  
11 administration, development, financing, marketing, and operating  
12 expenditures associated with public-private partnerships, unless  
13 otherwise provided by law. Public-private partnership investments  
14 authorized in subsection (1) are authorized for public or private  
15 operation or sale consistent with state law. Expenditures from the  
16 fund are authorized for investment purposes as designated in  
17 subsection (1) to enhance the marketable value of each investment.  
18 The unencumbered balance remaining in the fund at the end of the  
19 fiscal year may be carried forward for appropriation in future  
20 years.

21 (5) An annual report shall be transmitted to the senate and  
22 house of representatives standing committees on appropriations, the  
23 senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget office not  
24 later than December 31 of each year. This report shall detail both  
25 of the following:

26 (a) The revenue and expenditure activity in the fund for the  
27 preceding fiscal year.

1 (b) Public-private partnership investments as identified under  
2 subsection (1).

3 (6) MDTMB shall monitor the revenue deposited in the public-  
4 private partnership investment fund created in subsection (1). If  
5 the revenue in the fund is insufficient to pay the amount  
6 appropriated in part 1 for public-private partnership investment,  
7 then MDTMB shall propose a legislative transfer to fund the line  
8 from the appropriations in part 1.

9 Sec. 822c. The funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used  
10 to support any staff effort, projects, consultant expenses, or any  
11 other activity related to the development, financing, construction,  
12 operation, or implementation of the Detroit River International  
13 Crossing or any successor project unless the project is approved by  
14 the legislature and signed into law.

15 Sec. 822d. By December 31, 2015, the department shall provide  
16 a report to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on  
17 general government and the senate and house fiscal agencies that  
18 identifies fee and rate schedules to be used by state departments  
19 and agencies for services, including information technology,  
20 provided by the department during fiscal year 2016-2017. The report  
21 shall also identify changes from fees and rates charged in fiscal  
22 year 2015-2016 and include an explanation of the factors that  
23 justify each fee and rate increase.

24 Sec. 822e. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
25 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
26 30, 2016 are \$76,448,100.00. From this amount, total agency  
27 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at

1 \$43,360,600.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care  
2 legacy costs are estimated at \$33,087,500.00.

3 Sec. 822f. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
4 regional prosperity initiative are to be used as competitive grants  
5 to eligible regional planning organizations qualifying for funding  
6 as a regional prosperity collaborative, a regional prosperity  
7 council, or a regional prosperity board. A regional planning  
8 organization may not qualify for funding under more than 1 category  
9 in the same state fiscal year. As used in this section:

10 (a) "Eligible regional planning organization" means any of the  
11 following:

12 (i) An existing regional planning commission created pursuant  
13 to 1945 PA 281, MCL 125.11 to 125.25.

14 (ii) An existing regional economic development commission  
15 created pursuant to 1966 PA 46, MCL 125.1231 to 125.1237.

16 (iii) An existing metropolitan area council formed pursuant to  
17 the metropolitan councils act, 1989 PA 292, MCL 124.651 to 124.729.

18 (iv) A Michigan metropolitan planning organization established  
19 pursuant to the moving ahead for progress in the 21st century act,  
20 Public Law 112-141.

21 (b) "Open meetings act" means the open meetings act, 1976 PA  
22 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

23 (c) "Regional prosperity board" means a regional body with  
24 representation from private, public, and nonprofit entities engaged  
25 in joint decision-making practices for the purpose of creating a  
26 phase three: regional prosperity plan.

27 (d) "Regional prosperity collaborative" means any committee



1 developed by a regional planning organization or a metropolitan  
2 planning organization that serves to bring organizational  
3 representation together from private, public, and nonprofit  
4 entities within a region for the purpose of creating a phase one:  
5 regional prosperity plan.

6 (e) "Regional prosperity council" means a regional body with  
7 representation from private, public, and nonprofit entities with  
8 shared administrative services and an executive governing entity,  
9 as demonstrated by a formal local agreement or agreements for the  
10 purpose of creating a phase two: regional prosperity plan.

11 (2) Regional planning organizations may qualify to receive not  
12 more than \$250,000.00 of incentive-based funding as a regional  
13 prosperity collaborative subject to meeting all of the following  
14 requirements:

15 (a) The regional prosperity collaborative has created a phase  
16 one: regional prosperity plan, as follows:

17 (i) The regional prosperity collaborative must include  
18 regional representatives from adult education, workforce  
19 development, community development, economic development,  
20 transportation, and higher education organizations.

21 (ii) The plan is required, at a minimum, to include a 5-year  
22 plan focused on economic growth and vitality for the region, as  
23 well as a performance dashboard and measurable annual goals to  
24 support the 5-year plan.

25 (iii) The 5-year plan shall address regional strategies  
26 related to adult education, workforce development, economic  
27 development, transportation, higher education, and business

1 development.

2 (iv) The regional prosperity collaborative shall adopt the  
3 plan by a minimum 2/3 majority vote of its members.

4 (b) The regional prosperity collaborative adheres to  
5 accountability and transparency measures required in the open  
6 meetings act.

7 (c) The regional prosperity collaborative convenes monthly  
8 meetings, open to the public, to consider and discuss issues  
9 leading to a common vision of economic prosperity for the region,  
10 including, but not limited to, community development, economic  
11 development, talent, and infrastructure opportunities.

12 (d) The regional prosperity collaborative makes available on  
13 the grant recipient's publicly accessible Internet site pertinent  
14 documents, including, but not limited to, monthly meeting agendas,  
15 minutes of monthly meetings, voting records, and the regional  
16 prosperity plan and performance dashboard.

17 (e) The regional prosperity collaborative keeps a status  
18 report detailing the spending associated with previous regional  
19 prosperity initiative grants. Organizations that have successfully  
20 received grant awards in previous fiscal years shall be required to  
21 make available to the department and on a publicly accessible  
22 Internet site information regarding the use of those grant dollars.

23 (3) Regional planning organizations eligible to receive a  
24 payment as a regional prosperity collaborative under subsection (2)  
25 may qualify to receive a 1-time grant of not more than \$75,000.00  
26 to produce a plan to transform the regional prosperity  
27 collaborative into a regional prosperity council or regional

1 prosperity board, including necessary local formal agreements, to  
2 make recommendations that eliminate duplicative efforts and  
3 administrative functions, and to leverage resources through  
4 cooperation, collaboration, and consolidations of organizations or  
5 programs throughout the region. Plans produced to transform the  
6 regional prosperity collaborative into a regional prosperity  
7 council or regional prosperity board shall be made available on the  
8 grant recipient's publicly accessible Internet site.

9 (4) Regional planning organizations may qualify to receive not  
10 more than \$375,000.00 of incentive-based funding as a regional  
11 prosperity council subject to meeting all of the following  
12 requirements:

13 (a) The regional prosperity council has created a phase two:  
14 regional prosperity plan, as follows:

15 (i) The regional prosperity council must include regional  
16 representatives from adult education, workforce development,  
17 community development, economic development, transportation, and  
18 higher education organizations.

19 (ii) The regional prosperity council shall identify  
20 opportunities for shared administrative services and decision-  
21 making among the private, public, and nonprofit entities within the  
22 region and shall continue collaboration with regional prosperity  
23 council members, including, but not limited to, representatives  
24 from adult education providers, workforce development agencies,  
25 community development agencies, economic development agencies,  
26 transportation service providers, and higher education  
27 institutions.

1           (iii) The plan is required to include, but is not limited to,  
2 all of the following:

3           (A) A status report of the approved 5-year plan.

4           (B) The addition of a 10-year plan for the region which builds  
5 upon prior work and is focused on economic growth and vitality in  
6 the region.

7           (C) A prioritized list of regional projects.

8           (D) A performance dashboard with measurable annual goals.

9           (iv) The regional prosperity council shall adopt the plan by a  
10 minimum 2/3 vote of its members.

11          (b) The regional prosperity council adheres to accountability  
12 and transparency measures required in the open meetings act.

13          (c) The regional prosperity council convenes monthly meetings,  
14 open to the public, to consider and discuss issues leading to a  
15 common vision of economic prosperity for the region, including, but  
16 not limited to, community development, economic development,  
17 talent, and infrastructure opportunities.

18          (d) The regional prosperity council makes available on the  
19 grant recipient's publicly accessible Internet site pertinent  
20 documents, including, but not limited to, monthly meeting agendas,  
21 minutes of monthly meetings, voting records, and the regional  
22 prosperity plan and performance dashboard.

23          (e) The regional prosperity council keeps a status report  
24 detailing the spending associated with previous regional prosperity  
25 initiative grants. Organizations that have successfully received  
26 grant awards in previous fiscal years shall be required to make  
27 available to the department and on a publicly accessible Internet

1 site information regarding the use of those grant dollars.

2 (5) Regional planning organizations eligible to receive a  
3 payment as a regional prosperity council under subsection (4) may  
4 qualify to receive a 1-time grant of not more than \$75,000.00 to  
5 produce a plan to transform the regional prosperity council into a  
6 regional prosperity board, including a singular private/public  
7 governance structure that comports with federal guidelines for  
8 governance under the workforce investment act, Public Law 105-220,  
9 the moving ahead for progress in the 21st century act, Public Law  
10 112-141, the economic development administration and Appalachian  
11 regional development reform act of 1998, Public Law 105-393, and  
12 recommendations to eliminate duplicative efforts, administrative  
13 functions, and leverage resources through cooperation,  
14 collaboration, and consolidations of organizations or programs  
15 throughout the region.

16 (6) Regional planning organizations may qualify to receive not  
17 more than \$500,000.00 of incentive-based funding as a regional  
18 prosperity board subject to meeting all of the following  
19 requirements:

20 (a) The regional prosperity board has created a phase three:  
21 regional prosperity plan, as follows:

22 (i) The regional prosperity board, at a minimum, must  
23 demonstrate the consolidation of regional metropolitan planning  
24 organization boards, state designated regional planning agency  
25 boards, workforce development boards, and federally designated  
26 economic development districts within a region.

27 (ii) The regional prosperity board shall create a regional

1 services recommendations report prioritizing the list of state-  
2 funded services and programs provided to the region, and  
3 recommendations for state-regional partnerships to support the  
4 adopted regional prosperity plan.

5 (iii) The plan is required to include a status report of the  
6 approved 10-year plan for the creation of an updated regional  
7 prosperity plan.

8 (iv) The regional prosperity board shall adopt the plan by a  
9 minimum 2/3 vote of its members.

10 (b) The regional prosperity board adheres to accountability  
11 and transparency measures required in the open meetings act.

12 (c) The regional prosperity board convenes monthly meetings,  
13 open to the public, to consider and discuss issues leading to a  
14 common vision of economic prosperity for the region, including, but  
15 not limited to, community development, economic development,  
16 talent, and infrastructure opportunities.

17 (d) The regional prosperity board makes available on the grant  
18 recipient's publicly accessible Internet site pertinent documents,  
19 including, but not limited to, monthly meeting agendas, minutes of  
20 monthly meetings, voting records, and the regional prosperity plan  
21 and performance dashboard.

22 (7) Regional planning organizations eligible to receive a  
23 payment as a regional prosperity board under subsection (6) may  
24 qualify to receive not more than \$125,000.00, to implement the  
25 prioritized regional prosperity plan projects.

26 (8) Regional planning organizations eligible to receive a  
27 payment as a regional prosperity collaborative, board, or council

1 may partner with other eligible regional planning organizations to  
2 submit joint applications. In the instance of a joint application,  
3 1 regional planning organization shall be utilized as the overall  
4 applicant. The department may award a joint application award of no  
5 greater than the sum of potential application dollars which would  
6 have otherwise been available through individual applications.

7 (9) The department shall develop an application process and  
8 method of grant distribution for the regional prosperity  
9 initiative. Funding applications from regional planning  
10 organizations shall be due to the department by December 1, 2015.  
11 The department shall notify regional planning organizations of  
12 grant application status by January 1, 2016. The department shall  
13 ensure that processes are established to verify that qualifying  
14 regional planning organizations meet the requirements under  
15 subsections (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), and (7), as applicable.

16 (10) Unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for the regional  
17 prosperity initiative are designated as work project  
18 appropriations, and any unencumbered or unallotted funds shall not  
19 lapse at the end of the fiscal year and shall be available for  
20 expenditure for regional prosperity initiative projects under this  
21 section until the projects have been completed. The following is in  
22 compliance with section 451a of the management and budget act, 1984  
23 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

24 (a) The purpose of the projects is to provide incentive-based  
25 grants to recipients under this section.

26 (b) The projects will be accomplished by grants to qualified  
27 regional planning organizations.

1 (c) The total estimated cost of all projects is \$2,500,000.00.

2 (d) The estimated completion date is September 30, 2020.

3 **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

4 Sec. 823. (1) The department of technology, management, and  
5 budget may sell and accept paid advertising for placement on any  
6 state website under its jurisdiction. The department shall review  
7 and approve the content of each advertisement. The department may  
8 refuse to accept advertising from any person or organization or  
9 require modification to advertisements based upon criteria  
10 determined by the department. Revenue received under this  
11 subsection shall be used for operating costs of the department and  
12 for future technology enhancements to state of Michigan e-  
13 government initiatives. Funds received under this subsection shall  
14 be limited to \$250,000.00. Any funds in excess of \$250,000.00 shall  
15 be deposited in the state general fund.

16 (2) The department of technology, management, and budget may  
17 accept gifts, donations, contributions, bequests, and grants of  
18 money from any public or private source to assist with the  
19 underwriting or sponsorship of state webpages or services offered  
20 on those webpages. A private or public funding source may receive  
21 recognition in the webpage. The department of technology,  
22 management, and budget may reject any gift, donation, contribution,  
23 bequest, or grant.

24 (3) Funds accepted by the department of technology,  
25 management, and budget under subsection (1) are appropriated and  
26 allotted when received and may be expended upon approval of the



1 state budget director. The state budget office shall notify the  
2 senate and house of representatives standing committees on  
3 appropriations subcommittees on general government and the senate  
4 and house fiscal agencies within 10 days after the approval is  
5 given.

6       Sec. 824. The department of technology, management, and budget  
7 may enter into agreements to supply spatial information and  
8 technical services to other principal executive departments, state  
9 agencies, local units of government, and other organizations. The  
10 department of technology, management, and budget may receive and  
11 expend funds in addition to those authorized in part 1 for  
12 providing information and technical services, publications, maps,  
13 and other products. The department of technology, management, and  
14 budget may expend amounts received for salaries, supplies, and  
15 equipment necessary to provide informational products and technical  
16 services. Prior to December 1 of each year, the department shall  
17 provide a report to the senate and house of representatives  
18 standing committees on appropriations subcommittees on general  
19 government, detailing the sources of funding and expenditures made  
20 under this section.

21       Sec. 825. The legislature shall have access to all historical  
22 and current data contained within MAIN pertaining to state  
23 departments. State departments shall have access to all historical  
24 and current data contained within MAIN.

25       Sec. 826. When used in this part and part 1, "information  
26 technology services" means services involving all aspects of  
27 managing and processing information, including, but not limited to,

1 all of the following:

2 (a) Application and mobile development and maintenance.

3 (b) Desktop computer support and management.

4 (c) Cyber security.

5 (d) Social media.

6 (e) Mainframe computer support and management.

7 (f) Server support and management.

8 (g) Local area network support and management, including, but  
9 not limited to, wired and wireless network build-out, support, and  
10 management.

11 (h) Information technology project management.

12 (i) Information technology planning and budget management.

13 (j) Telecommunication services, infrastructure, and support.

14 Sec. 827. (1) Funds appropriated in part 1 for the Michigan  
15 public safety communications system shall be expended upon approval  
16 of an expenditure plan by the state budget director.

17 (2) The department of technology, management, and budget shall  
18 assess all subscribers of the Michigan public safety communications  
19 system reasonable access and maintenance fees.

20 (3) All money received by the department of technology,  
21 management, and budget under this section shall be expended for the  
22 support and maintenance of the Michigan public safety  
23 communications system.

24 (4) The department of technology, management, and budget shall  
25 provide a report to the senate and house of representatives  
26 standing committees on appropriations, the senate and house fiscal  
27 agencies, and the state budget director on April 15 and on October

1 15, indicating the amount of revenue collected under this section  
2 and expended for support and maintenance of the Michigan public  
3 safety communications system for the immediately preceding 6-month  
4 period. Any deposits made under this section and unencumbered funds  
5 are restricted revenues and shall be carried forward into  
6 succeeding fiscal years.

7 Sec. 828. The department of technology, management, and budget  
8 shall submit a report for the immediately preceding fiscal year  
9 ending September 30 to the senate and house of representatives  
10 standing committees on appropriations subcommittees on general  
11 government and the senate and house fiscal agencies by March 1. The  
12 report shall include the following:

13 (a) The total amount of funding appropriated for information  
14 technology services and projects, by funding source, for all  
15 principal executive departments and agencies.

16 (b) A listing of the expenditures made from the amounts  
17 received by the department of technology, management, and budget as  
18 reported in subdivision (a).

19 Sec. 829. The department of technology, management, and budget  
20 shall provide a report that analyzes and makes recommendations on  
21 the life-cycle of information technology hardware and software. The  
22 report shall be submitted to the senate and house of  
23 representatives standing committees on appropriations subcommittees  
24 on general government and the senate and house fiscal agencies by  
25 March 1.

26 Sec. 830. By December 31, the department shall provide a  
27 report that lists all information technology-related change orders

1 and follow-on contracts, greater than \$50,000.00, whether they are  
2 bid, exercise options, or no-bid, and the amount of each change  
3 order or contract extension contract entered into by the department  
4 to the senate and house of representatives standing committees on  
5 appropriations subcommittees on general government, the senate and  
6 house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.

7       Sec. 831. (1) The information, communications, and technology  
8 innovation fund, established pursuant to 2011 PA 63, 2012 PA 200,  
9 and 2013 PA 59, shall be administered by the department of  
10 technology, management, and budget for the purpose of providing a  
11 revolving, self-sustaining resource for financing information,  
12 communications, and technology innovation projects. From the funds  
13 appropriated to the information, communications, and technology  
14 innovation fund by 2011 PA 63, 2012 PA 200, and 2013 PA 59, or  
15 received by the information, communications, and technology  
16 innovation fund under subsections (2) and (3), the department of  
17 technology, management, and budget may issue loans to state  
18 agencies, local units of government, colleges and universities in  
19 this state, school districts, other public entities that provide  
20 public sector services, and nonprofit organizations that provide  
21 public sector services, as determined by the department of  
22 technology, management, and budget in support of information,  
23 communications, and technology innovation projects.

24       (2) In addition to funds appropriated by 2011 PA 63, 2012 PA  
25 200, and 2013 PA 59, the information, communications, and  
26 technology innovation fund may accept contributions, gifts,  
27 bequests, devises, grants, and donations.

1           (3) In addition to the funds appropriated by 2011 PA 63, 2012  
2 PA 200, and 2013 PA 59, money received by the department of  
3 technology, management, and budget as repayment of information,  
4 communications, and technology innovation project loans, or other  
5 reimbursement or revenue received by the department of technology,  
6 management, and budget as a result of information, communications,  
7 and technology innovation project loans, interest earned on that  
8 money, or subsection (2) revenue, shall be deposited in the  
9 information, communications, and technology innovation fund and is  
10 appropriated for information, communications, and technology  
11 innovation fund projects described in subsection (1). At the close  
12 of the fiscal year, any unencumbered funds remaining in the  
13 information, communications, and technology innovation fund shall  
14 remain in the fund and be carried forward into the succeeding  
15 fiscal year.

16           (4) This section is not effective if legislation is enacted  
17 that creates and provides for the administration and use of the  
18 information, communications, and technology innovation fund.

19           Sec. 832. (1) The department of technology, management, and  
20 budget shall inform the senate and house appropriations  
21 subcommittees on general government and the senate and house fiscal  
22 agencies within 30 days of any potential or actual penalties  
23 assessed by the federal government for failure of the Michigan  
24 child support enforcement system to achieve certification by the  
25 federal government.

26           (2) If potential penalties are assessed by the federal  
27 government, the department of technology, management, and budget

1 shall submit a report to the senate and house appropriations  
2 subcommittees on general government and the senate and house fiscal  
3 agencies within 90 days specifying the department's plans to avoid  
4 actual penalties and ensure federal certification of the Michigan  
5 child support enforcement system.

6       Sec. 833. (1) The state budget director, upon notification to  
7 the senate and house of representatives standing committees on  
8 appropriations, may adjust spending authorization and user fees in  
9 the department of technology, management, and budget in order to  
10 ensure that the appropriations for information technology in the  
11 department budget equal the appropriations for information  
12 technology in the budgets for all executive branch agencies.

13       (2) If during the course of the fiscal year a transfer or  
14 supplemental to or from the information technology line item within  
15 an agency budget is made under section 393 of the management and  
16 budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393, there is appropriated an  
17 equal amount of user fees in the department of technology,  
18 management, and budget budget to accommodate an increase or  
19 decrease in spending authorization.

20       Sec. 834. (1) Revenue collected from licenses issued under the  
21 antenna site management project shall be deposited into the antenna  
22 site management revolving fund created for this purpose in the  
23 department of technology, management, and budget. The department  
24 may receive and expend money from the fund for costs associated  
25 with the antenna site management project, including the cost of a  
26 third-party site manager. Any excess revenue remaining in the fund  
27 at the close of the fiscal year shall be proportionately

1 transferred to the appropriate state restricted funds as designated  
2 in statute or by constitution.

3 (2) An antenna shall not be placed on any site pursuant to  
4 this section without complying with the respective local zoning  
5 codes and local unit of government processes.

6 Sec. 835. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
7 funds collected by the department for supplying census-related  
8 information and technical services, publications, statistical  
9 studies, population projections and estimates, and other  
10 demographic products are appropriated for all expenses necessary to  
11 provide the required services. These funds are available for  
12 expenditure when they are received and may be carried forward into  
13 the next succeeding fiscal year.

#### 14 **STATE BUILDING AUTHORITY RENT**

15 Sec. 842. (1) The state building authority rent appropriations  
16 in part 1 may also be expended for the payment of required premiums  
17 for insurance on facilities owned by the state building authority  
18 or payment of costs that may be incurred as the result of any  
19 deductible provisions in such insurance policies.

20 (2) If the amount appropriated in part 1 for state building  
21 authority rent is not sufficient to pay the rent obligations and  
22 insurance premiums and deductibles identified in subsection (1) for  
23 state building authority projects, there is appropriated from the  
24 general fund of the state the amount necessary to pay such  
25 obligations.

1 CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

2       Sec. 850. (1) In accordance with section 5 of article XI of  
3 the state constitution of 1963, all restricted funds shall be  
4 assessed a sum not less than 1% of the total aggregate payroll paid  
5 from those funds for financing the civil service commission on the  
6 basis of actual 1% restricted sources total aggregate payroll of  
7 the classified service for the preceding fiscal year. This  
8 includes, but is not limited to, restricted funds appropriated in  
9 part 1 of any appropriations act. Unexpended 1% appropriated funds  
10 shall be returned to each 1% fund source at the end of the fiscal  
11 year.

12       (2) The appropriations in part 1 are estimates of actual  
13 charges based on payroll appropriations. With the approval of the  
14 state budget director, the commission is authorized to adjust  
15 financing sources for civil service charges based on actual payroll  
16 expenditures, provided that such adjustments do not increase the  
17 total appropriation for the civil service commission.

18       (3) The financing from restricted sources shall be credited to  
19 the civil service commission by the end of the second fiscal  
20 quarter.

21       Sec. 851. Except where specifically appropriated for this  
22 purpose, financing from restricted sources shall be credited to the  
23 civil service commission. For restricted sources of funding within  
24 the general fund that have the legislative authority for carryover,  
25 if current spending authorization or revenues are insufficient to  
26 accept the charge, the shortage shall be taken from carryforward  
27 balances of that funding source. Restricted revenue sources that do



1 not have carryforward authority shall be utilized to satisfy  
2 commission operating deducts first and civil service obligations  
3 second. General fund dollars are appropriated for any shortfall,  
4 pursuant to approval by the state budget director.

5       Sec. 852. The appropriation in part 1 to the civil service  
6 commission, for state-sponsored group insurance, flexible spending  
7 accounts, and COBRA, represents amounts, in part, included within  
8 the various appropriations throughout state government for the  
9 current fiscal year to fund the flexible spending account program  
10 included within the civil service commission. Deposits against  
11 state-sponsored group insurance, flexible spending accounts, and  
12 COBRA for the flexible spending account program shall be made from  
13 assessments levied during the current fiscal year in a manner  
14 prescribed by the civil service commission. Unspent employee  
15 contributions to the flexible spending accounts may be used to  
16 offset administrative costs for the flexible spending account  
17 program, with any remaining balance of unspent employee  
18 contributions to be lapsed to the general fund.

19 **CAPITAL OUTLAY**

20       Sec. 860. As used in sections 861 through 865:

21       (a) "Board" means the state administrative board.

22       (b) "Community college" does not include a state agency or  
23 university.

24       (c) "Department" means the department of technology,  
25 management, and budget.

26       (d) "Director" means the director of the department of

1 technology, management, and budget.

2 (e) "Fiscal agencies" means the senate fiscal agency and the  
3 house fiscal agency.

4 (f) "State agency" means an agency of state government. State  
5 agency does not include a community college or university.

6 (g) "State building authority" means the authority created  
7 under 1964 PA 183, MCL 830.411 to 830.425.

8 (h) "University" means a 4-year university supported by the  
9 state. University does not include a community college or a state  
10 agency.

11 Sec. 861. Each capital outlay project authorized in this part  
12 and part 1 or any previous capital outlay act shall comply with the  
13 procedures required by the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
14 MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

15 Sec. 862. (1) The department shall provide the JCOS, state  
16 budget director, and the senate and house fiscal agencies with  
17 reports as considered necessary relative to the status of each  
18 planning or construction project financed by the state building  
19 authority, by this part and part 1, or by previous acts.

20 (2) Before the end of each fiscal year, the department shall  
21 report to the JCOS, state budget director, and the senate and house  
22 fiscal agencies for each capital outlay project other than lump  
23 sums all of the following:

24 (a) The account number and name of each construction project.

25 (b) The balance remaining in each account.

26 (c) The date of the last expenditure from the account.

27 (d) The anticipated date of occupancy if the project is under

1 construction.

2 (e) The appropriations history for the project.

3 (f) The professional service contractor.

4 (g) The amount of the project financed with federal funds.

5 (h) The amount of the project financed through the state  
6 building authority.

7 (i) The total authorized cost for the project and the state  
8 authorized share if different than the total.

9 (3) Before the end of each fiscal year, the department shall  
10 report the following for each project by a state agency,  
11 university, or community college that is authorized for planning  
12 but is not yet authorized for construction:

13 (a) The name of the project and account number.

14 (b) Whether a program statement is approved.

15 (c) Whether schematics are approved by the department.

16 (d) Whether preliminary plans are approved by the department.

17 (e) The name of the professional service contractor.

18 (4) As used in this section, "project" includes appropriation  
19 line items made for purchase of real estate.

20 Sec. 864. The appropriations in part 1 for capital outlay  
21 shall be carried forward at the end of the fiscal year consistent  
22 with the provisions of section 248 of the management and budget  
23 act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1248.

24 Sec. 865. (1) A site preparation economic development fund is  
25 created in the department. As used in this section, "economic  
26 development sites" means those state-owned sites declared as  
27 surplus property pursuant to section 251 of the management and

1 budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1251, that would provide economic  
2 benefit to the area or to the state. The MEDC board and the state  
3 budget director shall determine whether or not a specific state-  
4 owned site qualifies for inclusion in the fund created under this  
5 subsection.

6 (2) Proceeds from the sale of any sites designated in  
7 subsection (1) shall be deposited into the fund created in  
8 subsection (1) and shall be available for site preparation  
9 expenditures, unless otherwise provided by law. The economic  
10 development sites authorized in subsection (1) are authorized for  
11 sale consistent with state law. Expenditures from the fund are  
12 authorized for site preparation activities that enhance the  
13 marketable sale value of the sites. Site preparation activities  
14 include, but are not limited to, demolition, environmental studies  
15 and abatement, utility enhancement, and site excavation.

16 (3) A cash advance in an amount of not more than  
17 \$25,000,000.00 is authorized from the general fund to the site  
18 preparation economic development fund.

19 (4) An annual report shall be transmitted to the senate and  
20 house of representatives standing committees on appropriations not  
21 later than December 31 of each year. This report shall detail both  
22 of the following:

23 (a) The revenue and expenditure activity in the fund for the  
24 preceding fiscal year.

25 (b) The sites identified as economic development sites under  
26 subsection (1).

27 Sec. 866. For the state building authority financed

1 construction authorization in part 1, the legislature hereby  
2 determines that the leasing of the facility from the authority is  
3 for a public purpose as authorized under 1964 PA 183, MCL 830.411  
4 to 830.425. The legislature approves and authorizes the lease and  
5 conveyance of property to the state building authority, the state  
6 building authority acquiring the facility and leasing it to the  
7 state and the educational institution, as applicable, and the  
8 governor and secretary of state executing the lease for and on  
9 behalf of the state pursuant to the requirements of 1964 PA 183,  
10 MCL 830.411 to 830.425. Per the requirements of the lease, the  
11 legislature also agrees to appropriate annually sufficient amounts  
12 to pay the rent as obligated pursuant to the lease.

13       Sec. 867. Proceeds from the sale of the Farnum Building shall  
14 be subsequently appropriated to the department in accordance with  
15 any legislation enacted that authorizes the sale of that property.  
16 If the net proceeds from the sale of the Farnum Building are less  
17 than the \$7,000,000.00 authorized for senate relocation costs in  
18 section 896 of article VIII of 2014 PA 252, an amount equal to the  
19 difference between the net sale proceeds and \$7,000,000.00 shall be  
20 appropriated by the legislature to the department.

21 **CAPITAL OUTLAY - UNIVERSITIES AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

22       Sec. 873. (1) This section applies only to projects for  
23 community colleges.

24       (2) State support is directed towards the remodeling and  
25 additions, special maintenance, or construction of certain  
26 community college buildings. The community college shall obtain or

1 provide for site acquisition and initial main utility installation  
2 to operate the facility. Funding shall be composed of local and  
3 state shares and not more than 50% of a capital outlay project, not  
4 including a lump-sum special maintenance project or remodeling and  
5 addition project, for a community college shall be appropriated  
6 from state and federal funds, unless otherwise appropriated by the  
7 legislature.

8 (3) An expenditure under this part and part 1 is authorized  
9 when the release of the appropriation is approved by the board upon  
10 the recommendation of the director. The director may recommend to  
11 the board the release of any appropriation in part 1 only after the  
12 director is assured that the legal entity operating the community  
13 college to which the appropriation is made has complied with this  
14 part and part 1 and has matched the amounts appropriated as  
15 required by this part and part 1. A release of funds in part 1  
16 shall not exceed 50% of the total cost of planning and construction  
17 of any project, not including lump-sum remodeling and additions and  
18 special maintenance, unless otherwise appropriated by the  
19 legislature. Further planning and construction of a project  
20 authorized by this part and part 1 or applicable sections of the  
21 management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594,  
22 shall be in accordance with the purpose and scope as defined and  
23 delineated in the approved program statements and planning  
24 documents. This part and part 1 are applicable to all projects for  
25 which planning appropriations were made in previous acts.

26 (4) The community college shall take the steps necessary to  
27 secure available federal construction and equipment money for

1 projects funded for construction in this part and part 1 if an  
2 application was not previously made. If there is a reasonable  
3 expectation that a prior year unfunded application may receive  
4 federal money in a subsequent year, the college shall take whatever  
5 action necessary to keep the application active.

6 Sec. 874. If university and community college matching  
7 revenues are received in an amount less than the appropriations for  
8 capital projects contained in this part and part 1, the state funds  
9 shall be reduced in proportion to the amount of matching revenue  
10 received.

11 Sec. 875. (1) The director may require that community colleges  
12 and universities that have an authorized project listed in part 1  
13 submit documentation regarding the project match and governing  
14 board approval of the authorized project not more than 60 days  
15 after the beginning of the fiscal year.

16 (2) If the documentation required by the director under  
17 subsection (1) is not submitted, or does not adequately  
18 authenticate the availability of the project match or board  
19 approval of the authorized project, the authorization may  
20 terminate. The authorization terminates 30 days after the director  
21 notifies the JCOS of the intent to terminate the project unless the  
22 JCOS convenes to extend the authorization.

### 23 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

24 Sec. 891. The department of technology, management, and budget  
25 shall report quarterly to the senate and house appropriations  
26 subcommittees on general government and the senate and house fiscal

1 agencies on legal services fund expenditures. The report shall  
2 itemize expenditures by case, purpose, and department involved.

3 **DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY**

4 **OPERATIONS**

5       Sec. 901. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
6 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 for  
7 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
8 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
9 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
10 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

11       (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
12 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 for state  
13 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
14 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
15 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
16 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

17       (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
18 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 for local  
19 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
20 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
21 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
22 MCL 18.1393.

23       (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
24 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 for private  
25 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
26 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1



1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
2 MCL 18.1393.

3 Sec. 902. (1) Amounts needed to pay for interest, fees,  
4 principal, mandatory and optional redemptions, arbitrage rebates as  
5 required by federal law, and costs associated with the payment,  
6 registration, trustee services, credit enhancements, and issuing  
7 costs in excess of the amount appropriated to the department of  
8 treasury in part 1 for debt service on notes and bonds that are  
9 issued by the state under sections 14, 15, and 16 of article IX of  
10 the state constitution of 1963 as implemented by 1967 PA 266, MCL  
11 17.451 to 17.455, are appropriated.

12 (2) In addition to the amount appropriated to the department  
13 of treasury for debt service in part 1, there is appropriated an  
14 amount for fiscal year cash-flow borrowing costs to pay for  
15 interest on interfund borrowing made under 1967 PA 55, MCL 12.51 to  
16 12.53.

17 (3) In addition to the amount appropriated to the department  
18 of treasury for debt service in part 1, there is appropriated all  
19 repayments received by the state on loans made from the school bond  
20 loan fund not required to be deposited in the school loan revolving  
21 fund by or pursuant to section 4 of 1961 PA 112, MCL 388.984, to  
22 the extent determined by the state treasurer, for the payment of  
23 debt service, including, without limitation, optional and mandatory  
24 redemptions, on bonds, notes or commercial paper issued by the  
25 state pursuant to 1961 PA 112, MCL 388.981 to 388.985.

26 Sec. 902a. The department of treasury shall notify the senate  
27 and house of representatives standing committees on appropriations,

1 the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget office  
2 not more than 30 days after a refunding or restructuring bond issue  
3 is sold. The notification shall compare the annual debt service  
4 prior to the refinancing or restructuring, the annual debt service  
5 after the refinancing or restructuring, the change in the principal  
6 and interest over the duration of the debt, and the projected  
7 change in the present value of the debt service due to the  
8 refinancing and restructuring.

9       Sec. 903. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
10 department of treasury may contract with private collection  
11 agencies and law firms to collect taxes and other accounts due this  
12 state. In addition to the amounts appropriated in part 1 to the  
13 department of treasury, there are appropriated amounts necessary to  
14 fund collection costs and fees not to exceed 25% of the collections  
15 or 2.5% plus operating costs, whichever amount is prescribed by  
16 each contract. The appropriation to fund collection costs and fees  
17 for the collection of taxes or other accounts due this state are  
18 from the fund or account to which the revenues being collected are  
19 recorded or dedicated. However, if the taxes collected are  
20 constitutionally dedicated for a specific purpose, the  
21 appropriation of collection costs and fees are from the general  
22 purpose account of the general fund.

23       (2) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the department of  
24 treasury may contract with private collections agencies and law  
25 firms to collect defaulted student loans and other accounts due the  
26 Michigan guaranty agency. In addition to the amounts appropriated  
27 in part 1 to the department of treasury, there are appropriated

1 amounts necessary to fund collection costs and fees not to exceed  
2 24.34% of the collection or a lesser amount as prescribed by the  
3 contract. The appropriation to fund collection costs and fees for  
4 the auditing and collection of defaulted student loans due the  
5 Michigan guaranty agency is from the fund or account to which the  
6 revenues being collected are recorded or dedicated.

7 (3) The department of treasury shall submit a report for the  
8 immediately preceding fiscal year ending September 30 to the state  
9 budget director and the senate and house of representatives  
10 standing committees on appropriations not later than November 30  
11 stating the agencies or law firms employed, the amount of  
12 collections for each, the costs of collection, and other pertinent  
13 information relating to determining whether this authority should  
14 be continued.

15 Sec. 904. (1) The department of treasury, through its bureau  
16 of investments, may charge an investment service fee against the  
17 applicable retirement funds. The fees may be expended for necessary  
18 salaries, wages, contractual services, supplies, materials,  
19 equipment, travel, worker's compensation insurance premiums, and  
20 grants to the civil service commission and state employees'  
21 retirement funds. Service fees shall not exceed the aggregate  
22 amount appropriated in part 1. The department of treasury shall  
23 maintain accounting records in sufficient detail to enable the  
24 retirement funds to be reimbursed periodically for fee revenue that  
25 is determined by the department of treasury to be surplus.

26 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1 from the  
27 retirement funds to the department of treasury, there is

1 appropriated from retirement funds an amount sufficient to pay for  
2 the services of money managers, investment advisors, investment  
3 consultants, custodians, and other outside professionals, the state  
4 treasurer considers necessary to prudently manage the retirement  
5 funds' investment portfolios. The state treasurer shall report  
6 annually to the senate and house of representatives standing  
7 committees on appropriations and the state budget office concerning  
8 the performance of each portfolio by investment advisor.

9       Sec. 904a. (1) There is appropriated an amount sufficient to  
10 recognize and pay expenditures for financial services provided by  
11 financial institutions as provided under section 1 of 1861 PA 111,  
12 MCL 21.181.

13       (2) The appropriations under subsection (1) shall be funded by  
14 restricting revenues from common cash interest earnings and  
15 investment earnings in an amount sufficient to record these  
16 expenditures.

17       Sec. 905. A revolving fund known as the municipal finance fee  
18 fund is created in the department of treasury. Fees are established  
19 under the revised municipal finance act, 2001 PA 34, MCL 141.2101  
20 to 141.2821, and the fees collected shall be credited to the  
21 municipal finance fee fund and may be carried forward for future  
22 appropriation.

23       Sec. 906. (1) The department of treasury shall charge for  
24 audits as permitted by state or federal law or under contractual  
25 arrangements with local units of government, other principal  
26 executive departments, or state agencies. A report detailing audits  
27 performed and audit charges for the immediately preceding fiscal

1 year shall be submitted to the state budget director and the senate  
2 and house fiscal agencies not later than November 30.

3 (2) A revolving fund known as the audit charges fund is  
4 created in the department of treasury. The contractual charges  
5 collected shall be credited to the audit charges fund and may be  
6 carried forward for future appropriation.

7 Sec. 907. A revolving fund known as the assessor certification  
8 and training fund is created in the department of treasury. The  
9 assessor certification and training fund shall be used to organize  
10 and operate a property assessor certification and training program.  
11 Each participant certified and trained shall pay to the department  
12 of treasury examination fees not to exceed \$50.00 per examination  
13 and certification fees not to exceed \$175.00. Training courses  
14 shall be offered in assessment administration. Each participant  
15 shall pay a fee to cover the expenses incurred in offering the  
16 optional programs to certified assessing personnel and other  
17 individuals interested in an assessment career opportunity. The  
18 fees collected shall be credited to the assessor certification and  
19 training fund.

20 Sec. 908. The amount appropriated in part 1 to the department  
21 of treasury, home heating assistance program, is to cover the  
22 costs, including data processing, of administering federal home  
23 heating credits to eligible claimants and to administer the  
24 supplemental fuel cost payment program for eligible tax credit and  
25 welfare recipients.

26 Sec. 909. Revenue from the airport parking tax act, 1987 PA  
27 248, MCL 207.371 to 207.383, is appropriated and shall be

1 distributed under section 7a of the airport parking tax act, 1987  
2 PA 248, MCL 207.377a.

3 Sec. 910. The disbursement by the department of treasury from  
4 the bottle deposit fund to dealers as required by section 3c(2) of  
5 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573c, is appropriated.

6 Sec. 911. (1) There is appropriated an amount sufficient to  
7 recognize and pay refundable income tax credits as provided by the  
8 management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

9 (2) The appropriations under subsection (1) shall be funded by  
10 restricting income tax revenue in an amount sufficient to record  
11 these expenditures.

12 Sec. 912. A plaintiff in a garnishment action involving this  
13 state shall pay to the state treasurer 1 of the following:

14 (a) A fee of \$6.00 at the time a writ of garnishment of  
15 periodic payments is served upon the state treasurer, as provided  
16 in section 4012 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236,  
17 MCL 600.4012.

18 (b) A fee of \$6.00 at the time any other writ of garnishment  
19 is served upon the state treasurer, except that the fee shall be  
20 reduced to \$5.00 for each writ of garnishment for individual income  
21 tax refunds or credits filed by magnetic media.

22 Sec. 913. (1) The department of treasury may contract with  
23 private firms to appraise and, if necessary, appeal the assessments  
24 of senior citizen cooperative housing units. Payment for this  
25 service shall be from savings resulting from the appraisal or  
26 appeal process.

27 (2) Of the funds appropriated in part 1 to the department of

1 treasury for the senior citizens' cooperative housing tax exemption  
2 program, a portion may be utilized for a program audit of the  
3 program. The department of treasury shall forward copies of any  
4 audit report completed to the senate and house of representatives  
5 standing committees on appropriations subcommittees on general  
6 government and to the state budget office. The department of  
7 treasury may utilize up to 1% of the funds for program  
8 administration and auditing.

9       Sec. 914. The department of treasury may provide a \$200.00  
10 annual prize from the Ehlers internship award account in the gifts,  
11 bequests, and deposit fund to the runner-up of the Rosenthal prize  
12 for interns. The Ehlers internship award account is interest  
13 bearing.

14       Sec. 915. Pursuant to section 61 of the Michigan campaign  
15 finance act, 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.261, there is appropriated from  
16 the general fund to the state campaign fund an amount equal to the  
17 amounts designated for tax year 2014. Except as otherwise provided  
18 in this section, the amount appropriated shall not revert to the  
19 general fund and shall remain in the state campaign fund. Any  
20 amounts remaining in the state campaign fund in excess of  
21 \$10,000,000.00 on December 31 shall revert to the general fund.

22       Sec. 916. The department of treasury may make available to  
23 interested entities otherwise unavailable customized unclaimed  
24 property listings of nonconfidential information in its possession.  
25 The charge for this information is as follows: 1 to 100,000 records  
26 at 2.5 cents per record and 100,001 or more records at .5 cents per  
27 record. The revenue received from this service shall be deposited

1 to the appropriate revenue account or fund. The department shall  
2 submit an annual report on or before June 1 to the state budget  
3 director and the senate and house of representatives standing  
4 committees on appropriations that states the amount of revenue  
5 received from the sale of information.

6       Sec. 917. (1) There is appropriated for write-offs and  
7 advances an amount equal to total write-offs and advances for  
8 departmental programs, but not to exceed current year  
9 authorizations that would otherwise lapse to the general fund.

10       (2) The department of treasury shall submit a report for the  
11 immediately preceding fiscal year to the state budget director and  
12 the senate and house fiscal agencies not later than November 30  
13 stating the amounts appropriated for write-offs and advances under  
14 subsection (1).

15       Sec. 918. In addition to funds appropriated in part 1, the  
16 department of treasury may receive and expend funds for conducting  
17 tax orientation workshops and seminars. Funds received may not  
18 exceed costs incurred in conducting the workshops and seminars.

19       Sec. 919. (1) From funds appropriated in part 1, the  
20 department of treasury may contract with private auditing firms to  
21 audit for and collect unclaimed property due this state in  
22 accordance with the uniform unclaimed property act, 1995 PA 29, MCL  
23 567.221 to 567.265. In addition to the amounts appropriated in part  
24 1 to the department of treasury, there are appropriated amounts  
25 necessary to fund auditing and collection costs and fees not to  
26 exceed 12% of the collections, or a lesser amount as prescribed by  
27 the contract. The appropriation to fund collection costs and fees



1 for the auditing and collection of unclaimed property due this  
2 state is from the fund or account to which the revenues being  
3 collected are recorded or dedicated.

4 (2) The department of treasury shall submit a report for the  
5 immediately preceding fiscal year ending September 30 to the state  
6 budget director and the senate and house of representatives  
7 standing committees on appropriations not later than November 30  
8 stating the auditing firms employed, the amount of collections for  
9 each, the costs of collection, and other pertinent information  
10 relating to determining whether this authority should be continued.

11 (3) It is the intent of the legislature that contingency fee  
12 unclaimed property audits be eliminated for Michigan-based  
13 businesses.

14 Sec. 924. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
15 the department of treasury may receive and expend principal  
16 residence audit fund revenue for administration of principal  
17 residence audits under the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206,  
18 MCL 211.1 to 211.155.

19 (2) The department of treasury shall submit a report for the  
20 immediately preceding fiscal year to the state budget director and  
21 the senate and house fiscal agencies not later than December 31  
22 stating the amount of exemptions denied and the revenue received  
23 under the program.

24 Sec. 926. Unexpended appropriations of the John R. Justice  
25 grant program are designated as work project appropriations and  
26 shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year and shall continue to  
27 be available for expenditure until the project has been completed.

1 The following is in compliance with section 451a of the management  
2 and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

3 (a) The purpose of the project is to provide student loan  
4 forgiveness to qualified public defenders and prosecutors.

5 (b) The project will be accomplished by utilizing state  
6 employees or contracts with private vendors, or both.

7 (c) The total estimated cost of the project is \$287,700.00.

8 (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2017.

9 Sec. 927. The department of treasury shall submit annual  
10 progress reports to the senate and house of representatives  
11 standing committees on appropriations subcommittees on general  
12 government and the senate and house fiscal agencies, regarding  
13 personal property tax audits. The report shall include the number  
14 of audits, revenue generated, and number of complaints received by  
15 the department related to the audits.

16 Sec. 928. The department of treasury may provide receipt,  
17 warrant and cash processing, data, collection, investment, fiscal  
18 agent, levy and warrant cost assessment, writ of garnishment, and  
19 other user services on a contractual basis for other principal  
20 executive departments and state agencies. Funds for the services  
21 provided are appropriated and shall be expended for salaries and  
22 wages, fees, supplies, and equipment necessary to provide the  
23 services. Any unobligated balance of the funds received shall  
24 revert to the general fund of this state as of September 30.

25 Sec. 930. (1) The department of treasury shall provide  
26 accounts receivable collections services to other principal  
27 executive departments and state agencies under 1927 PA 375, MCL

1 14.131 to 14.134. The department of treasury shall deduct a fee  
2 equal to the cost of collections from all receipts except  
3 unrestricted general fund collections. Fees shall be credited to a  
4 restricted revenue account and appropriated to the department of  
5 treasury to pay for the cost of collections. The department of  
6 treasury shall maintain accounting records in sufficient detail to  
7 enable the respective accounts to be reimbursed periodically for  
8 fees deducted that are determined by the department of treasury to  
9 be surplus to the actual cost of collections.

10 (2) The department of treasury shall submit a report for the  
11 immediately preceding fiscal year to the state budget director and  
12 the senate and house fiscal agencies not later than November 30  
13 stating the principal executive departments and state agencies  
14 served, funds collected, and costs of collection under subsection  
15 (1).

16 Sec. 931. (1) The appropriation in part 1 to the department of  
17 treasury for treasury fees shall be assessed against all restricted  
18 funds that receive common cash earnings or other investment income.  
19 Treasury fees include all costs, including administrative overhead,  
20 relating to the investment of each restricted fund. The fee  
21 assessed against each restricted fund will be based on the size of  
22 the restricted fund (the absolute value of the average daily cash  
23 balance plus the market value of investments in the prior fiscal  
24 year) and the level of effort necessary to maintain the restricted  
25 fund as required by each department. The department of treasury  
26 shall provide a report to the state budget director, the senate and  
27 house of representatives standing committees on appropriations

1 subcommittees on general government, and the senate and house  
2 fiscal agencies by November 30 of each year identifying the fees  
3 assessed against each restricted fund and the methodology used for  
4 assessment.

5 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
6 department of treasury may receive and expend investment fees  
7 relating to new restricted funding sources that participate in  
8 common cash earnings or other investment income during the current  
9 fiscal year. When a new restricted fund is created starting on or  
10 after October 1, that restricted fund shall be assessed a fee using  
11 the same criteria identified in subsection (1).

12 Sec. 932. Revenue received under the Michigan education trust  
13 act, 1986 PA 316, MCL 390.1421 to 390.1442, may be expended by the  
14 board of directors of the Michigan education trust for necessary  
15 salaries, wages, supplies, contractual services, equipment,  
16 worker's compensation insurance premiums, and grants to the civil  
17 service commission and state employees' retirement fund.

18 Sec. 934. (1) The department of treasury may expend revenues  
19 received under the hospital finance authority act, 1969 PA 38, MCL  
20 331.31 to 331.84, the shared credit rating act, 1985 PA 227, MCL  
21 141.1051 to 141.1076, the higher education facilities authority  
22 act, 1969 PA 295, MCL 390.921 to 390.934, the Michigan public  
23 educational facilities authority, Executive Reorganization Order  
24 No. 2002-3, MCL 12.192, the Michigan tobacco settlement finance  
25 authority act, 2005 PA 226, MCL 129.261 to 129.279, the land bank  
26 fast track act, 2003 PA 258, MCL 124.751 to 124.774, part 505 of  
27 the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA

1 451, MCL 324.50501 to 324.50522, the state housing development  
2 authority act of 1966, 1966 PA 346, MCL 125.1401 to 125.1499c, and  
3 the Michigan finance authority, Executive Reorganization Order No.  
4 2010-2, MCL 12.194, for necessary salaries, wages, supplies,  
5 contractual services, equipment, worker's compensation insurance  
6 premiums, grants to the civil service commission and state  
7 employees' retirement fund, and other expenses as allowed under  
8 those acts.

9 (2) The department of treasury shall report by January 31 to  
10 the senate and house appropriations subcommittees, the senate and  
11 house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director on the amount  
12 and purpose of expenditures made under subsection (1) from funds  
13 received in addition to those appropriated in part 1. The report  
14 shall also include a listing of reimbursement of revenue, if any.  
15 The report shall cover the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

16 Sec. 935. The funds appropriated in part 1 for dual enrollment  
17 payments for an eligible student enrolled in a state-approved  
18 nonpublic school shall be distributed as provided under the  
19 postsecondary enrollment options act, 1996 PA 160, MCL 388.511 to  
20 388.524, and the career and technical preparation act, 2000 PA 258,  
21 MCL 388.1901 to 388.1913, in a form and manner as determined by the  
22 department of treasury.

23 Sec. 944. If the department hires a pension plan consultant  
24 using any of the funds appropriated in part 1, the department shall  
25 annually forward any report provided to the department by that  
26 consultant to the senate and house of representatives standing  
27 committees on appropriations subcommittees on general government,

1 the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
2 director.

3 Sec. 945. The assessment and certification division of the  
4 department of treasury shall conduct a review of local unit  
5 assessment administration practices, procedures, and records, also  
6 known as the audit of minimal assessing requirements, in at least 1  
7 assessment jurisdiction per county.

8 Sec. 946. Revenue collected in the convention facility  
9 development fund is appropriated and shall be distributed under  
10 sections 8 and 9 of the state convention facility development act,  
11 1985 PA 106, MCL 207.628 and 207.629.

12 Sec. 947. Financial independence teams shall cooperate with  
13 the office of fiscal responsibility to coordinate and streamline  
14 efforts in identifying and addressing fiscal emergencies in school  
15 districts and intermediate school districts.

16 Sec. 948. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
17 department of treasury may contract with private agencies to  
18 prevent the disbursement of fraudulent tax refunds. In addition to  
19 the amounts appropriated in part 1 to the department of treasury,  
20 there is appropriated amounts necessary to pay contract costs or  
21 fund operations designed to reduce fraudulent income tax refund  
22 payments not to exceed \$1,600.000.00 of the refunds identified as  
23 potentially fraudulent and for which payment of the refund is  
24 denied. The appropriation to fund fraud prevention efforts are from  
25 the fund or account to which the revenues being collected are  
26 recorded or dedicated.

27 (2) The department of treasury shall submit a report for the

1 immediately preceding fiscal year ending September 30 to the state  
2 budget director and the senate and house of representatives  
3 standing committees on appropriations not later than November 30  
4 stating the number of refund claims denied due to the fraud  
5 prevention operations, the amount of refunds denied, the costs of  
6 the fraud prevention operations, and other pertinent information  
7 relating to determining whether this authority should be continued.

8       Sec. 949. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
9 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
10 30, 2016 are \$46,551,300.00. From this amount, total agency  
11 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
12 \$26,422,100.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care  
13 legacy costs are estimated at \$20,129,200.00.

14       Sec. 949a. (1) From the increased funds appropriated in part 1  
15 for personal property tax payments, the department shall establish  
16 personal property tax payments in the current fiscal year. The  
17 purpose of these increased funds is to continue payment to  
18 municipalities for lost debt and tax increment financing personal  
19 property taxes as required by the local community stabilization  
20 authority act, 2014 PA 86, MCL 123.1341 to 123.1362.

21       (2) The department shall identify specific outcomes and  
22 performance measures for this initiative, including, but not  
23 limited to, the treasury's ability to establish the technical and  
24 administrative support needed to ensure the payment information  
25 provided to local community stabilization authorities is accurate  
26 and timely.

27       Sec. 949b. (1) From the increased funds appropriated in part 1

1 for the city income tax administration program, the department  
2 shall establish the city income tax administration program in the  
3 current year. The purpose of this new program is to minimize  
4 revenue loss through improved accuracy of e-filed returns.

5 (2) The department shall identify specific outcomes and  
6 performance measures for this initiative, including, but not  
7 limited to, the treasury's ability to track and reduce fraudulent  
8 returns by expanding compliance and enforcement services. This will  
9 benefit Michigan's cities by allowing the taxpayer to e-file the  
10 city return as part of the state return.

11 Sec. 949c. (1) From the increased funds appropriated in part 1  
12 for treasury operations information technology services and  
13 projects, the department shall increase treasury operations  
14 information technology services and projects in the current fiscal  
15 year. The purpose of this increase is to establish a treasury  
16 online business portal to allow businesses online access to do  
17 electronic business tax registration, tax returns, and tax  
18 payments.

19 (2) The department shall identify specific outcomes and  
20 performance measures for this initiative, including, but not  
21 limited to, the number of businesses taking advantage of the  
22 opportunity for electronic business tax registration,  
23 authentication of taxpayers, and tax filing.

24 Sec. 949d. (1) From the increased funds appropriated in part 1  
25 for financial review commission, the department shall expand  
26 financial review commission efforts in the current fiscal year. The  
27 purpose of this expansion is to provide ongoing costs associated



1 with the operation of the commission.

2 (2) The department shall identify specific outcomes and  
3 performance measures for this initiative, including, but not  
4 limited to, the department's ability to perform critical fiscal  
5 review to ensure the city of Detroit does not reenter distress  
6 following its exit from bankruptcy.

7 Sec. 949e. From the increased funds appropriated in part 1 for  
8 the state essential services assessment program, the department  
9 shall establish the state essential services assessment program in  
10 the current year. The purpose of the new program will provide  
11 treasury the ability to collect the new state essential services  
12 assessment which is a phased-in replacement of locally collected  
13 personal property taxes on eligible manufacturing personal  
14 property.

15 Sec. 949f. Revenue from the tobacco products tax act, 1993 PA  
16 327, MCL 205.421 to 205.436, related to counties with a 2000  
17 population of more than 2,000,000 is appropriated and shall be  
18 distributed under section 12(4)(d) of the tobacco products tax act,  
19 1993 PA 327, MCL 205.432.

20 Sec. 949g. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for urban  
21 search and rescue task force, \$300,000.00 shall be expended to  
22 support the urban search and rescue task force. In distributing  
23 funds under this section, the department shall require the task  
24 force to provide to the department the following information:

25 (a) A final year-end report providing information on all  
26 revenue received by source and expenditures by categories, with the  
27 funds distributed to the task force under section 703(9) of article

1 XVI of 2013 PA 59 discretely presented.

2 (b) Detail on the proposed expenditure of the funds  
3 distributed under this section.

4 (c) A final year-end report providing information on all  
5 revenue received by source and expenditures by categories, with the  
6 funds distributed under this section discretely presented.

7 **REVENUE SHARING**

8 Sec. 950. The funds appropriated in part 1 for constitutional  
9 revenue sharing shall be distributed by the department to cities,  
10 villages, and townships, as required under section 10 of article IX  
11 of the state constitution of 1963. Revenue collected in accordance  
12 with section 10 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963 in  
13 excess of the amount appropriated in part 1 for constitutional  
14 revenue sharing is appropriated for distribution to cities,  
15 villages, and townships, on a population basis as required under  
16 section 10 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963.

17 Sec. 952. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for city,  
18 village, and township revenue sharing are for grants to cities,  
19 villages, and townships such that, subject to fulfilling the  
20 requirements under subsection (3), each city, village, or township  
21 with a population below 600,000 as of the 2010 federal decennial  
22 census is eligible to receive 100% of its eligible payment under  
23 section 952 of article VIII of 2014 PA 252. A city, village, or  
24 township with a population greater than 600,000 as of the 2010  
25 federal decennial census is eligible to receive 95.870812% of its  
26 eligible payment under section 952 of article VIII of 2014 PA 252.  
27 For purposes of this subsection, any city, village, or township

1 that completely merges with another city, village, or township will  
2 be treated as a single entity, such that when determining the  
3 payment received under section 952 of article VIII of 2014 PA 252  
4 for the combined single entity, the amount each of the merging  
5 local units received under section 952 of article VIII of 2014 PA  
6 252 is summed. For purposes of this subsection, population is  
7 determined in the same manner as under section 3 of the Glenn Steil  
8 state revenue sharing act of 1971, 1971 PA 140, MCL 141.903. In  
9 addition, any city or village that according to the 2010 federal  
10 decennial census is determined to have population in more than 1  
11 county shall be treated as a single entity when determining the  
12 payment received under section 952 of article VIII of 2014 PA 252.

13 (2) The funds appropriated in part 1 for the county incentive  
14 program are to be used for grants to counties such that each county  
15 is eligible to receive an amount equal to the amount by which the  
16 balance in its revenue sharing reserve fund under section 44a of  
17 the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.44a, for the  
18 county's most recent fiscal year that ends prior to the January 1  
19 of the state's fiscal year is less than the amount calculated under  
20 section 44a(14) of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL  
21 211.44a, for the county fiscal year that begins in the state's  
22 fiscal year. The amount calculated under this subsection shall be  
23 adjusted as necessary to reflect partial county fiscal years and  
24 prorated based on the total amount appropriated for distribution to  
25 all eligible counties. Except as otherwise provided under this  
26 subsection, payments under this subsection will be distributed to  
27 an eligible county subject to the county's fulfilling the

1 requirements under subsection (3).

2       (3) For purposes of accountability and transparency, each  
3 eligible city, village, township, or county shall certify by  
4 December 1, or the first day of a payment month, that it has  
5 produced a citizen's guide of its most recent local finances,  
6 including a recognition of its unfunded liabilities; a performance  
7 dashboard; a debt service report containing a detailed listing of  
8 its debt service requirements, including, at a minimum, the  
9 issuance date, issuance amount, type of debt instrument, a listing  
10 of all revenues pledged to finance debt service by debt instrument,  
11 and a listing of the annual payment amounts until maturity; and a  
12 projected budget report, including, at a minimum, the current  
13 fiscal year and a projection for the immediately following fiscal  
14 year. The projected budget report shall include revenues and  
15 expenditures and an explanation of the assumptions used for the  
16 projections. Each eligible city, village, township, or county shall  
17 include in any mailing of general information to its citizens the  
18 Internet website address location for its citizen's guide,  
19 performance dashboard, debt service report, and projected budget  
20 report or the physical location where these documents are available  
21 for public viewing in the city, village, township, or county  
22 clerk's office. Each city, village, township, and county applying  
23 for a payment under this subsection shall submit a copy of the  
24 citizen's guide, a copy of the performance dashboard, a copy of the  
25 debt service report, and a copy of the projected budget report to  
26 the department of treasury. The department of treasury shall  
27 develop detailed guidance for a city, village, township, or county

1 to follow to meet the requirements of this subsection. The detailed  
2 guidance shall be posted on the department of treasury website and  
3 distributed to cities, villages, townships, and counties by October  
4 1.

5 (4) City, village, and township revenue sharing payments and  
6 county incentive program payments are subject to the following  
7 conditions:

8 (a) The city, village, township, or county shall certify to  
9 the department that it has met the required criteria for subsection  
10 (3) and submitted the required citizen's guide, performance  
11 dashboard, debt service report, and projected budget report as  
12 required by subsection (3). A department of treasury review of the  
13 citizen's guide, dashboard, or reports is not required in order for  
14 a city, village, township, or county to receive a payment under  
15 subsection (1) or (2). The department shall develop a certification  
16 process and method for cities, villages, townships, and counties to  
17 follow.

18 (b) Subject to subdivisions (c), (d), and (e), if a city,  
19 village, township, or county meets the requirements of subsection  
20 (3), the city, village, township, or county shall receive its full  
21 potential payment under this section.

22 (c) Cities, villages, and townships eligible to receive a  
23 payment under subsection (1) shall receive 1/6 of their eligible  
24 payment on the last business day of October, December, February,  
25 April, June, and August. Payments under subsection (1) shall be  
26 issued to cities, villages, and townships until the specified due  
27 date for subsection (3). After the specified due date for

1 subsection (3), payments shall be made to a city, village, or  
2 township only if that city, village, or township has complied with  
3 subdivision (a).

4 (d) Payments under subsection (2) shall be issued to counties  
5 until the specified due date for subsection (3). After the  
6 specified due date for subsection (3), payments shall be made to a  
7 county only if that county has complied with subdivision (a).

8 (e) If a city, village, township, or county does not provide  
9 the required certification or fails to submit the required  
10 citizen's guide, performance dashboard, debt service report, and  
11 projected budget report by the first day of a payment month, the  
12 city, village, township, or county shall forfeit the payment in  
13 that payment month.

14 (f) Any city, village, township, or county that falsifies  
15 certification documents shall forfeit any future city, village, and  
16 township revenue sharing payments or county incentive program  
17 payments and shall repay to this state all payments it has received  
18 under this section.

19 (g) City, village, and township revenue sharing payments and  
20 county incentive program payments under this section shall be  
21 distributed on the last business day of October, December,  
22 February, April, June, and August.

23 (h) Payments distributed under this section may be withheld  
24 pursuant to sections 17a and 21 of the Glenn Steil state revenue  
25 sharing act of 1971, 1971 PA 140, MCL 141.917a and 141.921.

26 (i) Payments distributed under this section to counties may be  
27 withheld in the amount of arrears due from the county if a county

1 is more than 3 months delinquent in maintaining county child care  
2 fund or state ward board and care chargeback obligations pursuant  
3 to section 5 of the youth rehabilitation services act of 1974, 1974  
4 PA 150, MCL 803.305, section 117a of the social welfare act of  
5 1939, 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.117a, or section 117c of the social  
6 welfare act of 1939, 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.117c. A county shall be  
7 deemed delinquent upon notification from the state.

8 (5) The unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for city,  
9 village, and township revenue sharing and the county incentive  
10 program shall be available for expenditure under the program for  
11 financially distressed cities, villages, or townships after the  
12 approval of transfers by the legislature pursuant to section 393(2)  
13 of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

14 Sec. 955. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for county  
15 revenue sharing shall be distributed by the department to eligible  
16 counties pursuant to the Glenn Steil state revenue sharing act of  
17 1971, 1971 PA 140, MCL 141.901 to 141.921.

18 (2) The department of treasury shall annually certify to the  
19 state budget director the amount each county is authorized to  
20 expend from its revenue sharing reserve fund.

21 Sec. 956. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for financially  
22 distressed cities, villages, and townships shall be granted by the  
23 department of treasury to cities, villages, and townships that have  
24 1 or more conditions that indicate probable financial distress, as  
25 determined by the department of treasury. A city, village, or  
26 township with 1 or more conditions that indicate probable financial  
27 distress may apply in a manner determined by the department of

1 treasury for a grant to pay for specific projects or services that  
2 move the city, village, or township toward financial stability.  
3 Grants are to be used for specific projects or services that move  
4 the city, village, or township toward financial stability. The  
5 city, village, or township may use, but is not limited to using,  
6 the grants under this section to make payments to reduce unfunded  
7 accrued liability; to repair or replace critical infrastructure and  
8 equipment owned or maintained by the city, village, or township; to  
9 reduce debt obligations; or for costs associated with a transition  
10 to shared services with another jurisdiction. The department of  
11 treasury shall award no more than \$2,000,000.00 to any city,  
12 village, or township under this section.

13 (2) The department of treasury shall provide a report to the  
14 senate and house of representatives appropriations subcommittees on  
15 general government, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the  
16 state budget office by September 30. The report shall include a  
17 list by grant recipient of the date each grant was approved, the  
18 amount of the grant, and a description of the project or projects  
19 that will be paid by the grant.

20 (3) The unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for  
21 financially distressed cities, villages, and townships are  
22 designated as a work project appropriation, and any unencumbered or  
23 unallotted funds shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year and  
24 shall be available for expenditure for projects under this section  
25 until the projects have been completed. The following is in  
26 compliance with section 451a of the management and budget act, 1984  
27 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:



1 (a) The purpose of the project is to provide assistance to  
2 financially distressed cities, villages, and townships under this  
3 section.

4 (b) The projects will be accomplished by grants to cities,  
5 villages, and townships approved by the department of treasury.

6 (c) The total estimated cost of all projects is \$5,000,000.00.

7 (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2020.

8 **LOTTERY**

9 Sec. 960. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1 to  
10 the bureau of state lottery, there is appropriated from state  
11 lottery fund revenues the amount necessary for, and directly  
12 related to, implementing and operating lottery games under the  
13 McCauley-Traxler-Law-Bowman-McNeely lottery act, 1972 PA 239, MCL  
14 432.1 to 432.47, and activities under the Traxler-McCauley-Law-  
15 Bowman bingo act, 1972 PA 382, MCL 432.101 to 432.120, including  
16 expenditures for contractually mandated payments for vendor  
17 commissions, contractually mandated payments for instant tickets  
18 intended for resale, the contractual costs of providing and  
19 maintaining the online system communications network, and incentive  
20 and bonus payments to lottery retailers.

21 Sec. 963. The bureau of state lottery shall inform all lottery  
22 retailers that the cash side of department of human services bridge  
23 cards cannot be used to purchase lottery tickets.

24 **CASINO GAMING**

25 Sec. 971. From the revenue collected by the Michigan gaming  
26 control board regarding the total annual assessment of each casino  
27 licensee, \$2,000,000.00 is appropriated and shall be deposited in

1 the compulsive gaming prevention fund as described in section  
2 12a(5) of the Michigan gaming control and revenue act, 1996 IL 1,  
3 MCL 432.212a.

4 Sec. 973. (1) Funds appropriated in part 1 for local  
5 government programs may be used to provide assistance to a local  
6 revenue sharing board referenced in an agreement authorized by the  
7 Indian gaming regulatory act, Public Law 100-497.

8 (2) A local revenue sharing board described in subsection (1)  
9 shall comply with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to  
10 15.275, and the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231  
11 to 15.246.

12 (3) A county treasurer is authorized to receive and administer  
13 funds received for and on behalf of a local revenue sharing board.  
14 Funds appropriated in part 1 for local government programs may be  
15 used to audit local revenue sharing board funds held by a county  
16 treasurer. This section does not limit the ability of local units  
17 of government to enter into agreements with federally recognized  
18 Indian tribes to provide financial assistance to local units of  
19 government or to jointly provide public services.

20 (4) A local revenue sharing board described in subsection (1)  
21 shall comply with all applicable provisions of any agreement  
22 authorized by the Indian gaming regulatory act, Public Law 100-497,  
23 in which the local revenue sharing board is referenced, including,  
24 but not limited to, the disbursal of tribal casino payments  
25 received under applicable provisions of the tribal-state class III  
26 gaming compact in which those funds are received.

27 (5) The director of the department of state police and the

1 executive director of the Michigan gaming control board are  
2 authorized to assist the local revenue sharing boards in  
3 determining allocations to be made to local public safety  
4 organizations.

5 (6) The Michigan gaming control board shall submit a report by  
6 September 30 to the senate and house of representatives standing  
7 committees on appropriations and the state budget director on the  
8 receipts and distribution of revenues by local revenue sharing  
9 boards.

10 Sec. 974. If revenues collected in the state services fee fund  
11 are less than the amounts appropriated from the fund, available  
12 revenues shall be used to fully fund the appropriation in part 1  
13 for casino gaming regulation activities before distributions are  
14 made to other state departments and agencies. If the remaining  
15 revenue in the fund is insufficient to fully fund appropriations to  
16 other state departments or agencies, the shortfall shall be  
17 distributed proportionally among those departments and agencies.

18 Sec. 976. The executive director of the Michigan gaming  
19 control board may pay rewards of not more than \$5,000.00 to a  
20 person who provides information that results in the arrest and  
21 conviction on a felony or misdemeanor charge for a crime that  
22 involves the horse racing industry. A reward paid pursuant to this  
23 section shall be paid out of the appropriation in part 1 for the  
24 racing commission.

25 Sec. 977. All appropriations from the Michigan agriculture  
26 equine industry development fund, except for the racing commission  
27 and laboratory analysis program appropriations, shall be reduced

1 proportionately if revenues to the Michigan agriculture equine  
2 industry development fund decline during the fiscal year ending  
3 September 30, 2016 to a level lower than the amount appropriated in  
4 part 1.

5       Sec. 978. The Michigan gaming control board shall use actual  
6 expenditure data in determining the actual regulatory costs of  
7 conducting racing dates and shall provide that data to the senate  
8 and house appropriations subcommittees on agriculture and general  
9 government and the senate and house fiscal agencies. The Michigan  
10 gaming control board shall not be reimbursed for more than the  
11 actual regulatory cost of conducting race dates. If a certified  
12 horsemen's organization funds more than the actual regulatory cost,  
13 the balance shall remain in the agriculture equine industry  
14 development fund to be used to fund subsequent race dates conducted  
15 by race meeting licensees with which the certified horsemen's  
16 organization has contracts. If a certified horsemen's organization  
17 funds less than the actual regulatory costs of the additional horse  
18 racing dates, the Michigan gaming control board shall reduce the  
19 number of future race dates conducted by race meeting licensees  
20 with which the certified horsemen's organization has contracts.  
21 Prior to the reduction in the number of authorized race dates due  
22 to budget deficits, the executive director of the Michigan gaming  
23 control board shall provide notice to the certified horsemen's  
24 organizations with an opportunity to respond with alternatives. In  
25 determining actual costs, the Michigan gaming control board shall  
26 take into account that each specific breed may require different  
27 regulatory mechanisms.

1       Sec. 979. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
2 Michigan gaming control board may receive and expend state lottery  
3 fund revenue in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000.00 for necessary  
4 expenses incurred in the licensing and regulation of millionaire  
5 parties pursuant to Executive Order No. 2012-4. In accordance with  
6 section 8 of the Traxler-McCauley-Law-Bowman bingo act, 1972 PA  
7 382, MCL 432.108, the amount of necessary expenses shall not exceed  
8 the amount of revenue received under that act. The Michigan gaming  
9 control board shall provide a report to the senate and house of  
10 representatives appropriations subcommittees on general government,  
11 the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget office  
12 by April 15. The report shall include, but not be limited to, total  
13 expenditures related to the licensing and regulating of millionaire  
14 parties, steps taken to ensure charities are receiving revenue due  
15 to them, progress on promulgating rules to ensure compliance with  
16 the Traxler-McCauley-Law-Bowman bingo act, 1972 PA 382, MCL 432.101  
17 to 432.120, and any enforcement actions taken.

18 **MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND - HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

19       Sec. 980. MSHDA shall annually present a report to the state  
20 budget office and the subcommittees on the status of the  
21 authority's housing production goals under all financing programs  
22 established or administered by the authority. The report shall give  
23 special attention to efforts to raise affordable multifamily  
24 housing production goals.

25       Sec. 981. MSHDA shall report to the subcommittees, the state  
26 budget director, and the fiscal agencies by December 1 on the  
27 status of the loans entered into by the Michigan broadband

1 development authority.

2       Sec. 984. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
3 funds collected by state historic preservation programs for  
4 document reproduction and services and application fees are  
5 appropriated for all expenses necessary to provide the required  
6 services. These funds are available for expenditure when they are  
7 received and may be carried forward into the succeeding fiscal  
8 year.

9       Sec. 985. In addition to the amounts appropriated in part 1,  
10 the land bank fast track authority may expend revenues received  
11 under the land bank fast track act, 2003 PA 258, MCL 124.751 to  
12 124.774, for the purposes authorized by the act, including, but not  
13 limited to, the acquisition, lease, management, demolition,  
14 maintenance, or rehabilitation of real or personal property,  
15 payment of debt service for notes or bonds issued by the authority,  
16 and other expenses to clear or quiet title property held by the  
17 authority.

18 **MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND**

19       Sec. 1001. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part  
20 1, there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$20,000,000.00 for  
21 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
22 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
23 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
24 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

25       (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
26 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 for state  
27 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for

1 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
2 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
3 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

4 (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
5 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 for private  
6 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
7 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
8 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
9 MCL 18.1393.

10 (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
11 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for local  
12 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
13 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
14 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
15 MCL 18.1393.

16 Sec. 1005. In addition to the appropriations in part 1, Travel  
17 Michigan may receive and expend private revenue related to the use  
18 of "Pure Michigan" and all other copyrighted slogans and images.  
19 This revenue may come from the direct licensing of the name and  
20 image or from the royalty payments from various merchandise sales.  
21 Revenue collected is appropriated for the marketing of the state as  
22 a travel destination. The funds are available for expenditure when  
23 they are received by the department of treasury. The fund shall  
24 provide a report that lists the revenues by source received from  
25 the use of "Pure Michigan" and all other copyrighted slogans and  
26 images. The report shall provide a detailed list of expenditures of  
27 revenues received under this section. The report shall be provided

1 to the appropriations subcommittees on general government, the  
2 fiscal agencies, and the state budget office by June 1.

3       Sec. 1007. (1) The fund shall provide reports to the relevant  
4 subcommittees, the state budget director, and the fiscal agencies  
5 concerning the activities of the MEDC grants and investment  
6 programs financed from the fund using investment, Indian gaming  
7 revenues, or other revenues. The report shall provide a list of  
8 individual grants, loans, and investments made from the fund or by  
9 the MEDC from the funds appropriated in part 1 and shall include  
10 the name of the recipient, the amount awarded to the recipient, and  
11 the purpose of the grant. The activities report shall also include,  
12 but not be limited to, the following programs funded in part 1:

13       (a) Travel Michigan, including any expenditures authorized  
14 under section 89b of the Michigan strategic fund act, 1984 PA 270,  
15 MCL 125.2089b, to supplement the Michigan promotion program. The  
16 report shall include the number of commercials produced, the  
17 markets in which media buys have been made, any web-based products  
18 that were created with these funds and identify the geographical  
19 market locations and recreational activities used in Michigan  
20 tourism promotion material.

21       (b) Business attraction, retention, and growth, including any  
22 expenditures authorized under section 89b of the Michigan strategic  
23 fund act, 1984 PA 270, MCL 125.2089b, to supplement the Michigan  
24 business marketing program. The report shall include the number of  
25 commercials produced, the markets in which media buys have been  
26 made, and any web-based products that were created as a result of  
27 this appropriation.



- 1 (c) Business services.
- 2 (d) Community development block grants.
- 3 (e) MSF administration.
- 4 (f) Renaissance zones.
- 5 (g) 21st century investment program.
- 6 (h) Business and clean air ombudsman.
- 7 (i) Michigan business development program.
- 8 (j) Community revitalization program.
- 9 (k) Film incentives.
- 10 (l) Any other programs of the fund.

11 (2) As a condition of the expenditure of funds appropriated in  
12 part 1 for business attraction and community revitalization and  
13 film incentives, the fund shall submit a report to the chairpersons  
14 of the senate and house of representatives standing committees on  
15 appropriations, the chairpersons of the senate and house of  
16 representatives standing committees on appropriations subcommittees  
17 on general government, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and  
18 the state budget office that provides performance metrics for the  
19 Michigan business development program, community revitalization  
20 program, and film incentives. The report shall include, but is not  
21 limited to, all of the following for funds appropriated in 2011 PA  
22 63, 2012 PA 200, 2013 PA 59, and 2014 PA 252:

23 (a) Total verified jobs created compared to total committed  
24 jobs.

25 (b) Total actual private investment compared to total  
26 projected private investment.

27 (c) An estimate of the return on investment to the state as a

1 result of the incentives.

2 (d) A listing of projects previously awarded incentives that  
3 were revoked and the reason for revocation.

4 (e) A listing of projects that had incentive contracts amended  
5 by the fund or MEDC. The listing shall include a detailed listing  
6 of the amendments made to the contract.

7 (3) The reports in subsections (1) and (2) shall be submitted  
8 by February 15. The report for each program in subsection (1)(a)  
9 through (l) shall include details on all revenue sources, actual  
10 expenditures, and number of FTEs for that program for the previous  
11 fiscal year.

12 Sec. 1008. As a condition of receiving funds under part 1, any  
13 interlocal agreement entered into by the fund shall include  
14 language which states that if a local unit of government has a  
15 contract or memorandum of understanding with a private economic  
16 development agency, the MEDC will work cooperatively with that  
17 private organization in that local area.

18 Sec. 1009. (1) Of the funds appropriated to the fund or  
19 through grants to the MEDC, no funds shall be expended for the  
20 purchase of options on land or the purchase of land unless at least  
21 1 of the following conditions applies:

22 (a) The land is located in an economically distressed area.

23 (b) The land is obtained through a purchase or exercise of an  
24 option at the invitation of the local unit of government and local  
25 economic development agency.

26 (2) Consideration may be given to purchases where the proposed  
27 use of the land is consistent with a regional land use plan, will

1 result in the redevelopment of an economically distressed area, can  
2 be supported by existing infrastructure, and will not cause shifts  
3 in population away from the area's population centers.

4 (3) As used in this section, "economically distressed area"  
5 means an area in a city, village, or township that has been  
6 designated as blighted; a city, village, or township that shows  
7 negative population change from 1970 and a poverty rate and  
8 unemployment rate greater than the statewide average; or an area  
9 certified as a neighborhood enterprise zone under the neighborhood  
10 enterprise zone act, 1992 PA 147, MCL 207.771 to 207.786.

11 Sec. 1010. As a condition for receiving funds in part 1, not  
12 later than February 15, the fund shall provide a report for the  
13 immediately preceding fiscal year on the jobs for Michigan  
14 investment fund, created in section 88h of the Michigan strategic  
15 fund act, 1984 PA 270, MCL 125.2088h. The report shall be submitted  
16 to the chairpersons of the senate and house of representatives  
17 standing committees on appropriations, the chairpersons of the  
18 senate and house of representatives standing committees on  
19 appropriations subcommittees on general government, the senate and  
20 house fiscal agencies, and the state budget office. The report  
21 shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following:

22 (a) A detailed listing of revenues, by fund source, to the  
23 jobs for Michigan investment fund. The listing shall include the  
24 manner and reason for which the funds were appropriated to the jobs  
25 for Michigan investment fund.

26 (b) A detailed listing of expenditures, by project, from the  
27 jobs for Michigan investment fund.

1 (c) A fiscal year-end balance of the jobs for Michigan  
2 investment fund.

3 Sec. 1011. (1) From the appropriations in part 1 to the fund  
4 and granted or transferred to the MEDC, any unexpended or  
5 unencumbered balance shall be disposed of in accordance with the  
6 requirements in the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL  
7 18.1101 to 18.1594, unless carryforward authorization has been  
8 otherwise provided for.

9 (2) Any encumbered funds shall be used for the same purposes  
10 for which funding was originally appropriated in this part and part  
11 1.

12 Sec. 1012. (1) As a condition of receiving funds under part 1,  
13 the fund shall ensure that the MEDC and the fund comply with all of  
14 the following:

15 (a) The freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to  
16 15.246.

17 (b) The open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

18 (c) Annual audits of all financial records by the auditor  
19 general or his or her designee.

20 (d) All reports required by law to be submitted to the  
21 legislature.

22 (2) If the MEDC is unable for any reason to perform duties  
23 under this part, the fund may exercise those duties.

24 Sec. 1013. As a condition for receiving the appropriations in  
25 part 1, any staff of the MEDC involved in private fund-raising  
26 activities shall not be party to any decisions regarding the  
27 awarding of grants, incentives, or tax abatements from the fund,

1 the MEDC, or the Michigan economic growth authority.

2       Sec. 1014. (1) All funds received from repayment of loans,  
3 unused grants, revenues received from sales or cash flow  
4 participation agreements, guarantees, or any combination of these  
5 or accrued interest originally distributed as part of the core  
6 communities fund, created by 2000 PA 291, shall be received, held,  
7 and applied by the fund for the purposes described in 2000 PA 291.

8       (2) The fund shall provide an annual report on the status of  
9 this fund which includes information that details the awards made.  
10 The report shall be provided to the appropriations subcommittees on  
11 general government, the fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
12 office by February 15.

13       Sec. 1020. Federal pass-through funds to local institutions  
14 and governments that are received in amounts in addition to those  
15 included in part 1 and that do not require additional state  
16 matching funds are appropriated for the purposes intended. The fund  
17 may carry forward into the succeeding fiscal year unexpended  
18 federal pass-through funds to local institutions and governments  
19 that do not require additional state matching funds. The fund shall  
20 report the amount and source of the funds to the senate  
21 appropriation subcommittee on economic development, the house  
22 appropriation subcommittee on general government, the senate and  
23 house fiscal agencies, and the state budget office within 10  
24 business days after receiving any additional pass-through funds.

25       Sec. 1024. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for business  
26 attraction and community revitalization, not less than  
27 \$20,000,000.00 shall be granted by the fund board for brownfield

1 redevelopment and historic preservation projects under the  
2 community revitalization program authorized by chapter 8C of the  
3 Michigan strategic fund act, 1984 PA 270, MCL 125.2090 to  
4 125.2090d.

5       Sec. 1031. The fund shall report to the senate and house of  
6 representatives appropriations subcommittees on general government,  
7 the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget office  
8 by April 15 on the spending plan for the line items for  
9 entrepreneurship eco-system and business attraction and community  
10 revitalization. If the spending plan for the fiscal year is changed  
11 after that date, the fund shall notify the report recipients listed  
12 previously within 10 business days.

13       Sec. 1032. (1) The Michigan film office shall report to the  
14 subcommittees and the fiscal agencies on the status of the film  
15 incentives at the same time as it submits the annual report  
16 required under section 455 of the Michigan business tax act, 2007  
17 PA 36, MCL 208.1455. The department of treasury and the fund shall  
18 provide the Michigan film office with the data necessary to prepare  
19 the report. Incentives included in the report shall include all of  
20 the following:

21       (a) The tax credit provided under section 455 of the Michigan  
22 business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1455.

23       (b) The tax credit provided under section 457 of the Michigan  
24 business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1457.

25       (c) The tax credit provided under section 459 of the Michigan  
26 business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1459.

27       (d) The amount of any tax credit claimed under former section

1 367 of the income tax act of 1967, 1967 PA 281.

2 (e) Any tax credits provided for film and digital media  
3 production under the Michigan economic growth authority act, 1995  
4 PA 24, MCL 207.801 to 207.810.

5 (f) Loans to an eligible production company or film and  
6 digital media private equity fund authorized under section 88d(3),  
7 (4), and (5) of the Michigan strategic fund act, 2005 PA 225, MCL  
8 125.2088d.

9 (g) Any spending or activities supported by the appropriations  
10 in part 1 for film incentives.

11 (2) The report shall include all of the following information:

12 (a) For each tax credit, the number of contracts signed, the  
13 projected expenditures qualifying for the credit, and the estimated  
14 value of the credits. For loans, the number of loans made under  
15 each section, the interest rate of those loans, the loan amount,  
16 the percent of the projected budget of each production financed by  
17 those loans, and the estimated interest earnings from the loan. For  
18 each film incentive awarded, including any program to support and  
19 promote a qualified facility and other film infrastructure as  
20 defined in section 29h of the Michigan strategic fund act, 1984 PA  
21 270, MCL 125.2029h, the total funding awarded for each of the  
22 following:

23 (i) Direct production expenditures.

24 (ii) Michigan personnel expenditures.

25 (iii) Crew personnel expenditures.

26 (iv) Qualified personnel expenditures.

27 (v) Postproduction expenditures.

1 (vi) Qualified facility or infrastructure expenditures.

2 (vii) Spending for program administration.

3 (b) For credits authorized under section 455 of the Michigan  
4 business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1455, for productions  
5 completed by December 31, the expenditures of each production  
6 eligible for the credit that has filed a request for certificate of  
7 completion with the film office, broken down into expenditures for  
8 goods, services, or salaries and wages and showing separately  
9 expenditures in each local unit of government, including  
10 expenditures for personnel, whether or not they were made to a  
11 Michigan entity, and whether or not they were taxable under the  
12 laws of this state. For loans, the report shall include the number  
13 of loans that have been fully repaid, with principal and interest  
14 shown separately, and the number of loans that are delinquent or in  
15 default, and the amount of principal that is delinquent or is in  
16 default.

17 (c) For each of the tax credit incentives, loan incentives,  
18 and film incentives listed in subsection (1), a breakdown for each  
19 project or production showing each of the following:

20 (i) The number of temporary jobs created.

21 (ii) The number of permanent jobs created.

22 (iii) The number of persons employed in Michigan as a result  
23 of the incentive, on a full-time equated basis.

24 (3) For any information not included in the report due to the  
25 provisions of section 455(6), 457(6), or 459(6) of the Michigan  
26 business tax act, 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1455, 208.1457, and 208.1459,  
27 the report shall do all of the following:



1 (a) Indicate how the information would describe the commercial  
2 and financial operations or intellectual property of the company.

3 (b) Attest that the information has not been publicly  
4 disseminated at any time.

5 (c) Describe how disclosure of the information may put the  
6 company at a competitive disadvantage.

7 (4) Any information not disclosed due to the provisions of  
8 section 455(6), 457(6), or 459(6) of the Michigan business tax act,  
9 2007 PA 36, MCL 208.1455, 208.1457, and 208.1459, shall be  
10 presented at the lowest level of aggregation that would no longer  
11 describe the commercial and financial operations or intellectual  
12 property of the company.

13 Sec. 1033. The Michigan film office shall report to the  
14 chairpersons of the senate and house of representatives standing  
15 committees on appropriations subcommittees on general government  
16 and the senate and house fiscal agencies on the status of the film  
17 incentives approved under section 29h of the Michigan strategic  
18 fund act, 1984 PA 270, MCL 125.2029h, not later than 30 days  
19 following the end of each quarter of the fiscal year. The report  
20 shall include all of the following:

21 (a) Direct and indirect economic impacts in this state  
22 attributable to the assistance.

23 (b) Direct and indirect job creation in this state  
24 attributable to the assistance.

25 (c) Direct and indirect private investment in this state  
26 attributable to the assistance.

27 (d) The name of each eligible production company and the

1 amount of each incentive disbursed for each state certified  
2 qualified production.

3 Sec. 1033b. For funds appropriated in part 1 from the general  
4 fund/general purpose revenue and used for the purpose of the  
5 Michigan strategic fund - film incentive program, the applicable  
6 percentage of the state certified qualified production expenditures  
7 provided in section 29h(3)(d) of the Michigan strategic fund act,  
8 1984 PA 270, MCL 125.2029h, shall be determined based on the  
9 effective date of the agreement.

10 Sec. 1034. Each business incubator or accelerator that  
11 received an award from the fund shall maintain and update a  
12 dashboard of indicators to measure the effectiveness of the  
13 business incubator and accelerator programs. Indicators shall  
14 include the direct jobs created, new companies launched as a direct  
15 result of business incubator or accelerator involvement, businesses  
16 expanded as a direct result of business incubator or accelerator  
17 involvement, direct investment in client companies, private equity  
18 financing obtained by client companies, grant funding obtained by  
19 client companies, and other measures developed by the recipient  
20 business incubators and accelerators in conjunction with the MEDC.  
21 Dashboard indicators shall be reported for the prior fiscal year  
22 and cumulatively, if available. Each recipient shall submit a copy  
23 of their dashboard indicators to the fund by March 1. The fund  
24 shall transmit the local reports to the senate and house of  
25 representatives appropriations subcommittees on general government,  
26 the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget office  
27 by March 15.

1       Sec. 1035. (1) From the appropriation in part 1, the Michigan  
2 council for arts and cultural affairs shall administer an arts and  
3 cultural grant program that maintains an equitable geographic  
4 distribution of funding and utilizes past arts and cultural grant  
5 programs as a guideline for administering this program. The council  
6 shall do all of the following:

7       (a) On or before October 1, the fund shall publish proposed  
8 application criteria, instructions, and forms for use by eligible  
9 applicants. The fund shall provide at least a 2-week period for  
10 public comment before finalizing the application criteria,  
11 instructions, and forms.

12       (b) A nonrefundable application fee may be assessed for each  
13 application. Application fees shall be deposited in the council for  
14 the arts fund and are appropriated for expenses necessary to  
15 administer the programs. These funds are available for expenditure  
16 when they are received and may be carried forward to the following  
17 fiscal year.

18       (c) Grants are to be made to public and private arts and  
19 cultural entities.

20       (d) Within 1 business day after the award announcements, the  
21 council shall provide to each member of the legislature and the  
22 fiscal agencies a list of all grant recipients and the total award  
23 given to each recipient, sorted by county.

24       (2) The appropriation in part 1 for arts and cultural program  
25 shall not be used for the administration of the grant program.

26       Sec. 1036. (1) The general fund/general purpose funds  
27 appropriated in part 1 to the fund for the programs listed below

1 shall be transferred to the specific funds designated by statute  
2 for those programs as follows:

3 (a) The business attraction and community revitalization funds  
4 shall be transferred to the 21st century jobs trust fund per  
5 section 90b(3) of the Michigan strategic fund act, 1984 PA 270, MCL  
6 125.2090b.

7 (b) The film incentives program funds shall be transferred to  
8 the Michigan film promotion fund established in the Michigan  
9 strategic fund act, 1984 PA 270, MCL 125.2029d.

10 (2) Funds transferred to the 21st century jobs trust fund or  
11 Michigan film promotion fund under subsection (1) are appropriated  
12 and available for allocation as authorized in the Michigan  
13 strategic fund act, 1984 PA 270, MCL 125.2001 to 125.2094.

14 Sec. 1039. The fund shall provide a report by February 15 to  
15 the senate and house of representatives standing committees on  
16 appropriations subcommittees on general government, the state  
17 budget director, and the fiscal agencies on the status of the  
18 skilled trades training program funded in part 1. The report shall  
19 include the following:

20 (a) The number of awardees participating in the program and  
21 the names of those awardees organized by major industry group.

22 (b) The amount of funding received by each awardee under the  
23 program.

24 (c) Amount of funding leveraged from each awardee or other  
25 funding source for each awardee project.

26 (d) Training models established by each awardee.

27 (e) The number of individuals enrolled in a skilled trades

1 training program by awardee.

2 (f) The number of individuals who completed the program and  
3 were hired by awardee.

4 (g) The number of applications received and the number of  
5 applications approved for each region.

6 Sec. 1039b. As a condition of receiving funds in part 1 for  
7 the skilled trades training program, the fund shall administer the  
8 program as follows:

9 (a) The fund shall work cooperatively with grantees to  
10 maximize the amount of funds from part 1 that are available for  
11 direct training.

12 (b) The fund and workforce development partners, including  
13 regional Michigan Works! agencies, shall collaborate and work  
14 cooperatively to prioritize and streamline the expenditure of the  
15 funds appropriated in part 1. The fund shall ensure that the  
16 skilled trades training program provides a collaborative statewide  
17 network of workforce and employee skill development partners that  
18 addresses the employee talent needs throughout the state.

19 (c) The fund shall ensure that grants are distributed for  
20 individual skill enhancement for employees of Michigan businesses.  
21 Funds shall not be distributed to program and process centered  
22 training organization employers.

23 (d) The fund shall develop program goals and detailed guidance  
24 for prospective participants to follow to qualify under the  
25 program. The program goals and detailed guidance shall be posted on  
26 the fund website and distributed to local Michigan Works! agencies  
27 by October 1. Periodic assessments of employer and employee needs

1 shall be evaluated on a regional basis, and the fund shall identify  
2 solutions and goals to be implemented to satisfy those needs. The  
3 fund shall notify the senate and house of representatives standing  
4 committees on appropriations, the senate and house of  
5 representatives standing committees on appropriations subcommittees  
6 on general government, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and  
7 the state budget office on any program goal, solution, or guidance  
8 changes not fewer than 14 days prior to the finalization and  
9 publication of the changes. Revenues received by the fund for the  
10 skilled trades training program are appropriated and may be  
11 expended for purposes of the program.

12 (e) Up to \$5,000,000.00 of the funds may be expended to match  
13 federal funds when a Michigan company has utilized its favored  
14 status designation from the investing in manufacturing communities  
15 partnership to receive an award from the federal government.  
16 Advance Michigan is the multijurisdictional collaborative working  
17 with this partnership. The intent of Advance Michigan is to assist  
18 businesses in securing federal funding opportunities and provide  
19 matching funds in support of advancing Michigan as a global center  
20 for advanced automotive manufacturing. The intent of these funds  
21 will involve improving and increasing the skill level of employees  
22 in skilled trades in the automotive industry and the manufacturing  
23 processes within the changing manufacturing environment.

24 Sec. 1040. As a condition of receiving funds in part 1, the  
25 fund shall utilize MAIN, or a successor MDTMB-administered  
26 administrative information system used across state government, as  
27 an appropriation and expenditure reporting system to track all

1 financial transactions with individual vendors, contractual  
2 partners, grantees, recipients of business incentives, and  
3 recipients of other economic assistance. Encumbrances and  
4 expenditures shall be reported in a timely manner.

5 Sec. 1041. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for business  
6 attraction and community revitalization, the fund shall request the  
7 transfer by the state treasurer of not more than 60% of the funds  
8 prior to April 1.

9 Sec. 1042. For the funds appropriated in part 1 for business  
10 attraction and community revitalization, the fund shall report  
11 quarterly on the amount of funds considered appropriated, pre-  
12 encumbered, encumbered, and expended. The report shall also include  
13 a listing of appropriations for business attraction and community  
14 revitalization, or a predecessor, in 2011 PA 63, 2012 PA 200, 2013  
15 PA 59, and 2014 PA 252, that were considered appropriated, pre-  
16 encumbered, encumbered, or expended that have lapsed back to the  
17 fund for any purpose. The report shall be submitted to the  
18 chairpersons of the senate and house of representatives standing  
19 committees on appropriations, the chairpersons of the senate and  
20 house of representatives standing committees on appropriations  
21 subcommittees on general government, the senate and house fiscal  
22 agencies, and the state budget office.

23 Sec. 1045. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
24 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
25 30, 2016 are \$18,468,200.00. From this amount, total agency  
26 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
27 \$10,482,500.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care

1 legacy costs are estimated at \$7,985,700.00.

2       Sec. 1050. (1) The fund shall publish the "activities  
3 classification structure data book" for Michigan community colleges  
4 on or before March 1.

5       (2) The fund shall compile information received from community  
6 colleges on North American Indian tuition waivers granted pursuant  
7 to 1976 PA 174, MCL 390.1251 to 390.1253, and shall submit this  
8 compilation to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on  
9 community colleges, the fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
10 director by March 1.

11       (3) The fund shall compile information received from community  
12 colleges on the number and types of associate degrees and other  
13 certificates awarded during the previous fiscal year and shall  
14 submit this compilation to the house and senate appropriations  
15 subcommittees on community colleges, the fiscal agencies, and the  
16 state budget director by March 1.

17       (4) The fund shall place the reports required in this section  
18 on a publicly available website.

19       Sec. 1052. The fund shall provide a report to the senate and  
20 house of representatives appropriations general government  
21 subcommittees, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state  
22 budget director no later than April 15, 2016 on the status of  
23 projects by award recipient in an annual report to the legislature  
24 as required in the Michigan strategic fund act, 1984 PA 270, MCL  
25 125.2001 to 125.2094.

26       Sec. 1054. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for workforce  
27 programs subgrantees, the fund may allocate funding for grants to



1 nonprofit organizations that offer programs to workforce investment  
2 act of 1998, 29 USC 2801 to 2945, or the workforce innovation and  
3 opportunity act 29 USC 3101 to 3361, eligible youth focusing on  
4 entrepreneurship, apprenticeship, work-readiness skills, job  
5 shadowing, and financial literacy. Organizations eligible for  
6 funding under this section must have the capacity to provide  
7 similar programs in urban areas, as determined by the United States  
8 bureau of the census according to the most recent federal decennial  
9 census. Additionally, programs eligible for funding under this  
10 section must include the participation of local business partners.  
11 The fund shall develop other appropriate eligibility requirements  
12 to ensure compliance with applicable federal rules and regulations.

13       Sec. 1057. From the appropriations in part 1 for  
14 entrepreneurship eco-system, the fund board may allocate funding  
15 for the aerospace supplier development program. Any funds allocated  
16 by the fund board to the aerospace supplier development program  
17 managed by the Michigan aerospace manufacturer's association shall  
18 be used to support the following business development services:

19       (a) Develop robust supplier-OEM networks using an innovative  
20 aggregate demand model (ADM).

21       (b) Facilitate the adoption of digital manufacturing and  
22 modeling, simulation and analysis (MSA) for aerospace suppliers.

23       (c) Advance aerospace workforce development.

24       (d) Host funding and investment strategy meetings for  
25 aerospace suppliers.

26       (e) Mentor disadvantaged suppliers.

27       (f) Provide internship programs to retain Michigan trained

1 engineers for Michigan located aerospace companies.

2 **MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND - WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

3       Sec. 1060. The fund shall administer the PATH training program  
4 in accordance with the requirements of section 407(d) of title IV  
5 of the social security act, 42 USC 607, the state social welfare  
6 act, 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.1 to 400.119b, and all other applicable  
7 laws and regulations.

8       Sec. 1062. The fund shall make available, in person or by  
9 telephone, 1 disabled veterans outreach program specialist or local  
10 veterans employment representative to Michigan Works! service  
11 centers, as resources permit, during hours of operation, and shall  
12 continue to make the appropriate placement of veterans and disabled  
13 veterans a priority.

14       Sec. 1063. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part  
15 1, any unencumbered and unrestricted federal workforce investment  
16 act of 1998, 29 USC 2801 to 2945, workforce innovation and  
17 opportunity act, 29 USC 3101 to 3361, or trade adjustment  
18 assistance funds available from prior fiscal years are appropriated  
19 for the purposes originally intended.

20       (2) The fund shall report by February 1 to the subcommittees,  
21 the fiscal agencies, and the state budget office on the amount by  
22 fiscal year of federal workforce investment act of 1998, 29 USC  
23 2801 to 2945, workforce innovation and opportunity act, 29 USC 3101  
24 to 3361, funds appropriated under this section.

25       Sec. 1064. As a condition of receiving the funds appropriated  
26 in part 1 for workforce program administration and workforce  
27 development programs, the fund shall provide a report by September

1 30 to the senate and house of representatives standing committees  
2 on appropriations subcommittees on general government, the state  
3 budget director, and the senate and house fiscal agencies on the  
4 status of each discrete workforce development agency program  
5 supported by funds appropriated in part 1 for workforce program  
6 administration and workforce development programs. The status  
7 report shall include, at a minimum, actual revenues received by the  
8 fund source and funds appropriated for each discrete workforce  
9 development program area.

10 Sec. 1068. (1) Of the funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
11 workforce training programs, the fund shall provide a report by  
12 February 15 to the senate and house of representatives standing  
13 committees on appropriations subcommittees on general government,  
14 the state budget director, and the fiscal agencies on the status of  
15 the workforce training programs. The report shall include the  
16 following:

17 (a) The amount of funding allocated to each Michigan Works!  
18 agency and the total funding allocated to the workforce training  
19 programs statewide by fund source.

20 (b) The number of participants enrolled in education or  
21 training programs by each Michigan Works! agency.

22 (c) The average duration of training for training program  
23 participants by each Michigan Works! agency.

24 (d) The number of participants enrolled in remedial education  
25 programs and the number of participants enrolled in literacy  
26 programs.

27 (e) The number of participants enrolled in programs at 2-year

1 institutions.

2 (f) The number of participants enrolled in 4-year  
3 institutions.

4 (g) The number of participants enrolled in proprietary schools  
5 or other technical training programs.

6 (h) The number of participants that have completed education  
7 or training programs.

8 (i) The number of participants who secured employment in  
9 Michigan within 1 year of completing a training program.

10 (j) The number of participants who completed a training  
11 program and secured employment in a field related to their  
12 training.

13 (k) The average wage earned by participants who completed a  
14 training program and secured employment within 1 year.

15 (2) Data collection for the report shall be for the prior  
16 fiscal year.

17 Sec. 1069. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for the GED-  
18 to-school program are for the purpose of funding the cost of GED  
19 testing and certification as provided by this section. The  
20 workforce development agency shall administer a Michigan GED-to-  
21 school program, which shall cover the cost of providing the GED  
22 test free of charge to individuals who meet all of the following  
23 requirements:

24 (a) The individual has not previously been administered a GED  
25 test free of charge under this section.

26 (b) The individual meets at least 1 of the following  
27 requirements:

1           (i) Prior to taking the GED test, the individual successfully  
2 completed a WDA-approved GED preparation program.

3           (ii) Prior to taking the GED test, the individual completes  
4 the official GED practice test and the individual's score indicates  
5 that he or she is likely to pass.

6           (2) A WDA-approved GED preparation program shall include all  
7 of the following:

8           (a) Instructional and tutorial assistance.

9           (b) GED test practice.

10          (c) Required attendance at program instructional sessions.

11          (d) A curriculum that prepares students for opportunities in  
12 postsecondary education and the job market.

13          (e) Information on potential postsecondary and career  
14 pathways.

15          (f) Counseling on preparing for and applying to college.

16          (g) Personal and job readiness skills development.

17          (h) Comprehensive information on college costs and financial  
18 aid.

19          (i) College and career assessments.

20          (j) Computer-based instruction, practice, or remediation.

21          (3) By January 1, 2016, the workforce development agency shall  
22 post online an announcement of the Michigan GED-to-school program,  
23 minimum standards for GED preparation program approval, and  
24 approval procedures.

25          (4) By April 1, 2016, the workforce development agency shall  
26 do all of the following:

27          (a) Develop procedures consistent with this section under

1 which individuals can take the GED test without charge.

2 (b) Provide program information for educators and students on  
3 the workforce development agency website, including explanations of  
4 the procedures developed under subdivisions (a) and (b), and  
5 contact information for questions about the program.

6 (c) Provide an estimate of the full-year cost of the program  
7 to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on general  
8 government, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state  
9 budget director.

10 (5) By September 30, 2016, the workforce development agency  
11 shall report to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees  
12 on general government, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and  
13 the state budget director on utilization of the GED incentive  
14 program, including numbers of GED certifications issued by  
15 location, year-to-date expenditures, and numbers of participants  
16 qualifying under subsection (1)(b)(i) or (ii), or both.

17 (6) The unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 and in article  
18 VIII of 2014 PA 252 for the GED-to-school program are designated as  
19 a work project appropriation, and any unencumbered or unallotted  
20 funds shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year and shall be  
21 available for expenditures for projects under this section until  
22 the projects have been completed. The following is in compliance  
23 with section 451a of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
24 MCL 18.1451a:

25 (a) The purpose of the project is to fund the cost of GED  
26 testing and certification for certain individuals as provided by  
27 this section.

1 (b) The projects will be accomplished by utilizing state  
2 employees or contracts with private vendors, or both.

3 (c) The total estimated cost of the project is \$500,100.00.

4 (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2020.

5 Sec. 1071. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
6 business attraction and community revitalization, the MSF shall  
7 continue with strategic investments that create jobs and support  
8 community redevelopment to grow Michigan's economy.

9 (2) The Michigan strategic fund shall identify specific  
10 outcomes and performance metrics for this initiative, including,  
11 but not limited to, the following:

12 (a) Monthly total jobs.

13 (b) Private investment for community projects.

14 **STATE BUILDING AUTHORITY**

15 Sec. 1101. (1) Subject to section 242 of the management and  
16 budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1242, and upon the approval of the  
17 state building authority, the department may expend from the  
18 general fund of the state during the fiscal year an amount to meet  
19 the cash flow requirements of those state building authority  
20 projects solely for lease to a state agency identified in both part  
21 1 and this section, and for which state building authority bonds or  
22 notes have not been issued, and for the sole acquisition by the  
23 state building authority of equipment and furnishings for lease to  
24 a state agency as permitted by 1964 PA 183, MCL 830.411 to 830.425,  
25 for which the issuance of bonds or notes is authorized by a  
26 legislative appropriation act that is effective for the fiscal year

1 ending September 30, 2015. Any general fund advances for which  
2 state building authority bonds have not been issued shall bear an  
3 interest cost to the state building authority at a rate not to  
4 exceed that earned by the state treasurer's common cash fund during  
5 the period in which the advances are outstanding and are repaid to  
6 the general fund of the state.

7 (2) Upon sale of bonds or notes for the projects identified in  
8 part 1 or for equipment as authorized by a legislative  
9 appropriation act and in this section, the state building authority  
10 shall credit the general fund of the state an amount equal to that  
11 expended from the general fund plus interest, if any, as defined in  
12 this section.

13 (3) For state building authority projects for which bonds or  
14 notes have been issued and upon the request of the state building  
15 authority, the state treasurer shall make advances without interest  
16 from the general fund as necessary to meet cash flow requirements  
17 for the projects, which advances shall be reimbursed by the state  
18 building authority when the investments earmarked for the financing  
19 of the projects mature.

20 (4) In the event that a project identified in part 1 is  
21 terminated after final design is complete, advances made on behalf  
22 of the state building authority for the costs of final design shall  
23 be repaid to the general fund in a manner recommended by the  
24 director.

25 Sec. 1102. (1) State building authority funding to finance  
26 construction or renovation of a facility that collects revenue in  
27 excess of money required for the operation of that facility shall



1 not be released to a university or community college unless the  
2 institution agrees to reimburse that excess revenue to the state  
3 building authority. The excess revenue shall be credited to the  
4 general fund to offset rent obligations associated with the  
5 retirement of bonds issued for that facility. The auditor general  
6 shall annually identify and present an audit of those facilities  
7 that are subject to this section. Costs associated with the  
8 administration of the audit shall be charged against money  
9 recovered pursuant to this section.

10 (2) As used in this section, "revenue" includes state  
11 appropriations, facility opening money, other state aid, indirect  
12 cost reimbursement, and other revenue generated by the activities  
13 of the facility.

14 Sec. 1103. The state building authority shall provide to the  
15 JCOS and senate and house fiscal agencies a report relative to the  
16 status of construction projects associated with state building  
17 authority bonds as of September 30 of each year, on or before  
18 October 15, or not more than 30 days after a refinancing or  
19 restructuring bond issue is sold. The report shall include, but is  
20 not limited to, the following:

21 (a) A list of all completed construction projects for which  
22 state building authority bonds have been sold, and which bonds are  
23 currently active.

24 (b) A list of all projects under construction for which sale  
25 of state building authority bonds is pending.

26 (c) A list of all projects authorized for construction or  
27 identified in an appropriations act for which approval of

1 schematic/preliminary plans or total authorized cost is pending  
 2 that have state building authority bonds identified as a source of  
 3 financing.

#### 4 REVENUE STATEMENT

5 Sec. 1201. Pursuant to section 18 of article V of the state  
 6 constitution of 1963, fund balances and estimates are presented in  
 7 the following statement:

#### 8 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS BY OPERATING FUNDS

9 (Amounts in millions)

10 Fiscal Year 2015-2016

		Beginning			
		Available	Estimated	Ending	
	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Balance</u>	
11					
12					
13					
14	OPERATING FUNDS				
15	General fund/general purpose	0110	0.3	9,604.1	28.9
16	General fund/special purpose		612.5	26,410.4	10.6
17	Special Revenue Funds:				
18	Countercyclical budget and				
19	economic stabilization	0111	497.7	113.0	610.7
20	Game and fish protection	0112	3.3	82.9	3.1
21	Michigan employment security act				
22	administration	0113	0.0	37.4	0.0
23	State aeronautics	0114	2.3	12.6	0.0
24	Michigan veterans' benefit				
25	trust	0115	3.5	3.5	3.5

1	State trunkline	0116	0.0	809.6	0.0
2	Michigan state waterways	0117	5.4	26.6	4.3
3	Blue Water Bridge	0118	0.0	24.0	0.0
4	Michigan transportation	0119	0.0	1,981.3	0.0
5	Comprehensive transportation	0120	5.1	267.3	0.0
6	School aid	0122	455.1	14,338.7	119.8
7	Game and fish protection trust	0124	0.0	16.6	0.0
8	State park improvement	0125	4.7	55.7	4.1
9	Forest development	0126	7.7	35.9	6.9
10	Michigan natural resources				
11	trust	0129	27.4	33.7	32.1
12	Michigan state parks endowment	0130	12.5	48.4	10.2
13	Safety education and training	0131	5.2	9.8	3.8
14	Bottle deposit	0136	10.8	13.3	3.3
15	State construction code	0138	1.0	13.0	4.4
16	Children's trust	0139	1.5	3.1	1.8
17	State casino gaming	0140	0.7	0.2	0.9
18	Michigan nongame fish and				
19	wildlife	0143	0.4	0.5	0.3
20	Michigan merit award trust	0154	75.7	100.2	75.0
21	Outdoor recreation legacy	0162	0.4	2.6	0.3
22	Off-road vehicle account	0163	4.6	6.7	4.1
23	Snowmobile account	0164	4.5	9.9	3.3
24	Silicosis dust disease				
25	and logging	0870	1.4	0.7	0.9
26	Utility consumer representation	0893	2.1	1.2	1.9
27	TOTALS		\$1,745.8	\$54,062.9	\$934.2

## PART 2A

## PROVISIONS CONCERNING ANTICIPATED APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

**GENERAL SECTIONS**

Sec. 1301. It is the intent of the legislature to provide appropriations for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2017 for the line items listed in part 1. The fiscal year 2016-2017 appropriations are anticipated to be the same as those for fiscal year 2015-2016, except that the line items will be adjusted for changes in caseload and related costs, federal fund match rates, economic factors, and available revenue. These adjustments will be determined after the January 2016 consensus revenue estimating conference.

## ARTICLE X

## DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

## PART 1

## LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the department of human services for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the following funds:

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

## APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Full-time equated classified positions.....	12,037.9
Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	3.0
Total full-time equated positions.....	12,040.9

1	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 5,721,385,100
2	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
3	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental	
4	transfers .....	24,260,300
5	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 5,697,124,800
6	Federal revenues:	
7	Social security act, temporary assistance for needy	
8	families .....	514,809,500
9	Capped federal revenues.....	583,619,500
10	Federal supplemental security income.....	8,588,600
11	Total other federal revenues.....	3,432,519,200
12	Special revenue funds:	
13	Total private revenues.....	26,356,900
14	Total local revenues.....	45,441,300
15	Total other state restricted revenues.....	117,333,400
16	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 968,456,400
17	<b>Sec. 102. DEPARTMENTWIDE ADMINISTRATION</b>	
18	Total full-time equated positions.....	690.5
19	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	3.0
20	Full-time equated classified positions.....	687.5
21	Unclassified salaries--3.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 451,000
22	Central administration--274.5 FTE positions.....	28,460,000
23	Contractual services, supplies, and materials.....	12,680,800
24	Demonstration projects staff--7.0 FTE positions.....	100
25	Demonstration projects program.....	6,805,000
26	Office of inspector general--130.0 FTE positions.....	13,236,300
27	AFC, children's welfare and day care licensure staff--	

1	276.0 FTE positions .....	25,611,100
2	AFC, children's welfare and day care licensure program	8,884,000
3	State office of administrative hearings and rules ....	8,353,900
4	Travel.....	9,208,900
5	Rent and state office facilities.....	46,771,900
6	Worker's compensation.....	2,461,300
7	Terminal pay and other employee costs.....	<u>10,320,200</u>
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 173,244,500
9	Appropriated from:	
10	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
11	IDG from department of education.....	14,668,900
12	Federal revenues:	
13	Social security act, temporary assistance for needy	
14	families .....	23,539,700
15	Capped federal revenues.....	23,770,200
16	Total other federal revenues.....	47,801,500
17	Special revenue funds:	
18	Total private revenues.....	3,806,800
19	Total local revenues.....	16,400
20	Total other state restricted revenues.....	5,400
21	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 59,635,600
22	<b>Sec. 103. CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT</b>	
23	Full-time equated classified positions.....	185.7
24	Child support enforcement operations staff--179.7 FTE	
25	positions .....	\$ 17,982,600
26	Child support enforcement operations program.....	3,928,000
27	Legal support contracts.....	113,359,100

1	Child support incentive payments.....	24,409,600
2	State disbursement unit staff--6.0 FTE positions.....	816,000
3	State disbursement unit program.....	<u>7,264,700</u>
4	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 167,760,000
5	Appropriated from:	
6	Federal revenues:	
7	Capped federal revenues.....	1,735,000
8	Total other federal revenues.....	142,479,400
9	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 23,545,600
10	<b>Sec. 104. COMMUNITY SERVICES AND OUTREACH</b>	
11	Full-time equated classified positions.....	46.6
12	Bureau of community services and outreach staff--16.0	
13	FTE positions .....	\$ 1,587,600
14	Bureau of community services and outreach program....	478,000
15	Community services block grant.....	25,840,000
16	Weatherization assistance.....	16,340,000
17	Homeless programs.....	14,721,900
18	Domestic violence prevention and treatment staff--14.6	
19	FTE positions .....	1,133,400
20	Domestic violence prevention and treatment program...	14,593,700
21	Rape prevention and services staff--0.5 FTE position.	50,900
22	Rape prevention and services program.....	5,021,400
23	Child advocacy centers staff--0.5 FTE position.....	50,900
24	Child advocacy centers program.....	1,949,100
25	Michigan community service commission staff--15.0 FTE	
26	positions .....	1,120,800
27	Michigan community service commission program.....	<u>10,473,100</u>

1	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	93,360,800
2	Appropriated from:		
3	Federal revenues:		
4	Social security act, temporary assistance for needy		
5	families .....		11,223,100
6	Capped federal revenues.....		66,215,400
7	Total private revenues.....		44,100
8	Compulsive gambling prevention fund.....		1,040,500
9	Sexual assault victims' treatment fund.....		3,000,000
10	Child advocacy centers fund.....		2,000,000
11	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	9,837,700
12	<b>Sec. 105. ADULT PROTECTIVE AND SUPPORT SERVICES</b>		
13	Full-time equated classified positions.....	443.0	
14	Guardian contract.....	\$	540,200
15	Adult services policy and administration staff--18.0		
16	FTE positions .....		900,100
17	Adult services policy and administration program.....		1,379,300
18	Elder law of Michigan MiCAFE contract.....		350,000
19	Elder abuse prosecuting attorney.....		300,000
20	Adult services field staff--425.0 FTE positions .....		<u>43,807,400</u>
21	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	47,277,000
22	Appropriated from:		
23	Federal revenues:		
24	Capped federal revenues.....		17,558,800
25	Total other federal revenues.....		14,561,300
26	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	15,156,900
27	<b>Sec. 106. CHILD WELFARE SERVICES</b>		



1	Full-time equated classified positions.....	3,835.2	
2	Children's services administration--166.0 FTE		
3	positions .....		\$ 18,637,200
4	Title IV-E compliance and accountability office--4.0		
5	FTE positions .....		412,000
6	Child welfare institute staff--45.0 FTE positions ....		4,698,100
7	Child welfare institute program.....		2,989,300
8	Child welfare field staff - caseload compliance--		
9	2,511.0 FTE positions .....		225,483,300
10	Child welfare field staff - noncaseload compliance--		
11	320.0 FTE positions .....		32,881,200
12	Education planners--15.0 FTE positions .....		1,485,300
13	Peer coaches--45.5 FTE positions.....		5,567,700
14	Child welfare first line supervisors--578.0 FTE		
15	positions .....		70,618,000
16	Second line supervisors and technical staff--54.0 FTE		
17	positions .....		8,650,900
18	Permanency resource managers--28.0 FTE positions .....		3,095,400
19	Contractual services, supplies, and materials .....		9,274,000
20	Settlement monitor.....		1,885,800
21	Foster care payments.....		189,048,900
22	Guardianship assistance program.....		8,807,000
23	Child care fund.....		181,448,900
24	Child care fund administration staff--6.2 FTE		
25	positions .....		760,300
26	Child care fund administration program.....		27,800
27	Adoption subsidies.....		238,884,600

1	Adoption support services staff--10.0 FTE positions ..	896,200
2	Adoption support services program.....	25,997,400
3	Youth in transition staff--4.5 FTE positions .....	475,700
4	Youth in transition program.....	14,431,200
5	Child welfare medical/psychiatric evaluations .....	8,735,500
6	Psychotropic oversight.....	618,200
7	Performance based funding implementation--3.0 FTE	
8	positions .....	1,272,100
9	Serious emotional disturbance mental health services .	6,340,500
10	Interstate compact.....	179,600
11	Strong families/safe children.....	12,350,100
12	Family preservation and prevention services	
13	administration staff--9.0 FTE positions.....	951,800
14	Family preservation and prevention services	
15	administration program .....	311,300
16	Child abuse and neglect - children's justice act	
17	staff--1.0 FTE position .....	101,700
18	Child abuse and neglect - children's justice act	
19	program .....	517,400
20	Children's trust fund staff--12.0 FTE positions .....	899,400
21	Children's trust fund program.....	2,222,700
22	Attorney general contract.....	4,224,900
23	Prosecuting attorney contracts.....	2,561,700
24	Child protection.....	873,900
25	Child protection and permanency staff--23.0 FTE	
26	positions .....	1,066,900
27	Child protection and permanency program.....	11,323,800

1	Family reunification program.....	6,240,200
2	Family preservation and prevention services programs .	1,000,000
3	Families first.....	<u>16,476,600</u>
4	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 1,124,724,500
5	Appropriated from:	
6	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
7	IDG from department of education.....	89,100
8	Federal revenues:	
9	Social security act, temporary assistance for needy	
10	families .....	276,216,200
11	Capped federal revenues.....	111,988,000
12	Total other federal revenues.....	257,438,100
13	Special revenue funds:	
14	Private - collections.....	2,452,400
15	Local funds - county chargeback.....	16,517,200
16	Children's trust fund.....	2,076,900
17	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 457,946,600
18	<b>Sec. 107. JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES</b>	
19	Full-time equated classified positions.....	181.0
20	W.J. Maxey Training School staff--69.0 FTE positions .	\$ 8,416,400
21	W.J. Maxey Training School program.....	1,079,500
22	Bay Pines Center staff--42.0 FTE positions.....	4,265,100
23	Bay Pines Center program.....	558,000
24	Shawono Center staff--42.0 FTE positions.....	4,443,900
25	Shawono Center program.....	464,300
26	County juvenile officers.....	3,904,300
27	Community support services staff--3.0 FTE positions ..	303,900

1	Community support services program.....	1,794,000
2	Juvenile justice administration and maintenance	
3	staff--22.0 FTE positions .....	2,092,600
4	Juvenile justice administration and maintenance	
5	program .....	1,499,200
6	Juvenile accountability block grant staff--0.5 FTE	
7	position .....	50,900
8	Juvenile accountability block grant program.....	1,230,400
9	Committee on juvenile justice administration staff--	
10	2.5 FTE position .....	247,900
11	Committee on juvenile justice administration program.	95,600
12	Committee on juvenile justice grants.....	3,000,000
13	In-home community care.....	400,000
14	Juvenile justice vision 20/20.....	<u>100</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 33,846,100
16	Appropriated from:	
17	Federal revenues:	
18	Capped federal revenues.....	5,886,400
19	Special revenue funds:	
20	Local funds - state share education funds.....	2,189,900
21	Local funds - county chargeback.....	9,248,900
22	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 16,520,900
23	<b>Sec. 108. FIELD OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES</b>	
24	Full-time equated classified positions..... 6,063.5	
25	Public assistance field staff--4,693.5 FTE positions.	\$ 463,295,300
26	Contractual services, supplies, and materials.....	17,224,900
27	Healthy Michigan plan administration.....	13,961,300

1	Medical/psychiatric evaluations.....	1,420,100
2	Donated funds positions staff--538.0 FTE positions...	58,802,600
3	Donated funds positions program.....	1,345,000
4	Training and program support staff--17.0 FTE positions	1,774,900
5	Training and program support program.....	272,800
6	Volunteer services and reimbursement.....	942,400
7	Field policy and administration staff--66.0 FTE	
8	positions .....	8,252,000
9	Field policy and administration program.....	142,000
10	Nutrition education--2.0 FTE positions.....	23,036,600
11	Employment and training support services.....	4,219,100
12	Michigan rehabilitation services staff--526.0 FTE	
13	positions .....	52,895,600
14	Michigan rehabilitation services program.....	92,959,800
15	Independent living.....	4,788,600
16	Wage employment verification reporting.....	847,300
17	Electronic benefit transfer.....	8,509,000
18	Administrative support workers--221.0 FTE positions ..	<u>12,453,700</u>
19	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 767,143,000
20	Appropriated from:	
21	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
22	IDG from department of corrections.....	100,000
23	IDG from department of education.....	7,503,700
24	Federal revenues:	
25	Social security act, temporary assistance for needy	
26	families .....	132,010,900
27	Capped federal revenues.....	134,257,100

1	Federal supplemental security income.....	8,588,600
2	Total other federal revenues.....	240,674,500
3	Special revenue funds:	
4	Local funds.....	10,934,300
5	Local vocational rehabilitation match.....	6,534,600
6	Private funds - donated funds.....	18,199,000
7	Private - gifts, bequeaths, and donations.....	1,854,600
8	Rehabilitation service fees.....	1,442,000
9	Second injury fund.....	149,400
10	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 204,894,300
11	<b>Sec. 109. DISABILITY DETERMINATION SERVICES</b>	
12	Full-time equated classified positions..... 587.4	
13	Disability determination operations staff--583.3 FTE	
14	positions .....	\$ 78,646,900
15	Disability determination operations program.....	30,773,000
16	Retirement disability determination staff--4.1 FTE	
17	positions .....	449,000
18	Retirement disability determination program.....	<u>142,200</u>
19	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 110,011,100
20	Appropriated from:	
21	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
22	IDG from DTMB - office of retirement services.....	763,800
23	Federal revenues:	
24	Total federal revenues.....	106,009,400
25	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 3,237,900
26	<b>Sec. 110. PUBLIC ASSISTANCE</b>	
27	Full-time equated classified positions..... 8.0	

1	Family independence program.....	\$ 137,870,300
2	State disability assistance payments.....	9,894,400
3	Food assistance program benefits.....	2,561,003,400
4	State supplementation.....	63,135,000
5	State supplementation administration.....	2,381,100
6	Low-income home energy assistance program.....	174,951,600
7	Michigan energy assistance program staff--1.0 FTE	
8	position .....	449,000
9	Michigan energy assistance program.....	49,551,000
10	Food bank council of Michigan.....	1,795,000
11	Multicultural integration funding.....	2,765,500
12	Indigent burial.....	4,400,000
13	Emergency services local office allocations.....	11,008,500
14	Refugee assistance program staff--7.0 FTE positions ..	816,900
15	Refugee assistance program.....	<u>27,149,700</u>
16	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 3,047,171,400
17	Appropriated from:	
18	Federal revenues:	
19	Social security act, temporary assistance for needy	
20	families .....	57,176,200
21	Capped federal revenues.....	203,105,100
22	Total other federal revenues.....	2,555,511,000
23	Special revenue funds:	
24	Child support collections.....	14,745,600
25	Low-income energy assistance fund.....	50,000,000
26	Supplemental security income recoveries.....	5,763,600
27	Merit award trust fund.....	30,100,000

1	Public assistance recoupment revenue.....	7,010,000
2	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 123,759,900
3	<b>Sec. 111. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>	
4	Information technology services and projects.....	\$ 114,969,100
5	Child support automation.....	<u>41,877,600</u>
6	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 156,846,700
7	Appropriated from:	
8	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
9	IDG from department of education.....	1,134,800
10	Federal revenues:	
11	Social security act, temporary assistance for needy	
12	families .....	14,643,400
13	Capped federal revenues.....	19,103,500
14	Total other federal revenues.....	68,044,000
15	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 53,921,000

16 PART 2

17 PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

18 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

19 **GENERAL SECTIONS**

20 Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state  
 21 constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources  
 22 under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$1,085,789,800.00 and  
 23 state spending from state resources to be paid to local units of  
 24 government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$101,973,200.00. The



itemized statement below identifies appropriations from which  
 spending to local units of government will occur:

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Child care fund.....	\$	97,822,200
County juvenile officers.....		3,100,000
State disability assistance payments.....		1,039,300
Family independence program.....		11,700
TOTAL.....	\$	<u>101,973,200</u>

Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under this part are  
 subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101  
 to 18.1594.

Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

(a) "AFC" means adult foster care.

(b) "Current fiscal year" means the fiscal year ending  
 September 30, 2016.

(c) "Department" means the department of human services.

(d) "Director" means the director of the department of human  
 services.

(e) "FTE" means full-time equated.

(f) "IDG" means interdepartmental grant.

(g) "MiCAFE" means Michigan's coordinated access to food for  
 the elderly.

(h) "PATH" means partnership. accountability. training. hope.

(i) "Previous fiscal year" means the fiscal year ending  
 September 30, 2015.

(j) "Settlement" means the settlement agreement entered in the  
 case of Dwayne B. v Snyder, docket no. 2:06-cv-13548 in the United

1 States district court for the eastern district of Michigan.

2 (k) "Temporary assistance for needy families" or "TANF" or  
3 "title IV-A" means part A of title IV of the social security act,  
4 42 USC 601 to 619.

5 (l) "Title IV-D" means part D of title IV of the social  
6 security act, 42 USC 651 to 669b.

7 (m) "Title IV-E" means part E of title IV of the social  
8 security act, 42 USC 670 to 679c.

9 Sec. 204. The civil service commission shall bill departments  
10 and agencies at the end of the first fiscal quarter for the 1%  
11 charge authorized by section 5 of article XI of the state  
12 constitution of 1963. Payments shall be made for the total amount  
13 of the billing by the end of the second fiscal quarter.

14 Sec. 205. Pursuant to section 1b of the social welfare act,  
15 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.1b, the department shall treat part 1 and this  
16 part as a time-limited addendum to the social welfare act, 1939 PA  
17 280, MCL 400.1 to 400.119b.

18 Sec. 206. (1) For each new program or program expansion for  
19 which funds in excess of \$500,000.00 are appropriated in part 1,  
20 the department shall identify specific benchmarks intended to  
21 measure the performance or return on taxpayer investment of the  
22 program and its associated expenditures. Both of the following  
23 apply to the benchmarks:

24 (a) By November 1, 2015, the department shall report the  
25 proposed benchmarks to the house and senate appropriations  
26 subcommittees on the department budget, the house and senate fiscal  
27 agencies, and the state budget director.

1 (b) The department shall provide an update on its progress in  
2 achieving the benchmarks at an appropriations subcommittee meeting  
3 called for the purpose of discussing benchmarks and their status.

4 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that, beginning with  
5 the budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, any  
6 proposal for a new program or an expansion of an existing program  
7 in excess of \$500,000.00 initiated by the executive branch or the  
8 legislature will include, as part of the original proposal or  
9 budget request, a list of benchmarks intended to measure the  
10 performance or return on taxpayer investment of the program or  
11 spending increase.

12 Sec. 207. (1) Sanctions, suspensions, conditions for  
13 provisional license status, and other penalties shall not be more  
14 stringent for private service providers than for public entities  
15 performing equivalent or similar services.

16 (2) Neither the department nor private service providers or  
17 licensees shall be granted preferential treatment or considered  
18 automatically to be in compliance with administrative rules based  
19 on whether they have collective bargaining agreements with direct  
20 care workers. Private service providers or licensees without  
21 collective bargaining agreements shall not be subjected to  
22 additional requirements or conditions of licensure based on their  
23 lack of collective bargaining agreements.

24 Sec. 208. Unless otherwise specified, the department shall use  
25 the Internet to fulfill the reporting requirements of this part.  
26 This requirement shall include transmission of reports via  
27 electronic mail to the recipients identified for each reporting

1 requirement, and it shall include placement of reports on the  
2 Internet.

3       Sec. 209. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used for  
4 the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
5 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
6 services, or both, are available. Preference should be given to  
7 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
8 businesses, if they are competitively priced and of comparable  
9 quality. In addition, preference should be given to goods or  
10 services, or both, that are manufactured or provided by Michigan  
11 businesses owned and operated by veterans, if they are  
12 competitively priced and of comparable quality.

13       Sec. 211. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used by a  
14 principal executive department, state agency, or authority to hire  
15 a person to provide legal services that are the responsibility of  
16 the attorney general. This prohibition does not apply to legal  
17 services for bonding activities and for those outside services that  
18 the attorney general authorizes.

19       Sec. 212. (1) In addition to funds appropriated in part 1 for  
20 all programs and services, there is appropriated for write-offs of  
21 accounts receivable, deferrals, and for prior year obligations in  
22 excess of applicable prior year appropriations, an amount equal to  
23 total write-offs and prior year obligations, but not to exceed  
24 amounts available in prior year revenues or current year revenues  
25 that are in excess of the authorized amount.

26       (2) The department's ability to satisfy appropriation fund  
27 sources in part 1 shall not be limited to collections and accruals

1 pertaining to services provided in the current fiscal year, but  
2 shall also include reimbursements, refunds, adjustments, and  
3 settlements from prior years.

4       Sec. 213. The department may retain all of the state's share  
5 of food assistance overissuance collections as an offset to general  
6 fund/general purpose costs. Retained collections shall be applied  
7 against federal funds deductions in all appropriation units where  
8 department costs related to the investigation and recoupment of  
9 food assistance overissuances are incurred. Retained collections in  
10 excess of such costs shall be applied against the federal funds  
11 deducted in the executive operations appropriation unit.

12       Sec. 214. On a quarterly basis, the department shall report on  
13 the number of FTEs in pay status by type of staff.

14       Sec. 215. If a legislative objective of this part or of a bill  
15 or amendment to a bill to amend the social welfare act, 1939 PA  
16 280, MCL 400.1 to 400.119b, cannot be implemented because  
17 implementation would conflict with or violate federal regulations,  
18 the department shall notify the state budget director, the chairs  
19 of the house and senate subcommittees on the department budget, and  
20 the house and senate fiscal agencies and policy offices of that  
21 fact.

22       Sec. 217. The departments and agencies receiving  
23 appropriations in part 1 shall prepare a report on out-of-state  
24 travel expenses not later than January 1 of each year. The travel  
25 report shall be a listing of all travel by classified and  
26 unclassified employees outside this state in the immediately  
27 preceding fiscal year that was funded in whole or in part with

1 funds appropriated in the department's budget. The report shall be  
2 submitted to the house and senate appropriations committees, the  
3 house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.

4 The report shall include the following information:

5 (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

6 (b) The transportation and related costs of each travel  
7 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
8 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
9 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
10 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

11 Sec. 218. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for travel  
12 reimbursements to employees, the department shall allocate up to  
13 \$100,000.00 toward reimbursing counties for the out-of-pocket  
14 travel costs of the local county department board members and  
15 county department directors to attend 1 meeting per year of the  
16 Michigan County Social Services Association.

17 Sec. 219. The department shall cooperate with the department  
18 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable  
19 website accessible by the public at no cost that includes, but is  
20 not limited to, all of the following for each department or agency:

21 (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

22 (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

23 (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
24 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
25 payment description.

26 (d) The number of active department employees by job  
27 classification.

1 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

2 Sec. 220. The department shall ensure that faith-based  
3 organizations are able to apply and compete for services, programs,  
4 or contracts that they are qualified and suitable to fulfill. The  
5 department shall not disqualify faith-based organizations solely on  
6 the basis of the religious nature of their organization or their  
7 guiding principles or statements of faith.

8 Sec. 221. If the revenue collected by the department from  
9 private and local sources exceeds the amount spent from amounts  
10 appropriated in part 1, the revenue may be carried forward, with  
11 approval from the state budget director, into the subsequent fiscal  
12 year.

13 Sec. 222. (1) The department shall provide written  
14 notification to the chairpersons of the senate and house  
15 appropriations subcommittees on the budget for the department of  
16 any policy changes at least 30 days before the implementation date.

17 (2) The department shall make the entire policy and procedures  
18 manual available and accessible to the public via the department  
19 website.

20 (3) The department shall report no later than April 1 of the  
21 current fiscal year on each specific policy change made to  
22 implement a public act affecting the department that took effect  
23 during the prior calendar year to the house and senate  
24 appropriations subcommittees on the budget for the department, the  
25 joint committee on administrative rules, and the senate and house  
26 fiscal agencies. The department shall attach each policy bulletin  
27 issued during the prior calendar year to this report.

1       Sec. 229. Unless already provided in the previous fiscal year,  
2 the department shall submit to the senate and house appropriations  
3 subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house fiscal  
4 agencies, the senate and house policy offices, and the state budget  
5 office by March 1 of the current fiscal year a report on the  
6 recommendations of the workgroup on aligning spending on Michigan  
7 Works! job readiness programs with the declining family  
8 independence program caseload. The report shall include, but is not  
9 limited to, the proposed amount of TANF funding provided to  
10 Michigan Works!

11       Sec. 234. The department shall include specific outcome and  
12 performance reporting requirements in the interagency agreement  
13 with the Michigan strategic fund for TANF funding to provide job  
14 readiness and welfare-to-work programming. TANF funding provided to  
15 the Michigan strategic fund in the current fiscal year is  
16 contingent on compliance with the data and reporting requirements  
17 described in this section. The interagency agreement must require  
18 the Michigan strategic fund to provide all of the following items  
19 by December 1 of the current fiscal year for the previous year:

20       (a) An itemized spending report on TANF funding, including all  
21 of the following:

22       (i) Direct services to clients.

23       (ii) Administrative expenditures.

24       (b) The number of family independence program (FIP) clients  
25 served through the TANF funding, including all of the following:

26       (i) The number and percentage who obtained employment through  
27 Michigan Works!



1           (ii) The number and percentage who fulfilled their TANF work  
2 requirement through other job readiness programming.

3           (iii) Average TANF spending per client.

4           (iv) The number and percentage of clients who were referred to  
5 Michigan Works! but did not receive a job or job readiness  
6 placement and the reasons why.

7           Sec. 240. The department shall notify the house and senate  
8 appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the house  
9 and senate fiscal agencies, and the house and senate policy offices  
10 of any changes to a child welfare master contract not less than 30  
11 days before the change takes effect.

12           Sec. 250. Amounts appropriated in part 1 for information  
13 technology may be designated as work projects and carried forward  
14 to support technology projects under the direction of the  
15 department of technology, management, and budget. Funds designated  
16 in this manner are not available for expenditure until approved as  
17 work projects under section 451a of the management and budget act,  
18 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a.

19           Sec. 264. The department shall not take disciplinary action  
20 against an employee for communicating with a member of the  
21 legislature or his or her staff.

22           Sec. 265. Within 14 days after the release of the executive  
23 budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate with the  
24 state budget office to provide the senate and house appropriations  
25 chairs, the senate and house appropriations subcommittees chairs,  
26 and the senate and house fiscal agencies with an annual report on  
27 estimated state restricted fund balances, state restricted fund

1 projected revenues, and state restricted fund expenditures for the  
2 fiscal years ending September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016.

3       Sec. 274. (1) The department, in collaboration with the state  
4 budget office, shall submit to the house and senate appropriations  
5 subcommittees on the department budget, the house and senate fiscal  
6 agencies, and the house and senate policy offices 1 week after the  
7 governor submits to the legislature the budget for the ensuing  
8 fiscal year a report on spending and revenue projections for each  
9 of the capped federal funds listed below. The report shall contain  
10 actual spending and revenue in the previous fiscal year, spending  
11 and revenue projections for the current fiscal year as enacted, and  
12 spending and revenue projections within the executive budget  
13 proposal for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2015 for each  
14 individual line item for the department budget. The report shall  
15 also include federal funds transferred to other departments. The  
16 capped federal funds shall include, but not be limited to, all of  
17 the following:

18       (a) TANF.

19       (b) Title XX social services block grant.

20       (c) Title IV-B part I child welfare services block grant.

21       (d) Title IV-B part II promoting safe and stable families  
22 funds.

23       (e) Low-income home energy assistance program.

24       (2) By February 15 of the current fiscal year, the department  
25 shall prepare an annual report of its efforts to identify  
26 additional TANF maintenance of effort sources and rationale for any  
27 increases or decreases from all of the following, but not limited

1 to:

2 (a) Other departments.

3 (b) Local units of government.

4 (c) Private sources.

5 Sec. 279. (1) All master contracts relating to human services  
6 shall be performance-based contracts that employ a client-centered  
7 results-oriented process that is based on measurable performance  
8 indicators and desired outcomes and includes the annual assessment  
9 of the quality of services provided.

10 (2) By February 1 of the current fiscal year, the department  
11 shall provide the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on  
12 the department budget, the senate and house fiscal agencies and  
13 policy offices, and the state budget office a report detailing  
14 measurable performance indicators, desired outcomes, and an  
15 assessment of the quality of services provided by the department  
16 during the previous fiscal year.

17 Sec. 284. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
18 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$200,000,000.00 for  
19 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
20 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
21 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
22 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393. These funds shall not be made available  
23 to increase TANF authorization.

24 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
25 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.00 for state  
26 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
27 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item

1 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
2 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

3 (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
4 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$20,000,000.00 for local  
5 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
6 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
7 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
8 MCL 18.1393.

9 (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
10 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$20,000,000.00 for private  
11 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
12 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
13 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
14 MCL 18.1393.

15 Sec. 290. Any public advertisement for state assistance shall  
16 also inform the public of the welfare fraud hotline operated by the  
17 department.

18 Sec. 292. By the first day of each month of the current fiscal  
19 year, the department shall report on the status of the merger,  
20 executed under Executive Order No. 2015-4, of the department of  
21 community health and the department of human services to create the  
22 department of health and human services. The report shall be  
23 provided to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on  
24 community health, the house and senate appropriations subcommittees  
25 on human services, and the house and senate fiscal agencies. The  
26 report shall include, but not be limited to, the current status of  
27 FTE positions, facilities in use, services including restructuring

1 or consolidation, efficiencies, and estimated savings or costs  
2 associated with the merger. The report shall indicate changes from  
3 the prior report.

4 Sec. 296. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
5 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
6 the total general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses at the  
7 close of the prior fiscal year. This report shall summarize the  
8 projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriation  
9 lapses by major departmental program or program areas. The report  
10 shall be transmitted to the chairpersons of the senate and house  
11 appropriations committees and the senate and house fiscal agencies.

12 Sec. 297. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
13 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
14 30, 2016 is \$271,619,000.00. From this amount, total agency  
15 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
16 \$154,170,400.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health  
17 care legacy costs are estimated at \$117,448,600.00.

18 Sec. 298. By March 1 of the current fiscal year, the  
19 department shall provide to the senate and house appropriations  
20 subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house fiscal  
21 agencies, and the senate and house policy offices an annual report  
22 on the supervisor-to-staff ratio by department divisions and  
23 subdivisions.

24 Sec. 299. The department shall maintain, on a publicly  
25 accessible website, a department scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
26 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
27 improve the department's performance.

1 **DEPARTMENTWIDE ADMINISTRATION**

2       Sec. 307. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
3 demonstration projects, \$400,000.00 shall be distributed as  
4 provided in subsection (2). The amount distributed under this  
5 subsection shall not exceed 50% of the total operating expenses of  
6 the program described in subsection (2), with the remaining 50%  
7 paid by local United Way organizations and other nonprofit  
8 organizations and foundations.

9       (2) Funds distributed under subsection (1) shall be  
10 distributed to Michigan 2-1-1, a nonprofit corporation organized  
11 under the laws of this state that is exempt from federal income tax  
12 under section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code, 26 USC  
13 501(c)(3), and whose mission is to coordinate and support a  
14 statewide 2-1-1 system. Michigan 2-1-1 shall use the funds only to  
15 fulfill the Michigan 2-1-1 business plan adopted by Michigan 2-1-1  
16 in January 2005.

17       (3) Michigan 2-1-1 shall refer to the department any calls  
18 received reporting fraud, waste, or abuse of state-administered  
19 public assistance.

20       (4) Michigan 2-1-1 shall report annually to the department and  
21 the house and senate standing committees with primary jurisdiction  
22 over matters relating to human services and telecommunications on  
23 2-1-1 system performance, including, but not limited to, call  
24 volume by community health and human service needs and unmet needs  
25 identified through caller data and customer satisfaction metrics.

26       Sec. 310. It is the intent of the legislature that the  
27 department shall work with youth-oriented nonprofit organizations

1 to provide mentoring programming for children of incarcerated  
2 parents and other at-risk children.

3       Sec. 315. The department, in conjunction with the department  
4 of community health, organizations representing disabled and  
5 elderly adults, representatives of assisted living facilities, and  
6 the legislature, shall conduct a workgroup that explores licensing  
7 standards and practices and performance measures for facilities  
8 providing adult assisted living services in order to ensure safe,  
9 adequately supervised, and protective environments for those  
10 individuals and families seeking assisted living services.

11       Sec. 316. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for terminal  
12 leave payouts and other employee costs, the department shall not  
13 spend in excess of its annual gross appropriation unless it  
14 identifies and requests a legislative transfer from another  
15 budgetary line item supporting administrative costs, as provided by  
16 section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL  
17 18.1393.

18       Sec. 317. (1) From the additional funds appropriated in part 1  
19 for child care licensure from the interdepartmental grant from the  
20 department of education, the department shall increase the number  
21 of child care licensing consultants and staff. The purpose of the  
22 additional staff is to increase the number of monitoring visits to  
23 applicants for a child care license and those who are licensed to  
24 ensure the health and safety of children in early learning settings  
25 across the state.

26       (2) By February 1 of the current fiscal year, the department  
27 shall submit a report to the senate and house appropriations

1 subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house fiscal  
2 agencies, and the senate and house policy offices detailing the  
3 improvements that the child care licensure program has achieved due  
4 to the increased number of child care licensing consultants who  
5 were hired with the additional funds appropriated in part 1 for  
6 child care licensure.

7 **ADULT PROTECTIVE AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

8       Sec. 401. (1) All funds appropriated in part 1 for independent  
9 living shall be used to support centers for independent living in  
10 delivering mandated independent living core services in compliance  
11 with federal rules and regulations for the centers, by existing  
12 centers for independent living to serve underserved areas, and for  
13 projects to build the capacity of centers for independent living to  
14 deliver independent living services. Applications for the funds  
15 shall be reviewed in accordance with criteria and procedures  
16 established by the department. Funds shall be used in a manner  
17 consistent with the state plan for independent living. Services  
18 provided should assist people with disabilities to move toward  
19 self-sufficiency, including support for accessing transportation  
20 and health care, obtaining employment, community living, nursing  
21 home transition, information and referral services, education,  
22 youth transition services, veterans, and stigma reduction  
23 activities.

24       (2) The Michigan centers for independent living shall provide  
25 a report by March 1 of the current fiscal year to the house and  
26 senate appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the



1 house and senate fiscal agencies, the house and senate policy  
2 offices, and the state budget office on direct customer and system  
3 outcomes and performance measures.

4       Sec. 402. The Michigan rehabilitation services shall work  
5 collaboratively with the bureau of services for blind persons,  
6 service organizations, and government entities to identify  
7 qualified match dollars to maximize use of available federal  
8 vocational rehabilitation funds.

9       Sec. 403. The department shall provide quarterly status  
10 reports by February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1 to the house  
11 and senate appropriations subcommittees on the department budget,  
12 the house and senate fiscal agencies, and house and senate policy  
13 offices on the efforts taken to remedy and improve the deficiencies  
14 found in the most recent auditor general report of Michigan  
15 rehabilitation services. The reports shall include all of the  
16 following items:

17       (a) Reductions and changes in administration costs and  
18 staffing.

19       (b) Service delivery plans and implementation steps achieved.

20       (c) Reorganization plans and implementation steps achieved.

21       (d) Plans to integrate Michigan rehabilitative services  
22 programs into other services provided by the department.

23       (e) Quarterly expenditures by major spending category.

24       (f) Employment and job retention rates from both Michigan  
25 rehabilitation services and its nonprofit partners.

26       (g) Success rate of each district in achieving the program  
27 goals.

1       Sec. 405. It is the intent of the legislature that Michigan  
2       rehabilitation services shall not implement an order of selection  
3       for vocational and rehabilitative services.

4       Sec. 420. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
5       department shall contract with the Prosecuting Attorneys  
6       Association of Michigan to provide the support and services  
7       necessary to increase the capability of the state's prosecutors,  
8       adult protective service system, and criminal justice system to  
9       effectively identify, investigate, and prosecute elder abuse and  
10      financial exploitation.

11      (2) By March 1 of the current fiscal year, the department  
12      shall provide a report on the efficacy of the contract to the state  
13      budget office, the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on  
14      the department budget, the house and senate fiscal agencies, and  
15      the house and senate policy offices.

16      Sec. 423. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for elder law  
17      of Michigan MiCAFE contract, the department shall allocate not less  
18      than \$350,000.00 to the Elder Law of Michigan MiCAFE to assist this  
19      state's elderly population to participate in the food assistance  
20      program. Of the \$350,000.00 allocated under this section, the  
21      department shall use \$175,000.00, which are general fund/general  
22      purpose funds, as state matching funds for not less than  
23      \$175,000.00 in United States Department of Agriculture funding to  
24      provide outreach program activities, such as eligibility screen and  
25      information services, as part of a statewide food assistance  
26      hotline.

27      Sec. 425. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the

1 department shall provide individuals not more than \$500.00 for  
2 vehicle repairs, including any repairs done in the previous 12  
3 months. However, the department may in its discretion pay for  
4 repairs up to \$900.00. Payments under this section shall include  
5 the combined total of payments made by the department and work  
6 participation program.

#### 7 CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

8 Sec. 501. (1) A goal is established that not more than 27% of  
9 all children in foster care at any given time during the current  
10 fiscal year will have been in foster care for 24 months or more.

11 (2) By March 1 of the current fiscal year, the department  
12 shall provide to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees  
13 on the department budget, the senate and house fiscal agencies, the  
14 senate and house policy offices, and the state budget office a  
15 report describing the steps that will be taken to achieve the  
16 specific goal established in this section and on the percentage of  
17 children who currently are in foster care and who have been in  
18 foster care a total of 24 or more months.

19 Sec. 502. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for foster  
20 care, the department shall provide 50% reimbursement to Indian  
21 tribal governments for foster care expenditures for children who  
22 are under the jurisdiction of Indian tribal courts and who are not  
23 otherwise eligible for federal foster care cost sharing.

24 Sec. 503. (1) In accordance with the final report of the  
25 Michigan child welfare performance-based funding task force issued  
26 in response to section 503 of article X of 2013 PA 59, the

1 department shall continue to develop actuarially sound case rates  
2 for necessary out-of-home child welfare services that achieve  
3 permanency by the department and private child placing agencies in  
4 a prospective payment system under a performance-based funding  
5 model.

6 (2) A prospective rate payment system for private agencies  
7 that includes funding for adoption incentive payments is the  
8 recommended funding model. The full cost prospective rate payment  
9 system will identify and cover contractual costs, paid through the  
10 case rate developed by an actuary.

11 (3) If not received in the previous fiscal year, the  
12 department shall provide a report on the cost analysis of the  
13 performance-based funding model to the senate and house  
14 appropriations subcommittees on the department budget.

15 (4) In accordance with the final report of the Michigan child  
16 welfare performance-based funding task force issued in response to  
17 section 503 of article X of 2013 PA 59, the department shall  
18 implement a 5-year independent, third-party evaluation of the  
19 performance-based funding model. The evaluator shall be selected  
20 through a competitive process by a rating committee that includes,  
21 but is not limited to, representatives from the department and  
22 private child placing agencies.

23 (5) The department shall create a readiness model with input  
24 from private child welfare agencies, counties, and courts that  
25 gives direction to self-identified counties and the department  
26 regarding county participation before any further expansion of the  
27 performance-based funding model.

1           (6) For phase II, the department shall only phase the  
2 implementation of the performance-based funding model into  
3 additional counties where the department, private child welfare  
4 agencies, the county, and the court operating within that county  
5 have agreed to implement the performance-based funding model.

6           (7) The department, in conjunction with members from both the  
7 house of representatives and senate, private child placing  
8 agencies, the courts, and counties shall implement the fiscal year  
9 2014-2015 recommendations that are described in the workgroup  
10 report that was provided in section 503 of article X of 2013 PA 59  
11 to establish a performance-based funding for public and private  
12 child welfare services providers. The department shall provide a  
13 quarterly report on the status of the performance-based contracting  
14 model to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the  
15 department budget, the senate and house standing committees on  
16 families and human services, and the senate and house fiscal  
17 agencies and policy offices.

18           Sec. 505. By March 1 of the current fiscal year, the  
19 department and Wayne County shall provide to the senate and house  
20 appropriations committees on the department budget, the senate and  
21 house fiscal agencies and policy offices, and the state budget  
22 office a report for youth served in the previous fiscal year and in  
23 the first quarter of the current fiscal year outlining the number  
24 of youth served within each juvenile justice system, the type of  
25 setting for each youth, performance outcomes, and financial costs  
26 or savings.

27           Sec. 507. The department's ability to satisfy appropriation

1 deducts in part 1 for foster care private collections shall not be  
2 limited to collections and accruals pertaining to services provided  
3 only in the current fiscal year but may include revenues collected  
4 during the current fiscal year for services provided in prior  
5 fiscal years.

6       Sec. 508. (1) In addition to the amount appropriated in part 1  
7 for children's trust fund grants, money granted or money received  
8 as gifts or donations to the children's trust fund created by 1982  
9 PA 249, MCL 21.171 to 21.172, is appropriated for expenditure.

10       (2) The department and the child abuse neglect and prevention  
11 board shall collaborate to ensure that administrative delays are  
12 avoided and the local grant recipients and direct service providers  
13 receive money in an expeditious manner. The department and board  
14 shall make available the children's trust fund contract funds to  
15 grantees within 31 days of the start date of the funded project.

16       Sec. 511. The department shall provide quarterly reports to  
17 the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the department  
18 budget, the senate and house standing committees on families and  
19 human services, and the senate and house fiscal agencies and policy  
20 offices on the number and percentage of children who received  
21 timely health examinations after entry into foster care and the  
22 number and percentage of children entering foster care who received  
23 a required mental health examination after entry into foster care.

24       Sec. 513. (1) The department shall not expend funds  
25 appropriated in part 1 to pay for the direct placement by the  
26 department of a child in an out-of-state facility unless all of the  
27 following conditions are met:

1           (a) There is no appropriate placement available in this state  
2 as determined by the department interstate compact office.

3           (b) An out-of-state placement exists that is nearer to the  
4 child's home than the closest appropriate in-state placement as  
5 determined by the department interstate compact office.

6           (c) The out-of-state facility meets all of the licensing  
7 standards of this state for a comparable facility.

8           (d) The out-of-state facility meets all of the applicable  
9 licensing standards of the state in which it is located.

10          (e) The department has done an on-site visit to the out-of-  
11 state facility, reviewed the facility records, reviewed licensing  
12 records and reports on the facility, and believes that the facility  
13 is an appropriate placement for the child.

14          (2) The department shall not expend money for a child placed  
15 in an out-of-state facility without approval of the deputy director  
16 for children's services. The department shall notify the  
17 appropriate state agency in that state including the name of the  
18 out-of-state provider who accepted the placement.

19          (3) The department shall submit an annual report to the state  
20 court administrative office, the house and senate appropriations  
21 subcommittees on the department budget, the house and senate fiscal  
22 agencies, and the house and senate policy offices on the number of  
23 Michigan children residing in out-of-state facilities at the time  
24 of the report, the total cost and average per diem cost of these  
25 out-of-state placements to this state, and a list of each such  
26 placement arranged by the Michigan county of residence for each  
27 child.

1       Sec. 514. The department shall make a comprehensive report  
2 concerning children's protective services (CPS) to the legislature,  
3 including the senate and house policy offices and the state budget  
4 director, by January 1 of the current fiscal year, that shall  
5 include all of the following:

6       (a) Statistical information including, at a minimum, all of  
7 the following:

8       (i) The total number of reports of child abuse or neglect  
9 investigated under the child protection law, 1975 PA 238, MCL  
10 722.621 to 722.638, and the number of cases classified under  
11 category I or category II and the number of cases classified under  
12 category III, category IV, or category V.

13       (ii) Characteristics of perpetrators of child abuse or neglect  
14 and the child victims, such as age, relationship, race, and  
15 ethnicity and whether the perpetrator exposed the child victim to  
16 drug activity, including the manufacture of illicit drugs, that  
17 exposed the child victim to substance abuse, a drug house, or  
18 methamphetamine.

19       (iii) The mandatory reporter category in which the individual  
20 who made the report fits, or other categorization if the individual  
21 is not within a group required to report under the child protection  
22 law, 1975 PA 238, MCL 722.621 to 722.638.

23       (iv) The number of cases that resulted in the separation of  
24 the child from the parent or guardian and the period of time of  
25 that separation, up to and including termination of parental  
26 rights.

27       (v) For the reported complaints of child abuse or neglect by



1 teachers, school administrators, and school counselors, the number  
2 of cases classified under category I or category II and the number  
3 of cases classified under category III, category IV, or category V.

4 (vi) For the reported complaints of child abuse or neglect by  
5 teachers, school administrators, and school counselors, the number  
6 of cases that resulted in separation of the child from the parent  
7 or guardian and the period of time of that separation, up to and  
8 including termination of parental rights.

9 (b) New policies related to children's protective services  
10 including, but not limited to, major policy changes and court  
11 decisions affecting the children's protective services system  
12 during the immediately preceding 12-month period.

13 (c) The information contained in the report required under  
14 section 8d(5) of the child protection law, 1975 PA 238, MCL  
15 722.628d, on cases classified under category III.

16 (d) The department policy, or changes to the department  
17 policy, regarding children who have been exposed to the production  
18 or manufacture of methamphetamines.

19 Sec. 515. By March 1, 2016, the department shall submit a  
20 report to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the  
21 department budget, the senate and house fiscal agencies, the senate  
22 and house policy offices, and the state budget office that provides  
23 an update on the privatization of child welfare services in Kent  
24 County as described in section 515 of article X of 2013 PA 59 and  
25 includes all of the following:

26 (a) Costs or savings that resulted from the program.

27 (b) Gaps in funding.

1 (c) Program successes.

2 (d) Challenges and barriers to a successful implementation.

3 Sec. 519. The department shall permit any private agency that  
4 has an existing contract with this state to provide foster care  
5 services to be also eligible to provide treatment foster care  
6 services.

7 Sec. 522. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for youth  
8 in transition, the department shall allocate \$750,000.00 for  
9 college scholarships through the fostering futures scholarship  
10 program in the Michigan education trust to youths who were in  
11 foster care because of child abuse or neglect and are attending a  
12 college located in this state. Of the funds appropriated, 100%  
13 shall be used to fund scholarships for the youths described in this  
14 section.

15 (2) Not later than March 1 of the current fiscal year, the  
16 department shall provide a report to the house and senate  
17 appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the house  
18 and senate fiscal agencies, and the house and senate policy offices  
19 that includes the number of youths who received scholarships and  
20 the amount of each scholarship, and the total amount of funds spent  
21 or encumbered in the current fiscal year.

22 Sec. 523. (1) By February 15 of the current fiscal year, the  
23 department shall report on the families first, family  
24 reunification, and families together building solutions family  
25 preservation programs to the senate and house appropriations  
26 subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house fiscal  
27 agencies, the senate and house policy offices, and the state budget

1 office. The report shall contain all of the following for each  
2 program:

3 (a) The average cost per recipient served.

4 (b) Measurable performance indicators.

5 (c) Desired outcomes or results and goals that can be measured  
6 on an annual basis, or desired results for a defined number of  
7 years.

8 (d) Monitored results.

9 (e) Innovations that may include savings or reductions in  
10 administrative costs.

11 (2) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for youth in  
12 transition and domestic violence prevention and treatment, the  
13 department is authorized to make allocations of TANF funds only to  
14 agencies that report necessary data to the department for the  
15 purpose of meeting TANF eligibility reporting requirements.

16 Sec. 524. As a condition of receiving funds appropriated in  
17 part 1 for strong families/safe children, counties must submit the  
18 service spending plan to the department by October 1 of the current  
19 fiscal year for approval. The department shall approve the service  
20 spending plan within 30 calendar days after receipt of a properly  
21 completed service spending plan.

22 Sec. 525. The department shall implement the same on-site  
23 evaluation processes for privately operated child welfare and  
24 juvenile justice residential facilities as is used to evaluate  
25 state-operated facilities. Penalties for noncompliance shall be the  
26 same for privately operated child welfare and juvenile justice  
27 residential facilities and state-operated facilities.

1       Sec. 526. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for foster  
2   care payments and related administrative costs, the department may  
3   implement the federally approved title IV-E child welfare waiver  
4   demonstration project. As required under the waiver, any savings  
5   resulting from the demonstration project must be quantified and  
6   reinvested into child welfare programming.

7       Sec. 532. (1) The department, in collaboration with  
8   representatives of private child and family agencies, shall revise  
9   and improve the annual licensing review process and the annual  
10   contract compliance review process for child placing agencies and  
11   child caring institutions. The improvement goals shall be safety  
12   and care for children. Improvements to the review process shall be  
13   directed toward alleviating administrative burdens so that agency  
14   resources may be focused on children. The revision shall include  
15   identification of duplicative staff activities and information  
16   sought from child placing agencies and child caring institutions in  
17   the annual review process. The department shall report to the  
18   senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the department  
19   budget, the senate and house fiscal agencies and policy offices,  
20   and the state budget director on or before January 15 of the  
21   current fiscal year on the findings of the annual licensing review.

22       (2) The department shall conduct licensing reviews no more  
23   than once every 2 years for child placing agencies and child caring  
24   institutions that are nationally accredited and have no outstanding  
25   violations.

26       Sec. 533. (1) The department shall make payments to child  
27   placing facilities for in-home and out-of-home care services and

1 adoption services within 30 days of receiving all necessary  
2 documentation from those agencies.

3 (2) The department shall provide a report on the status of the  
4 implementation and operation of this section by February 15 of the  
5 current fiscal year.

6 Sec. 534. The department shall report to the senate and house  
7 appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the senate  
8 and house fiscal agencies, the senate and house policy offices, and  
9 the state budget office by November 1 of the current fiscal year a  
10 report on the planning, implementation, and operation, regardless  
11 of the current operational status, of the statewide automated child  
12 welfare information system. The report shall include, but not be  
13 limited to, all of the following:

14 (a) Areas where implementation went as planned.

15 (b) The number of known issues.

16 (c) The average number of help tickets submitted per day.

17 (d) Any additional overtime or other staffing costs to address  
18 known issues and volume of help tickets.

19 (e) Any contract revisions to address known issues and volume  
20 of help tickets.

21 (f) Other strategies undertaken to improve implementation.

22 Sec. 540. If a physician or psychiatrist who is providing  
23 services to state or court wards placed in a residential facility  
24 submits a formal request to the department to change the  
25 psychotropic medication of a ward, the department shall, if the  
26 ward is a state ward, make a determination on the proposed change  
27 within 7 business days after the request or, if the ward is a

1 temporary court ward, seek parental consent within 7 business days  
2 after the request. If parental consent is not provided within 7  
3 business days, the department shall petition the court on the  
4 eighth business day.

5       Sec. 546. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for foster  
6 care payments and from child care fund, the department shall pay  
7 providers of foster care services not less than a \$37.00  
8 administrative rate.

9       (2) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for foster care  
10 payments and from child care fund, the department shall pay  
11 providers of general independent living services not less than a  
12 \$28.00 administrative rate.

13       (3) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the department  
14 shall pay providers of independent living plus services statewide  
15 per diem rates for staff-supported housing and host-home housing  
16 based on proposals submitted in response to a solicitation for  
17 pricing. The independent living plus program provides staff-  
18 supported housing and services for foster youth ages 16 through 19  
19 who, because of their individual needs and assessments, are not  
20 initially appropriate for general independent living foster care.

21       (4) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the department  
22 shall pay providers of foster care services an additional \$3.00  
23 administrative rate, provided that section 117a of the social  
24 welfare act, 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.117a, is amended to eliminate the  
25 county match rate for the additional administrative rate provided  
26 in this subsection. Payments under this subsection shall be made,  
27 not less than, on a monthly basis.

1           (5) If required by the federal government to meet title IV-E  
2 requirements, providers of foster care services shall submit  
3 quarterly expenditure reports to the department to identify actual  
4 costs of providing foster care services.

5           (6) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the department  
6 shall provide an increase to each private provider of residential  
7 services, if section 117a of the social welfare act, 1939 PA 280,  
8 MCL 400.117a, is amended to eliminate the county match rate for the  
9 additional rate provided in this section.

10          Sec. 547. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
11 guardianship assistance program, the department shall pay a minimum  
12 rate that is not less than the approved age-appropriate payment  
13 rates for youth placed in family foster care.

14          Sec. 562. The department shall provide time and travel  
15 reimbursements for foster parents who transport a foster child to  
16 parent-child visitations. As part of the foster care parent  
17 contract, the department shall provide written confirmation to  
18 foster parents that states that the foster parents have the right  
19 to request these reimbursements for all parent-child visitations.  
20 The department shall provide these reimbursements within 60 days of  
21 receiving a request for eligible reimbursements from a foster  
22 parent.

23          Sec. 563. The department shall submit to the senate and house  
24 appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the senate  
25 and house fiscal agencies, the senate and house policy offices, and  
26 the state budget office by March 1 of the current fiscal year a  
27 report on the number and percentage of department employees who had

1 a satisfactory performance evaluation and the number and percentage  
2 of department employees who had an unsatisfactory performance  
3 evaluation.

4 Sec. 564. (1) The department shall develop a clear policy for  
5 parent-child visitations. The local county offices, caseworkers,  
6 and supervisors shall meet a 50% success rate, after accounting for  
7 factors outside of the caseworker's control.

8 (2) Per the court-ordered number of required meetings between  
9 caseworkers and parent, the caseworkers shall achieve a success  
10 rate of 65%, after accounting for factors outside of the  
11 caseworker's control.

12 (3) By November 1 of the current fiscal year, the department  
13 shall provide to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees  
14 on the department budget, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and  
15 the senate and house policy offices an annual report on the  
16 percentage of success rate for parent-child visitations and court-  
17 ordered required meetings between caseworkers referenced in  
18 subsections (1) and (2) for the previous year.

19 Sec. 567. (1) The caseworker or supervisor who is assigned to  
20 a foster care case is responsible for completing a medical passport  
21 for the cases assigned to him or her. If a child in foster care is  
22 transferred to a new placement or returned to his or her parent's  
23 or guardian's home, the medical passport and any school records in  
24 the caseworker's or supervisor's possession must be transferred  
25 within 2 weeks from the date of placement or return to the home.

26 (2) The department shall submit to the senate and house  
27 appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the senate



1 and house fiscal agencies, the senate and house policy offices, and  
2 the state budget office by March 1 of the current fiscal year a  
3 report on the items described in subsection (1), including the  
4 following:

5 (a) The percentage of medical passports that were properly  
6 filled out.

7 (b) From the total medical passports transferred, the  
8 percentage that transferred within 2 weeks from the date of  
9 placement or return to the home.

10 (c) From the total school records, the percentage that  
11 transferred within 2 weeks from the date of placement or return to  
12 the home.

13 Sec. 568. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
14 adoption subsidies, the department shall pay a minimum adoption  
15 subsidy rate that is not less than 95% of the rate that was or  
16 would have been provided for the adoptee in family foster care at  
17 the time of the adoption. This rate includes the determination of  
18 care rate that was paid or would have been paid to the adoptive  
19 parent for the adoptee in a family foster care placement, and this  
20 amount shall be increased to reflect any increase in the standard  
21 age appropriate foster care rate.

22 (2) "Determination of care rate" as described in this section  
23 means a supplemental payment to the standard age appropriate foster  
24 care rate that may be justified when extraordinary care or expense  
25 is required. The supplemental payment is based on 1 or more of the  
26 following case situations where additional care is required of the  
27 foster care provider or adoptive parent or an additional expense

1 exists:

2 (a) Physically disabled children for whom the adoptive parent  
3 must provide measurably greater supervision and care.

4 (b) Children with special psychological or psychiatric needs  
5 that require extra time and measurably greater amounts of care and  
6 attention by the adoptive parent.

7 (c) Children requiring special diets that are more expensive  
8 than a normal diet and that require extra time and effort by the  
9 adoptive parent to obtain or prepare.

10 (d) Children whose severe acting-out or antisocial behavior  
11 requires a measurably greater amount of care and attention of the  
12 adoptive parent.

13 (3) The department shall, on a separate form, allow an  
14 adoptive parent to sign a certification that he or she rejects a  
15 support subsidy.

16 (4) If this section conflicts with state statute enacted  
17 subsequent to this part, the state statute controls.

18 Sec. 569. The department shall reimburse private child placing  
19 agencies that complete adoptions at the rate according to the date  
20 on which the petition for adoption and required support  
21 documentation was accepted by the court and not according to the  
22 date the court's order placing for adoption was entered.

23 Sec. 574. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for foster  
24 care payments, \$2,500,000.00 is allocated to support performance-  
25 based contracts with child placing agencies to facilitate the  
26 licensure of relative caregivers as foster parents. Agencies shall  
27 receive \$2,300.00 for each facilitated licensure if completed

1 within 180 days after a child's placement or, if a waiver was  
2 previously approved, 180 days from the application date. If the  
3 facilitated licensure, or approved waiver, is completed after 180  
4 days, the agency shall receive up to \$2,300.00. The agency  
5 facilitating the licensure would retain the placement and continue  
6 to provide case management services for at least 50% of the newly  
7 licensed cases for which the placement was appropriate to the  
8 agency. Up to 50% of the newly licensed cases would have direct  
9 foster care services provided by the department.

10 (2) From the funds appropriated for foster care payments,  
11 \$375,000.00 is allocated to support family incentive grants to  
12 private and community-based foster care service providers to assist  
13 with home improvements or payment for physical exams for applicants  
14 needed by foster families to accommodate foster children.

15 Sec. 583. By February 1 of the current fiscal year, the  
16 department shall provide to the senate and house appropriations  
17 subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house  
18 standing committees on families and human services, the senate and  
19 house fiscal agencies and policy offices, and the state budget  
20 office a report that includes:

21 (a) The number and percentage of foster parents that dropped  
22 out of the program in the previous fiscal year and the reasons the  
23 foster parents left the program and how those figures compare to  
24 prior fiscal years.

25 (b) The number and percentage of foster parents successfully  
26 retained in the previous fiscal year and how those figures compare  
27 to prior fiscal years.

1       Sec. 585. The department shall make available at least 1 pre-  
2   service training class each month in which new caseworkers for  
3   private foster care and adoption agencies can enroll.

4       Sec. 587. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 to in-home  
5   community care programs including the funds designated as 1-time  
6   basis only, \$650,000.00 shall be used to expand or create new in-  
7   home care and community-based juvenile justice services to rural  
8   counties through a grant-making process. Counties that received  
9   funds for the purpose described in section 587 of article X of 2013  
10   PA 59 are not eligible to receive the funds in this section. The  
11   department shall expend the full amount of funds for the purpose  
12   described in this section by September 1 of the current fiscal  
13   year.

14       (2) By March 1 of the current fiscal year, the department  
15   shall submit a report that describes the program expansion and  
16   expenditures in detail to the senate and house appropriations  
17   subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house fiscal  
18   agencies, and the senate and house policy offices.

19       Sec. 588. (1) Concurrently with public release, the department  
20   shall transmit all reports from the court-appointed settlement  
21   monitor, including, but not limited to, the needs assessment and  
22   period outcome reporting, to the state budget office, the senate  
23   and house appropriations subcommittees on the department budget,  
24   and the senate and house fiscal agencies, without revision.

25       (2) The department shall report quarterly to the state budget  
26   office, the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the  
27   department budget, and the senate and house fiscal agencies, on the

1 number of children enrolled in the guardianship assistance and  
2 foster care - children with serious emotional disturbance waiver  
3 programs.

4 Sec. 589. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for child  
5 care fund, the department shall pay 100% of the administrative rate  
6 for all new cases referred to providers of foster care services  
7 beginning on October 1, 2013.

8 (2) On a monthly basis, the department shall report on the  
9 number of all foster care cases administered by the department and  
10 all foster care cases administered by private providers.

#### 11 **PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**

12 Sec. 601. Whenever a client agrees to the release of his or  
13 her name and address to the local housing authority, the department  
14 shall request from the local housing authority information  
15 regarding whether the housing unit for which vendoring has been  
16 requested meets applicable local housing codes. Vendoring shall be  
17 terminated for those units that the local authority indicates in  
18 writing do not meet local housing codes until such time as the  
19 local authority indicates in writing that local housing codes have  
20 been met.

21 Sec. 602. The department shall establish a policy to conduct a  
22 full evaluation of an individual's assistance needs if the  
23 individual has applied for disability more than 1 time within a 1-  
24 year period.

25 Sec. 603. By November 1 of the current fiscal year, the  
26 department shall provide to the senate and house appropriations

1 subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house fiscal  
2 agencies, the senate and house policy offices, and the state budget  
3 office a report on the maximizing Medicaid claim workgroup findings  
4 and the steps taken to implement the action plan developed by the  
5 workgroup.

6       Sec. 604. (1) The department shall operate a state disability  
7 assistance program. Except as provided in subsection (3), persons  
8 eligible for this program shall include needy citizens of the  
9 United States or aliens exempted from the supplemental security  
10 income citizenship requirement who are at least 18 years of age or  
11 emancipated minors meeting 1 or more of the following requirements:

12       (a) A recipient of supplemental security income, social  
13 security, or medical assistance due to disability or 65 years of  
14 age or older.

15       (b) A person with a physical or mental impairment which meets  
16 federal supplemental security income disability standards, except  
17 that the minimum duration of the disability shall be 90 days.  
18 Substance abuse alone is not defined as a basis for eligibility.

19       (c) A resident of an adult foster care facility, a home for  
20 the aged, a county infirmary, or a substance abuse treatment  
21 center.

22       (d) A person receiving 30-day postresidential substance abuse  
23 treatment.

24       (e) A person diagnosed as having acquired immunodeficiency  
25 syndrome.

26       (f) A person receiving special education services through the  
27 local intermediate school district.

1 (g) A caretaker of a disabled person who meets the  
2 requirements specified in subdivision (a), (b), (e), or (f).

3 (2) Applicants for and recipients of the state disability  
4 assistance program shall be considered needy if they:

5 (a) Meet the same asset test as is applied for the family  
6 independence program.

7 (b) Have a monthly budgetable income that is less than the  
8 payment standards.

9 (3) Except for a person described in subsection (1)(c) or (d),  
10 a person is not disabled for purposes of this section if his or her  
11 drug addiction or alcoholism is a contributing factor material to  
12 the determination of disability. "Material to the determination of  
13 disability" means that, if the person stopped using drugs or  
14 alcohol, his or her remaining physical or mental limitations would  
15 not be disabling. If his or her remaining physical or mental  
16 limitations would be disabling, then the drug addiction or  
17 alcoholism is not material to the determination of disability and  
18 the person may receive state disability assistance. Such a person  
19 must actively participate in a substance abuse treatment program,  
20 and the assistance must be paid to a third party or through vendor  
21 payments. For purposes of this section, substance abuse treatment  
22 includes receipt of inpatient or outpatient services or  
23 participation in alcoholics anonymous or a similar program.

24 Sec. 605. The level of reimbursement provided to state  
25 disability assistance recipients in licensed adult foster care  
26 facilities shall be the same as the prevailing supplemental  
27 security income rate under the personal care category.

1       Sec. 606. County department offices shall require each  
2 recipient of family independence program and state disability  
3 assistance who has applied with the social security administration  
4 for supplemental security income to sign a contract to repay any  
5 assistance rendered through the family independence program or  
6 state disability assistance program upon receipt of retroactive  
7 supplemental security income benefits.

8       Sec. 607. (1) The department's ability to satisfy  
9 appropriation deductions in part 1 for state disability  
10 assistance/supplemental security income recoveries and public  
11 assistance recoupment revenues shall not be limited to recoveries  
12 and accruals pertaining to state disability assistance, or family  
13 independence assistance grant payments provided only in the current  
14 fiscal year, but may include revenues collected during the current  
15 year that are prior year related and not a part of the department's  
16 accrued entries.

17       (2) The department may use supplemental security income  
18 recoveries to satisfy the deduct in any line in which the revenues  
19 are appropriated, regardless of the source from which the revenue  
20 is recovered.

21       Sec. 608. Adult foster care facilities providing domiciliary  
22 care or personal care to residents receiving supplemental security  
23 income or homes for the aged serving residents receiving  
24 supplemental security income shall not require those residents to  
25 reimburse the home or facility for care at rates in excess of those  
26 legislatively authorized. To the extent permitted by federal law,  
27 adult foster care facilities and homes for the aged serving



1 residents receiving supplemental security income shall not be  
2 prohibited from accepting third-party payments in addition to  
3 supplemental security income provided that the payments are not for  
4 food, clothing, shelter, or result in a reduction in the  
5 recipient's supplemental security income payment.

6       Sec. 609. The state supplementation level under the  
7 supplemental security income program for the personal care/adult  
8 foster care and home for the aged categories shall not be reduced  
9 during the current fiscal year. The legislature shall be notified  
10 not less than 30 days before any proposed reduction in the state  
11 supplementation level.

12       Sec. 610. (1) In developing good cause criteria for the state  
13 emergency relief program, the department shall grant exemptions if  
14 the emergency resulted from unexpected expenses related to  
15 maintaining or securing employment.

16       (2) For purposes of determining housing affordability  
17 eligibility for state emergency relief, a group is considered to  
18 have sufficient income to meet ongoing housing expenses if their  
19 total housing obligation does not exceed 75% of their total net  
20 income.

21       (3) State emergency relief payments shall not be made to  
22 individuals who have been found guilty of fraud in regard to  
23 obtaining public assistance.

24       (4) State emergency relief payments shall not be made  
25 available to persons who are out-of-state residents or illegal  
26 immigrants.

27       (5) State emergency relief payments for rent assistance shall

1 be distributed directly to landlords and shall not be added to  
2 Michigan bridge cards.

3 Sec. 611. The state supplementation level under the  
4 supplemental security income program for the living independently  
5 or living in the household of another categories shall not exceed  
6 the minimum state supplementation level as required under federal  
7 law or regulations.

8 Sec. 613. (1) The department shall provide reimbursements for  
9 the final disposition of indigent persons. The reimbursements shall  
10 include the following:

11 (a) The maximum allowable reimbursement for the final  
12 disposition is \$800.00.

13 (b) The adult burial with services allowance is \$720.00.

14 (c) The adult burial without services allowance is \$485.00.

15 (d) The infant burial allowance is \$165.00.

16 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that this charge limit  
17 reflect a total increase of \$20.00 per case in payments to funeral  
18 directors for funeral goods and services over the payment rate in  
19 place for the previous fiscal year. In addition, reimbursement for  
20 a cremation permit fee of up to \$75.00 and for mileage at the  
21 standard rate will also be made available for an eligible  
22 cremation. The reimbursements under this section shall take into  
23 consideration religious preferences that prohibit cremation.

24 Sec. 615. Except as required by federal law or regulations,  
25 funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used to provide public  
26 assistance to a person who is an illegal alien. This section shall  
27 not prohibit the department from entering into contracts with food

1 banks, emergency shelter providers, or other human services  
2 agencies who may, as a normal part of doing business, provide food  
3 or emergency shelter.

4 Sec. 616. The department shall require retailers that  
5 participate in the electronic benefits transfer program to charge  
6 no more than \$2.50 in fees for cash back as a condition of  
7 participation.

8 Sec. 617. The department shall prepare a report on the number  
9 and percentage of public assistance recipients, categorized by type  
10 of assistance received, who were no longer eligible for assistance  
11 because of their status in the law enforcement information network  
12 and provide the report by February 15 of the current fiscal year to  
13 the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the department  
14 budget, the senate and house standing committees on families and  
15 human services, and the senate and house fiscal agencies and policy  
16 offices.

17 Sec. 619. (1) Subject to subsection (2), the department shall  
18 exempt from the denial of title IV-A assistance and food assistance  
19 benefits under 21 USC 862a any individual who has been convicted of  
20 a felony that included the possession, use, or distribution of a  
21 controlled substance, after August 22, 1996, provided that the  
22 individual is not in violation of his or her probation or parole  
23 requirements. Benefits shall be provided to such individuals as  
24 follows:

25 (a) A third-party payee or vendor shall be required for any  
26 cash benefits provided.

27 (b) An authorized representative shall be required for food

1 assistance receipt.

2 (2) Subject to federal approval, an individual is not entitled  
3 to the exemption in this section if the individual was convicted in  
4 2 or more separate cases of a felony that included the possession,  
5 use, or distribution of a controlled substance after August 22,  
6 1996.

7 Sec. 620. (1) The department shall make a determination of  
8 Medicaid eligibility not later than 90 days if disability is an  
9 eligibility factor. For all other Medicaid applicants, including  
10 patients of a nursing home, the department shall make a  
11 determination of Medicaid eligibility within 45 days of  
12 application.

13 (2) The department shall report on May 1 and November 1 of the  
14 current fiscal year to the senate and house appropriations  
15 subcommittees on the department budget, the senate and house  
16 standing committees on families and human services, and the senate  
17 and house fiscal agencies and policy offices on the average  
18 Medicaid eligibility standard of promptness for each of the  
19 required standards of promptness under subsection (1) and for  
20 medical review team reviews achieved statewide and at each local  
21 office.

22 Sec. 625. The department may contract with the legal services  
23 association of Michigan to provide assistance to individuals who  
24 have applied for or wish to apply for SSI or other federal  
25 disability benefits. The legal services association of Michigan  
26 shall provide a list of new clients accepted to the department to  
27 verify that services have been provided to department clients. The

1 legal services association of Michigan and the department shall  
2 work together to develop release forms to share information in  
3 appropriate cases. The legal services association of Michigan shall  
4 provide quarterly reports indicating cases opened, cases closed,  
5 level of services provided on closed cases, and case outcomes on  
6 closed cases.

7       Sec. 643. As a condition of receipt of federal TANF funds,  
8 homeless shelters and human services agencies shall collaborate  
9 with the department to obtain necessary TANF eligibility  
10 information on families as soon as possible after admitting a  
11 family to the homeless shelter. From the funds appropriated in part  
12 1 for homeless programs, the department is authorized to make  
13 allocations of TANF funds only to the agencies that report  
14 necessary data to the department for the purpose of meeting TANF  
15 eligibility reporting requirements. Homeless shelters or human  
16 services agencies that do not report necessary data to the  
17 department for the purpose of meeting TANF eligibility reporting  
18 requirements will not receive reimbursements which exceed the per  
19 diem amount they received in fiscal year 2000. The use of TANF  
20 funds under this section should not be considered an ongoing  
21 commitment of funding.

22       Sec. 645. An individual or family is considered homeless, for  
23 purposes of eligibility for state emergency relief, if living  
24 temporarily with others in order to escape domestic violence. For  
25 purposes of this section, domestic violence is defined and verified  
26 in the same manner as in the department's policies on good cause  
27 for not cooperating with child support and paternity requirements.

1       Sec. 653. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for food  
2 assistance, an individual who is the victim of domestic violence  
3 and does not qualify for any other exemption may be exempt from the  
4 3-month in 36-month limit on receiving food assistance under 7 USC  
5 2015. This exemption can be extended an additional 3 months upon  
6 demonstration of continuing need.

7       Sec. 654. The department shall notify recipients of food  
8 assistance program benefits that their benefits can be spent with  
9 their bridge cards at many farmers' markets in the state. The  
10 department shall also notify recipients about the Double Up Food  
11 Bucks program that is administered by the Fair Food Network.  
12 Recipients shall receive information about the Double Up Food Bucks  
13 program, including information that when the recipient spends  
14 \$20.00 at participating farmers' markets through the program, the  
15 recipient can receive an additional \$20.00 to buy Michigan produce.

16       Sec. 655. Within 14 days after the spending plan for low-  
17 income home energy assistance program is approved by the state  
18 budget office, the department shall provide the spending plan,  
19 including itemized projected expenditures, to the chairpersons of  
20 the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the department  
21 budget, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the senate and  
22 house policy offices.

23       Sec. 660. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for food bank  
24 funding, the department is authorized to make allocations of TANF  
25 funds only to the agencies that report necessary data to the  
26 department for the purpose of meeting TANF eligibility reporting  
27 requirements. The agencies that do not report necessary data to the

1 department for the purpose of meeting TANF eligibility reporting  
2 requirements will not receive allocations in excess of those  
3 received in fiscal year 2000. The use of TANF funds under this  
4 section should not be considered an ongoing commitment of funding.

5       Sec. 669. The department shall allocate \$2,680,000.00 for the  
6 annual clothing allowance. The allowance shall be granted to all  
7 eligible children in a family independence program group that does  
8 not include an adult.

9       Sec. 672. (1) The department's office of inspector general  
10 shall report to the senate and house of representatives  
11 appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the senate  
12 and house fiscal agencies, and the senate and house policy offices  
13 by February 15 of the current fiscal year on department efforts to  
14 reduce inappropriate use of Michigan bridge cards. The department  
15 shall provide information on the number of recipients of services  
16 who used their electronic benefit transfer card inappropriately and  
17 the current status of each case, the number of recipients whose  
18 benefits were revoked, whether permanently or temporarily, as a  
19 result of inappropriate use, and the number of retailers that were  
20 fined or removed from the electronic benefit transfer program for  
21 permitting inappropriate use of the cards.

22       (2) As used in this section, "inappropriate use" means not  
23 used to meet a family's ongoing basic needs, including food,  
24 clothing, shelter, utilities, household goods, personal care items,  
25 and general incidentals.

26       Sec. 673. (1) The department shall conduct a workgroup to  
27 investigate means of minimizing fraud in the MIBridges benefits

1 programs. The members of the workgroup shall include, but are not  
2 limited to, the departments of state, community health, and state  
3 police, and members of the house of representatives and the senate.  
4 The workgroup shall, at a minimum, address the following  
5 possibilities and make recommendations on the implementation of any  
6 of the following items considered feasible:

7 (a) Whether the department's policies concerning the  
8 replacement of lost bridge cards sufficiently deter improper use of  
9 those cards.

10 (b) What technologies may exist to deter the sale or other  
11 improper use of bridge cards.

12 (c) Whether a state driver license or state identification  
13 card might be used to replace the existing bridge cards.

14 (d) What federal policies exist that may inhibit or enhance  
15 adoption of fraud minimization actions.

16 (2) By February 1, 2016, the department shall provide to the  
17 senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the department  
18 budget, the senate and house fiscal agencies, the senate and house  
19 policy offices, and the state budget office a report on the  
20 workgroup findings. The report shall include a draft request for  
21 information to implement any recommended proposals, an action plan  
22 for implementation of any proposed changes, and an estimate of the  
23 costs that may be incurred and benefits that may be gained from the  
24 adoption of recommended workgroup suggestions.

25 Sec. 677. (1) The department shall establish a state goal for  
26 the percentage of family independence program cases involved in  
27 employment activities. The percentage established shall not be less



1 than 50%. The goal for long-term employment shall be 15% of cases  
2 for 6 months or more.

3 (2) On a monthly basis, the department shall report to the  
4 senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the department  
5 budget, the senate and house fiscal agencies and policy offices,  
6 and the state budget director on the number of cases referred to  
7 partnership. accountability. training. hope. (PATH), the current  
8 percentage of family independence program cases involved in PATH  
9 employment activities, an estimate of the current percentage of  
10 family independence program cases that meet federal work  
11 participation requirements on the whole, and an estimate of the  
12 current percentage of the family independence program cases that  
13 meet federal work participation requirements for those cases  
14 referred to PATH.

15 (3) The department shall submit to the senate and house  
16 appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the senate  
17 and house fiscal agencies, the senate and house policy offices, and  
18 the state budget office a quarterly report that includes all of the  
19 following:

20 (a) The number and percentage of nonexempt family independence  
21 program recipients who are employed.

22 (b) The average and range of wages of employed family  
23 independence program recipients.

24 (c) When data become available, the number and percentage of  
25 employed family independence program recipients who remain employed  
26 for 6 months or more.

27 Sec. 686. (1) The department shall ensure that program policy

1 requires caseworkers to confirm that individuals presenting  
2 personal identification issued by another state seeking assistance  
3 through the family independence program, food assistance program,  
4 state disability assistance program, or medical assistance program  
5 are not receiving benefits from any other state.

6 (2) The department shall require caseworkers to confirm the  
7 address provided by any individual seeking family independence  
8 program benefits or state disability assistance benefits.

9 (3) The department shall prohibit individuals with property  
10 assets assessed at a value higher than \$200,000.00 from accessing  
11 assistance through department-administered programs, unless such a  
12 prohibition would violate federal rules and guidelines.

13 (4) The department shall require caseworkers to obtain an up-  
14 to-date telephone number during the eligibility determination or  
15 redetermination process for individuals seeking medical assistance  
16 benefits. On a monthly basis, the department shall provide the  
17 department of community health an updated list of telephone numbers  
18 for medical assistance recipients.

19 Sec. 687. (1) The department shall, on a quarterly basis by  
20 February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1, compile and make  
21 available on its website all of the following information about the  
22 family independence program, state disability assistance, the food  
23 assistance program, Medicaid, and state emergency relief:

24 (a) The number of applications received.

25 (b) The number of applications approved.

26 (c) The number of applications denied.

27 (d) The number of applications pending and neither approved

1 nor denied.

2 (e) The number of cases opened.

3 (f) The number of cases closed.

4 (g) The number of cases at the beginning of the quarter and  
5 the number of cases at the end of the quarter.

6 (2) The information provided under subsection (1) shall be  
7 compiled and made available for the state as a whole and for each  
8 county and reported separately for each program listed in  
9 subsection (1).

10 (3) The department shall, on a quarterly basis by February 1,  
11 May 1, August 1, and November 1, compile and make available on its  
12 website the family independence program information listed as  
13 follows:

14 (a) The number of new applicants who successfully met the  
15 requirements of the 21-day assessment period for PATH.

16 (b) The number of new applicants who did not meet the  
17 requirements of the 21-day assessment period for PATH.

18 (c) The number of cases sanctioned because of the school  
19 truancy policy.

20 (d) The number of cases closed because of the 48-month and 60-  
21 month lifetime limits.

22 (e) The number of first-, second-, and third-time sanctions.

23 (f) The number of children ages 0-5 living in FIP-sanctioned  
24 households.

25 (4) The department shall notify the state budget office, the  
26 senate and house appropriations subcommittees on the department  
27 budget, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the senate and

1 house policy offices when the reports required in this section are  
2 made available on the department's website.

3 Sec. 695. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
4 multicultural integration funding, the department may require each  
5 contractor to provide data and information on performance-related  
6 metrics. These metrics may include, but are not limited to, all of  
7 the following:

8 (a) Each contractor or subcontractor shall have a mission that  
9 is consistent with the purpose of multicultural integration  
10 funding.

11 (b) Each contractor shall validate that any subcontractors  
12 utilized within these appropriations share the same mission as the  
13 lead agency receiving funding.

14 (c) Each contractor or subcontractor shall demonstrate cost-  
15 effectiveness.

16 (d) Each contractor or subcontractor shall ensure their  
17 ability to leverage private dollars to strengthen and maximize  
18 service provision.

19 (e) Each contractor or subcontractor shall provide timely and  
20 accurate reports regarding the number of clients served, units of  
21 service provision, and ability to meet their stated goals.

22 (2) The department shall require an annual report from the  
23 contractors that receive multicultural integration funding. The  
24 annual report, due 60 days following the end of the contract  
25 period, shall include specific information on services and programs  
26 provided, the client base to which the services and programs were  
27 provided, information on any wraparound services provided, and the

1 expenditures for those services. The department shall provide the  
2 annual reports to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees  
3 on the department budget, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and  
4 the state budget office.

5 (3) The department of community health and the department  
6 shall convene a workgroup to discuss and make recommendations on  
7 including accreditation in the contractor specifications and  
8 potentially moving toward competitive bidding. Each contractor  
9 required to provide data per this section shall be invited to  
10 participate in the workgroup if so convened.

#### 11 JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES

12 Sec. 706. Counties shall be subject to 50% chargeback for the  
13 use of alternative regional detention services, if those detention  
14 services do not fall under the basic provision of section 117e of  
15 the social welfare act, 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.117e, or if a county  
16 operates those detention services programs primarily with  
17 professional rather than volunteer staff.

18 Sec. 707. In order to be reimbursed for child care fund  
19 expenditures, counties are required to submit department-developed  
20 reports to enable the department to document potential federally  
21 claimable expenditures. This requirement is in accordance with the  
22 reporting requirements specified in section 117a(7) of the social  
23 welfare act, 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.117a.

24 Sec. 708. (1) As a condition of receiving funds appropriated  
25 in part 1 for the child care fund line item, by December 15 of the  
26 current fiscal year, counties shall have an approved service

1 spending plan for the current fiscal year. Counties must submit the  
2 service spending plan to the department by October 1 of the current  
3 fiscal year for approval. The department shall approve within 30  
4 calendar days after receipt a properly completed service plan that  
5 complies with the requirements of the social welfare act, 1939 PA  
6 280, MCL 400.1 to 400.119b, and shall notify a county within 30  
7 days after approval that its service plan was approved.

8 (2) The department shall submit a report to the house and  
9 senate appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the  
10 house and senate fiscal agencies, and the house and senate policy  
11 offices by February 15 of the current fiscal year on the number of  
12 counties that fail to submit a service spending plan by October 1  
13 and the number of service spending plans not approved by December  
14 15.

15 Sec. 711. Unless already provided in the previous fiscal year,  
16 the department shall submit the behavioral health study of juvenile  
17 justice facilities operated or contracted for by the state not  
18 later than June 30 of the current fiscal year to the senate and  
19 house appropriations subcommittees on human services, the senate  
20 and house fiscal agencies and policy offices, and the state budget  
21 director.

22 Sec. 719. The department shall notify the legislature at least  
23 30 days before closing or making any change in the status,  
24 including the licensed bed capacity and operating bed capacity, of  
25 a state juvenile justice facility.

26 Sec. 721. If the demand for placements at state-operated  
27 juvenile justice residential facilities exceeds capacity, the

1 department shall not increase the available occupancy or services  
2 at the facilities, and shall post a request for proposals for a  
3 contract with not less than 1 private provider of residential  
4 services for juvenile justice youth to be a residential facility of  
5 last resort.

#### 6 LOCAL OFFICE SERVICES

7 Sec. 750. (1) The department shall maintain out-stationed  
8 eligibility specialists in community-based organizations, community  
9 mental health agencies, nursing homes, and hospitals unless a  
10 community-based organization, community mental health agency,  
11 nursing home, or hospital requests that the program be discontinued  
12 at its facility.

13 (2) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for donated funds  
14 positions, the department shall enter into a contract with any  
15 agency that places a request for a donated funds position and is  
16 able and eligible under federal law to provide the required  
17 matching funds for federal funding, as determined by federal  
18 statute and regulations. If the department denies a request, the  
19 department shall provide to the agency that made the request the  
20 federal statute or regulation that requires the denial. If the  
21 department does not provide the statute or regulation to the  
22 agency, the department shall grant the request for the donated  
23 funds position.

24 (3) A contract for an eligibility specialist position must  
25 include, but not be limited to, the following performance metrics:

26 (a) Meeting a standard of promptness for processing

1 applications for Medicaid and other public assistance programs  
2 under state law.

3 (b) Meeting required standards for error rates in determining  
4 programmatic eligibility as determined by the department.

5 (4) The department shall only fill additional donated funds  
6 positions after a new contract has been signed. That position shall  
7 also be abolished when the contract expires or is terminated.

8 Sec. 751. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
9 Healthy Michigan plan administration, the department, in  
10 conjunction with the department of community health, shall  
11 establish and maintain an accounting structure within the Michigan  
12 administrative information network that will allow expenditures  
13 associated with the administration of the Healthy Michigan plan to  
14 be identified.

15 (2) The department shall submit to the senate and house  
16 appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the senate  
17 and house fiscal agencies, the senate and house policy offices, and  
18 the state budget office a quarterly report on the implementation  
19 status of the Healthy Michigan call center that includes all of the  
20 following information:

21 (a) Call volume during the prior quarter.

22 (b) Percentage of calls resolved through the Healthy Michigan  
23 plan call center.

24 (c) Percentage of calls transferred to a local department  
25 office or other office for resolution.

26 (d) Number of Medicaid applications completed by the Healthy  
27 Michigan call center staff and submitted on behalf of clients.



1       Sec. 752. (1) The department shall maintain out-stationed  
2   eligibility specialists in community-based organizations, community  
3   mental health agencies, nursing homes, and hospitals unless a  
4   community-based organization, community mental health agency,  
5   nursing home, or hospital requests that the program be discontinued  
6   at its facility.

7       (2) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for donated funds  
8   positions, the department shall enter into a contract with any  
9   agency that requests a donated funds position and is able and  
10  eligible under federal law to provide the required matching funds  
11  for federal funding, as determined by federal statute and  
12  regulations. Beginning in fiscal year 2016, the department is  
13  authorized to increase the total number of donated funds positions  
14  by 200 FTEs. The purpose of these positions will be to address  
15  client service needs in adult placement and independent living  
16  settings, federally qualified health clinics, hospitals with a high  
17  degree of uncompensated care, and employer-based sites. If the  
18  department denies a request for donated funds positions, the  
19  department shall provide to the agency that made the request the  
20  federal statute or regulation that supports the denial. If there is  
21  no federal statute or regulation that supports the denial, the  
22  department shall grant the request for the donated funds position.

23       (3) A contract for a donated funds position must include, but  
24  not be limited to, the following performance metrics:

25       (a) Meeting standards of promptness for processing  
26  applications for Medicaid and other public assistance programs  
27  under state law.

1 (b) Meeting required standards for error rates in determining  
2 programmatic eligibility as determined by the department.

3 (4) The department shall only fill additional donated funds  
4 positions after a new contract has been signed. That position shall  
5 also be abolished when the contract expires or is terminated.

6 **CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT**

7 Sec. 901. (1) The appropriations in part 1 assume a total  
8 federal child support incentive payment of \$26,500,000.00.

9 (2) From the federal money received for child support  
10 incentive payments, \$12,000,000.00 shall be retained by the state  
11 and expended for child support program expenses.

12 (3) From the federal money received for child support  
13 incentive payments, \$14,500,000.00 shall be paid to the counties  
14 based on each county's performance level for each of the federal  
15 performance measures as established in 45 CFR 305.2.

16 (4) If the child support incentive payment to the state from  
17 the federal government is greater than \$26,500,000.00, then 100% of  
18 the excess shall be retained by the state and is appropriated until  
19 the total retained by the state reaches \$15,397,400.00.

20 (5) If the child support incentive payment to the state from  
21 the federal government is greater than the amount needed to satisfy  
22 the provisions identified in subsections (1), (2), (3), and (4),  
23 the additional funds shall be subject to appropriation by the  
24 legislature.

25 (6) If the child support incentive payment to the state from  
26 the federal government is less than \$26,500,000.00, then the state

1 and county share shall each be reduced by 50% of the shortfall.

2       Sec. 909. (1) If statewide retained child support collections  
3 exceed \$38,300,000.00, 75% of the amount in excess of  
4 \$38,300,000.00 is appropriated to legal support contracts. This  
5 excess appropriation may be distributed to eligible counties to  
6 supplement and not supplant county title IV-D funding.

7       (2) Each county whose retained child support collections in  
8 the current fiscal year exceed its fiscal year 2004-2005 retained  
9 child support collections, excluding tax offset and financial  
10 institution data match collections in both the current year and  
11 fiscal year 2004-2005, shall receive its proportional share of the  
12 75% excess.

13       Sec. 910. (1) If title IV-D-related child support collections  
14 are escheated, the state budget director is authorized to adjust  
15 the sources of financing for the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
16 legal support contracts to reduce federal authorization by 66% of  
17 the escheated amount and increase general fund/general purpose  
18 authorization by the same amount. This budget adjustment is  
19 required to offset the loss of federal revenue due to the escheated  
20 amount being counted as title IV-D program income in accordance  
21 with federal regulations at 45 CFR 304.50.

22       (2) The department shall notify the chairs of the house and  
23 senate appropriations subcommittees on the department budget and  
24 the house and senate fiscal agencies within 15 days of the  
25 authorization adjustment in subsection (1).

## ARTICLE XI

## DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

## PART 1

## LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the department of insurance and financial services for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the following funds:

**DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

## APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Full-time equated unclassified positions..... 6.0

Full-time equated classified positions..... 337.0

GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$ 65,057,700

Interdepartmental grant revenues:

Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental

transfers ..... 707,600

ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$ 64,350,100

Federal revenues:

Total federal revenues..... 2,000,000

Special revenue funds:

Total other state restricted revenues..... 62,200,100

State general fund/general purpose..... \$ 150,000

**Sec. 102. DEPARTMENT SERVICES**

Full-time equated unclassified positions..... 6.0

Full-time equated classified positions..... 23.0

Unclassified salaries--6.0 FTE positions..... \$ 728,300

Executive director programs--4.0 FTE positions ..... 1,084,300

Department services--19.0 FTE positions ..... 3,802,100

1	Property management.....	869,300
2	Worker's compensation.....	5,200
3	Administrative hearings.....	182,500
4	Information technology services and projects.....	<u>2,185,900</u>
5	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 8,857,600
6	Appropriated from:	
7	Special revenue funds:	
8	Bank fees.....	782,900
9	Captive insurance regulatory and supervision fund....	1,800
10	Consumer finance fees.....	395,200
11	Credit union fees.....	1,004,700
12	Deferred presentment service transaction fees.....	520,700
13	Insurance bureau fund.....	3,409,400
14	Insurance continuing education fees.....	81,400
15	Insurance licensing and regulation fees.....	1,766,400
16	MBLSLA fund.....	744,300
17	Multiple employer welfare arrangement.....	800
18	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 150,000
19	<b>Sec. 103. INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES</b>	
20	<b>REGULATION</b>	
21	Full-time equated classified positions..... 314.0	
22	Insurance evaluation--54.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 12,732,300
23	Insurance rates and forms--30.0 FTE positions.....	5,840,400
24	Financial institutions evaluation--132.0 FTE positions	23,810,300
25	Regulatory compliance, market conduct, and licensing--	
26	34.0 FTE positions .....	5,350,300
27	Consumer services and protection--64.0 FTE positions .	<u>8,466,800</u>

1	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	56,200,100
2	Appropriated from:		
3	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
4	IDG - LARA, for debt management.....		707,600
5	Federal revenues:		
6	Federal revenues.....		2,000,000
7	Special revenue funds:		
8	Bank fees.....		6,357,700
9	Captive insurance regulatory and supervision fund....		279,000
10	Consumer finance fees.....		4,122,000
11	Credit union fees.....		7,647,300
12	Deferred presentment service transaction fees.....		3,086,200
13	Insurance bureau fund.....		20,148,000
14	Insurance continuing education fees.....		1,060,600
15	Insurance licensing and regulation fees.....		6,354,100
16	MBLSLA fund.....		4,357,000
17	Multiple employer welfare arrangement.....		80,600
18	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	0

19 PART 2

20 PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

21 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

22 GENERAL SECTIONS

23 Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state  
 24 constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources  
 25 under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$62,350,100.00 and state

1 spending from state resources to be paid to local units of  
2 government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$0.00.

3 Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under this part and  
4 part 1 are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
5 MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

6 Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

7 (a) "Department" means the department of insurance and  
8 financial services.

9 (b) "Director" means the director of the department.

10 (c) "Fiscal agencies" means the Michigan house fiscal agency  
11 and Michigan senate fiscal agency.

12 (d) "FTE" means full-time equated.

13 (e) "IDG" means interdepartmental grant.

14 (f) "LARA" means the department of licensing and regulatory  
15 affairs.

16 (g) "MBLSLA fund" means the restricted account established in  
17 section 8 of the mortgage brokers, lenders, and servicers licensing  
18 act, 1987 PA 173, MCL 445.1658.

19 (h) "Subcommittees" means all members of the subcommittees of  
20 the house and senate appropriations committees with jurisdiction  
21 over the budget for the department.

22 Sec. 205. (1) For each new program or program expansion for  
23 which funds in excess of \$500,000.00 are appropriated in part 1,  
24 the department shall identify specific benchmarks intended to  
25 measure the performance or return on taxpayer investment of the  
26 program and its associated expenditures. Not later than November 1,  
27 the department shall report the proposed benchmarks to the house

1 and senate appropriations subcommittees for that department, the  
2 house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.  
3 The department shall provide an update on its progress in achieving  
4 those benchmarks at an appropriations subcommittee meeting called  
5 for the purpose of discussing benchmarks and their status.

6 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that any proposal for  
7 a new program or an expansion of an existing program in excess of  
8 \$500,000.00 initiated by the executive branch or the legislature  
9 shall include, as part of the original proposal or budget request,  
10 a list of benchmarks intended to measure the performance or return  
11 on taxpayer investment of the program or spending increase.

12 Sec. 208. The departments and agencies receiving  
13 appropriations in this part and part 1 shall use the Internet to  
14 fulfill the reporting requirements of this part. This requirement  
15 may include transmission of reports via electronic mail to the  
16 recipients identified for each reporting requirement, or it may  
17 include placement of reports on an Internet or intranet site.

18 Sec. 209. Funds appropriated in this part and part 1 shall not  
19 be used for the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
20 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
21 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to  
22 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
23 businesses, if they are competitively priced and of comparable  
24 quality. In addition, preference shall be given to goods or  
25 services, or both, that are manufactured or provided by Michigan  
26 businesses owned and operated by veterans, if they are  
27 competitively priced and of comparable quality.



1       Sec. 210. The director shall take all reasonable steps to  
2 ensure businesses in deprived and depressed communities compete for  
3 and perform contracts to provide services or supplies, or both. The  
4 director shall strongly encourage firms with which the department  
5 contracts to subcontract with certified businesses in depressed and  
6 deprived communities for services, supplies, or both.

7       Sec. 212. The department and agencies receiving appropriations  
8 in this part and part 1 shall receive and retain copies of all  
9 reports funded from appropriations in this part and part 1. Federal  
10 and state guidelines for short-term and long-term retention of  
11 records shall be followed. The department may electronically retain  
12 copies or reports unless otherwise required by federal and state  
13 guidelines.

14       Sec. 215. The department shall not take disciplinary action  
15 against an employee for communicating with a member of the  
16 legislature or his or her staff.

17       Sec. 216. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
18 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
19 the total general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses at the  
20 close of the prior fiscal year. This report must summarize the  
21 projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriation  
22 lapses by major departmental program or program areas. The report  
23 shall be transmitted to the chairpersons of the senate and house  
24 appropriations committees and the fiscal agencies.

25       Sec. 218. The departments and agencies receiving  
26 appropriations in this part and part 1 shall prepare a report on  
27 out-of-state travel expenses not later than January 1 of each year.

1 The travel report must list all travel by classified and  
2 unclassified employees outside this state in the immediately  
3 preceding fiscal year that was funded in whole or in part with  
4 funds appropriated in the department's budget. The report shall be  
5 submitted to the house and senate appropriations committees, the  
6 fiscal agencies, and the state budget director. The report must  
7 include the following information:

8 (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

9 (b) The total transportation and related costs of each travel  
10 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
11 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
12 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
13 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

14 Sec. 219. No later than April 1, the department shall submit  
15 to the subcommittees and the fiscal agencies a report pertaining to  
16 the following information:

17 (a) The amount, in square footage, of office space paid for  
18 with the appropriation in this part and part 1 for both state-owned  
19 and leased office space, respectively, during the previous fiscal  
20 year.

21 (b) The amount, in square footage, of office space actually  
22 utilized by the department for both state-owned and leased office  
23 space, respectively, during the previous fiscal year.

24 (c) The amount of office space the department estimates will  
25 be utilized during the current and subsequent fiscal years.

26 Sec. 221. Funds appropriated in this part and part 1 shall not  
27 be used by a principal executive department, state agency, or

1 authority to hire a person to provide legal services that are the  
2 responsibility of the attorney general. This prohibition does not  
3 apply to legal services for bonding activities and for those  
4 outside services that the attorney general authorizes.

5       Sec. 223. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
6 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 for  
7 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
8 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
9 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
10 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

11       (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
12 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.00 for state  
13 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
14 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
15 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
16 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

17       (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
18 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 for local  
19 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
20 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
21 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
22 MCL 18.1393.

23       (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
24 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 for private  
25 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
26 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
27 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,

1 MCL 18.1393.

2 Sec. 228. Unless prohibited by law, the department may accept  
3 credit card or other electronic means of payment for licenses,  
4 fees, or permits.

5 Sec. 229. The department shall maintain, on a publicly  
6 accessible website, a department scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
7 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
8 improve the department's performance.

9 Sec. 231. The department shall cooperate with the department  
10 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable  
11 website accessible by the public at no cost that includes, but is  
12 not limited to, all of the following for each department or agency:

13 (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

14 (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

15 (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
16 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
17 payment description.

18 (d) The number of active department employees by job  
19 classification.

20 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

21 Sec. 232. The department shall not develop or produce any  
22 television or radio productions.

23 Sec. 234. Within 14 days after the release of the executive  
24 budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate with the  
25 state budget office to provide the senate and house appropriations  
26 chairs, the subcommittees chairs, and the fiscal agencies with an  
27 annual report on estimated state restricted fund balances, state

1 restricted fund projected revenues, and state restricted fund  
2 expenditures for the immediately preceding and current fiscal  
3 years.

4 Sec. 235. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
5 under this part and part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year  
6 ending September 30, 2016 is \$9,998,900.00. From this amount, total  
7 agency appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are  
8 estimated at \$5,675,400.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree  
9 health care legacy costs are estimated at \$4,323,500.00.

10 Sec. 245. The department, in conjunction with the department  
11 of community health, shall establish an accounting structure within  
12 the Michigan administrative information network that will allow  
13 expenditures associated with the administration of the Healthy  
14 Michigan plan to be identified.

15 Sec. 246. The amount appropriated from the general fund in  
16 part 1 for executive director program may only be expended to  
17 comply with reporting requirements regarding the Healthy Michigan  
18 plan under section 105d(9) of the social welfare act, 1939 PA 280,  
19 MCL 400.105d.

## 20 INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATION

21 Sec. 310. (1) No later than February 1, the department shall  
22 submit a report to the subcommittees and the fiscal agencies  
23 providing the following information:

24 (a) The amounts expended, by fund source, by the department to  
25 support the economic development of the insurance or financial  
26 industries during the preceding fiscal year.

1 (b) The number of full-time equated positions utilized by the  
2 department to support the economic development of the insurance or  
3 financial industries during the preceding fiscal year.

4 (c) A detailed, 2-year plan for departmental activities to  
5 support the economic development of the insurance or financial  
6 industries.

7 (2) For purposes of subsection (1), "economic development"  
8 includes any activities to encourage, promote, or advocate for the  
9 expansion, retention, or attraction of business or nonprofit  
10 entities engaged in or involved with the insurance or financial  
11 industries.

12 Sec. 391. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
13 funds collected by the department in connection with a  
14 conservatorship under section 32 of the mortgage brokers, lenders,  
15 and servicers licensing act, 1987 PA 173, MCL 445.1682, and funds  
16 collected by the department from corporations being liquidated  
17 under the insurance code of 1956, 1956 PA 218, MCL 500.100 to  
18 500.8302, shall be appropriated for all expenses necessary to  
19 provide for the required services. Funds are available for  
20 expenditure when they are received by the department of treasury  
21 and shall not lapse to the general fund at the end of the fiscal  
22 year.

### 23 AUTISM COVERAGE

24 Sec. 802. (1) Each fiscal year, if expenditures are made from  
25 the autism coverage fund, created by section 7 of the autism  
26 coverage reimbursement act, 2012 PA 101, MCL 550.1837, the

1 department shall produce a report that contains all of the  
 2 following information on the autism coverage reimbursement program,  
 3 established by section 5 of the autism coverage reimbursement act,  
 4 2012 PA 101, MCL 550.1835, for the fiscal year:

5 (a) The total number of claims for reimbursement approved and  
 6 the number approved within each county, based on the provider's  
 7 location.

8 (b) The total amount expended from the autism coverage fund  
 9 for reimbursements and the amount for each carrier receiving  
 10 reimbursement.

11 (c) The average age of patients receiving diagnosis or  
 12 treatment for which claims for reimbursement are approved.

13 (2) By October 31 following the end of the fiscal year, the  
 14 department shall provide the report required under subsection (1)  
 15 to the subcommittees, the fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
 16 director.

## 17 ARTICLE XII

### 18 JUDICIARY

#### 19 PART 1

#### 20 LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

21 Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the judiciary for the  
 22 fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the following funds:

#### 23 JUDICIARY

#### 24 APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

25 Full-time equated exempted positions..... 489.0

1	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	283,401,300
2	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
3	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
4	transfers .....		2,362,900
5	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	281,038,400
6	Federal revenues:		
7	Total federal revenues.....		6,428,600
8	Special revenue funds:		
9	Total local revenues.....		7,229,000
10	Total private revenues.....		942,900
11	Total other state restricted revenues.....		84,245,700
12	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	182,192,200
13	<b>Sec. 102. SUPREME COURT</b>		
14	Full-time equated exempted positions.....	246.0	
15	Supreme court administration--92.0 FTE positions.....	\$	13,338,700
16	Judicial institute--13.0 FTE positions.....		2,159,100
17	State court administrative office--61.0 FTE positions		11,832,000
18	Judicial information systems--22.0 FTE positions.....		3,057,700
19	Direct trial court automation support--44.0 FTE		
20	positions .....		7,229,000
21	Foster care review board--10.0 FTE positions.....		1,285,900
22	Community dispute resolution--3.0 FTE positions.....		2,366,800
23	Other federal grants.....		275,100
24	Drug treatment courts.....		10,958,000
25	Mental health courts and diversion services--1.0 FTE		
26	position .....		5,334,700
27	Veterans courts.....		500,000



1	Swift and sure sanctions program.....	3,000,000
2	Next generation Michigan court system.....	<u>4,116,000</u>
3	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 65,453,000
4	Appropriated from:	
5	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
6	IDG from department of state police.....	1,500,000
7	IDG from department of corrections.....	50,000
8	IDG from state police - Michigan justice training fund	339,200
9	Federal revenues:	
10	DOJ, victims assistance programs.....	56,500
11	DOJ, drug court training and evaluation.....	300,000
12	DOT, national highway traffic safety administration..	2,203,500
13	HHS, access and visitation grant.....	612,200
14	HHS, children's justice grant.....	229,400
15	HHS, court improvement project.....	1,290,500
16	HHS, title IV-D child support program.....	1,009,700
17	HHS, title IV-E foster care program.....	386,500
18	Other federal grant revenues.....	275,100
19	Special revenue funds:	
20	Local - user fees.....	7,229,000
21	Private.....	188,100
22	Private - interest on lawyers trust accounts.....	258,600
23	Private - state justice institute.....	413,600
24	Community dispute resolution fund.....	2,366,800
25	Court of appeals filing/motion fees.....	1,641,800
26	Law exam fees.....	639,100
27	Drug court fund.....	1,920,500

1	Miscellaneous revenue.....	270,600
2	Justice system fund.....	566,800
3	State court fund.....	377,100
4	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 41,328,400
5	<b>Sec. 103. COURT OF APPEALS</b>	
6	Full-time equated exempted positions.....	175.0
7	Court of appeals operations--175.0 FTE positions.....	\$ <u>22,606,900</u>
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 22,606,900
9	Appropriated from:	
10	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 22,606,900
11	<b>Sec. 104. BRANCHWIDE APPROPRIATIONS</b>	
12	Full-time equated exempted positions.....	4.0
13	Branchwide appropriations--4.0 FTE positions.....	\$ <u>8,550,400</u>
14	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 8,550,400
15	Appropriated from:	
16	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 8,550,400
17	<b>Sec. 105. JUSTICES' AND JUDGES' COMPENSATION</b>	
18	Full-time judges positions .....	593.0
19	Supreme court justices' salaries--7.0 justices.....	\$ 1,152,300
20	Court of appeals judges' salaries--27.0 judges.....	4,087,900
21	District court judges' state base salaries--243.0	
22	judges .....	22,489,200
23	District court judicial salary standardization.....	11,111,000
24	Probate court judges' state base salaries--103.0	
25	judges .....	9,627,900
26	Probate court judicial salary standardization.....	4,669,600
27	Circuit court judges' state base salaries--213.0	

1	judges .....	20,064,100
2	Circuit court judicial salary standardization .....	9,739,200
3	Judges' retirement system defined contributions .....	4,425,800
4	OASI, social security .....	<u>5,736,600</u>
5	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 93,103,600
6	Appropriated from:	
7	Special revenue funds:	
8	Court fee fund .....	2,988,100
9	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 90,115,500
10	<b>Sec. 106. JUDICIAL AGENCIES</b>	
11	Full-time equated exempted positions .....	7.0
12	Judicial tenure commission--7.0 FTE positions .....	\$ <u>1,115,200</u>
13	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 1,115,200
14	Appropriated from:	
15	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 1,115,200
16	<b>Sec. 107. INDIGENT DEFENSE - CRIMINAL</b>	
17	Full-time equated exempted positions .....	57.0
18	Appellate public defender program--51.0 FTE positions	\$ 7,857,800
19	Michigan indigent defense commission--6.0 FTE	
20	positions .....	<u>996,700</u>
21	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 8,854,500
22	Appropriated from:	
23	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
24	IDG from state police - Michigan justice training fund	473,700
25	Federal revenues:	
26	Other federal grant revenues .....	65,200
27	Special revenue funds:	

1	Private - interest on lawyers trust accounts .....	82,600
2	Miscellaneous revenue .....	132,900
3	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 8,100,100
4	<b>Sec. 108. INDIGENT CIVIL LEGAL ASSISTANCE</b>	
5	Indigent civil legal assistance .....	\$ <u>7,937,000</u>
6	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 7,937,000
7	Appropriated from:	
8	Special revenue funds:	
9	State court fund .....	7,937,000
10	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
11	<b>Sec. 109. TRIAL COURT OPERATIONS</b>	
12	Court equity fund reimbursements .....	\$ 60,815,700
13	Judicial technology improvement fund .....	4,815,000
14	Drug case-flow program .....	250,000
15	Drunk driving case-flow program .....	3,300,000
16	Juror compensation reimbursement .....	<u>6,600,000</u>
17	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 75,780,700
18	Appropriated from:	
19	Special revenue funds:	
20	Court equity fund .....	50,440,000
21	Judicial technology improvement fund .....	4,815,000
22	Drug fund .....	250,000
23	Drunk driving fund .....	3,300,000
24	Juror compensation fund .....	6,600,000
25	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 10,375,700

## PART 2

## PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

GENERAL SECTIONS

Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$266,437,900.00 and state spending from state resources to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$135,829,400.00. The itemized statement below identifies appropriations from which spending to local units of government will occur:

## JUDICIARY

## SUPREME COURT

State court administrative office.....	\$	511,900
Drug treatment courts.....		10,658,000
Mental health courts and diversion services.....		5,222,800
Veterans courts.....		500,000
Swift and sure sanctions program.....		2,900,000
Next generation Michigan court system.....		4,116,000

## TRIAL COURT OPERATIONS

Court equity fund reimbursements.....	\$	60,815,700
Judicial technology improvement fund.....		4,815,000
Drunk driving case-flow program.....		3,300,000
Drug case-flow program.....		250,000
Juror compensation reimbursement.....		6,600,000

## JUSTICES' AND JUDGES' COMPENSATION

District court judicial salary standardization.....	\$	11,111,000
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1	Probate court judges' state base salaries .....	9,627,900
2	Probate court judicial salary standardization .....	4,669,600
3	Circuit court judicial salary standardization .....	9,739,200
4	Grant to OASI contribution fund, employers share,	
5	social security .....	<u>992,300</u>
6	TOTAL .....	\$ 135,829,400

7       Sec. 202. (1) The appropriations authorized under this part  
8 and part 1 are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA  
9 431, MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

10       (2) Funds appropriated in part 1 to an entity within the  
11 judicial branch shall not be expended or transferred to another  
12 account without written approval of the authorized agent of the  
13 judicial entity. If the authorized agent of the judicial entity  
14 notifies the state budget director of its approval of an  
15 expenditure or transfer, the state budget director shall  
16 immediately make the expenditure or transfer. The authorized  
17 judicial entity agent shall be designated by the chief justice of  
18 the supreme court.

19       Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

20       (a) "DOJ" means the United States Department of Justice.

21       (b) "DOT" means the United States Department of  
22 Transportation.

23       (c) "FTE" means full-time equated.

24       (d) "HHS" means the United States Department of Health and  
25 Human Services.

26       (e) "IDG" means interdepartmental grant.

27       (f) "OASI" means old age survivor's insurance.

1 (g) "Title IV-D" means the part of the federal social security  
2 act, 42 USC 301 to 1397mm, pertaining to the child support  
3 enforcement program.

4 (h) "Title IV-E" means the part of the federal social security  
5 act, 42 USC 301 to 1397mm, pertaining to the foster care program.

6 Sec. 204. The judicial branch shall not take disciplinary  
7 action against an employee for communicating with a member of the  
8 legislature or his or her staff.

9 Sec. 205. It is the intent of the legislature that judges who  
10 are presiding over a hearing on a foster care case shall publicly  
11 acknowledge and request the input of the foster parent or foster  
12 parents during the hearing.

13 Sec. 207. If the judicial branch makes any changes to a foster  
14 care family service plan before its finalization, it is the intent  
15 of the legislature that the presiding judge provide an explanation  
16 for any changes to that plan in the court record.

17 Sec. 208. The reporting requirements of this part shall be  
18 completed with the approval of, and at the direction of, the  
19 supreme court, except as otherwise provided in this part. The  
20 judicial branch shall use the Internet to fulfill the reporting  
21 requirements of this part. This may include transmission of reports  
22 via electronic mail to the recipients identified for each reporting  
23 requirement, or it may include placement of reports on an Internet  
24 or intranet site.

25 Sec. 209. (1) If funds become available in part 1 for juvenile  
26 justice vision 20/20, the state court administrative office shall  
27 implement the information technology services and projects

1 described in subsection (2).

2 (2) The state court administrative office shall use the funds  
3 described in subsection (1) to implement a data exchange for use by  
4 circuit and probate courts, private juvenile justice agencies, and  
5 the state court administrative office under the guidance of  
6 appropriate data sharing agreements that tracks statistical and  
7 demographic data on juveniles referred to the family division of  
8 the circuit court, otherwise known as the juvenile courts, after  
9 successful implementation and evaluation of the existing pilot  
10 database in Ottawa, Kalamazoo, Kent, Ionia, and Berrien Counties.

11 (3) It is the intent of the legislature that the purpose of  
12 the project is to implement a new juvenile justice data sharing  
13 model that will track data on juveniles referred to the courts. The  
14 project will be accomplished by local court staff, state employees,  
15 contracts with private vendors, and juvenile justice stakeholders.  
16 The total estimated cost of the project is \$5,550,000.00. The  
17 tentative completion date is September 30, 2019. The data exchange  
18 shall be compatible with the Michigan statewide automated child  
19 welfare information system.

20 (4) If funding becomes available for the project, the state  
21 court administrative office shall submit a report by March 1 to the  
22 senate and house appropriations subcommittees on judiciary, the  
23 senate and house fiscal agencies, the senate and house policy  
24 offices, and the state budget office on the status of the  
25 implementation items described in subsections (1) and (2) should  
26 funding become available.

27 Sec. 212. The judicial branch shall receive and retain copies



1 of all reports funded from appropriations in part 1. Federal and  
2 state guidelines for short-term and long-term retention of records  
3 shall be followed. The judicial branch may electronically retain  
4 copies of reports unless otherwise required by federal and state  
5 guidelines.

6       Sec. 214. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used for  
7 the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
8 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
9 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to  
10 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
11 businesses, if they are competitively priced and of comparable  
12 quality. In addition, preference shall be given to goods or  
13 services, or both, that are manufactured or provided by Michigan  
14 businesses owned and operated by veterans, if they are  
15 competitively priced and of comparable quality.

16       Sec. 215. Not later than January 1 of each year, the state  
17 court administrative office shall prepare a report on out-of-state  
18 travel listing all travel by judicial branch employees outside this  
19 state in the immediately preceding fiscal year that was funded in  
20 whole or in part with funds appropriated in the budget for the  
21 judicial branch. The report shall be submitted to the senate and  
22 house of representatives standing committees on appropriations, the  
23 senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.  
24 The report shall include the following information:

25       (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

26       (b) The transportation and related costs of each travel  
27 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general

1 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
2 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
3 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

4       Sec. 219. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
5 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
6 the total general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses at the  
7 close of the prior fiscal year. This report shall summarize the  
8 projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriation  
9 lapses by major program or program areas. The report shall be  
10 transmitted to the chairpersons of the senate and house  
11 appropriations committees and the senate and house fiscal agencies.

12       Sec. 221. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the judicial  
13 branch shall maintain a searchable website accessible by the public  
14 at no cost that includes all expenditures made by the judicial  
15 branch within a fiscal year. The posting shall include the purpose  
16 for which each expenditure is made. The judicial branch shall not  
17 provide financial information on its website under this section if  
18 doing so would violate a federal or state law, rule, regulation, or  
19 guideline that establishes privacy or security standards applicable  
20 to that financial information.

21       Sec. 222. Within 14 days after the release of the executive  
22 budget recommendation, the judicial branch shall cooperate with the  
23 state budget office to provide the chairpersons of the senate and  
24 house appropriations committees, the chairpersons of the senate and  
25 house appropriations subcommittees on judiciary, and the senate and  
26 house fiscal agencies with an annual report on estimated state  
27 restricted fund balances, state restricted fund projected revenues,

1 and state restricted fund expenditures for the fiscal years ending  
2 September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016.

3 Sec. 223. The judiciary shall maintain, on a publicly  
4 accessible website, a scorecard that identifies, tracks, and  
5 regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and improve  
6 the judiciary's performance.

7 Sec. 224. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
8 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
9 30, 2016 are \$13,723,300.00. From this amount, total appropriations  
10 for judiciary pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
11 \$7,772,600.00. Total appropriations for judiciary retiree health  
12 care legacy costs are estimated at \$5,950,700.00.

13 Sec. 225. (1) For each new program or program expansion for  
14 which funds in excess of \$500,000.00 are appropriated in part 1,  
15 the judiciary shall identify specific benchmarks intended to  
16 measure the performance or return on taxpayer investment of the  
17 program and its associated expenditures.

18 (2) By November 1, the judiciary shall report the proposed  
19 benchmarks to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on  
20 judiciary, to the senate and house fiscal agencies, and to the  
21 state budget director.

22 (3) The judiciary shall provide an update on its progress in  
23 achieving those benchmarks at an appropriations subcommittee  
24 meeting called for the purpose of discussing benchmarks and their  
25 status.

26 (4) It is the intent of the legislature that, beginning with  
27 the budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, any

1 proposal for a new program or an expansion of an existing program  
2 in excess of \$500,000.00 initiated by the executive branch or the  
3 legislature shall include, as part of the original proposal or  
4 budget request, a list of benchmarks intended to measure the  
5 performance or return on taxpayer investment of the program or  
6 spending increase.

#### 7 JUDICIAL BRANCH

8       Sec. 301. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the direct  
9 trial court automation support program of the state court  
10 administrative office shall recover direct and overhead costs from  
11 trial courts by charging for services rendered. The fee shall cover  
12 the actual costs incurred to the direct trial court automation  
13 support program in providing the service, including development of  
14 future versions of case management systems.

15       Sec. 302. Funds appropriated within the judicial branch shall  
16 not be expended by any component within the judicial branch without  
17 the approval of the supreme court.

18       Sec. 303. Of the amount appropriated in part 1 for the  
19 judicial branch, \$511,900.00 is allocated for circuit court  
20 reimbursement under section 3 of 1978 PA 16, MCL 800.453, and for  
21 costs associated with the court of claims.

22       Sec. 306. The supreme court and the state court administrative  
23 office shall continue to maintain, as a priority, the assisting of  
24 local trial courts in improving the collection of judgments.

25       Sec. 307. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for mental  
26 health courts and diversion services, \$1,730,000.00 is intended to

1 address the recommendations of the mental health diversion council.

2       Sec. 308. If sufficient funds are not available from the court  
3 fee fund to pay judges' compensation, the difference between the  
4 appropriated amount from that fund for judges' compensation and the  
5 actual amount available after the amount appropriated for trial  
6 court reimbursement is made shall be appropriated from the state  
7 general fund for judges' compensation.

8       Sec. 309. By April 1, the state court administrative office  
9 shall provide a report on drug treatment, mental health, and  
10 veterans court programs in this state. The report shall include  
11 information on the number of each type of program that has been  
12 established, the number of program participants in each  
13 jurisdiction, and the impact of the programs on offender criminal  
14 involvement and recidivism. The report shall be submitted to the  
15 senate and house appropriations subcommittees on judiciary, the  
16 senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.

17       Sec. 311. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for drug  
18 treatment courts as that term is defined in section 1060 of the  
19 revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.1060, shall be  
20 administered by the state court administrative office to operate  
21 drug treatment court programs. A drug treatment court shall be  
22 responsible for handling cases involving substance abusing  
23 nonviolent offenders through comprehensive supervision, testing,  
24 treatment services, and immediate sanctions and incentives. A drug  
25 treatment court shall use all available county and state personnel  
26 involved in the disposition of cases including, but not limited to,  
27 parole and probation agents, prosecuting attorneys, defense

1 attorneys, and community corrections providers. The funds may be  
2 used in connection with other federal, state, and local funding  
3 sources.

4 (2) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the chief justice  
5 shall allocate sufficient funds for the judicial institute to  
6 provide in-state training for those identified in subsection (1),  
7 including training for new drug treatment court judges.

8 (3) For drug treatment court grants, consideration for  
9 priority may be given to those courts where higher instances of  
10 substance abuse cases are filed.

11 (4) The judiciary shall receive \$1,500,000.00 in Byrne formula  
12 grant funding as an interdepartmental grant from the department of  
13 state police to be used for expansion of drug treatment courts, to  
14 assist in avoiding prison bed space growth for nonviolent offenders  
15 in collaboration with the department of corrections.

16 Sec. 312. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the state  
17 court administrator shall produce a statistical report regarding  
18 the implementation of the parental rights restoration act, 1990 PA  
19 211, MCL 722.901 to 722.908, as it pertains to minors seeking a  
20 court-issued waiver of parental consent. The state court  
21 administrative office shall report the total number of petitions  
22 filed and the total number of petitions granted under that act.

23 Sec. 317. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used for  
24 the permanent assignment of state-owned vehicles to justices or  
25 judges or any other judicial branch employee. This section does not  
26 preclude the use of state-owned motor pool vehicles for state  
27 business in accordance with approved guidelines.

1       Sec. 320. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
2 swift and sure sanctions program, created under section 3 of  
3 chapter XIA of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL  
4 771A.3, the state court administrative office shall administer a  
5 program to distribute grants to qualifying courts in accordance  
6 with the objectives and requirements of the probation swift and  
7 sure sanctions act, chapter XIA of the code of criminal procedure,  
8 1927 PA 175, MCL 771A.1 to 771A.8. Of the \$3,000,000.00 designated  
9 for the program, not more than \$100,000.00 shall be available to  
10 the state court administrative office to pay for employee costs  
11 associated with the administration of the program funds. Courts  
12 interested in participating in the swift and sure sanctions program  
13 may apply to the state court administrative office for a portion of  
14 the funds appropriated in part 1 under this section.

15       (2) By April 1, the state court administrative office shall  
16 provide a report on the courts that receive funding under the swift  
17 and sure sanctions program described in subsection (1) to the  
18 senate and house appropriations subcommittees on judiciary, the  
19 senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.  
20 The report shall include all of the following:

21       (a) The number of offenders who participate in the program.

22       (b) The criminal history of offenders who participate in the  
23 program.

24       (c) The recidivism rate of offenders who participate in the  
25 program, including the rate of return to jail, prison, or both.

26       (d) A detailed description of the establishment and parameters  
27 of the program.

1           (3) As used in this section, "program" means a swift and sure  
2 sanctions program described in subsection (1).

3           Sec. 321. It is the intent of the legislature that the  
4 judicial branch support a statewide legal self-help Internet  
5 website and local nonprofit self-help centers that use the  
6 statewide website to provide assistance to individuals representing  
7 themselves in civil legal proceedings. The state court  
8 administrative office shall summarize the costs of maintaining the  
9 website, provide statistics on the number of people visiting the  
10 website, and provide information on content usage, form completion,  
11 and user feedback. By March 1, the state court administrative  
12 office shall report this information for the preceding fiscal year  
13 to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on judiciary,  
14 the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
15 director.

16           Sec. 322. If Byrne formula grant funding is awarded to the  
17 state appellate defender, the state appellate defender office may  
18 receive and expend Byrne formula grant funds in an amount not to  
19 exceed \$250,000.00 as an interdepartmental grant from the  
20 department of state police. If the appellate defender appointed  
21 under section 3 of the appellate defender act, 1978 PA 620, MCL  
22 780.713, receives federal grant funding from the United States  
23 Department of Justice in excess of the amount appropriated in part  
24 1, the office of appellate defender may receive and expend grant  
25 funds in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00 as other federal  
26 grants.

27           Sec. 322a. If Byrne formula grant funding is awarded to the



1 Michigan indigent defense commission, the Michigan indigent defense  
2 commission may receive and expend Byrne formula grant funds in an  
3 amount not to exceed \$250,000.00 as an interdepartmental grant from  
4 the department of state police. The Michigan indigent defense  
5 commission, created under section 5 of the Michigan indigent  
6 defense commission act, 2013 PA 93, MCL 780.985, may receive and  
7 expend federal grant funding from the United States Department of  
8 Justice in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00 as other federal  
9 grants.

10 PART 2A

11 PROVISIONS CONCERNING ANTICIPATED APPROPRIATIONS

12 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

13 GENERAL SECTIONS

14 Sec. 1201. It is the intent of the legislature to provide  
15 appropriations for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2017 for  
16 the line items listed in part 1. The fiscal year 2016-2017  
17 appropriations are anticipated to be the same as those for fiscal  
18 year 2015-2016, except that the line items will be adjusted for  
19 changes in caseload and related costs, federal fund match rates,  
20 economic factors, and available revenue. These adjustments will be  
21 determined after the January 2016 consensus revenue estimating  
22 conference.

23 ARTICLE XIII

## DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

## PART 1

## LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 101. The amounts listed in this part are appropriated for the department of licensing and regulatory affairs, subject to the conditions set forth in part 2, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the funds identified in this part. The following is a summary of the appropriations in this part:

## DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

## APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	57.5	
Full-time equated classified positions.....	2,805.3	
GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	539,296,200
Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers .....		16,279,900
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	523,016,300
Federal revenues:		
Total federal revenues.....		200,388,700
Special revenue funds:		
Total local revenues.....		679,000
Total private revenues.....		311,300
Total other state restricted revenues.....		298,742,500
State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	22,894,800

## Sec. 102. DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	57.5
Full-time equated classified positions.....	123.0

1	Unclassified salaries--57.5 FTE positions .....	\$	4,840,200
2	Executive director programs--32.0 FTE positions .....		4,614,200
3	Administrative services--78.0 FTE positions .....		8,944,600
4	Office of regulatory reinvention--4.0 FTE positions ..		482,600
5	Office of reinventing performance in Michigan--6.0 FTE		
6	positions .....		700,000
7	FOIA coordination--2.0 FTE positions .....		302,900
8	Local community stabilization authority--1.0 FTE		
9	position .....		150,000
10	Property management .....		16,710,800
11	Information technology services and projects .....		41,417,900
12	Worker's compensation .....		<u>591,600</u>
13	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	78,754,800
14	Appropriated from:		
15	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
16	IDG-DIFS, accounting services .....		150,000
17	IDG - reinventing performance in Michigan .....		525,000
18	Federal revenues:		
19	DOL, multiple grants for safety and health .....		992,400
20	DOL-ETA, employment and training administration .....		4,200
21	DOL-ETA, unemployment insurance .....		30,309,300
22	Federal revenues .....		2,212,700
23	Title XVIII Medicare .....		1,165,600
24	Title XIX Medicaid .....		21,700
25	Title XIX Medicaid, facility certification fees .....		687,000
26	Special revenue funds:		
27	Local stabilization authority contract .....		150,000

1	Aboveground storage tank fees.....	145,500
2	Accountancy enforcement fund.....	67,000
3	Asbestos abatement fund.....	179,600
4	Boiler inspection fund.....	630,800
5	Builder enforcement fund.....	98,800
6	Construction code fund.....	1,609,400
7	Contingent fund, penalty and interest account.....	28,400
8	Corporation fees.....	8,097,900
9	Elevator fees.....	683,400
10	Fire alarm fees.....	5,300
11	Fire safety standard and enforcement fund.....	1,100
12	Fire service fees.....	771,800
13	Fireworks safety fund.....	93,600
14	Health professions regulatory fund.....	2,672,200
15	Health systems fees.....	438,900
16	Licensing and regulation fund.....	3,035,800
17	Liquor license revenue.....	300,000
18	Liquor purchase revolving fund.....	7,046,300
19	Michigan medical marihuana fund.....	917,600
20	Mobile home code fund.....	603,900
21	Motor carrier fees.....	464,300
22	Nurse professional fund.....	36,900
23	PMECSEMA fund.....	217,700
24	Private occupational school license fees.....	164,000
25	Property development fees.....	6,000
26	Public utility assessments.....	3,840,700
27	Radiological health fees.....	296,200

1	Real estate appraiser education fund.....	6,400
2	Real estate education fund.....	15,200
3	Real estate enforcement fund.....	9,900
4	Restructuring mechanism assessments.....	11,000
5	Safety education and training fund.....	1,372,700
6	Second injury fund.....	395,000
7	Securities fees.....	4,594,100
8	Securities investor education and training fund.....	14,400
9	Security business fund.....	3,100
10	Self-insurers security fund.....	255,900
11	Silicosis and dust disease fund.....	173,500
12	Survey and remonumentation fund.....	142,000
13	Tax tribunal fund.....	1,631,400
14	Unarmed combat fund.....	12,800
15	Underground storage tank fees.....	355,200
16	Utility consumer representation fund.....	52,900
17	Worker's compensation administrative revolving fund..	99,800
18	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 938,500
19	<b>Sec. 103. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION</b>	
20	Full-time equated classified positions.....	184.0
21	Public service commission--184.0 FTE positions.....	\$ <u>29,624,000</u>
22	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 29,624,000
23	Appropriated from:	
24	Federal revenues:	
25	DOE-OEERE, multiple grants.....	56,700
26	DOT, gas pipeline safety.....	1,219,900
27	Special revenue funds:	

1	Motor carrier fees.....	2,510,000
2	Public utility assessments.....	25,286,500
3	Restructuring mechanism assessments.....	550,900
4	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
5	<b>Sec. 104. LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION</b>	
6	Full-time equated classified positions.....	143.0
7	Management support services--28.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 4,361,200
8	Liquor licensing and enforcement--115.0 FTE positions.....	<u>15,089,200</u>
9	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 19,450,400
10	Appropriated from:	
11	Special revenue funds:	
12	Direct shipper enforcement revolving fund.....	124,500
13	Liquor license fee enhancement fund.....	75,000
14	Liquor license revenue.....	6,339,100
15	Liquor purchase revolving fund.....	12,911,800
16	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
17	<b>Sec. 105. OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION</b>	
18	Full-time equated classified positions.....	805.9
19	Bureau of fire services--80.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 11,414,500
20	Bureau of construction codes--176.0 FTE positions....	21,767,000
21	Detroit demolition permit assistance.....	800,000
22	Corporations, securities, and commercial licensing	
23	bureau--178.0 FTE positions .....	26,818,100
24	Bureau of health care services--351.9 FTE positions ..	59,284,100
25	Medical marihuana program--20.0 FTE positions .....	<u>4,228,800</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 124,312,500
27	Appropriated from:	

1	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
2	IDG-DCH, inspection contract .....	100,000
3	Federal revenues:	
4	Clinical lab improvement .....	401,500
5	DOT .....	60,000
6	Federal revenues .....	1,255,300
7	FEMA .....	28,000
8	Title XVIII Medicare .....	11,814,200
9	Title XIX Medicaid .....	718,700
10	Title XIX Medicaid, facility certification fees .....	8,272,900
11	Special revenue funds:	
12	Private - civil monetary penalties .....	199,500
13	Aboveground storage tank fees .....	447,200
14	Accountancy enforcement fund .....	404,300
15	Boiler inspection fund .....	3,756,800
16	Builder enforcement fund .....	478,300
17	Construction code fund .....	8,440,000
18	Corporation fees .....	6,916,900
19	Elevator fees .....	4,780,500
20	Fire alarm fees .....	125,400
21	Fire safety standard and enforcement fund .....	40,000
22	Fire service fees .....	2,452,400
23	Fireworks safety fund .....	682,900
24	Health professions regulatory fund .....	23,491,300
25	Health systems fees .....	3,309,300
26	Licensing and regulation fund .....	11,386,500
27	Liquor purchase revolving fund .....	1,185,700

1	Michigan medical marihuana fund.....		4,228,800
2	Mobile home code fund.....		2,982,300
3	Nurse professional fund.....		1,937,200
4	PMECSEMA fund.....		1,821,300
5	Private occupational school license fees.....		817,600
6	Property development fees.....		318,100
7	Real estate appraiser education fund.....		63,200
8	Real estate education fund.....		340,600
9	Real estate enforcement fund.....		696,400
10	Securities fees.....		4,918,700
11	Securities investor education and training fund.....		999,900
12	Security business fund.....		340,100
13	Survey and remonumentation fund.....		837,200
14	Unarmed combat fund.....		137,000
15	Underground storage tank fees.....		2,518,500
16	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	10,608,000
17	<b>Sec. 106. EMPLOYMENT SERVICES</b>		
18	Full-time equated classified positions.....		1,316.4
19	Workers' compensation agency--56.0 FTE positions.....	\$	7,745,500
20	Insurance funds administration--23.0 FTE positions...		5,236,300
21	Compensation supplement fund.....		1,820,000
22	First responder presumed coverage fund.....		100
23	Unemployment insurance agency--852.0 FTE positions...		119,667,900
24	Bureau of services for blind persons--113.0 FTE		
25	positions .....		25,011,000
26	Bureau of employment relations--22.0 FTE positions...		4,117,800
27	Career tech and skilled trades training program.....		15,600,000



1	Michigan occupational safety and health	
2	administration--197.0 FTE positions.....	28,660,200
3	Radiation safety section--21.4 FTE positions.....	3,437,000
4	Wage and hour program--32.0 FTE positions.....	<u>3,658,300</u>
5	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 214,954,100
6	Appropriated from:	
7	Federal revenues:	
8	DOL, multiple grants for safety and health.....	11,695,100
9	DOL-ETA, employment and training administration.....	840,500
10	DOL-ETA, unemployment insurance.....	96,019,700
11	Federal revenues.....	18,279,800
12	Mammography quality standards.....	764,900
13	Special revenue funds:	
14	Local revenues.....	529,000
15	Private revenues.....	111,800
16	Asbestos abatement fund.....	1,016,800
17	Contingent fund, penalty and interest account.....	38,407,700
18	Corporation fees.....	8,455,400
19	Michigan business enterprise program fund.....	562,000
20	Radiological health fees.....	2,672,100
21	Safety education and training fund.....	9,554,100
22	Second injury fund.....	2,814,600
23	Securities fees.....	8,484,500
24	Self-insurers security fund.....	1,337,100
25	Silicosis and dust disease fund.....	1,084,600
26	Worker's compensation administrative revolving fund..	2,462,800
27	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 9,861,600

1	<b>Sec. 107. MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM</b>		
2	Full-time equated classified positions.....	233.0	
3	Michigan administrative hearing system--215.0 FTE		
4	positions .....		\$ 38,678,000
5	Michigan compensation appellate commission--18.0 FTE		
6	positions .....		<u>4,546,700</u>
7	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 43,224,700
8	Appropriated from:		
9	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
10	IDG revenues - administrative hearings and rules .....		15,504,900
11	Federal revenues:		
12	DOL-ETA, unemployment insurance .....		4,213,500
13	Federal revenues - administrative hearings and rules .		9,355,100
14	Special revenue funds:		
15	State restricted revenues - administrative hearings		
16	and rules .....		12,783,100
17	Worker's compensation administrative revolving fund ..		333,200
18	State general fund/general purpose .....		\$ 1,034,900
19	<b>Sec. 108. DEPARTMENT GRANTS</b>		
20	Fire protection grants .....		\$ 9,273,900
21	Firefighter training grants .....		1,000,000
22	Liquor law enforcement grants .....		7,200,000
23	Medical marihuana operation and oversight grants .....		3,000,000
24	Remonumentation grants .....		7,300,000
25	Subregional libraries state aid .....		451,800
26	Utility consumer representation .....		<u>750,000</u>
27	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....		\$ 28,975,700

1	Appropriated from:	
2	Special revenue funds:	
3	Fire protection fund.....	8,500,000
4	Fireworks safety fund.....	1,000,000
5	Liquor license revenue.....	7,200,000
6	Liquor purchase revolving fund.....	773,900
7	Michigan medical marihuana fund.....	3,000,000
8	Survey and remonumentation fund.....	7,300,000
9	Utility consumer representation fund.....	750,000
10	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 451,800

## PART 2

## PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

**GENERAL SECTIONS**

Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$321,637,300.00 and state spending from state resources to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$28,225,700.00. The itemized statement below identifies appropriations from which spending to local units of government will occur:

## DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

23	Fire protection grants.....	\$ 9,273,900
24	Firefighter training grants.....	1,000,000
25	Liquor law enforcement grants.....	7,200,000

1	Medical marihuana operation and oversight grants .....	3,000,000
2	Remonumentation grants .....	7,300,000
3	Subregional libraries state aid .....	<u>451,800</u>
4	Total department of licensing and regulatory	
5	affairs .....	\$ 28,225,700

6       Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under this part and  
7 part 1 are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
8 MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

9       Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

10       (a) "DCH" means the department of community health.

11       (b) "Department" means the department of licensing and  
12 regulatory affairs.

13       (c) "DIFS" means the department of insurance and financial  
14 services.

15       (d) "Director" means the director of the department.

16       (e) "DOE-OEERE" means the United States Department of Energy,  
17 Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

18       (f) "DOL" means the United States Department of Labor.

19       (g) "DOL-ETA" means the United States Department of Labor,  
20 Employment and Training Administration.

21       (h) "DOT" means the United States Department of  
22 Transportation.

23       (i) "FEMA" means Federal Emergency Management Agency.

24       (j) "Fiscal agencies" means Michigan house fiscal agency and  
25 Michigan senate fiscal agency.

26       (k) "FOIA" means the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442,  
27 MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

1       (l) "FTE" means full-time equated.

2       (m) "IDG" means interdepartmental grant.

3       (n) "PMECSEMA" means pain management education and controlled  
4 substances electronic monitoring and antidiversion.

5       (o) "Subcommittees" means all members of the subcommittees of  
6 the house and senate appropriations committees with jurisdiction  
7 over the budget for the department.

8       Sec. 205. (1) For each new program or program expansion for  
9 which funds in excess of \$500,000.00 are appropriated in part 1,  
10 the department shall identify specific benchmarks intended to  
11 measure the performance or return on taxpayer investment of the  
12 program and its associated expenditures. Not later than November 1,  
13 the department shall report the proposed benchmarks to the house  
14 and senate appropriations subcommittees for that department, the  
15 house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.  
16 The department shall provide an update on its progress in achieving  
17 those benchmarks at an appropriations subcommittee meeting called  
18 for the purpose of discussing benchmarks and their status.

19       (2) It is the intent of the legislature that any proposal for  
20 a new program or an expansion of an existing program in excess of  
21 \$500,000.00 initiated by the executive branch or the legislature  
22 shall include, as part of the original proposal or budget request,  
23 a list of benchmarks intended to measure the performance or return  
24 on taxpayer investment of the program or spending increase.

25       Sec. 208. The departments and agencies receiving  
26 appropriations in part 1 shall use the Internet to fulfill the  
27 reporting requirements of this part. This requirement may include

1 transmission of reports via electronic mail to the recipients  
2 identified for each reporting requirement, or it may include  
3 placement of reports on an Internet or intranet site.

4       Sec. 209. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used for  
5 the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
6 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
7 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to  
8 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
9 businesses, if they are competitively priced and of comparable  
10 quality. In addition, preference shall be given to goods or  
11 services, or both, that are manufactured or provided by Michigan  
12 businesses owned and operated by veterans, if they are  
13 competitively priced and of comparable quality.

14       Sec. 210. The director shall take all reasonable steps to  
15 ensure businesses in deprived and depressed communities compete for  
16 and perform contracts to provide services or supplies, or both. The  
17 director shall strongly encourage firms with which the department  
18 contracts to subcontract with certified businesses in depressed and  
19 deprived communities for services, supplies, or both.

20       Sec. 212. The department and agencies receiving appropriations  
21 in part 1 shall receive and retain copies of all reports funded  
22 from appropriations in part 1. Federal and state guidelines for  
23 short-term and long-term retention of records shall be followed.  
24 The department may electronically retain copies or reports unless  
25 otherwise required by federal and state guidelines.

26       Sec. 215. The department shall not take disciplinary action  
27 against an employee for communicating with a member of the

1 legislature or his or her staff.

2       Sec. 216. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
3 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
4 the total general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses at the  
5 close of the prior fiscal year. This report shall summarize the  
6 projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriation  
7 lapses by major departmental program or program areas. The report  
8 shall be transmitted to the chairpersons of the senate and house  
9 appropriations committees and the fiscal agencies.

10       Sec. 218. The departments and agencies receiving  
11 appropriations in part 1 shall prepare a report on out-of-state  
12 travel expenses not later than January 1 of each year. The travel  
13 report shall be a listing of all travel by classified and  
14 unclassified employees outside this state in the immediately  
15 preceding fiscal year that was funded in whole or in part with  
16 funds appropriated in the department's budget. The report shall be  
17 submitted to the house and senate appropriations committee, the  
18 house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.  
19 The report shall include the following information:

20       (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

21       (b) The total transportation and related costs of each travel  
22 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
23 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
24 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
25 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

26       Sec. 219. No later than April 1, the department shall submit  
27 to the subcommittees and the fiscal agencies a report pertaining to

1 the following information:

2 (a) The amount, in square footage, of office space paid for  
3 with the appropriation in part 1 for both state-owned and leased  
4 office space, respectively, during the previous fiscal year.

5 (b) The amount, in square footage, of office space actually  
6 utilized by the department for both state-owned and leased office  
7 space, respectively, during the previous fiscal year.

8 (c) The amount of office space the department estimates will  
9 be utilized during the current and subsequent fiscal years.

10 Sec. 220. The department may carry into the succeeding fiscal  
11 year unexpended federal pass-through funds to local institutions  
12 and governments that do not require additional state matching  
13 funds. Federal pass-through funds to local institutions and  
14 governments that are received in amounts in addition to those  
15 included in part 1 and that do not require additional state  
16 matching funds are appropriated for the purposes intended. Within  
17 14 days after the receipt of federal pass-through funds, the  
18 department shall notify the house and senate chairpersons of the  
19 subcommittees, the fiscal agencies, and the state budget director  
20 of pass-through funds appropriated under this section.

21 Sec. 221. Funds appropriated in this part and part 1 shall not  
22 be used by a principal executive department, state agency, or  
23 authority to hire a person to provide legal services that are the  
24 responsibility of the attorney general. This prohibition does not  
25 apply to legal services for bonding activities and for those  
26 outside services that the attorney general authorizes.

27 Sec. 223. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,



1 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$19,000,000.00 for  
2 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
3 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
4 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
5 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

6 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
7 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$25,000,000.00 for state  
8 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
9 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
10 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
11 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

12 (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
13 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$7,800,000.00 for local  
14 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
15 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
16 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
17 MCL 18.1393.

18 (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
19 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00 for private  
20 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
21 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
22 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
23 MCL 18.1393.

24 Sec. 225. (1) Grants supported with private revenues received  
25 by the department are appropriated upon receipt and are available  
26 for expenditure by the department, subject to subsection (3), for  
27 purposes specified within the grant agreement and as permitted

1 under state and federal law.

2 (2) Within 10 days after the receipt of a private grant  
3 appropriated in subsection (1), the department shall notify the  
4 house and senate chairpersons of the subcommittees, the fiscal  
5 agencies, and the state budget director of the receipt of the  
6 grant, including the fund source, purpose, and amount of the grant.

7 (3) The amount appropriated under subsection (1) shall not  
8 exceed \$1,500,000.00.

9 Sec. 227. (1) The department shall sell documents at a price  
10 not to exceed the cost of production and distribution. Money  
11 received from the sale of these documents shall revert to the  
12 department. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, these  
13 funds are available for expenditure when they are received by the  
14 department of treasury. This subsection applies only for the  
15 following documents:

16 (a) Corporation and securities division documents, reports,  
17 and papers required or permitted by law pursuant to section 1060(5)  
18 of the business corporation act, 1972 PA 284, MCL 450.2060.

19 (b) The Michigan liquor control code of 1998, 1998 PA 58, MCL  
20 436.1101 to 436.2303.

21 (c) The mobile home commission act, 1987 PA 96, MCL 125.2301  
22 to 125.2349; the business corporation act, 1972 PA 284, MCL  
23 450.1101 to 450.2098; the nonprofit corporation act, 1982 PA 162,  
24 MCL 450.2101 to 450.3192; and the uniform securities act (2002),  
25 2008 PA 551, MCL 451.2101 to 451.2703.

26 (d) Worker's compensation health care services rules.

27 (e) Construction code manuals.

1 (f) Copies of transcripts from administrative law hearings.

2 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, funds  
3 appropriated for the department under sections 55, 57, 58, and 59  
4 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL  
5 24.255, 24.257, 24.258, and 24.259, and section 203 of the  
6 legislative council act, 1986 PA 268, MCL 4.1203, are appropriated  
7 for all expenses necessary to provide for the cost of publication  
8 and distribution.

9 (3) Unexpended funds at the end of the fiscal year shall carry  
10 forward to the subsequent fiscal year and not lapse to the general  
11 fund.

12 Sec. 228. Unless prohibited by law, the department may accept  
13 credit card or other electronic means of payment for licenses,  
14 fees, or permits.

15 Sec. 229. The department shall maintain, on a publicly  
16 accessible website, a department scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
17 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
18 improve the department's performance.

19 Sec. 231. The department shall cooperate with the department  
20 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable  
21 website accessible by the public at no cost that includes, but is  
22 not limited to, all of the following for each department or agency:

23 (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

24 (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

25 (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
26 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
27 payment description.

1 (d) The number of active department employees by job  
2 classification.

3 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

4 Sec. 232. The department shall not develop or produce any  
5 television or radio productions.

6 Sec. 234. Within 14 days after the release of the executive  
7 budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate with the  
8 state budget office to provide the senate and house appropriations  
9 chairs, the senate and house appropriations subcommittees chairs,  
10 and the senate and house fiscal agencies with an annual report on  
11 estimated state restricted fund balances, state restricted fund  
12 projected revenues, and state restricted fund expenditures for the  
13 preceding and current fiscal years.

14 Sec. 235. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
15 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
16 30, 2016 are \$68,953,000.00. From this amount, total agency  
17 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
18 \$39,137,600.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care  
19 legacy costs are estimated at \$29,815,400.00.

20 Sec. 241. (1) The department may charge registration fees to  
21 attendees of informational, training, or special events sponsored  
22 by the department.

23 (2) These fees shall reflect the costs for the department to  
24 sponsor the informational, training, or special events.

25 (3) Revenue generated by the registration fees is appropriated  
26 upon receipt and available for expenditure to cover the  
27 department's costs of sponsoring informational, training, or

1 special events.

2 (4) Revenue generated by registration fees in excess of the  
3 department's costs of sponsoring informational, training, or  
4 special events shall carry forward to the subsequent fiscal year  
5 and not lapse to the general fund.

6 (5) Not later than November 15, the department shall submit a  
7 report to the subcommittees, fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
8 office that identifies each of the following in the immediately  
9 preceding fiscal year:

10 (a) Each informational, training, or special event sponsored  
11 by the department.

12 (b) The amount of revenue generated by registration fees.

13 (c) The amount expended for the department's costs of  
14 sponsoring informational, training, or special events.

15 (d) Any balance carried forward into the subsequent fiscal  
16 year.

17 (6) The amount appropriated under subsection (3) shall not  
18 exceed \$500,000.00.

19 Sec. 242. The department may make available to interested  
20 entities otherwise unavailable customized listings of  
21 nonconfidential information in its possession, such as names and  
22 addresses of licensees. The department may establish and collect a  
23 reasonable charge to provide this service. The revenue received  
24 from this service shall be used to offset expenses to provide the  
25 service. Any balance of this revenue collected and unexpended at  
26 the end of the fiscal year shall revert to the appropriate  
27 restricted fund.

1       Sec. 243. The department shall work to establish memoranda of  
2 understanding with other state departments or agencies that  
3 participate in the reinventing performance in Michigan program  
4 supported by appropriations in part 1. Each memorandum shall detail  
5 a mechanism for the department to recover costs related to program  
6 services performed on behalf of the receiving agency. Not later  
7 than March 1, the department shall submit a report to the state  
8 budget office, subcommittees, and fiscal agencies containing the  
9 following information:

10       (a) The name of each state department or agency participating  
11 in the program.

12       (b) Whether a memorandum of understanding was established with  
13 each participating state department or agency.

14       (c) The amount agreed upon in each memorandum of  
15 understanding.

16       Sec. 245. The department, in conjunction with the department  
17 of community health, shall establish an accounting structure within  
18 the Michigan administrative information network that will allow  
19 expenditures associated with the administration of the Healthy  
20 Michigan plan to be identified.

21       Sec. 248. (1) No later than March 1, the department shall  
22 submit a report to the subcommittees and fiscal agencies pertaining  
23 to licensing and regulatory programs during the previous fiscal  
24 year for the following agencies:

25       (a) Public service commission.

26       (b) Liquor control commission.

27       (c) Bureau of construction codes.

1 (d) Corporations, securities, and commercial licensing bureau.

2 (e) Bureau of health care services.

3 (f) Michigan occupational safety and health administration.

4 (2) The report shall provide, but is not limited to, the  
5 following information for each agency in subsection (1):

6 (a) Revenue generated by and expenditures disbursed for each  
7 regulatory product.

8 (b) Number of applications, both initial and renewal, for each  
9 regulatory product.

10 (c) Number of applications, both initial and renewal, approved  
11 for each regulatory product.

12 (d) Number of applications, both initial and renewal, denied  
13 for each regulatory product.

14 (e) Average amount of time, both tolled and untolled, to  
15 approve or deny applications, both initial and renewal, for each  
16 regulatory product.

17 (f) Number of examinations proctored for initial applications  
18 for each regulatory product, if applicable.

19 (g) Number of complaints received pertaining to each regulated  
20 activity.

21 (h) Number of investigations opened pertaining to each  
22 regulated activity.

23 (i) Number of investigations closed pertaining to each  
24 regulated activity.

25 (j) Average amount of time to close investigations pertaining  
26 to each regulated activity.

27 (k) Number of enforcement actions pertaining to each regulated

1 activity.

2 (l) Number of administrative hearings pertaining to each  
3 regulated activity.

4 (m) Number of administrative hearing adjudications pertaining  
5 to each regulated activity.

6 (3) As used in subsection (2), "regulatory products" means  
7 licensure, certification, registration, permitting, approval, or  
8 any other regulatory service provided by the agencies specified in  
9 subsection (1) for occupations, facilities, entities, industries,  
10 or activities regulated by the agencies specified in subsection  
11 (1).

## 12 OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION

13 Sec. 501. Money appropriated under this part and part 1 for  
14 the bureau of fire services shall not be expended unless, in  
15 accordance with section 2c of the fire prevention code, 1941 PA  
16 207, MCL 29.2c, inspection and plan review fees will be charged  
17 according to the following schedule:

18 <u>Operation and maintenance inspection fee</u>		
19 <u>Facility type</u>	20 <u>Facility size</u>	21 <u>Fee</u>
22 Hospitals	Any	\$8.00 per bed
23 <u>Plan review and construction inspection fees for</u>		
24 <u>hospitals and schools</u>		
25 <u>Project cost range</u>	26 <u>Fee</u>	
\$101,000.00 or less	minimum fee of \$155.00	
\$101,001.00 to \$1,500,000.00	\$1.60 per \$1,000.00	
\$1,500,001.00 to \$10,000,000.00	\$1.30 per \$1,000.00	



1     \$10,000,001.00 or more                             \$1.10 per \$1,000.00  
2   or a maximum fee of \$60,000.00.

3             Sec. 502. The funds collected by the department for licenses,  
4     permits, and other elevator regulation fees set forth in the  
5     Michigan administrative code and as determined under section 8 of  
6     1976 PA 333, MCL 338.2158, and section 16 of 1967 PA 227, MCL  
7     408.816, that are unexpended at the end of the fiscal year shall  
8     carry forward to the subsequent fiscal year.

9             Sec. 503. No later than February 15, the department shall  
10    submit a report to the subcommittees, fiscal agencies, and state  
11    budget director providing the following information:

12            (a) The number of honorably discharged veterans, individually  
13    or if a majority interest of a corporation or limited liability  
14    company, that were exempted from paying licensure, registration,  
15    filing, or any other fees collected under each licensure or  
16    regulatory program administered by the bureau of construction codes  
17    and the corporations, securities, and commercial licensing bureau  
18    during the preceding fiscal year.

19            (b) The specific fees and total amount of revenue exempted  
20    under each licensure or regulatory program administered by the  
21    bureau of construction codes and the corporations, securities, and  
22    commercial licensing bureau during the preceding fiscal year.

23            (c) The actual costs of providing licensing and other  
24    regulatory services to veterans exempted from paying licensure,  
25    registration, filing, or any other fees during the preceding fiscal  
26    year and a description of how these costs were calculated.

27            (d) The estimated amount of revenue that will be exempted

1 under each licensure or regulatory program administered by the  
2 bureau of construction codes and the corporations, securities, and  
3 commercial licensing bureau in both the current and subsequent  
4 fiscal years and a description of how the exempted revenue was  
5 estimated.

6 Sec. 505. (1) Funds remaining in the homeowner construction  
7 lien recovery fund are appropriated to the department for payment  
8 of court-ordered homeowner construction lien recovery fund  
9 judgments entered prior to August 23, 2010. Pursuant to available  
10 funds, the payment of final judgments shall be made in the order in  
11 which the final judgments were entered and began accruing interest.

12 (2) Not later than April 1, the department shall submit to the  
13 subcommittees and fiscal agencies a report on the revenues,  
14 expenditures, and balance of the homeowner construction lien  
15 recovery fund as of the end of the previous fiscal year.

16 Sec. 507. The department shall submit a report by January 1 to  
17 the standing committees on appropriations of the senate and house  
18 of representatives, the fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
19 director that includes all of the following information for the  
20 prior fiscal year regarding the medical marihuana program under the  
21 Michigan medical marihuana act, 2008 IL 1, MCL 333.26421 to  
22 333.26430:

23 (a) The number of initial applications received.

24 (b) The number of initial applications approved and the number  
25 of initial applications denied.

26 (c) The average amount of time, from receipt to approval or  
27 denial, to process an initial application.

1 (d) The number of renewal applications received.

2 (e) The number of renewal applications approved and the number  
3 of renewal applications denied.

4 (f) The average amount of time, from receipt to approval or  
5 denial, to process a renewal application.

6 (g) The percentage of initial applications not approved or  
7 denied within the time requirements established in section 6 of the  
8 Michigan medical marihuana act, 2008 IL 1, MCL 333.26426.

9 (h) The percentage of renewal applications not approved or  
10 denied within the time requirements established in section 6 of the  
11 Michigan medical marihuana act, 2008 IL 1, MCL 333.26426.

12 (i) The percentage of registry cards for approved initial  
13 applications not issued within the time requirements established in  
14 section 6 of the Michigan medical marihuana act, 2008 IL 1, MCL  
15 333.26426.

16 (j) The percentage of registry cards for approved renewal  
17 applications not issued within the time requirements established in  
18 section 6 of the Michigan medical marihuana act, 2008 IL 1, MCL  
19 333.26426.

20 (k) The amount collected from the medical marihuana program  
21 application and renewal fees authorized in section 5 of the  
22 Michigan medical marihuana act, 2008 IL 1, MCL 333.26425.

23 (l) The costs of administering the medical marihuana program  
24 under the Michigan medical marihuana act, 2008 IL 1, MCL 333.26421  
25 to 333.26430.

26 Sec. 508. If the revenue collected by the department for  
27 health systems administration or radiological health administration

1 and projects from fees and collections exceeds the amount  
2 appropriated in part 1, the revenue may be carried forward into the  
3 subsequent fiscal year. The revenue carried forward under this  
4 section shall be used as the first source of funds in the  
5 subsequent fiscal year.

6 Sec. 511. No later than February 1, the department shall  
7 submit a report to the subcommittees, fiscal agencies, and state  
8 budget director providing the following information:

9 (a) The total amount of reimbursements made to local units of  
10 government for delegated inspections of fireworks retail locations  
11 pursuant to section 11 of the Michigan fireworks safety act, 2011  
12 PA 256, MCL 28.461, from the funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
13 bureau of fire services during the preceding fiscal year.

14 (b) The amount of reimbursement for delegated inspections of  
15 fireworks retail locations for each local unit of government that  
16 received reimbursement from the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
17 the bureau of fire services during the preceding fiscal year.

18 Sec. 512. To the extent allowed under applicable state and  
19 federal laws, the bureau of health care services shall make  
20 disciplinary actions taken against health professionals publicly  
21 available through the online license verification website.

22 Sec. 513. (1) Beginning October 1, for the purpose of  
23 defraying the costs associated with responding to false final  
24 inspection appointments and to discourage the practice of calling  
25 for final inspections when the project is incomplete or  
26 noncompliant with a plan of correction previously provided by the  
27 bureau of fire services, the bureau of fire services may assess a

1 fee not to exceed \$200.00 for responding to confirmed false  
2 inspection appointments. Fees collected under this section shall be  
3 deposited into the restricted account referenced by section 2c(2)  
4 of the fire prevention code, 1941 PA 207, MCL 29.2c, and explicitly  
5 identified within the Michigan administrative information network.

6 (2) Not later than September 30, the department shall prepare  
7 a report that provides the amount of the fee assessed under  
8 subsection (1), the number of fees assessed and issued per region,  
9 the cost allocation for the work performed and reduced as a result  
10 of this section, and any recommendations for consideration by the  
11 legislature. The department shall submit this information to the  
12 state budget director, the subcommittees, and the fiscal agencies.

### 13 **EMPLOYMENT SERVICES**

14 Sec. 701. Funds earned or authorized by the DOL in excess of  
15 the gross appropriation in part 1 for the unemployment insurance  
16 agency from the DOL are appropriated and may be expended for  
17 staffing and related expenses incurred in the operation of its  
18 programs. These funds may be spent after the department notifies  
19 the state budget director and the subcommittees of the purpose and  
20 amount of each grant award.

21 Sec. 702. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
22 unemployment insurance agency, the department shall maintain  
23 customer service standards for employers and claimants making use  
24 of the various means by which they can access the system.

25 (2) The department shall identify specific outcomes and  
26 performance metrics for this initiative, including, but not limited

1 to, the following:

2 (a) Unemployment benefit fund balance.

3 (b) Process improvement - fiscal integrity.

4 (c) Process improvement - determination timeliness.

5 (d) Process improvement - determination quality.

6 Sec. 703. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
7 career technology and skilled trades training programs, the  
8 department shall expand workforce training and reemployment  
9 services to better connect workers to in-demand jobs.

10 (2) The department shall identify specific outcomes and  
11 performance metrics for this initiative, including, but not limited  
12 to, the following:

13 (a) New apprenticeships.

14 (b) The jobs created, jobs retained, training completion rate,  
15 employment retention rate at 6 months, and hourly wage rate at 6  
16 months for the skilled trades training program.

17 Sec. 704. (1) The appropriation in part 1 for the bureau of  
18 services for blind persons includes funds for case services. These  
19 funds may be used for tuition payments for blind clients.

20 (2) Revenue collected by the bureau of services for blind  
21 persons and from private and local sources that is unexpended at  
22 the end of the fiscal year may carry forward to the subsequent  
23 fiscal year.

24 Sec. 705. The bureau of services for blind persons shall work  
25 collaboratively with service organizations and government entities  
26 to identify qualified match dollars to maximize use of available  
27 federal vocational rehabilitation funds.

1       Sec. 706. Not later than January 1, the department shall  
2 submit a report to the subcommittees and fiscal agencies including,  
3 but not limited to, the following information pertaining to the  
4 activities of the youth low-vision program during the preceding  
5 fiscal year:

6       (a) Number of individuals, classified by age, who received  
7 services or devices.

8       (b) Description of the services and devices purchased under  
9 the program.

10       (c) Total payments to each provider of services or devices,  
11 classified by the county in which the provider is located.

12       (d) Amount by which private health insurance or other public  
13 health programs were utilized to offset the expense of services or  
14 devices.

15       (e) Amount of expenditures under the program that qualified  
16 for federal matching revenue and the amount of federal matching  
17 revenue received by the department.

18       Sec. 707. The bureau of services for blind persons may provide  
19 and enter into agreements to provide general services, training,  
20 meetings, information, special equipment, software, facility use,  
21 and technical consulting services to other principal executive  
22 departments, state agencies, local units of government, the  
23 judicial branch of government, other organizations, and patrons of  
24 department facilities. The department may charge fees for these  
25 services that are reasonably related to the cost of providing the  
26 services. In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, funds  
27 collected by the department for these services are appropriated for

1 all expenses necessary. The funds appropriated under this section  
2 are allotted for expenditure when they are received by the  
3 department of treasury.

4 Sec. 708. The amount appropriated in part 1 for the first  
5 responder presumed coverage fund shall only be expended for the  
6 purpose of paying authorized claims and the costs of administering  
7 the fund pursuant to section 405 of the worker's disability  
8 compensation act of 1969, 1969 PA 317, MCL 418.405.

#### 9 DEPARTMENT GRANTS

10 Sec. 901. The appropriation in part 1 for fire protection  
11 grants shall be appropriated to cities, villages, and townships  
12 with state-owned facilities for fire services, instead of taxes, in  
13 accordance with 1977 PA 289, MCL 141.951 to 141.956.

14 Sec. 902. (1) Not later than November 30, the department shall  
15 prepare a report that provides the number of registry  
16 identification cards issued to or renewed for patients residing in  
17 each county as of September 30 of the preceding fiscal year, under  
18 the Michigan medical marihuana act, 2008 IL 1, MCL 333.26421 to  
19 333.26430. The department shall submit this report to the state  
20 budget director, the subcommittees, and the fiscal agencies.

21 (2) The department shall expend the funds appropriated in part  
22 1 for medical marihuana operation and oversight grants for grants  
23 to county law enforcement offices for the operation and oversight  
24 of the Michigan medical marihuana program pursuant to section 6(I)  
25 of the Michigan medical marihuana act, 2008 IL 1, MCL 333.26426.  
26 These grants shall be distributed proportionately based on the



1 number of registry identification cards issued to or renewed for  
2 the residents of each county whose county law enforcement office  
3 applied for a grant under subsection (3). For the purposes of this  
4 subsection, operation and oversight grants are for education,  
5 communication, and enforcement of the Michigan medical marihuana  
6 act, 2008 IL 1, MCL 333.26421 to 333.26430.

7 (3) No later than December 1, the department shall post a  
8 listing of potential grant money available to each county law  
9 enforcement office on its website. A county law enforcement office  
10 requesting a grant shall apply on a form developed by the  
11 department and available on the website. The form shall contain the  
12 county law enforcement office's specific projected plan for use of  
13 the money and its agreement to maintain all records and to submit  
14 documentation to the department to support the use of the grant  
15 money.

16 (4) In order to be eligible to receive a grant under  
17 subsection (2), a county law enforcement office shall apply no  
18 later than January 1 and agree to report how the grant was expended  
19 and provide that report to the department no later than September  
20 15. The department shall submit a report no later than October 15  
21 of the subsequent fiscal year to the state budget director, the  
22 subcommittees, and the fiscal agencies detailing the grant amounts  
23 by recipient and the reported uses of the grants in the preceding  
24 fiscal year.

25 (5) County law enforcement offices may distribute  
26 discretionary grants made under subsection (2) to municipal law  
27 enforcement agencies for the operation and oversight of the

1 Michigan medical marihuana program pursuant to section 6(1) of the  
2 Michigan medical marihuana act, 2008 IL 1, MCL 333.26426. If a  
3 county law enforcement office distributes a discretionary grant in  
4 this manner, that county law enforcement office shall require the  
5 receiving municipal law enforcement agency to provide a report on  
6 how that grant was spent. Reports from municipal law enforcement  
7 agencies shall be included as part of the report submitted to the  
8 department as required in subsection (4).

9       Sec. 903. (1) The amount appropriated in part 1 for  
10 firefighter training grants shall only be expended for payments to  
11 counties to reimburse organized fire departments for firefighter  
12 training and other activities required under the firefighters  
13 training council act, 1966 PA 291, MCL 29.361 to 29.377.

14       (2) If the amount appropriated in part 1 for firefighter  
15 training grants is expended by the firefighter training council,  
16 established in section 3 of the firefighters training council act,  
17 1966 PA 291, MCL 29.363, for payments to counties under section 14  
18 of the firefighters training council act, 1966 PA 291, MCL 29.374,  
19 it is the intent of the legislature that:

20       (a) The amount appropriated in part 1 for firefighter training  
21 grants shall be disbursed pursuant to section 14(2) of the  
22 firefighters training council act, 1966 PA 291, MCL 29.374.

23       (b) If the amount disbursed to any county under subsection  
24 (2)(a) is less than \$5,000.00, the amounts disbursed to each county  
25 under subsection (2)(a) shall be adjusted to provide for a minimum  
26 payment of \$5,000.00 to each county.

27       (3) No later than February 1, the department shall submit a

1 financial report to the subcommittees and fiscal agencies  
2 identifying the following information for the preceding fiscal  
3 year:

4 (a) The amount of the payments that would be made to each  
5 county if the distribution formula described by the first sentence  
6 of section 14(2) of the firefighters training council act, 1966 PA  
7 291, MCL 29.374, would have been utilized to disburse the total  
8 amount appropriated in part 1 for firefighter training grants.

9 (b) The amount of the payments approved by the firefighter  
10 training council for disbursement to each county.

11 (c) The amount of the payments actually expended or encumbered  
12 within each county.

13 (d) A description of any other payments or expenditures made  
14 under the authority of the firefighter training council.

15 (e) The amount of payments approved for disbursements to  
16 counties that was not expended or encumbered and lapsed back to the  
17 fireworks safety fund pursuant to subsection (4).

18 (4) It is the intent of the legislature that the amount  
19 appropriated in part 1 for firefighter training grants be adjusted  
20 each fiscal year to reflect lapses from the preceding fiscal year  
21 into the fireworks safety fund created in section 11 of the  
22 Michigan fireworks safety act, 2011 PA 256, MCL 28.461, for the  
23 purpose of ensuring that lapsed grant funds are reallocated in  
24 subsequent fiscal years.

25 Sec. 904. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for a regional  
26 or subregional library shall not be released until a budget for  
27 that regional or subregional library has been approved by the

1 department for expenditures for library services directly serving  
2 the blind and persons with disabilities.

3 (2) In order to receive subregional state aid as appropriated  
4 in part 1, a regional or subregional library's fiscal agency shall  
5 agree to maintain local funding support at the same level in the  
6 current fiscal year as in the fiscal agency's preceding fiscal  
7 year. If a reduction in expenditures equally affects all agencies  
8 in a local unit of government that is the regional or subregional  
9 library's fiscal agency, that reduction shall not be interpreted as  
10 a reduction in local support and shall not disqualify a regional or  
11 subregional library from receiving state aid under part 1. If a  
12 reduction in income affects a library cooperative or district  
13 library that is a regional or subregional library's fiscal agency  
14 or a reduction in expenditures for the regional or subregional  
15 library's fiscal agency, a reduction in expenditures for the  
16 regional or subregional library shall not be interpreted as a  
17 reduction in local support and shall not disqualify a regional or  
18 subregional library from receiving state aid under part 1.

19 ARTICLE XIV

20 DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

21 PART 1

22 LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

23 Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the department of military  
24 and veterans affairs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016,  
25 from the following funds:

1 DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS  
 2 APPROPRIATION SUMMARY  
 3 Full-time equated unclassified positions..... 9.0  
 4 Full-time equated classified positions..... 888.5  
 5 GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$ 164,382,700  
 6 Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental  
 7 transfers ..... 99,300  
 8 Schedule of interdepartmental grant and  
 9 intradepartmental transfer revenue sources:  
 10 IDG, state police ..... 99,300  
 11 ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$ 164,283,400  
 12 Total federal revenues..... 90,208,600  
 13 Schedule of federal revenue sources:  
 14 DOD-DOA-NGB ..... 59,931,200  
 15 USDVA-VHA ..... 27,136,600  
 16 Federal counter narcotics revenues..... 100,000  
 17 HHS-HCFA, title XIX, Medicaid..... 88,100  
 18 HHS-HCFA, Medicare, hospital insurance..... 2,952,700  
 19 Total local revenues..... 1,497,400  
 20 Schedule of local revenue sources:  
 21 Local - school aid fund ..... 1,497,400  
 22 Total private revenues..... 739,600  
 23 Schedule of private revenue sources:  
 24 Private - veterans' homes post and posthumous  
 25 funds ..... 540,000  
 26 Private donations ..... 199,600  
 27 Total other state restricted revenues..... 23,221,500

1       Schedule of restricted revenue sources:  
 2       Billeting fund ..... 1,500,000  
 3       Lease revenue ..... 12,200  
 4       Income and assessments ..... 13,992,800  
 5       Mackinac Bridge authority ..... 70,000  
 6       Military family relief fund ..... 1,000,000  
 7       Michigan National Guard armory construction  
 8       fund ..... 1,000,000  
 9       Michigan veterans trust fund ..... 5,200,100  
 10      Rental fees ..... 346,400  
 11      Test project fees ..... 100,000  
 12      State general fund/general purpose ..... \$       48,616,300  
 13      State general fund/general purpose schedule:  
 14      Ongoing state general fund/general  
 15      purpose ..... 48,616,300  
 16      One-time state general fund/general purpose ..... 0  
 17      **Sec. 102.   MILITARY**  
 18      Full-time equated unclassified positions ..... 9.0  
 19      Full-time equated classified positions ..... 324.0  
 20      Unclassified positions ..... \$       1,390,700  
 21      Departmental and national guard operations ..... 64,239,400  
 22      Schedule of programs:  
 23      Support services ..... 1,791,300  
 24      Armories and joint force readiness ..... 15,879,100  
 25      National Guard training facilities  
 26      and airbases ..... 33,399,400  
 27      Michigan youth challenge academy ..... 4,541,300

1	Military family relief fund .....	600,000	
2	Starbase grant .....	2,322,000	
3	National Guard tuition assistance program..	4,341,600	
4	Information technology services and		
5	projects .....	1,364,700	
6	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....		\$ 65,630,100
7	Appropriated from:		
8	Interdepartmental grant revenues.....		99,300
9	Federal revenues.....		45,444,400
10	Local revenues.....		1,497,400
11	Private revenues.....		199,600
12	State restricted revenues.....		3,023,000
13	State general fund/general purpose.....		\$ 15,366,400
14	<b>Sec. 103. MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY</b>		
15	Full-time equated classified positions.....	564.5	
16	Michigan veterans affairs agency .....		\$ 15,927,000
17	Schedule of programs:		
18	Michigan veterans affairs agency		
19	administration .....	6,964,400	
20	Veterans service grants .....	3,762,500	
21	Veterans' trust fund administration.....	1,453,600	
22	Veterans' trust fund grants .....	3,746,500	
23	Veterans' homes .....		\$ 66,325,600
24	Schedule of programs:		
25	Grand Rapids veterans' home .....	45,854,000	
26	Board of managers (Grand Rapids home).....	665,000	
27	D.J. Jacobetti veterans' home.....	19,531,600	

1	Board of managers (Jacobetti home).....	275,000	<hr/>	
2	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$	82,252,600
3	Appropriated from:			
4	Federal revenues.....			29,764,200
5	Private revenues.....			540,000
6	State restricted revenues.....			19,198,500
7	State general fund/general purpose.....		\$	32,749,900
8	<b>Sec. 104. CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>			
9	Capital outlay.....		\$	16,500,000
10	Schedule of programs:			
11	Special maintenance - National Guard.....	15,000,000		
12	Special maintenance - veterans' homes.....	500,000		
13	Land and acquisitions .....	1,000,000	<hr/>	
14	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$	16,500,000
15	Appropriated from:			
16	Federal revenues.....			15,000,000
17	State restricted revenues.....			1,000,000
18	State general fund/general purpose.....		\$	500,000

19 PART 2

20 PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

21 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

22 GENERAL SECTIONS

23 Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state  
 24 constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources  
 25 under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$71,837,800.00 and state



1 spending from state resources to be paid to local units of  
 2 government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$102,400.00. The itemized  
 3 statement below identifies appropriations from which spending to  
 4 local units of government will occur:

5 DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

6 National Guard operations..... \$ 52,400

7 Schedule of programs:

8 Payments in lieu of taxes ..... 52,400

9 Michigan veterans affairs agency..... \$ 50,000

10 Schedule of programs:

11 County counselor education and training

12 expenses ..... 50,000

13 TOTAL..... \$ 102,400

14 Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under this part and  
 15 part 1 are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
 16 MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

17 Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

18 (a) "CFDA" means catalog of federal domestic assistance.

19 (b) "Core services" means that phrase as defined in section  
 20 373 of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1373.

21 (c) "Department" means the department of military and veterans  
 22 affairs.

23 (d) "Director" means the director of the department.

24 (e) "DOD" means the United States Department of Defense.

25 (f) "DOD-DOA-NGB" means the DOD Department of the Army,  
 26 National Guard Bureau.

27 (g) "HCFA" means the Health Care Financing Administration, now

1 renamed the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

2 (h) "HHS" means the United States Department of Health and  
3 Human Services.

4 (i) "HVAC" means heating, ventilation, and air conditioning.

5 (j) "IDG" means interdepartmental grant.

6 (k) "MVAA" means the Michigan veterans affairs agency.

7 (l) "Subcommittees" means all members of the subcommittees of  
8 the senate and house appropriations committees with jurisdiction  
9 over the budget of the department.

10 (m) "USDVA" means the United States Department of Veterans  
11 Affairs.

12 (n) "USDVA-VHA" means the USDVA Veterans Health  
13 Administration.

14 (o) "VSO" means veterans service organization.

15 (p) "Work project" means that term as defined in section 404  
16 of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1404, and  
17 that meets the criteria in section 451a(1) of the management and  
18 budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a.

19 Sec. 205a. Federal DOD-DOA-NGB funds appropriated in part 1  
20 may be received from, but not limited to, the following programs:  
21 military construction - National Guard (CFDA 12.400), National  
22 Guard military operations and maintenance (CFDA 12.401), National  
23 Guard challenge program (CFDA 12.404), and National Guard starbase  
24 program (CFDA 12.404).

25 Sec. 205b. Federal USDVA-VHA funds appropriated in part 1 may  
26 be received from, but not limited to, the following programs:  
27 grants to states for construction of state home facilities (CFDA

1 64.005), veterans state domiciliary care (CFDA 64.014), and  
2 veterans state nursing home care (CFDA 64.015).

3 Sec. 205c. Federal HHS-HCFA, Medicare, hospital insurance  
4 funds appropriated in part 1 may be received under the Medicare  
5 supplementary medical insurance program (CFDA 93.774) or other HHS-  
6 HCFA programs.

7 Sec. 205d. Federal HHS-HCFA, title XIX, Medicaid funds  
8 appropriated in part 1 may be received from the Medicaid program  
9 under title XIX of the social security act, 42 USC 1396 to 1396w-5  
10 or other HHS-HCFA programs.

11 Sec. 206. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
12 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 for  
13 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
14 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
15 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
16 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

17 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
18 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 for state  
19 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
20 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
21 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
22 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

23 (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
24 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for local  
25 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
26 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
27 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,

1 MCL 18.1393.

2 (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
3 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for private  
4 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
5 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
6 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
7 MCL 18.1393.

8 Sec. 207. The department shall cooperate with the department  
9 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable  
10 website that is accessible by the public at no cost that includes,  
11 but is not limited to, all of the following:

12 (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

13 (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

14 (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
15 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
16 payment description.

17 (d) The number of active department employees by job  
18 classification.

19 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

20 Sec. 208. The departments and agencies receiving  
21 appropriations in part 1 shall use the Internet to fulfill the  
22 reporting requirements of this part. This requirement may include  
23 transmission of reports via electronic mail to the recipients  
24 identified for each reporting requirement, or it may include  
25 placement of reports on an Internet or intranet site.

26 Sec. 209. Funds appropriated in this part and part 1 shall not  
27 be used for the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if

1 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
2 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to  
3 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
4 businesses, if they are competitively priced and of comparable  
5 quality. In addition, preference shall be given to goods or  
6 services, or both, that are manufactured or provided by Michigan  
7 businesses owned and operated by veterans, if they are  
8 competitively priced and of comparable quality. In addition,  
9 preference shall be given to goods or services, or both, that are  
10 manufactured or provided by Michigan small businesses that have  
11 veterans compose at least 35% of their total workforce. As used in  
12 this section, "veteran" means that term as defined in section 261  
13 of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1261. As used  
14 in this section, "small business" means that term as defined in  
15 section 7a of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA  
16 306, MCL 24.207a.

17       Sec. 210. The director shall take all reasonable steps to  
18 ensure businesses in deprived and depressed communities compete for  
19 and perform contracts to provide services or supplies, or both. The  
20 director shall strongly encourage firms with which the department  
21 contracts to subcontract with certified businesses in depressed and  
22 deprived communities for services, supplies, or both.

23       Sec. 216. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this  
24 part, the schedule of programs in part 1 lists programs which may,  
25 but are not required to be, funded under part 1.

26       (2) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this part, the  
27 schedule of revenue sources in part 1 may or may not be received

1 from the funding entities listed.

2 (3) Any funding required by statute is not subject to funding  
3 flexibility and shall be funded in accordance with that statute.

4 Sec. 218. The departments and agencies receiving  
5 appropriations in this part and part 1 shall prepare a report on  
6 out-of-state travel expenses not later than January 1 of each year.  
7 The travel report shall be a listing of all travel by classified  
8 and unclassified employees outside this state in the immediately  
9 preceding fiscal year that was funded in whole or in part with  
10 funds appropriated in the department's budget. The report shall be  
11 submitted to the senate and house appropriations committees, the  
12 house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.  
13 The report shall include the following information:

14 (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

15 (b) The transportation and related costs of each travel  
16 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
17 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
18 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
19 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

20 Sec. 219. (1) The department shall provide quarterly reports  
21 to the subcommittees, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the  
22 state budget office, which shall provide the following data:

23 (a) A list of all major work projects, including a status  
24 report of each project.

25 (b) The department's financial status, featuring a report of  
26 budgeted versus actual expenditures by part 1 line item including a  
27 year-end projection of budget requirements. If projected department

1 budget requirements exceed the allocated budget, the report shall  
2 include a plan to reduce overall expenses while still satisfying  
3 specified service level requirements.

4 (c) Evidence of efficiencies and management of funds within  
5 established appropriations.

6 (d) A report on the status of performance metrics cited in  
7 this part and information required to be reported in this part.

8 (e) The number of active employees at the close of the fiscal  
9 quarter by job classification and program.

10 (f) A summary of fund shifts, that have been approved by the  
11 state budget office, that have occurred between items listed in the  
12 schedule of programs mentioned in part 1.

13 (2) The department shall provide a corrective action plan  
14 within 30 days of a quarterly report under this section for any  
15 requirements of this part that have not been achieved. The  
16 department shall provide a monthly status of corrective action  
17 plans.

18 Sec. 222. The appropriations in part 1 are for the core  
19 services, support services, and work projects of the department,  
20 including, but not limited to, the following core services:

21 (a) Armories and joint force readiness.

22 (b) National Guard training facilities and air bases.

23 (c) Michigan youth challenge academy.

24 (d) Military family relief fund.

25 (e) Starbase grant.

26 (f) National Guard tuition assistance program.

27 (g) Michigan veterans affairs agency administration.

1 (h) Veterans service grants.

2 (i) Veterans' trust fund administration.

3 (j) Veterans' trust fund grants.

4 (k) Grand Rapids veterans' home.

5 (l) Board of managers (Grand Rapids).

6 (m) D.J. Jacobetti veterans' home.

7 (n) Board of managers (Jacobetti).

8 Sec. 225. Funds appropriated in this part and part 1 shall not  
9 be used by a principal executive department, state agency, or  
10 authority to hire a person to provide legal services that are the  
11 responsibility of the attorney general. This prohibition does not  
12 apply to legal services for bonding activities and for those  
13 activities that the attorney general authorizes.

14 Sec. 228. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
15 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
16 the total general fund/general purpose appropriations lapses at the  
17 close of the prior fiscal year. This report shall summarize the  
18 projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriations  
19 lapses by major departmental program or program areas. The report  
20 shall be transmitted to the office of the state budget, the  
21 chairpersons of the senate and house standing committees on  
22 appropriations, the subcommittees, and the senate and house fiscal  
23 agencies.

24 Sec. 229. Within 14 days after the release of the executive  
25 budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate with the  
26 state budget office to provide the senate and house appropriations  
27 chairs, the subcommittees, and the senate and house fiscal agencies



1 with an annual report on estimated state restricted fund balances,  
2 state restricted fund projected revenues, and state restricted fund  
3 expenditures for the fiscal years ending September 30, 2015 and  
4 September 30, 2016.

5 Sec. 230. The department shall maintain, on a publicly  
6 accessible website, a department scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
7 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
8 improve the agency's performance.

9 Sec. 231. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
10 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
11 30, 2016 are \$19,866,900.00. From this amount, total agency  
12 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
13 \$11,276,300.00, and total agency appropriations for retiree health  
14 care legacy costs are estimated at \$8,590,600.00.

15 Sec. 232. The appropriations in part 1 for capital outlay  
16 shall be carried forward at the end of the fiscal year consistent  
17 with section 248 of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL  
18 18.1248.

19 Sec. 233. Sixty days prior to the public announcement of the  
20 intention to sell any department property, the department shall  
21 submit notification of that intent to the subcommittees and the  
22 senate and house fiscal agencies.

## 23 MILITARY

### 24 ARMORIES AND JOINT FORCE READINESS

25 Sec. 302. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for  
26 military operations, the department shall provide for effective and

1 efficient executive direction and administrative leadership of the  
2 department.

3 (2) The department shall operate and maintain National Guard  
4 armories.

5 (3) The department shall evaluate armories and submit a  
6 quarterly report on the status of the armories.

7 (4) The department shall maintain a system to measure the  
8 condition and adequacy of the armories.

9 (5) The department shall report to the subcommittees, the  
10 senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget office by  
11 December 1 information including all of the following:

12 (a) An assessment of the grounds and facilities of each armory  
13 to objectively measure and determine the current facility condition  
14 and capability to support authorized manpower, unit training, and  
15 operations.

16 (b) Recommendations for the placement of new armories, the  
17 relocation or consolidation of existing armories, or a change in  
18 the mission of units assigned to armories to ideally position the  
19 National Guard in current or projected population centers.

20 (c) Recommendations for the enhanced use of armories to  
21 facilitate family support programs during deployments.

22 (d) An analysis of the feasibility, potential costs, and  
23 benefits of shared use of armories with other local, state, or  
24 federal agencies to improve response to local emergencies as well  
25 as the community support provided to armories.

26 (e) An investment strategy and proposed funding amounts in a  
27 prioritized project list to correct the most critical facility

1 shortfalls across the inventory of armories in this state.

2 **NATIONAL GUARD TRAINING FACILITIES AND AIR BASES**

3       Sec. 304. (1) The department shall provide Army and Air  
4 National Guard forces, when directed, for state and local  
5 emergencies and in support of national military requirements.

6       (2) The department shall operate and maintain Army National  
7 Guard training facilities, including Fort Custer and Camp Grayling.

8       (3) The department shall maintain a system that measures the  
9 condition and adequacy of air facilities using both quality and  
10 functionality criteria.

11       (4) The department shall operate and maintain Air National  
12 Guard air bases, including Selfridge Air National Guard base,  
13 Battle Creek Air National Guard base, and Alpena combat readiness  
14 training center.

15       (5) The department shall provide the following information as  
16 provided under section 219:

17       (a) The apportioned and assigned strength of the Michigan Army  
18 National Guard.

19       (b) The apportioned and assigned strength of the Michigan Air  
20 National Guard.

21       (c) Recruiting, retention, and attrition data, including  
22 measurement against stated performance goals, for the Michigan Army  
23 National Guard.

24       (d) Recruiting, retention, and attrition data, including  
25 measurement against stated performance goals, for the Michigan Air  
26 National Guard.

27 **MICHIGAN YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY**

1       Sec. 307. (1) The department shall maintain the Michigan youth  
2 challenge academy to provide values, skills, education, and self-  
3 discipline instruction for at-risk youth as provided under 32 USC  
4 509.

5       (2) The department shall take steps to recruit candidates to  
6 the challenge program from economically disadvantaged areas,  
7 including those with low-income and high-unemployment backgrounds.

8       (3) The department shall partner with the department of human  
9 services to identify youth who may be eligible for the challenge  
10 program from those youth served by department of human services  
11 programs. These eligible youth shall be given priority for  
12 enrollment in the program.

13       (4) The department shall maintain the staffing and resources  
14 necessary to train at least 144 cadets simultaneously at the  
15 Michigan youth challenge academy.

16       (5) The department shall ensure that the average grade level  
17 increase for Michigan youth challenge academy graduates is 2 years  
18 as measured with the test adult basic education (TABE) metrics.

19 **MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF FUND**

20       Sec. 308. (1) The department shall provide grants for  
21 disbursement from the military family relief fund, as provided  
22 under the military family relief fund act, 2004 PA 363, MCL 35.1211  
23 to 35.1216, and R 200.5 to R 200.95 of the Michigan administrative  
24 code.

25       (2) The department shall provide information on the revenues,  
26 expenditures for advertising and assistance grants, and fund  
27 balance of the Michigan military family relief fund, as provided

1 under section 219.

2 (3) The department shall provide sufficient staffing and other  
3 resources to provide outreach to the Michigan families of members  
4 of the reserve component of the armed forces called into active  
5 duty and to support the processing and approval of at least 60  
6 grant applications this fiscal year under the Michigan military  
7 relief fund and report those applications as provided in section  
8 219.

9 **STARBASE GRANT**

10 Sec. 309. (1) The department shall maintain the starbase  
11 program at Air National Guard facilities, as provided under 10 USC  
12 2193b, to improve the knowledge, skills, and interest in math,  
13 science, and technology of students, primarily in the fourth and  
14 fifth grades. The starbase program is to specifically target  
15 minority and at-risk students for participation.

16 (2) The starbase program shall maintain current program  
17 offerings serving K-12 school districts in the state through  
18 existing program sites which include Starbase One, located at  
19 Selfridge Air National Guard base, Starbase Battle Creek, located  
20 at Battle Creek Air National Guard base, and Starbase Alpena,  
21 located at Alpena combat readiness training center.

22 **NATIONAL GUARD TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

23 Sec. 310. (1) The department shall establish and maintain a  
24 National Guard tuition assistance program for members of the  
25 Michigan Air and Army National Guard.

26 (2) The objective of the National Guard tuition program is to  
27 bolster military readiness by increasing recruitment and retention

1 of Michigan Air and Army National Guard service members (and to  
2 fill federally authorized strength levels for the state), improve  
3 the Michigan Air and Army National Guard's competitive draw from  
4 other military enlistment options in the state, enhance the ability  
5 of the Michigan Air and Army National Guard to compete for members  
6 and federal dollars with surrounding states, and increase the pool  
7 of eligible candidates within the Michigan Air and Army National  
8 Guard to become commissioned officers.

9 (3) The department shall make efforts to reach the number of  
10 Michigan Air and Army National Guard members participating in the  
11 program to 1,000 during the third year of the program's existence.  
12 To evaluate the effectiveness of the program, the department shall  
13 monitor the number of new recruits and new reenlistments and the  
14 percentage of those who become participants in the program and by  
15 how competitively the percentage of authorized Michigan Air and  
16 Army National Guard strength obtained--and retained--compares to  
17 the neighboring air and army national guards from the states of  
18 Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

19 (4) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the  
20 National Guard tuition program shall be designed after the federal  
21 tuition assistance program model and shall cover 100% of tuition  
22 and authorized fees, up to \$4,500.00 a year, for Michigan Air and  
23 Army National Guard members to pursue course work in programs  
24 leading to a certificate, a first associate, bachelor's, or  
25 master's degree. To be eligible for the program, a Michigan Air and  
26 Army National Guard member would have to be qualified in a military  
27 occupational skill, remain in active drilling status with a service

1 contract, be a member in good standing, meet yearly physical  
2 fitness and weight control standards, and maintain a 2.0 GPA (on a  
3 4.0 scale).

#### 4 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES AND PROJECTS

5 Sec. 311. The funds appropriated in part 1 for information  
6 technology services and projects shall be used as a pass through  
7 via an IDG to the department of technology, management, and budget  
8 for technology services, including maintenance and repair services,  
9 and technology projects, to maximize the operational efficiency and  
10 effectiveness of the department.

11 Sec. 312. There is created and established under the  
12 jurisdiction and control of the department of military and veterans  
13 affairs a revolving account to be known as the billeting fund  
14 account. All fees and other revenue generated from the operation of  
15 the chargeable transient quarters program shall be deposited in the  
16 billeting fund account. Appropriations shall be made from the  
17 account for the support of program operations and the maintenance  
18 and operations of the chargeable transient quarters program.  
19 Appropriations shall not exceed the estimated revenues for the  
20 fiscal year in which they are made, together with unexpended  
21 balances from prior years. The department of military and veterans  
22 affairs shall submit an annual report of operations and  
23 expenditures regarding the billeting fund account to the  
24 appropriations committees of the senate and house of  
25 representatives, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the  
26 state budget office at the end of the fiscal year.

1 MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY

2 MICHIGAN VETERANS AFFAIRS AGENCY ADMINISTRATION

3 Sec. 400. (1) The Michigan veterans affairs agency shall  
4 provide outreach services to Michigan veterans that advise them on  
5 the benefits to which they are entitled, as provided under  
6 Executive Reorganization Order No. 2013-2, MCL 32.92. The MVAA  
7 shall also do the following:

8 (a) Maintain the staffing partnerships and other resources  
9 necessary to develop and operate an outreach program that will  
10 communicate benefit eligibility information to at least 50% of  
11 Michigan's veterans population, as assessed by annual census  
12 estimates, with a goal of reaching 100% and enable 100% to access  
13 benefit information online.

14 (b) Communicate veteran benefit information pertaining to the  
15 Michigan military family relief fund, Michigan veterans' trust  
16 fund, and USDVA health, financial, and memorial benefits to which  
17 they are entitled.

18 (c) Provide sufficient staffing and other resources to approve  
19 requests for military discharge certificates (DD-214) annually and  
20 report that information as provided in section 219.

21 (d) Continue the process to digitize all medical records and  
22 military discharge documents which are currently on paper and  
23 microfilm, and report the number of digitized documents as provided  
24 in section 219.

25 (e) Provide a report, as provided under section 219, on the  
26 MVAA's performance on the performance measures, outcomes, and  
27 initiatives developed by the agency in the strategic plan required



1 by section 501 of 2013 PA 9.

2 (f) Provide a report to the subcommittees, senate and house  
3 fiscal agencies, and the state budget office no later than April 1  
4 providing for the following:

5 (i) To the extent known, data on the estimated number of  
6 homeless veterans, by county, in the state.

7 (ii) A summary of the activities and strategies developed to  
8 date under the MVAA community assessment and regional service  
9 delivery model pilot projects.

10 (2) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the MVAA shall  
11 provide for the regional coordination of services, as follows:

12 (a) Regional coordinators shall be selected by the MVAA  
13 through a grant agreement with veterans service organizations or by  
14 other means.

15 (b) Regional coordinators shall provide the following  
16 services:

17 (i) Coordinate veteran benefit counselors' efforts throughout  
18 a specified region.

19 (ii) Coordinate services with the department of human  
20 services, the department of community health, and the department of  
21 corrections.

22 (iii) Coordinate with regional workforce and economic  
23 development agencies.

24 (iv) Coordinate activities among local foundations, non-profit  
25 organizations, and community groups to improve accessibility,  
26 enrollment, and utilization of the array of health care, education,  
27 employment assistance, and quality of life services provided at the

1 local level.

2 (c) The MVAA may work with MVAA service officers, regional  
3 coordinators, county veteran counselors, VSO service officers, and  
4 other service providers to incorporate the provision of information  
5 relating to mental health care resources into their daily  
6 operations to aid veterans in understanding the mental health care  
7 support services they may be eligible to receive.

8 (d) The MVAA may work with the department of human services  
9 and the department of community health to identify Medicaid  
10 recipients who are veterans and who may be eligible for federal  
11 veterans health care benefits or other benefits to the extent that  
12 the identification does not violate applicable confidentiality  
13 requirements.

14 (e) The MVAA shall collaborate with the department of  
15 corrections to create and maintain a process by which prisoners can  
16 obtain a copy of their DD-214 form or other military discharge  
17 documentation if necessary.

18 (f) The MVAA shall ensure that all MVAA service officers,  
19 county veterans counselors, VSO service officers, and regional  
20 coordinators receive appropriate training in processing  
21 applications for benefits payable to veterans due to military  
22 sexual trauma, post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety,  
23 substance abuse, or other mental health issues.

24 (3) The MVAA shall provide claims processing services to  
25 Michigan veterans in support of benefit claims submitted to the  
26 USDVA for the health, financial, and memorial benefits for which  
27 they are eligible, and shall do the following:

1 (a) Report the following information as provided in section  
2 219:

3 (i) The number of benefit claims, by type, submitted to the  
4 USDVA by MVAA and coalition partner veteran service officers.

5 (ii) The number of fully developed claims submitted to the  
6 USDVA, with an overall goal of 40% of benefit claims submitted that  
7 are considered fully developed by the USDVA.

8 (b) Maintain the staffing and resources necessary to process a  
9 minimum of 500 claims per year.

10 (4) The MVAA shall maintain staffing and resources necessary  
11 to develop and implement a process to ensure that all county  
12 counselors receive the training and accreditation necessary to  
13 provide quality services to our veterans. The MVAA shall report  
14 information as provided in section 219 on the number and percentage  
15 of county veterans counselors requesting training by the MVAA, with  
16 an overall goal of 100% of county veterans counselors trained.

17 (5) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for MVAA operations,  
18 the MVAA shall provide grant assistance to enhance the capacity and  
19 capabilities of counties in providing benefit claims assistance.  
20 These funds shall be used to continue the implementation of an  
21 Internet-based data system, to increase the number of county  
22 veterans counselors, and to increase the number of counties that  
23 provide service to veterans through county veterans counselors. The  
24 MVAA shall provide a report, as provided in section 219, on the  
25 expenditures and activities of the grant funds directed by this  
26 subsection.

27 (6) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for Michigan

1 veterans affairs agency administration, the MVAA is authorized to  
2 expend up to \$50,000.00 to hire legal services to represent  
3 veterans benefit cases before federal court in order to maintain  
4 accreditation under 38 CFR 14.628(d)(1)(iv).

#### 5 **VETERANS SERVICE GRANTS**

6 Sec. 406. (1) The MVAA shall disburse VSO grants to assist  
7 them to achieve agency goals and performance objectives in  
8 partnership with the VSOs. Grants to VSOs will be disbursed to fund  
9 programs and projects which are determined by the agency to meet  
10 agency performance objectives and ensure that VSOs communicate the  
11 availability of emergency grants through the Michigan veterans  
12 trust fund. In disbursing veterans' service grants, the MVAA shall  
13 do the following:

14 (a) Ensure that each VSO that receives grants is issued  
15 performance standards.

16 (b) Ensure that each VSO that receives grant funds uses those  
17 funds for veterans advocacy and outreach.

18 (c) Monitor the performance of each VSO that receives grants.

19 (2) Veterans services grants awarded by the MVAA to veterans  
20 service organizations shall provide for the following, as developed  
21 by the MVAA:

22 (a) The provision of service to veterans statewide, using a  
23 regional service delivery model, with services provided at  
24 specified locations and times, including service provided in state  
25 correctional facilities.

26 (b) The payment of a fixed hourly service rate.

27 (c) A specified number of service hours within each geographic

1 region of this state, with a statewide goal of at least 116,500  
2 hours, including service hours provided to eligible incarcerated  
3 veterans within 1 year of their earliest release date (ERD).

4 (d) Use of an MVAA-designated Internet-based claims data  
5 system.

6 (3) The MVAA shall report the following information as  
7 provided in section 219:

8 (a) A summary of activities supported through the  
9 appropriation in part 1 for veterans service grants, including  
10 separately for each service region, the amount of expenditures to  
11 date, number of service hours, number of claims for benefits  
12 submitted by type of claim, and other information deemed  
13 appropriate by the MVAA.

14 (b) The number of fully developed claims, by type, submitted  
15 to the USDVA by veterans service organizations, with an overall  
16 goal of 40% of benefit claims submitted that are considered fully  
17 developed by the USDVA.

18 **VETERANS' TRUST FUND ADMINISTRATION**

19 Sec. 407. (1) The Michigan veterans' trust fund board together  
20 with the MVAA shall provide emergency grants for disbursement from  
21 the Michigan veterans' trust fund, as provided under the following  
22 program authorities:

23 (a) Sections 37, 38, and 39 of article IX of the state  
24 constitution of 1963.

25 (b) 1946 (1st Ex Sess) PA 9, MCL 35.602 to 35.610.

26 (c) R 35.1 to R 35.7 of the Michigan administrative code.

27 (d) R 35.621 to R 35.623 of the Michigan administrative code.

1           (2) No later than December 1, the MVAA shall provide a  
2 detailed report of the Michigan veterans' trust fund that includes,  
3 for the prior fiscal year, information on grants provided from the  
4 emergency grant program, including details concerning the  
5 methodology of allocations, the selection of emergency grant  
6 program authorized agents, a description of how the emergency grant  
7 program is administered in each county, and a detailed breakdown of  
8 trust fund expenditures for that year, including the amount  
9 distributed to each county for administrative costs and emergency  
10 grants. The report shall also include the number of approved  
11 applications, by category of assistance, and the number of denied  
12 applications, by reason of denial. The report shall also provide an  
13 update on the department's efforts to reduce program administrative  
14 costs and maintain the Michigan veterans' trust fund corpus to its  
15 original amount of at least \$50,000,000.00.

16           (3) From the funds appropriated in part 1 to the Michigan  
17 veterans agency administration, Michigan veterans' trust fund  
18 administration, not more than \$550,000.00 shall be expended on  
19 administration costs; not more than \$400,000.00 shall be expended  
20 on establishing a system to apply for grants through an Internet  
21 website, including posting all relevant information and  
22 documentation needed for submitting a formal application  
23 electronically; and not more than \$450,000.00 shall be expended on  
24 implementation of a regional office model. Any funds not expended  
25 or encumbered at the end of the current fiscal year shall not lapse  
26 but shall be deposited into the Michigan veterans' trust fund  
27 corpus.

**1 VETERANS' TRUST FUND GRANTS**

2       Sec. 408. (1) The MVAA shall provide a report, as provided  
3 under section 219, on the financial status of the Michigan  
4 veterans' trust fund, including the number and amount of emergency  
5 grants, state administrative expenses, and county administrative  
6 expenses.

7       (2) The Michigan veterans' trust fund board together with the  
8 agency shall maintain the staffing and resources necessary to  
9 process a minimum of 2,000 applications for veterans' trust fund  
10 emergency grants.

**11 VETERANS' HOMES**

12       Sec. 501. (1) The MVAA and the board of managers shall provide  
13 compassionate and quality nursing and domiciliary care services at  
14 the Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti veterans' homes so that members  
15 can achieve their highest potential of wellness, independence, and  
16 self-worth.

17       (2) The department shall provide resources necessary to  
18 provide adequate nursing care services to veterans in accordance  
19 with federal standards and provide the results of the annual USDVA  
20 survey and certification as proof of compliance.

21       (3) Any contractor providing competency evaluated nursing  
22 assistants to the Grand Rapids or D.J. Jacobetti veterans' home  
23 shall ensure that each CENA has at least 1 eight-hour shift of  
24 shadowing at the veterans' home.

25       (4) Any contractor providing competency evaluated nursing  
26 assistants to the Grand Rapids or D.J. Jacobetti veterans' home  
27 shall ensure that each CENA is competent in the basic skills needed

1 to perform his or her assigned duties at the veterans' home.

2 (5) Any contractor providing competency evaluated nursing  
3 assistants to the Grand Rapids or D.J. Jacobetti veterans' home  
4 shall ensure that each CENA has at least 1 year of experience in  
5 long-term care.

6 (6) The Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti veterans' homes shall  
7 provide each CENA at least 12 hours of in-service training once  
8 that individual has been assigned to the veterans' home.

9 (7) All complaints of abusive or neglectful care at the Grand  
10 Rapids or D.J. Jacobetti veterans' home by a resident member, a  
11 resident member's family or legal guardian, or staff of the  
12 veterans' home, received by a supervisor shall be referred to the  
13 director of nursing upon receipt of such complaint. The director of  
14 nursing shall report on not less than a monthly basis, except that  
15 the board of managers may specify a more frequent reporting period,  
16 to the home administrator, board of managers, agency,  
17 subcommittees, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state  
18 budget office the following information:

19 (a) A description of the process by which resident members and  
20 others may file complaints of alleged abuse or neglect at the Grand  
21 Rapids or D.J. Jacobetti veterans' home.

22 (b) Summary statistics on the number and general nature of  
23 complaints of abuse or neglect.

24 (c) Summary statistics on the final disposition of complaints  
25 of abuse or neglect received.

26 (8) The Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti veterans' homes shall  
27 provide an on-site, board-certified psychiatrist for all resident



1 members with mental health disorders in order to ensure that those  
2 resident members receive needed services in a professional and  
3 timely manner. The Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti veterans' homes  
4 shall provide all members and staff a safe and secure environment.

5 (9) The Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti veterans' homes shall  
6 implement controls over its food, maintenance supplies, and medical  
7 supplies inventories.

8 (10) The Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti veterans' homes shall  
9 implement controls over its pharmaceutical inventory.

10 (11) The Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti veterans' homes shall  
11 establish sufficient controls for calculating resident member  
12 maintenance assessments in order to accurately calculate resident  
13 member maintenance assessments for each billing cycle. The Grand  
14 Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti veterans' homes shall establish  
15 sufficient controls to ensure that all past due resident member  
16 maintenance assessments are addressed within 30 days.

17 (12) The Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti veterans' homes shall  
18 establish sufficient controls over monetary donations and donated  
19 goods.

20 (13) The Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti veterans' homes shall  
21 implement sufficient controls over the handling of resident member  
22 funds to ensure the release of funds within 3 business days upon  
23 the resident member leaving the home and to ensure that a  
24 representative of a resident member is provided a full accounting  
25 of that resident member's funds within 10 business days of the  
26 death of that resident member.

27 (14) The MVAA shall post on its website all policies adopted

1 by the board of managers and the home related to the administrative  
2 operations of the homes.

3 (15) The process by which visitors, residents, and employees  
4 of the Grand Rapids or D.J. Jacobetti veterans' home may register  
5 complaints shall be displayed in high-traffic areas throughout the  
6 home.

7 (16) The MVAA shall report its findings regarding the state's  
8 veterans' homes' compliance with the requirements and standards  
9 under this section in an annual report to the legislature. The  
10 annual report shall include all of the following:

11 (a) The number of patient care hours and staffing levels  
12 measured against USDVA-VHA standards.

13 (b) The number and dollar value of lost and discarded  
14 prescriptions and the number of early prescription refills.

15 (c) An accounting of resident member populations at the Grand  
16 Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti veterans' homes by period of service, by  
17 gender, by care setting, and by bed space available.

18 (d) The financial status of the Grand Rapids and D.J.  
19 Jacobetti veterans' homes, including an accounting of post and  
20 posthumous funds, donations, and state-appropriated funds.

21 (e) Information regarding assessments, reassessments, and  
22 admissions at the Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti veterans' homes.

23 (f) The number of volunteer hours at the Grand Rapids and D.J.  
24 Jacobetti veterans' homes.

25 (17) The Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti veterans' homes shall  
26 provide to the subcommittees, the senate and house fiscal agencies,  
27 and the state budget office the results of any annual or for-cause

1 survey conducted by the USDVA-VHA and any corresponding corrective  
2 action plan. This information shall also be made available publicly  
3 through the department's or MVAA's website.

#### 4 **BOARD OF MANAGERS**

5 Sec. 502. Each board of managers shall exercise certain  
6 regulatory and governance authority regarding admission and member  
7 affairs at the Grand Rapids or D.J. Jacobetti veterans' home. Each  
8 board of managers shall also work to represent the interest of the  
9 veterans' community in both advisory and advocacy roles.

#### 10 **CAPITAL OUTLAY**

##### 11 **SPECIAL MAINTENANCE - NATIONAL GUARD**

12 Sec. 601. (1) The appropriations in part 1 for special  
13 maintenance - National Guard shall be carried forward at the end of  
14 the fiscal year consistent with section 248 of the management and  
15 budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1248.

16 (2) The appropriations for special maintenance - National  
17 Guard shall be expended in accordance with the requirements of  
18 sections 302 and 304 and shall be expended according to the  
19 maintenance priorities of the department to repair and modernize  
20 military training sites and support facilities, which may include  
21 projects such as roof, HVAC, or boiler replacement, interior  
22 renovations, facility expansion, improvements to parking  
23 facilities, and other projects.

24 (3) The department shall provide a quarterly report as  
25 provided under section 219 providing information on the status,  
26 projected costs, and projected completion date of current and

1 planned special maintenance projects at the armories and other  
2 national guard facilities funded from capital outlay appropriations  
3 made in part 1 and in prior appropriations years.

#### 4 **SPECIAL MAINTENANCE - VETERANS' HOMES**

5       Sec. 603. (1) The appropriations in part 1 for special  
6 maintenance - veterans' homes shall be carried forward at the end  
7 of the fiscal year consistent with section 248 of the management  
8 and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1248.

9       (2) The appropriations for special maintenance - veterans'  
10 homes shall be expended in accordance with section 501 and shall be  
11 expended according to the maintenance priorities of the department  
12 to repair and modernize the state's veterans' homes, which may  
13 include projects such as roof, HVAC, or boiler replacement,  
14 interior renovations, facility expansion, improvements to parking  
15 facilities, and other projects designed to enhance the quality of  
16 life and medical care of members.

17       (3) The MVAA shall provide a quarterly report as provided  
18 under section 219 providing information on the status, projected  
19 costs, and projected completion date of current and planned special  
20 maintenance projects at the Grand Rapids and D.J. Jacobetti  
21 veterans' homes funded from capital outlay appropriations made in  
22 part 1 and in prior appropriations years.

#### 23 **LAND AND ACQUISITIONS**

24       Sec. 604. (1) The department shall provide for the acquisition  
25 and disposition of national guard armories, facilities, and lands  
26 as provided under sections 368, 382, and 382a of the Michigan  
27 military act, 1967 PA 150, MCL 32.768, 32.782, and 32.782a.

## PART 2A

## PROVISIONS CONCERNING ANTICIPATED APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

## GENERAL SECTIONS

Sec. 1201. It is the intent of the legislature to provide appropriations for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2017 for the line items listed in part 1. The fiscal year 2016-2017 appropriations are anticipated to be the same as those for fiscal year 2015-2016, excluding appropriations designated as 1-time appropriations and adjusting for changes in caseload and related costs, federal fund match rates, economic factors, and available revenue. These adjustments will be determined after the January 2016 consensus revenue estimating conference.

Sec. 1202. The veterans affairs agency shall provide the percentage of Michigan veterans contacted with a goal of 100% and report upon those outreach findings at quarterly legislative hearings to the subcommittees.

Sec. 1203. The veterans affairs agency shall maintain a minimum 50% fully developed claims as determined by the USDVA.

## ARTICLE XV

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## PART 1

## LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the department of natural resources for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the following funds:

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

## APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0	
Full-time equated classified positions.....	2,219.8	
GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 387,997,200
Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers .....		1,352,700
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 386,644,500
Federal revenues:		
Total federal revenues.....		76,028,000
Special revenue funds:		
Total local revenues.....		0
Total private revenues.....		8,157,700
Total other state restricted revenues.....		264,683,000
State general fund/general purpose.....		\$ 37,775,800
<b>FUND SOURCE SUMMARY</b>		
Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0	
Full-time equated classified positions.....	2,219.8	
GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 387,997,200
Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
IDG, land acquisition services-to-work orders .....		228,700

1	IDG, MacMullan conference center revenue .....	1,124,000
2	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental	
3	transfers .....	1,352,700
4	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 386,644,500
5	Federal revenues:	
6	Federal funds .....	76,028,000
7	Total federal revenues .....	76,028,000
8	Special revenue funds:	
9	Private funds .....	8,142,700
10	Private - Mann house trust fund .....	15,000
11	Total private revenues .....	8,157,700
12	Park improvement fund - Belle Isle subaccount .....	1,000,000
13	Cervidae licensing and inspection fees .....	136,700
14	Clean Michigan initiative fund .....	29,200
15	Commercial forest fund .....	26,100
16	Fire equipment fund .....	662,900
17	Forest development fund .....	35,934,400
18	Forest land user charges .....	280,900
19	Forest recreation account .....	1,672,900
20	Game and fish protection fund .....	77,603,700
21	Game and fish protection fund - deer habitat reserve .	2,107,200
22	Game and fish protection fund - fisheries settlement .	945,700
23	Game and fish protection fund - turkey permit fees ...	1,002,700
24	Game and fish protection fund - waterfowl fees .....	157,700
25	Game and fish protection fund - wildlife management	
26	public education fund .....	1,600,000
27	Game and fish protection fund - wildlife resource	

1	protection fund .....	1,116,700
2	Game and fish protection fund - youth hunting and	
3	fishing education and outreach fund.....	96,000
4	History fees fund.....	229,000
5	Invasive species fund.....	30,300
6	Land exchange facilitation fund.....	6,093,500
7	Local public recreation facilities fund.....	1,589,700
8	Mackinac Island State Park fund.....	1,844,500
9	Mackinac Island State Park operation fund.....	192,400
10	Marine safety fund.....	3,139,000
11	Michigan heritage publications fund.....	38,600
12	Michigan natural resources trust fund.....	1,253,900
13	Michigan state parks endowment fund.....	31,625,700
14	Michigan state waterways fund.....	22,007,200
15	Michigan trailways fund.....	15,300
16	Museum operations fund.....	497,300
17	Nongame wildlife fund.....	496,800
18	Off-road vehicle safety education fund.....	201,900
19	Off-road vehicle trail improvement fund.....	7,005,100
20	Park improvement fund.....	46,761,400
21	Permanent snowmobile trail easement fund.....	700,000
22	Public use and replacement deed fees.....	30,700
23	Recreation improvement account.....	1,013,300
24	Recreation passport fees.....	5,241,500
25	Snowmobile registration fee revenue.....	1,240,700
26	Snowmobile trail improvement fund.....	8,982,300
27	Sportsmen against hunger fund.....	76,600



1	Underwater preservation fund.....	3,500
2	Total other state restricted revenues.....	264,683,000
3	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 37,775,800
4	<b>Sec. 102. EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS</b>	
5	Full-time equated unclassified positions..... 6.0	
6	Full-time equated classified positions..... 11.6	
7	Unclassified salaries--6.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 735,600
8	Executive direction--11.6 FTE positions.....	2,104,900
9	Natural resources commission.....	<u>77,100</u>
10	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 2,917,600
11	Appropriated from:	
12	Special revenue funds:	
13	Forest development fund.....	366,100
14	Forest land user charges.....	5,000
15	Forest recreation account.....	12,200
16	Game and fish protection fund.....	1,017,400
17	Game and fish protection fund - deer habitat reserve .	19,600
18	Game and fish protection fund - turkey permit fees ...	8,300
19	Game and fish protection fund - waterfowl fees .....	300
20	Game and fish protection fund - wildlife resource	
21	protection fund .....	12,300
22	Land exchange facilitation fund.....	19,600
23	Marine safety fund.....	32,300
24	Michigan natural resources trust fund.....	1,400
25	Michigan state parks endowment fund.....	408,000
26	Michigan state waterways fund.....	180,700
27	Nongame wildlife fund.....	5,200

1	Off-road vehicle safety education fund.....	500
2	Off-road vehicle trail improvement fund.....	81,200
3	Park improvement fund.....	439,500
4	Recreation improvement account.....	2,100
5	Snowmobile registration fee revenue.....	12,200
6	Snowmobile trail improvement fund.....	14,400
7	Sportsmen against hunger fund.....	100
8	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 279,200
9	<b>Sec. 103. DEPARTMENT INITIATIVES</b>	
10	Full-time equated classified positions..... 16.0	
11	Great Lakes restoration initiative.....	\$ 5,500,000
12	Invasive species prevention and control--16.0 FTE	
13	positions .....	<u>4,997,000</u>
14	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 10,497,000
15	Appropriated from:	
16	Special revenue funds:	
17	Federal funds.....	5,500,000
18	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 4,997,000
19	<b>Sec. 104. DEPARTMENT SUPPORT SERVICES</b>	
20	Full-time equated classified positions..... 108.5	
21	Finance and operations--104.5 FTE positions.....	\$ 17,551,700
22	Legislative and legal affairs--4.0 FTE positions .....	540,900
23	Building occupancy charges.....	2,845,900
24	Gifts and pass-through transactions.....	5,000,000
25	Rent - privately owned property.....	488,400
26	Accounting service center.....	<u>1,450,400</u>
27	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 27,877,300

1	Appropriated from:	
2	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
3	IDG, land acquisition services-to-work orders .....	228,700
4	Federal revenues:	
5	Federal funds.....	232,000
6	Special revenue funds:	
7	Private funds.....	5,000,000
8	Clean Michigan initiative fund.....	29,200
9	Forest development fund.....	2,381,700
10	Forest land user charges.....	11,400
11	Forest recreation account.....	51,700
12	Game and fish protection fund.....	6,545,800
13	Game and fish protection fund - deer habitat reserve .	138,400
14	Game and fish protection fund - turkey permit fees ...	73,800
15	Game and fish protection fund - waterfowl fees .....	2,700
16	Game and fish protection fund - wildlife resource	
17	protection fund .....	26,500
18	Land exchange facilitation fund.....	5,943,100
19	Local public recreation facilities fund.....	89,700
20	Marine safety fund.....	440,000
21	Michigan natural resources trust fund.....	1,230,500
22	Michigan state parks endowment fund.....	1,002,400
23	Michigan state waterways fund.....	535,100
24	Nongame wildlife fund.....	20,200
25	Off-road vehicle safety education fund.....	500
26	Off-road vehicle trail improvement fund.....	85,100
27	Park improvement fund.....	1,214,400

1	Public use and replacement deed fees .....	30,700
2	Recreation improvement account .....	11,200
3	Snowmobile registration fee revenue .....	64,400
4	Snowmobile trail improvement fund .....	86,500
5	Sportsmen against hunger fund .....	400
6	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 2,401,200
7	<b>Sec. 105. COMMUNICATION AND CUSTOMER SERVICES</b>	
8	Full-time equated classified positions .....	133.3
9	Marketing and outreach--81.8 FTE positions .....	\$ 14,566,400
10	Michigan historical center--36.5 FTE positions .....	3,972,200
11	Special programs (Mann house)--1.0 FTE position .....	25,500
12	Museum stores--6.0 FTE positions .....	497,300
13	Archives--8.0 FTE positions .....	872,600
14	Michigan wildlife council .....	<u>1,600,000</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 21,534,000
16	Appropriated from:	
17	Federal revenues:	
18	Federal funds .....	1,610,300
19	Special revenue funds:	
20	Private funds .....	389,700
21	Private - Mann house trust fund .....	15,000
22	Forest development fund .....	130,200
23	Forest recreation account .....	16,200
24	Game and fish protection fund .....	9,549,400
25	Game and fish protection fund - wildlife management	
26	public education fund .....	1,600,000
27	Game and fish protection fund - youth hunting and	

1	fishing education and outreach fund.....	92,500
2	History fees fund.....	229,000
3	Land exchange facilitation fund.....	45,300
4	Marine safety fund.....	35,100
5	Michigan heritage publications fund.....	38,600
6	Michigan state parks endowment fund.....	87,700
7	Michigan state waterways fund.....	144,800
8	Museum operations fund.....	497,300
9	Nongame wildlife fund.....	10,400
10	Off-road vehicle trail improvement fund.....	30,600
11	Park improvement fund.....	2,558,900
12	Recreation passport fees.....	23,500
13	Snowmobile registration fee revenue.....	19,100
14	Snowmobile trail improvement fund.....	44,600
15	Sportsmen against hunger fund.....	75,500
16	Underwater preservation fund.....	3,500
17	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 4,286,800
18	<b>Sec. 106. WILDLIFE DIVISION</b>	
19	Full-time equated classified positions.....	226.5
20	Wildlife management--210.5 FTE positions.....	\$ 36,026,500
21	Natural resources heritage--9.0 FTE positions.....	622,400
22	State game and wildlife area maintenance--7.0 FTE	
23	positions .....	<u>1,224,200</u>
24	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 37,873,100
25	Appropriated from:	
26	Federal revenues:	
27	Federal funds.....	20,826,200

1	Special revenue funds:	
2	Private funds.....	311,000
3	Cervidae licensing and inspection fees.....	84,100
4	Forest development fund.....	76,500
5	Game and fish protection fund.....	11,647,200
6	Game and fish protection fund - deer habitat reserve .	1,684,700
7	Game and fish protection fund - turkey permit fees ...	883,500
8	Game and fish protection fund - waterfowl fees .....	152,000
9	Nongame wildlife fund.....	421,800
10	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 1,786,100
11	<b>Sec. 107. FISHERIES DIVISION</b>	
12	Full-time equated classified positions.....	221.5
13	Aquatic resource mitigation--2.0 FTE positions .....	\$ 976,000
14	Fish production--63.0 FTE positions .....	10,041,700
15	Fisheries resource management--156.5 FTE positions ...	<u>20,546,600</u>
16	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 31,564,300
17	Appropriated from:	
18	Federal revenues:	
19	Federal funds.....	11,047,700
20	Special revenue funds:	
21	Private funds.....	133,800
22	Game and fish protection fund.....	19,152,000
23	Game and fish protection fund - fisheries settlement .	945,700
24	Invasive species fund.....	30,300
25	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 254,800
26	<b>Sec. 108. LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION</b>	
27	Full-time equated classified positions.....	273.0

1	General law enforcement--273.0 FTE positions .....	\$	<u>40,554,400</u>
2	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	40,554,400
3	Appropriated from:		
4	Federal revenues:		
5	Federal funds.....		6,359,800
6	Special revenue funds:		
7	Cervidae licensing and inspection fees .....		52,600
8	Forest development fund.....		44,600
9	Forest recreation account .....		71,500
10	Game and fish protection fund.....		19,756,800
11	Game and fish protection fund - wildlife resource		
12	protection fund .....		1,038,200
13	Marine safety fund.....		1,316,600
14	Michigan state parks endowment fund.....		70,100
15	Michigan state waterways fund.....		21,300
16	Off-road vehicle safety education fund.....		153,200
17	Off-road vehicle trail improvement fund.....		1,663,000
18	Park improvement fund.....		71,500
19	Snowmobile registration fee revenue.....		708,800
20	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	9,226,400
21	<b>Sec. 109. PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION</b>		
22	Full-time equated classified positions.....		902.9
23	MacMullan conference center--15.0 FTE positions .....	\$	1,124,000
24	Recreational boating--163.5 FTE positions .....		17,154,700
25	State parks--673.4 FTE positions .....		64,032,800
26	Forest recreation and trails--51.0 FTE positions .....		5,966,100
27	State park improvement revenue bonds - debt service ..		<u>1,178,800</u>

1	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	89,456,400
2	Appropriated from:		
3	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
4	IDG, MacMullan conference center revenue.....		1,124,000
5	Federal revenues:		
6	Federal funds.....		1,721,800
7	Special revenue funds:		
8	Private funds.....		421,200
9	Park improvement fund - Belle Isle subaccount.....		1,000,000
10	Forest recreation account.....		1,466,500
11	Michigan state parks endowment fund.....		20,462,800
12	Michigan state waterways fund.....		16,041,100
13	Michigan trailways fund.....		15,200
14	Off-road vehicle safety education fund.....		7,200
15	Off-road vehicle trail improvement fund.....		1,767,500
16	Park improvement fund.....		41,176,600
17	Recreation improvement account.....		328,000
18	Recreation passport fees.....		268,000
19	Snowmobile registration fee revenue.....		15,500
20	Snowmobile trail improvement fund.....		1,429,000
21	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	2,212,000
22	<b>Sec. 110. MACKINAC ISLAND STATE PARK COMMISSION</b>		
23	Full-time equated classified positions.....	17.0	
24	Historical facilities system--13.0 FTE positions.....	\$	1,844,500
25	Mackinac Island park operations--4.0 FTE positions...		<u>392,500</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	2,237,000
27	Appropriated from:		



1	Special revenue funds:	
2	Mackinac Island State Park fund.....	1,844,500
3	Mackinac Island State Park operation fund.....	192,400
4	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 200,100
5	<b>Sec. 111. FOREST RESOURCES DIVISION</b>	
6	Full-time equated classified positions.....	309.5
7	Adopt-a-forest program.....	\$ 25,000
8	Cooperative resource programs--11.0 FTE positions....	1,326,100
9	Forest fire equipment.....	431,500
10	Forest management and timber market development--165.0	
11	FTE positions .....	27,208,100
12	Forest management initiatives--8.5 FTE positions .....	836,400
13	Minerals management--17.0 FTE positions .....	2,775,200
14	Wildfire protection--108.0 FTE positions .....	<u>13,293,700</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 45,896,000
16	Appropriated from:	
17	Federal revenues:	
18	Federal funds.....	3,100,400
19	Special revenue funds:	
20	Private funds.....	1,037,000
21	Commercial forest fund.....	24,100
22	Fire equipment fund.....	662,900
23	Forest development fund.....	27,370,100
24	Forest land user charges.....	226,200
25	Game and fish protection fund.....	2,391,000
26	Michigan state parks endowment fund.....	2,608,900
27	Michigan state waterways fund.....	50,100

1	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	8,425,300
2	<b>Sec. 112. GRANTS</b>		
3	Dam management grant program .....	\$	300,000
4	Deer habitat improvement partnership initiative .....		200,000
5	Federal - clean vessel act grants .....		400,000
6	Federal - forest stewardship grants .....		3,000,000
7	Federal - land and water conservation fund payments ..		2,566,900
8	Federal - rural community fire protection .....		400,000
9	Federal - urban forestry grants .....		1,600,000
10	Fisheries habitat improvement grants .....		2,000,000
11	Grants to communities - federal oil, gas, and timber		
12	payments .....		3,450,000
13	Grants to counties - marine safety .....		2,874,700
14	National recreational trails .....		3,900,000
15	Non-motorized trail development and maintenance grants		250,000
16	Off-road vehicle safety training grants .....		29,200
17	Off-road vehicle trail improvement grants .....		3,356,200
18	Recreation improvement fund grants .....		657,100
19	Recreation passport local grants .....		1,000,000
20	Snowmobile law enforcement grants .....		380,100
21	Snowmobile local grants program .....		7,340,400
22	Trail easements .....		700,000
23	Wildlife habitat improvement grants .....		1,500,000
24	Wildlife habitat improvement grants in state forests .		<u>500,000</u>
25	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	36,404,600
26	Appropriated from:		
27	Federal revenues:		

1	Federal funds.....	16,884,300
2	Special revenue funds:	
3	Private funds.....	100,000
4	Game and fish protection fund.....	4,000,000
5	Game and fish protection fund - deer habitat reserve .	200,000
6	Local public recreation facilities fund.....	1,000,000
7	Marine safety fund.....	1,207,300
8	Off-road vehicle safety education fund.....	29,200
9	Off-road vehicle trail improvement fund.....	3,356,200
10	Permanent snowmobile trail easement fund.....	700,000
11	Recreation improvement account.....	657,100
12	Snowmobile registration fee revenue.....	380,100
13	Snowmobile trail improvement fund.....	7,340,400
14	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 550,000
15	<b>Sec. 113. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>	
16	Information technology services and projects.....	\$ <u>10,165,000</u>
17	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 10,165,000
18	Appropriated from:	
19	Special revenue funds:	
20	Commercial forest fund.....	2,000
21	Forest development fund.....	1,565,200
22	Forest land user charges.....	38,300
23	Forest recreation account.....	54,800
24	Game and fish protection fund.....	3,544,100
25	Game and fish protection fund - deer habitat reserve .	64,500
26	Game and fish protection fund - turkey permit fees...	37,100
27	Game and fish protection fund - waterfowl fees.....	2,700

1	Game and fish protection fund - wildlife resource	
2	protection fund .....	39,700
3	Game and fish protection fund - youth hunting and	
4	fishing education and outreach.....	3,500
5	Land exchange facilitation fund.....	85,500
6	Marine safety fund.....	107,700
7	Michigan natural resources trust fund.....	22,000
8	Michigan state parks endowment fund.....	1,485,800
9	Michigan state waterways fund.....	459,100
10	Michigan trailways fund.....	100
11	Nongame wildlife fund.....	39,200
12	Off-road vehicle safety education fund.....	11,300
13	Off-road vehicle trail improvement fund.....	21,500
14	Park improvement fund.....	1,300,500
15	Recreation improvement account.....	14,900
16	Snowmobile registration fee revenue.....	40,600
17	Snowmobile trail improvement fund.....	67,400
18	Sportsmen against hunger fund.....	600
19	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 1,156,900
20	<b>Sec. 114. CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>	
21	<b>(a) RECREATIONAL LANDS AND INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	
22	State parks repair and maintenance.....	\$ 12,200,000
23	State game and wildlife area infrastructure.....	<u>3,600,000</u>
24	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 15,800,000
25	Appropriated from:	
26	Federal revenues:	
27	Federal funds.....	3,600,000

1	Special revenue funds:		
2	Michigan state parks endowment fund.....		5,500,000
3	Recreation passport fees.....		4,950,000
4	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	1,750,000
5	<b>(b) WATERWAYS BOATING PROGRAM</b>		
6	State harbors and boating access sites:		
7	Infrastructure improvements - state projects.....	\$	2,435,000
8	East Tawas state harbor.....		1,200,000
9	Infrastructure improvements - local projects.....		381,600
10	Fayette State Park.....		250,000
11	Cedarville marina.....		300,000
12	Wyandotte Bishop Park marina.....		1,170,500
13	Manistique marina.....		500,000
14	Hayes Township boating access site.....		<u>483,400</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	6,720,500
16	Appropriated from:		
17	Federal revenues:		
18	Federal funds.....		2,145,500
19	Special revenue funds:		
20	Michigan state waterways fund.....		4,575,000
21	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	0
22	<b>Sec. 115. ONE-TIME BASIS APPROPRIATIONS</b>		
23	Forestry investment.....	\$	4,000,000
24	Shooting range enhancement projects - capital outlay.		4,000,000
25	Recreation passport local grants (1-time).....		<u>500,000</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	8,500,000
27	Appropriated from:		

1	Federal revenues:	
2	Federal funds.....	3,000,000
3	Special revenue funds:	
4	Private funds.....	750,000
5	Forest development fund.....	4,000,000
6	Local public recreation facilities fund.....	500,000
7	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 250,000

8 PART 2

9 PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

10 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

11 GENERAL SECTIONS

12 Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state

13 constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources

14 under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$302,458,800.00 and state

15 spending from state resources to be paid to local units of

16 government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$5,523,400.00. The itemized

17 statement below identifies appropriations from which spending to

18 local units of government will occur:

19 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

20 GRANTS

21	Dam management grant program.....	\$ 150,000
22	Grants to counties - marine safety.....	1,207,300
23	Off-road vehicle safety training grants.....	29,200
24	Off-road vehicle trail improvement grants.....	526,100
25	Recreation improvement fund grants.....	65,700

1	Recreation passport local grants.....	1,500,000
2	Snowmobile law enforcement grants.....	380,100
3	CAPITAL OUTLAY	
4	Waterways boating program.....	\$ <u>1,665,000</u>
5	TOTAL.....	\$ 5,523,400

6       Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under this part and  
7 part 1 are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
8 MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

9       Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

- 10       (a) "Commission" means the natural resources commission.
- 11       (b) "Department" means the department of natural resources.
- 12       (c) "FTE" means full-time equated.
- 13       (d) "IDG" means interdepartmental grant.
- 14       (e) "IDT" means intradepartmental transfer.

15       Sec. 204. (1) For each new program or program expansion for  
16 which funds in excess of \$500,000.00 are appropriated in part 1,  
17 the department shall identify specific benchmarks intended to  
18 measure the performance or return on taxpayer investment of the  
19 program and its associated expenditures. Not later than November 1,  
20 2015, the department shall report the proposed benchmarks to the  
21 house and senate appropriations subcommittees for that department,  
22 the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
23 director. The department shall provide an update on its progress in  
24 achieving those benchmarks at an appropriations subcommittee  
25 meeting called for the purpose of discussing benchmarks and their  
26 status.

27       (2) It is the intent of the legislature that, beginning with

the budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, any proposal for a new program or an expansion of an existing program in excess of \$500,000.00 initiated by the executive branch or the legislature shall include, as part of the original proposal or budget request, a list of benchmarks intended to measure the performance or return on taxpayer investment of the program or spending increase.

Sec. 205. The departments and agencies receiving appropriations in part 1 shall use the Internet to fulfill the reporting requirements of this part. This requirement may include transmission of reports via electronic mail to the recipients identified for each reporting requirement, or it may include placement of reports on an Internet or intranet site.

Sec. 206. Appropriations of state restricted game and fish protection funds have been made in the following amounts to the following departments and agencies:

Legislative auditor general.....	\$	30,700
Attorney general.....		735,100
Department of technology, management, and budget.....		438,300
Department of treasury.....		2,782,900

Sec. 207. Pursuant to section 43703(3) of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.43703, there is appropriated from the game and fish protection trust fund to the game and fish protection account of the Michigan conservation and recreation legacy fund, \$6,000,000.00 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016.

Sec. 210. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used for



1 the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
2 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
3 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to  
4 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
5 businesses if they are competitively priced and of comparable  
6 quality. In addition, preference should be given to goods or  
7 services, or both, that are manufactured or provided by Michigan  
8 businesses owned and operated by veterans, if they are  
9 competitively priced and of comparable quality.

10 Sec. 211. The director of the department shall take all  
11 reasonable steps to ensure businesses in deprived and depressed  
12 communities compete for and perform contracts to provide services  
13 or supplies, or both. The director shall strongly encourage firms  
14 with which the department contracts to subcontract with certified  
15 businesses in depressed and deprived communities for services,  
16 supplies, or both.

17 Sec. 212. The department shall not take disciplinary action  
18 against an employee for communicating with a member of the  
19 legislature or his or her staff.

20 Sec. 214. Funds appropriated in this part and part 1 shall not  
21 be used by a principal executive department, state agency, or  
22 authority to hire a person to provide legal services that are the  
23 responsibility of the attorney general. This prohibition does not  
24 apply to legal services for bonding activities and for those  
25 outside services that the attorney general authorizes.

26 Sec. 215. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
27 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000.00 for

1 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
2 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
3 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
4 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

5 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
6 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 for state  
7 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
8 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
9 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
10 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

11 (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
12 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for local  
13 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
14 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
15 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
16 MCL 18.1393.

17 (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
18 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 for private  
19 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
20 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
21 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
22 MCL 18.1393.

23 Sec. 217. The department and agencies receiving appropriations  
24 in part 1 shall receive and retain copies of all reports funded  
25 from appropriations in part 1. Federal and state guidelines for  
26 short-term and long-term retention of records shall be followed.  
27 The department may electronically retain copies of reports unless

1 otherwise required by federal and state guidelines.

2       Sec. 218. The departments and agencies receiving  
3 appropriations in part 1 shall prepare a report on out-of-state  
4 travel expenses not later than January 1 of each year. The travel  
5 report shall be a listing of all travel by classified and  
6 unclassified employees outside this state in the immediately  
7 preceding fiscal year that was funded in whole or in part with  
8 funds appropriated in the department's budget. The report shall be  
9 submitted to the senate and house appropriations committees, the  
10 house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.  
11 The report shall include the following information:

12       (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

13       (b) The total transportation and related costs of each travel  
14 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
15 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
16 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
17 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

18       Sec. 220. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
19 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
20 the total general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses at the  
21 close of the prior fiscal year. This report shall summarize the  
22 projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriation  
23 lapses by major departmental program or program areas. The report  
24 shall be transmitted to the chairpersons of the senate and house  
25 appropriations committees, and the senate and house fiscal  
26 agencies.

27       Sec. 222. Within 14 days after the release of the executive

1 budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate with the  
2 state budget office to provide the senate and house appropriations  
3 chairs, the senate and house appropriations subcommittees chairs,  
4 and the senate and house fiscal agencies with an annual report on  
5 estimated state restricted fund balances, state restricted fund  
6 projected revenues, and state restricted fund expenditures for the  
7 fiscal years ending September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016.

8       Sec. 223. Before January 31, 2016, the department, in  
9 cooperation with the Michigan state waterways commission, shall  
10 provide to the state budget director, the senate and house  
11 appropriations subcommittees on natural resources, and the senate  
12 and house fiscal agencies a list of projects completed by the  
13 commission in fiscal year 2014-2015, including the county and  
14 municipality in which each project is located.

15       Sec. 234. The department shall cooperate with the department  
16 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable  
17 website accessible by the public at no cost that includes, but is  
18 not limited to, all of the following for each department or agency:

19       (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

20       (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

21       (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
22 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
23 payment description.

24       (d) The number of active department employees by job  
25 classification.

26       (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

27       Sec. 235. The department shall maintain, on a publicly

House Bill No. 4102 as amended April 28, 2015

1 accessible website, a department scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
2 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
3 improve the agency's performance.

4 Sec. 237. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
5 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
6 30, 2016 are \$46,042,200.00. From this amount, total agency  
7 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
8 \$26,133,200.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care  
9 legacy costs are estimated at \$19,909,000.00.

10 Sec. 238. It is the intent of the legislature that  
11 expenditures from appropriations in part 1, combined for this  
12 fiscal year and subsequent fiscal years, not exceed \$100,000.00 for  
13 expenses related to the attorney general appealing the U.S.  
14 district court for the District of Columbia's 2014 decision that  
15 returned gray wolves to the federal endangered and threatened  
16 species list.

[Sec. 239. The department of natural resources shall not expend  
state or federal appropriations in part 1 for enforcement of the decision  
in the United States district court for the District of Columbia case  
number 13-cv-00186-BAH that returned gray wolves to the federal  
endangered and threatened species list, unless gray wolves are removed  
from the endangered and threatened species list.]

#### 17 **DEPARTMENT INITIATIVES**

18 Sec. 251. From the amounts appropriated in part 1 for invasive  
19 species prevention and control, the department shall allocate not  
20 less than \$3,600,000.00 for grants for the prevention, detection,  
21 eradication, and control of invasive species.

#### 22 **DEPARTMENT SUPPORT SERVICES**

23 Sec. 302. The department may charge land acquisition projects  
24 appropriated for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for  
25 prior fiscal years, a standard percentage fee to recover actual

1 costs, and may use the revenue derived to support the land  
2 acquisition service charges provided for in part 1.

3 Sec. 303. As appropriated in part 1, the department may charge  
4 both application fees and transaction fees related to the exchange  
5 or sale of state-owned land or rights in land authorized by part 21  
6 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA  
7 451, MCL 324.2101 to 324.2162. The fees shall be set by the  
8 director of the department at a rate which allows the department to  
9 recover its costs for providing these services.

#### 10 **COMMUNICATION AND CUSTOMER SERVICES**

11 Sec. 404. For the purposes of administering the museum store  
12 as provided in section 7a of 1913 PA 271, MCL 399.7a, the  
13 department is exempt from section 261 of the management and budget  
14 act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1261.

15 Sec. 405. As appropriated in part 1, proceeds in excess of  
16 costs incurred in the conduct of auctions, sales, or transfers of  
17 artifacts no longer considered suitable for the collections of the  
18 state historical museum may be expended upon receipt for additional  
19 material for the collection. The department shall notify the  
20 chairpersons, vice chairpersons, and minority vice chairpersons of  
21 the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on natural  
22 resources 1 week prior to any auctions or sales. Any unexpended  
23 funds may be carried forward into the next succeeding fiscal year.

24 Sec. 406. As appropriated in part 1, funds collected by the  
25 department for historical markers; document reproduction and  
26 services; conferences, admissions, workshops, and training classes;

1 and the use of specialized equipment, facilities, exhibits,  
2 collections, and software shall be used for expenses necessary to  
3 provide the required services. The department may charge fees for  
4 the aforementioned services, including admission fees. Any  
5 unexpended funds may be carried forward into the next succeeding  
6 fiscal year.

7       Sec. 408. By October 21, 2015, the department shall submit to  
8 the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on natural  
9 resources a report on all land transactions approved by the  
10 commission in the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015. For each  
11 land transaction, the report shall include the size of the parcel,  
12 the county and municipality in which the parcel is located, the  
13 dollar amount of the transaction, the fund source affected by the  
14 transaction, and whether the transaction is by purchase, public  
15 auction, transfer, exchange, or conveyance.

16 **WILDLIFE DIVISION**

17       Sec. 501. From the increased funds appropriated in part 1 for  
18 wildlife management, the department shall utilize increased federal  
19 funding made available from increased firearm and ammunition sales.  
20 The purpose of this program expansion is to support the  
21 restoration, conservation, management, and enhancement of wildlife  
22 habitat on public and private lands.

23       Sec. 504. From the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
24 department shall provide a report to the legislature on the use of  
25 registration fees collected from privately owned cervid operations.  
26 Appropriations in part 1 from cervidae licensing and inspection

fees shall not be used for anything other than work directly related to the regulation of privately owned cervid operations in this state.

#### **FISHERIES DIVISION**

Sec. 601. (1) From the appropriation in part 1 for aquatic resource mitigation, not more than \$758,000.00 shall be allocated for grants to watershed councils, resource development councils, soil conservation districts, local governmental units, and other nonprofit organizations for stream habitat stabilization and soil erosion control.

(2) The fisheries division in the department shall develop priority and cost estimates for all projects recommended for grants under subsection (1).

Sec. 602. As a condition of expenditure of fisheries management appropriations under part 1, the department of natural resources shall not impede the certification process for water control structures on Michigan waterways. The department of natural resources shall fund from funds appropriated in part 1 all non-water-quality studies or requirements that the department requests of either of the following:

(a) The department of environmental quality as a condition for issuance of a certification under section 401 of the federal water pollution control act, 33 USC 1341.

(b) The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission as a condition of licensing under the federal power act, 16 USC 791a to 825r.



1 **FOREST RESOURCES DIVISION**

2       Sec. 801. From the increased funds appropriated in part 1 for  
3 forest management and timber market development, the department  
4 shall utilize funding made available from increased harvest of  
5 timber on state forestlands. The purpose of this program expansion  
6 is to strategically invest in technology and equipment enhancements  
7 to expand the growth of the forest products economy.

8       Sec. 802. Of the funds appropriated in part 1, the department  
9 shall, subject to the forest certification process, prescribe  
10 treatment on 79,000 acres, prepare appropriate treatment for not  
11 less than 67,500 acres at the current average rate of 12.5 to 15  
12 cords per acre, and offer those cords for sale in the 2015-2016  
13 fiscal year, provided that the department shall take into  
14 consideration the impact of timber harvesting on wildlife habitat  
15 and recreation uses. The department shall, subject to the forest  
16 certification process, increase marking or treatment of hardwood  
17 timber for sale and harvest by 10% over 2014-2015 fiscal year  
18 levels. In addition, the department shall take into consideration  
19 silvicultural analysis and report annually to the legislature on  
20 plans and efforts to address factors limiting management of timber.  
21 The department shall increase the number of prepared acres if it  
22 appears that regional market demand requires increased volumes of  
23 harvested timber. The department shall provide quarterly reports on  
24 the number of acres treated, pursuant to this section, to the  
25 senate and house appropriations subcommittees on natural resources  
26 and the standing committees of the senate and house of  
27 representatives with primary responsibility for natural resources

1 issues. The department shall complete and deliver these reports no  
2 later than 45 days after the end of the fiscal quarter.

3       Sec. 803. In addition to the money appropriated in part 1, the  
4 department may receive and expend money from federal sources for  
5 the purpose of providing response to wildfires as required by a  
6 compact with the federal government. If additional expenditure  
7 authorization is required, the department shall notify the state  
8 budget office that expenditure under this section is required. The  
9 department shall notify the house and senate appropriations  
10 subcommittees on natural resources and the house and senate fiscal  
11 agencies of the expenditures under this section by November 1,  
12 2016.

13       Sec. 805. The department shall spend amounts appropriated in  
14 part 1 for forest-related activities to employ or contract for  
15 sufficient foresters to mark timber, pursuant to section 802.

16       Sec. 807. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
17 there is appropriated from the disaster and emergency contingency  
18 fund up to \$800,000.00 to cover costs related to any disaster as  
19 defined in section 2 of the emergency management act, 1976 PA 390,  
20 MCL 30.402.

21       (2) Funds appropriated under subsection (1) shall not be  
22 expended unless the state budget director recommends the  
23 expenditure and the department notifies the house and senate  
24 committees on appropriations. By December 1 each year, the  
25 department shall provide a report to the senate and house fiscal  
26 agencies and the state budget office on the use of the disaster and  
27 emergency contingency fund during the prior fiscal year.

1           (3) If Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)  
2 reimbursement is approved for costs paid from the disaster and  
3 emergency contingency fund, the federal revenue shall be deposited  
4 into the disaster and emergency contingency fund.

5           (4) Unexpended and unencumbered funds remaining in the  
6 disaster and emergency contingency fund at the close of the fiscal  
7 year shall not lapse to the general fund and shall be carried  
8 forward and be available for expenditures in subsequent fiscal  
9 years.

10          Sec. 808. Using the funds appropriated in part 1, by April 1,  
11 2016, the department shall develop a lawful and reasonable plan  
12 designed to motivate lessees under state-granted oil and gas leases  
13 past their primary term to undertake warranted new operations to  
14 ensure that department-managed minerals are fully developed in an  
15 orderly manner to increase and optimize production. The plan shall  
16 be consistent with department procedure number 2306.E8.

17       **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

18          Sec. 901. The appropriation in part 1 for snowmobile law  
19 enforcement grants shall be used by the department to provide  
20 grants to county law enforcement agencies to enforce part 821 of  
21 the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA  
22 451, MCL 324.82101 to 324.82161, including rules promulgated under  
23 that part and ordinances enacted pursuant to that part. The  
24 department shall consider the number of enforcement hours and the  
25 number of miles of snowmobile trails in each county in allocating  
26 these grants. Any funds not distributed to counties revert back to

1 the snowmobile registration fee subaccount created under section  
2 82111 of the natural resources and environmental protection act,  
3 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.82111. Counties shall provide semiannual  
4 reports to the department on the use of grant money received under  
5 this section.

6       Sec. 902. The department shall provide a report on the marine  
7 safety grant program to the senate and house appropriations  
8 subcommittees on natural resources and the senate and house fiscal  
9 agencies by December 1, 2015. The report shall include the  
10 following information for the preceding year: the total amount of  
11 revenue received for watercraft registrations, the amount deposited  
12 into the marine safety fund, and the expenditures made from the  
13 marine safety fund, including the amounts expended for department  
14 administration, other state agencies, the law enforcement division,  
15 and grants to counties. The report shall also include the  
16 distribution methodology used by the department to distribute the  
17 marine safety grants and a list of the grants and the amounts  
18 awarded by county.

#### 19 **GRANTS**

20       Sec. 1001. Federal pass-through funds to local institutions  
21 and governments that are received in amounts in addition to those  
22 included in part 1 for grants to communities - federal oil, gas,  
23 and timber payments and that do not require additional state  
24 matching funds are appropriated for the purposes intended. By  
25 November 30, 2015, the department shall report to the senate and  
26 house appropriations subcommittees on natural resources, the senate

1 and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director on all  
 2 amounts appropriated under this section during the fiscal year  
 3 ending September 30, 2015.

#### 4 CAPITAL OUTLAY

5 Sec. 1103. The appropriations in part 1 for capital outlay  
 6 shall be carried forward at the end of the fiscal year consistent  
 7 with the provisions of section 248 of the management and budget  
 8 act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1248.

9 ARTICLE XVI  
 10 DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE  
 11 PART 1  
 12 LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

13 Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the department of state  
 14 police for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the  
 15 following funds:

#### 16 DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

#### 17 APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

18	Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	3.0	
19	Full-time equated classified positions.....	3,081.0	
20	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 612,981,200
21	Interdepartmental grant and intradepartmental		
22	transfer revenues:		
23	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
24	transfers .....		26,224,300

1	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	586,256,900
2	Federal revenues:		
3	Total federal revenues .....		87,945,900
4	Special revenue funds:		
5	Total local revenues .....		5,456,700
6	Total private revenues .....		76,700
7	Total other state restricted revenues .....		120,353,900
8	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	372,923,700
9	State general fund/general purpose schedule:		
10	Ongoing state general fund/general		
11	purpose .....		368,723,700
12	One-time state general fund/general		
13	purpose .....		4,200,000
14	<b>Sec. 102. EXECUTIVE AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES</b>		
15	Full-time equated unclassified positions .....		3.0
16	Full-time equated classified positions .....		121.0
17	Unclassified positions--3.0 FTE positions .....	\$	585,500
18	Executive direction--20.0 FTE positions .....		3,047,300
19	State executive security--17.0 FTE positions .....		2,560,200
20	Capitol complex security--21.0 FTE positions .....		2,362,700
21	Departmental services--63.0 FTE positions .....		<u>86,098,700</u>
22	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	94,654,400
23	Appropriated from:		
24	Interdepartmental grant and intradepartmental		
25	transfer revenues:		
26	IDG-MDOC, contract .....		3,000
27	IDG-MDOS .....		4,600

1	IDG-MDOT, state trunkline fund.....	252,100
2	IDG-MDTR, casino gaming fees.....	171,300
3	IDG-MDTR, emergency telephone fund coordinator.....	677,300
4	IDG-MDTR, emergency telephone fund operations.....	68,400
5	IDG, training academy charges.....	215,200
6	IDT, truck safety fund.....	46,200
7	Federal revenues:	
8	DHS.....	118,500
9	DOJ.....	1,013,100
10	DOJ, interest bearing.....	8,142,000
11	DOT.....	598,900
12	Special revenue funds:	
13	Local - AFIS fees.....	81,900
14	Local - LEIN fees.....	1,018,100
15	Local - school bus revenue.....	16,300
16	Auto theft prevention fund.....	7,702,300
17	Criminal justice information center service fees.....	8,624,200
18	Drunk driving prevention and training fund.....	5,200
19	Forensic science reimbursement fees.....	164,200
20	Hazardous materials training center fees.....	87,000
21	Highway safety fund.....	312,400
22	Michigan justice training fund.....	290,700
23	Michigan merit award trust fund.....	4,000
24	Motor carrier fees.....	358,500
25	Narcotic-related forfeiture revenue.....	15,300
26	Nuclear plant emergency planning reimbursement.....	24,000
27	Reimbursed services.....	164,100

1	Secondary road patrol and training fund.....	564,300
2	Sex offenders registration fund.....	225,200
3	State forensic laboratory fund.....	261,600
4	State services fee fund.....	253,800
5	Traffic crash revenue.....	245,000
6	Traffic law enforcement and safety fund.....	615,000
7	Truck driver safety fund.....	2,200
8	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 62,308,500
9	<b>Sec. 103. LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES</b>	
10	Full-time equated classified positions..... 495.0	
11	Training--55.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 12,777,200
12	Commission on law enforcement standards--18.0 FTE	
13	positions .....	9,918,500
14	Criminal justice information center--120.0 FTE	
15	positions .....	16,445,300
16	Forensic science--244.0 FTE positions.....	40,570,600
17	Biometrics and identification--47.0 FTE positions....	7,490,200
18	Sexual assault kit initiative--11.0 FTE positions....	<u>1,649,600</u>
19	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 88,851,400
20	Appropriated from:	
21	Interdepartmental grant and intradepartmental	
22	transfer revenues:	
23	IDG-MDOC, contract.....	311,000
24	IDG-MDOS.....	357,200
25	IDG-MDOT, state trunkline fund.....	1,165,800
26	IDG, training academy charges.....	2,619,000
27	IDT, Michigan justice training fund.....	1,050,000



1	Federal revenues:	
2	DOJ.....	6,428,900
3	DOT.....	2,591,200
4	Special revenue funds:	
5	Local - SRMS fees.....	598,600
6	Criminal justice information center service fees.....	12,618,600
7	Drunk driving prevention and training fund.....	1,438,700
8	Forensic science reimbursement fees.....	1,373,100
9	Michigan justice training fund.....	8,195,600
10	Motor carrier fees.....	126,900
11	Precision driving track fees.....	323,100
12	Private security licensing fees.....	9,100
13	Secondary road patrol and training fund.....	647,300
14	Sex offenders registration fund.....	383,500
15	State forensic laboratory fund.....	1,501,200
16	State services fee fund.....	7,669,300
17	Traffic crash revenue.....	90,200
18	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 39,353,100
19	<b>Sec. 104. FIELD SERVICES</b>	
20	Full-time equated classified positions.....	2,003.0
21	General law enforcement and traffic safety--	1,662.0
22	FTE positions .....	\$ 234,484,300
23	Secure cities partnership.....	2,952,700
24	Security at events.....	100
25	Criminal investigations--341.0 FTE positions .....	<u>59,665,300</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 297,102,400
27	Appropriated from:	

1	Interdepartmental grant and intradepartmental	
2	transfer revenues:	
3	IDG-MDTR, casino gaming fees.....	5,949,000
4	IDT, auto theft funds.....	757,100
5	Federal revenues:	
6	DOJ.....	4,888,100
7	Equitable sharing programs - forfeiture revenue.....	536,800
8	Federal investigations - reimbursed services.....	1,087,400
9	Special revenue funds:	
10	Local - reimbursed services.....	2,062,900
11	Highway safety fund.....	10,770,000
12	Michigan merit award trust fund.....	787,000
13	Narcotic-related forfeiture revenue.....	797,100
14	Nonnarcotic forfeiture revenue.....	99,000
15	State police service fees.....	2,282,500
16	Tobacco tax revenue.....	4,434,700
17	Traffic law enforcement and safety fund.....	24,593,800
18	Trooper school recruitment fund.....	1,100
19	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 238,055,900
20	<b>Sec. 105. SPECIALIZED SERVICES</b>	
21	Full-time equated classified positions.....	462.0
22	Special operations--158.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 26,877,000
23	Commercial vehicle enforcement--192.0 FTE positions ..	24,256,900
24	Emergency management and homeland security--85.0 FTE	
25	positions .....	49,852,400
26	Highway safety planning--26.0 FTE positions.....	16,121,000
27	Secondary road patrol program--1.0 FTE position.....	<u>11,065,700</u>

1	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	128,173,000
2	Appropriated from:		
3	Interdepartmental grant and intradepartmental		
4	transfer revenues:		
5	IDG-MDOC, contract.....		25,600
6	IDG-MDOS.....		2,300
7	IDG-MDOT, state trunkline fund.....		9,996,000
8	IDG-MDTR, casino gaming fees.....		3,100
9	IDG-MDTR, emergency telephone fund coordinator.....		800
10	IDG-MDTR, emergency telephone fund operations.....		669,200
11	IDG, training academy charges.....		7,800
12	IDT, auto theft funds.....		3,000
13	IDT, truck safety fund.....		1,869,300
14	Federal revenues:		
15	DHS.....		41,783,500
16	DOJ.....		595,400
17	DOT.....		20,162,100
18	Special revenue funds:		
19	Local - LEIN fees.....		4,600
20	Local - school bus revenue.....		1,674,300
21	Private donations.....		76,700
22	Auto theft prevention fund.....		2,100
23	Criminal justice information center service fees.....		44,500
24	Forensic science reimbursement fees.....		4,400
25	Hazardous materials training center fees.....		1,106,600
26	Highway safety fund.....		5,600
27	Michigan justice training fund.....		5,400

1	Michigan merit award trust fund.....		2,100
2	Motor carrier fees.....		4,220,600
3	Narcotic-related forfeiture revenue.....		1,200
4	Nuclear plant emergency planning reimbursement .....		2,652,100
5	Precision driving track fees.....		100
6	Reimbursed services.....		584,800
7	Rental of departmental aircraft.....		59,400
8	Secondary road patrol and training fund.....		11,065,700
9	State police service fees.....		500,000
10	State services fee fund.....		15,300
11	Traffic law enforcement and safety fund.....		6,700
12	Truck driver safety fund.....		2,016,500
13	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	29,006,200
14	<b>Sec. 106. ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS</b>		
15	129th trooper recruit school.....	\$	3,200,000
16	Sexual assault prevention and education initiative ...		500,000
17	Michigan International Speedway traffic control .....		<u>500,000</u>
18	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	4,200,000
19	Appropriated from:		
20	Special revenue funds:		
21	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	4,200,000

22 PART 2

23 PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

24 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

25 GENERAL SECTIONS

Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$493,277,600.00 and state spending from state resources to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$15,464,100.00. The itemized statement below identifies appropriations from which spending to local units of government will occur:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

Commission on law enforcement standards .....	\$	3,839,900
Special operations .....		669,200
Secondary road patrol program .....	\$	<u>10,995,000</u>
TOTAL .....	\$	15,464,100

Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under this part and part 1 are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

(a) "AFIS" means the automated fingerprint identification system.

(b) "Department" means the department of state police.

(c) "DHS" means the United States Department of Homeland Security.

(d) "DOJ" means the United States Department of Justice.

(e) "DOT" means the United States Department of Transportation.

(f) "Fiscal agencies" means the Michigan senate fiscal agency and the Michigan house fiscal agency.

(g) "FTE" means full-time equated.

1 (h) "IDG" means interdepartmental grant.

2 (i) "IDT" means intradepartmental transfer.

3 (j) "LEIN" means the law enforcement information network.

4 (k) "MDOC" means the Michigan department of corrections.

5 (l) "MDOS" means the Michigan department of state.

6 (m) "MDOT" means the Michigan department of transportation.

7 (n) "MDTR" means the Michigan department of treasury.

8 (o) "SRMS" means state records management system.

9 (p) "Subcommittees" means all members of the subcommittees of  
10 the senate and house standing committees on appropriations with  
11 jurisdiction over the budget for the department.

12 (q) "Work project" means that term as defined in section 404  
13 of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1404, and  
14 that meets the criteria in section 451a(1) of the management and  
15 budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a.

16 Sec. 204. Based on the availability of federal funding and the  
17 demonstrated need as indicated by applications submitted to the  
18 state court administrative office, the department shall provide  
19 \$1,500,000.00 in Byrne justice assistance grant program funding to  
20 the judiciary by interdepartmental grant.

21 Sec. 206. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
22 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000.00 for  
23 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
24 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
25 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
26 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

27 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is

1 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$3,500,000.00 for state  
2 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
3 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
4 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
5 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

6 (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
7 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 for local  
8 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
9 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
10 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
11 MCL 18.1393.

12 (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
13 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 for private  
14 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
15 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
16 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
17 MCL 18.1393.

18 Sec. 207. The department shall cooperate with the department  
19 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable  
20 website that is accessible by the public at no cost that includes,  
21 but is not limited to, all of the following:

22 (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

23 (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

24 (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
25 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
26 payment description.

27 (d) The number of active department employees by job

1 classification.

2 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

3 Sec. 208. The department and agencies receiving appropriations  
4 in part 1 shall use the Internet to fulfill the reporting  
5 requirements of this part. This requirement may include  
6 transmission of reports via electronic mail to the recipients  
7 identified for each reporting requirement, or it may include  
8 placement of reports on an Internet or intranet site.

9 Sec. 209. Funds appropriated in part 1 and this part shall not  
10 be used for the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
11 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
12 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to  
13 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
14 businesses, if they are competitively priced and of comparable  
15 quality. In addition, preference shall be given to goods or  
16 services, or both, that are manufactured or provided by Michigan  
17 businesses owned and operated by veterans, if they are  
18 competitively priced and of comparable quality.

19 Sec. 210. The department shall take all reasonable steps to  
20 ensure businesses in deprived and depressed communities compete for  
21 and perform contracts to provide services or supplies, or both, for  
22 the department. The director of the department shall strongly  
23 encourage firms with which the department contracts to subcontract  
24 with certified businesses in depressed and deprived communities for  
25 services or supplies, or both.

26 Sec. 215. A department or state agency shall not take  
27 disciplinary action against an employee for communicating with a



1 member of the legislature or his or her staff.

2       Sec. 218. The departments and agencies receiving  
3 appropriations in part 1 shall prepare a report on out-of-state  
4 travel expenses not later than January 1 of each year. The travel  
5 report shall be a listing of all travel by classified and  
6 unclassified employees outside this state in the immediately  
7 preceding fiscal year that was funded in whole or in part with  
8 funds appropriated in the department's budget. The report shall be  
9 submitted to the senate and house appropriations committees, the  
10 senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.  
11 The report shall include the following information:

12       (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

13       (b) The total transportation and related costs of each travel  
14 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
15 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
16 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
17 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

18       Sec. 222. The department shall notify the subcommittees, the  
19 chairpersons of the senate and house standing committees on  
20 appropriations, and the senate and house fiscal agencies not less  
21 than 90 days before recommending to close or consolidate any state  
22 police posts. The notification shall include a local and state  
23 impact study of the proposed post closure or consolidation.

24       Sec. 223. At least 90 days before beginning any effort to  
25 privatize, the department shall submit a complete project plan to  
26 the subcommittees and the senate and house fiscal agencies. The  
27 plan shall include the criteria under which the privatization

1 initiative will be evaluated. The evaluation shall be completed and  
2 submitted to the subcommittees and the senate and house fiscal  
3 agencies within 30 months.

4 Sec. 224. Funds appropriated in part 1 or this part shall not  
5 be used by a principal executive department, state agency, or  
6 authority to hire a person to provide legal services that are the  
7 responsibility of the attorney general. This prohibition does not  
8 apply to legal services for bonding activities and for those  
9 activities that the attorney general authorizes.

10 Sec. 226. (1) When the department provides contractual  
11 services to a local unit of government, the department shall be  
12 reimbursed for all costs incurred in providing the services,  
13 including, but not limited to, retirement and overtime costs.

14 (2) The department shall define service cost models for those  
15 services requiring reimbursement.

16 (3) Contractual services provided to an entity other than a  
17 local unit of government may be provided by department personnel,  
18 but only on an overtime basis outside the normal work schedule of  
19 the personnel.

20 (4) This section does not apply to state agencies.

21 Sec. 228. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
22 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
23 the total general fund/general purpose appropriations lapses at the  
24 close of the prior fiscal year. This report shall summarize the  
25 projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriations  
26 lapses by major departmental program or program areas. The report  
27 shall be transmitted to the office of the state budget, the

1 chairpersons of the senate and house appropriations committees, the  
2 subcommittees, and the fiscal agencies.

3       Sec. 229. Within 14 days after the release of the executive  
4 budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate with the  
5 state budget office to provide the senate and house appropriations  
6 chairs, the subcommittees, and the fiscal agencies with an annual  
7 report on estimated state restricted fund balances, state  
8 restricted fund projected revenues, and state restricted fund  
9 expenditures for the preceding and current fiscal years.

10       Sec. 230. The department shall maintain, on a publicly  
11 accessible website, a department scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
12 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
13 improve the department's performance.

14       Sec. 233. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
15 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
16 30, 2016 are \$122,920,900.00. From this amount, total agency  
17 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
18 \$66,961,400.00, and total agency appropriations for retiree health  
19 care legacy costs are estimated at \$55,959,500.00.

20       Sec. 238. Money privately donated to the department is  
21 appropriated under part 1 to be used for the purposes designated by  
22 the donor of the money, if specified.

23       Sec. 240. The accounting structures utilized by the department  
24 via the Michigan administrative information network shall  
25 accurately reflect the appropriation units, line items, and fund  
26 sources established within part 1.

27       Sec. 245. The amount appropriated for the one-time costs

1 associated with the motor carrier school pursuant to section 106 of  
2 part 1 of article XVI of 2014 PA 252, equivalent to \$1,181,900.00,  
3 shall lapse to the state general fund/general account at the close  
4 of the preceding fiscal year and shall not be subject to a work  
5 project designation under section 451a of the management and budget  
6 act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a.

7       Sec. 250. The department shall participate in a workgroup to  
8 investigate means of minimizing fraud in the MIBridges benefits  
9 programs. The members of the workgroup shall include, but are not  
10 limited to, the department and the departments of community health,  
11 human services, and state, and members of the house of  
12 representatives and the senate. The workgroup shall, at a minimum,  
13 address the following possibilities and make recommendations on the  
14 implementation of any of the following items considered feasible:

15       (a) Whether the department of human services' policies  
16 concerning the replacement of lost bridge cards sufficiently deter  
17 improper use of those cards.

18       (b) What technologies may exist to deter the sale or other  
19 improper use of bridge cards.

20       (c) Whether a state driver license or state identification  
21 card might be used to replace the existing bridge cards.

22       (d) What federal policies exist that may inhibit or enhance  
23 adoption of fraud minimization actions.

#### 24 **EXECUTIVE AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES**

25       Sec. 303. (1) The department shall provide security services  
26 at the State Capitol Complex facilities and the State Secondary

1 Complex.

2 (2) The department shall maintain the staff and resources  
3 necessary to respond to emergencies at the State Capitol Complex,  
4 State Secondary Complex, House Office Building, Farnum Building,  
5 Capitol parking lot, Townsend Parking Ramp, Roosevelt Parking Ramp,  
6 and other areas as directed.

7 (3) The department shall pursue federal grants to improve the  
8 security at the Capitol Building.

9 (4) The department may develop a phased approach for improving  
10 security at the Capitol Building.

11 (5) The department shall dedicate a minimum of 35,000 patrol  
12 hours for the State Capitol Complex facilities.

13 **LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES**

14 Sec. 405. (1) The department shall improve the accuracy,  
15 timeliness, and completeness of criminal history information by  
16 conducting a minimum of 30 outreach activities targeted to criminal  
17 justice agencies.

18 (2) The department shall provide for the completion and  
19 publication of crime statistics consistent with the uniform crime  
20 reporting (UCR) program and the national incident-based report  
21 system (NIBRS).

22 (3) The department shall provide for the compilation and  
23 evaluation of traffic crash reports and the maintenance of the  
24 state accident data collection system and shall make traffic crash  
25 information available to the public at a reasonable cost. For bulk  
26 access to the accident records in which the vehicle identification

1 number has been collected and computerized, the department shall  
2 make those records available to the public at cost, provided that  
3 the name and address have been excluded.

4 Sec. 412. (1) The department shall ensure its ability to  
5 maintain accreditation by the American Society of Crime Laboratory  
6 Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB), or other  
7 federally designated accrediting agency, as provided under 42 USC  
8 14132.

9 (2) The department shall provide forensic science services  
10 with an average turnaround time of 55 days, assuming an annual  
11 caseload volume commensurate with that received in fiscal year  
12 2012-2013, and shall achieve a goal of a 30-day average turnaround  
13 time across all forensic science disciplines by December 31, 2016.

14 (3) The department shall annually provide the following data  
15 to the subcommittees and fiscal agencies:

16 (a) The average turnaround time for processing forensic  
17 evidence across all disciplines.

18 (b) Forensic laboratory staffing levels, including scientists  
19 in training, and vacancies.

20 (c) The number of backlogged cases in each discipline.

21 Sec. 414. The department shall annually provide information to  
22 the subcommittees and fiscal agencies on the number of fingerprint  
23 checks processed and background checks processed through the  
24 Internet criminal history access tool (ICHAT).

25 Sec. 415. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
26 sexual assault kit initiative, the department shall establish the  
27 sexual assault kit initiative in the current fiscal year. The

1 purpose of this new initiative is to improve the case clearance  
2 rates and turnaround times for the collection, submission, and  
3 timely testing of all criminal sexual conduct kits.

4 (2) Not later than October 31, the department shall submit a  
5 report to the subcommittees and fiscal agencies including, but not  
6 limited to, the following information:

7 (a) Sexual assault kit analysis backlog at the beginning of  
8 the preceding fiscal year.

9 (b) Number of sexual assault kits collected or submitted for  
10 analysis during the preceding fiscal year.

11 (c) Number of sexual assault kits analyzed and number of  
12 associated DNA profiles created and uploaded during the preceding  
13 fiscal year.

14 (d) Sexual assault kit analysis backlog at the end of the  
15 preceding fiscal year.

16 (e) Average turnaround time to analyze sexual assault kits and  
17 create and upload associated DNA profiles for the preceding fiscal  
18 year.

19 (f) The case clearance rate associated with sexual assault  
20 kits for the preceding fiscal year.

21 (g) Estimates of the information included in subdivisions (a)  
22 through (f) for the current fiscal year.

### 23 **FIELD SERVICES**

24 Sec. 501. (1) The department, in keeping with its role as the  
25 general law enforcement agency of the state and as the law  
26 enforcement agency of last resort for communities that are either

1 without local law enforcement resources or seriously underserved by  
2 local law enforcement resources, shall provide general law  
3 enforcement assistance to those communities until adequate law  
4 enforcement services can be provided to those communities by other  
5 means.

6 (2) Department enlisted personnel who are employed to enforce  
7 traffic laws as provided in section 629e of the Michigan vehicle  
8 code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.629e, shall not be prohibited from  
9 responding to crimes in progress or other emergency situations and  
10 are responsible for making every effort to protect the residents of  
11 this state.

12 (3) The department shall maintain the staffing and resources  
13 necessary to continually work to enhance traffic safety throughout  
14 the state and shall dedicate a minimum of 315,000 hours to  
15 statewide patrol, of which a minimum of 30,000 shall be committed  
16 to distressed cities in this state, and 4,000 shall be committed to  
17 Belle Isle.

18 (4) The department shall maintain the staffing and resources  
19 necessary to perform activities to maintain a 93% compliance rate  
20 for reporting by registered sex offenders.

21 (5) The department shall submit a report on or before December  
22 1 to the subcommittees and fiscal agencies regarding the secure  
23 cities partnership during the prior fiscal year.

24 Sec. 503. (1) The department shall maintain the staffing and  
25 resources necessary to provide a comparable number of hours  
26 investigating crimes as those performed in fiscal year 2012-2013.

27 (2) The department shall maintain the staffing and resources



1 necessary to annually meet or exceed a case clearance rate of 60%.

2 (3) The tobacco tax enforcement unit shall dedicate a minimum  
3 of 16,600 hours to tobacco tax enforcement and shall submit an  
4 annual report on December 1 to the subcommittees, the senate and  
5 house appropriations subcommittees on general government, and the  
6 fiscal agencies that details expenditures and activities related to  
7 tobacco tax enforcement for the prior fiscal year.

8 (4) The department shall maintain the staffing and resources  
9 necessary to maintain readiness to respond appropriately to at  
10 least 400 requests for fire investigation services and shall be  
11 available for call out statewide 100% of the time.

## 12 SPECIALIZED SERVICES

13 Sec. 601. (1) The department shall operate the Michigan  
14 intelligence operation center for homeland security as the state's  
15 primary federally designated fusion center to gather, receive,  
16 analyze, and disseminate threat-related information among federal,  
17 state, local, tribal, and private sector partners.

18 (2) The department shall ensure public safety by providing  
19 public and private sector partners with timely and accurate  
20 information regarding critical information key resource threats as  
21 reported to or discovered by the Michigan intelligence operations  
22 center for homeland security and shall increase public awareness on  
23 how to report suspicious activity through website or telephone  
24 communications. The department shall create monthly suspicious  
25 activity reports for public and private sector partners to  
26 facilitate awareness of suspicious activities affecting homeland

1 security.

2 (3) The department shall maintain the staffing and resources  
3 necessary to provide training to maintain readiness to respond  
4 appropriately to at least the number of requests for specialty  
5 services which occurred in fiscal year 2010-2011.

6 (4) The canine unit shall be available for call out statewide  
7 100% of the time.

8 (5) The bomb squad unit shall be available for call out  
9 statewide 100% of the time.

10 (6) The emergency support teams shall be available for call  
11 out statewide 100% of the time.

12 (7) The underwater recovery unit shall be available for call  
13 out statewide 100% of the time.

14 (8) Aviation services shall be available for call out  
15 statewide 100% of the time, unless prohibited by weather or  
16 unexpected mechanical breakdowns.

17 Sec. 602. (1) The department shall maintain commercial vehicle  
18 enforcement activities, including enforcement of requirements  
19 concerning size, weight, and load restrictions; operating  
20 authority; registrations; fuel taxes; the transportation of  
21 hazardous materials; the operations of new entrants; and commercial  
22 driver's licenses.

23 (2) The department shall maintain the staffing and resources  
24 necessary to annually inspect at least 50,000 commercial vehicles.

25 Sec. 606. (1) The state director of emergency management may  
26 expend money appropriated under part 1 to call upon any agency or  
27 department of the state or any resource of the state to protect

1 life or property or to provide for the health or safety of the  
2 population in any area of the state in which the governor proclaims  
3 a state of emergency or state of disaster under 1945 PA 302, MCL  
4 10.31 to 10.33, or under the emergency management act, 1976 PA 390,  
5 MCL 30.401 to 30.421. The state director of emergency management  
6 may expend the amounts the director considers necessary to  
7 accomplish these purposes. The director shall submit to the state  
8 budget director as soon as possible a complete report of all  
9 actions taken under the authority of this section. The report shall  
10 contain, as a separate item, a statement of all money expended that  
11 is not reimbursable from federal money. The state budget director  
12 shall review the expenditures and submit recommendations to the  
13 legislature in regard to any possible need for a supplemental  
14 appropriation.

15 (2) In addition to the money appropriated in part 1, the  
16 department may receive and expend money from local, private,  
17 federal, or state sources for the purpose of providing emergency  
18 management training to local or private interests and for the  
19 purpose of supporting emergency preparedness, response, recovery,  
20 and mitigation activity. If additional expenditure authorization in  
21 the Michigan administrative information network is approved by the  
22 state budget office under this section, the department and the  
23 state budget office shall notify the subcommittees and the senate  
24 and house fiscal agencies within 10 days after the approval. The  
25 notification shall include the amount and source and the additional  
26 authorization, the date of its approval, and the projected use of  
27 funds to be expended under the authorization.

1           (3) The department shall maintain the staffing and resources  
2 necessary to do all of the following:

3           (a) Serve approximately 105 local emergency management  
4 preparedness programs and 88 local emergency planning committees in  
5 this state.

6           (b) Operate and maintain the state's emergency operations  
7 center and provide command and control in support of emergency  
8 response services.

9           (c) Maintain readiness, including training and equipment to  
10 respond to civil disorders and natural disasters commensurate with  
11 the capabilities of fiscal year 2010-2011.

12           (d) Perform hazardous materials response training.

13           (4) The department shall conduct a minimum of 3 training  
14 sessions to enhance safe response in the event of natural or  
15 manmade incidents, emergencies, or disasters.

16           (5) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
17 appropriated from the disaster and emergency contingency fund up to  
18 \$800,000.00 to cover costs related to any disaster or emergency as  
19 defined in the emergency management act, 1976 PA 390, MCL 30.401 to  
20 30.421. Funds shall be expended as provided under sections 18 and  
21 19 of the emergency management act, 1976 PA 390, MCL 30.418 and  
22 30.419, and R 30.51 to R 30.61 of the Michigan administrative code.

23           (6) Funds in the disaster and emergency contingency fund shall  
24 not be expended unless the state budget director approves the  
25 expenditure and the department and the state budget office notify  
26 the senate and house appropriations committees. No later than  
27 December 1, the department shall provide an annual report to the

1 senate and house appropriations committees, the senate and house  
2 fiscal agencies, and the state budget office on the use of the  
3 disaster and emergency contingency fund during the prior fiscal  
4 year.

5 Sec. 608. The department shall provide for the planning,  
6 administration, and implementation of highway traffic safety  
7 programs to save lives and reduce injuries on Michigan roads in  
8 partnership with other public and private organizations.

9 Sec. 610. (1) The department shall provide funding to county  
10 sheriffs to patrol secondary roads.

11 (2) The department shall provide the following information to  
12 the subcommittees and fiscal agencies on secondary road patrol  
13 activities supported by appropriations in part 1:

14 (a) The number of full-time equivalent county sheriff  
15 secondary road patrol deputies.

16 (b) The number of hours dedicated to patrol under the  
17 secondary road patrol program, with an annual goal of at least  
18 178,000 hours.

19 (3) The information required to be reported under subsection  
20 (2) shall be reported for each quarter of the fiscal year on a  
21 semiannual basis.

## 22 **ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS**

23 Sec. 701. The department shall expend not more than the amount  
24 appropriated in part 1 for Michigan International Speedway traffic  
25 control to provide traffic control services for events at the  
26 Michigan International Speedway.

## ARTICLE XVII

## STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

## PART 1

## LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the state transportation department for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, from the following funds:

**STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**

## APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Full-time equated unclassified positions.....	6.0	
Full-time equated classified positions.....	2,912.3	
GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 3,655,722,500
Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers .....		3,928,500
ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 3,651,794,000
Federal revenues:		
Federal aid - transportation programs.....		1,257,488,000
Total federal revenues.....		1,257,488,000
Special revenue funds:		
Local revenues.....		50,293,500
Private revenues.....		100,000
Total local and private revenues.....		50,393,500
Blue Water Bridge fund.....		23,943,300
Comprehensive transportation fund.....		272,383,600
Economic development fund.....		42,859,000
IRS debt service rebate.....		6,974,200
Intercity bus equipment fund.....		140,000

1	Local bridge fund.....	29,235,400
2	Michigan transportation fund.....	1,046,130,000
3	Rail freight fund.....	6,000,000
4	State aeronautics fund.....	14,878,600
5	State trunkline fund.....	741,847,300
6	Total other state restricted revenues.....	2,184,391,400
7	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 159,521,100
8	<b>Sec. 102. DEBT SERVICE</b>	
9	State trunkline.....	\$ 194,617,900
10	Economic development.....	11,672,600
11	Local bridge fund.....	2,406,800
12	Blue Water Bridge fund.....	6,963,600
13	Airport safety and protection plan.....	4,997,700
14	Comprehensive transportation.....	<u>18,202,200</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 238,860,800
16	Appropriated from:	
17	Federal revenues:	
18	Federal aid - transportation programs.....	45,766,900
19	Special revenue funds:	
20	Blue Water Bridge fund.....	6,963,600
21	Comprehensive transportation fund.....	18,202,200
22	Economic development fund.....	11,672,600
23	Local bridge fund.....	2,406,800
24	IRS debt service rebate.....	6,974,200
25	State aeronautics fund.....	4,997,700
26	State trunkline fund.....	141,876,800
27	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0

1	Sec. 103. COLLECTION, ENFORCEMENT, AND OTHER AGENCY	
2	SUPPORT SERVICES	
3	MTF grant to department of environmental quality .....	\$ 1,310,500
4	MTF grant to department of state for collection of	
5	revenue and fees .....	20,000,000
6	MTF grant to department of treasury .....	2,700,000
7	MTF grant to legislative auditor general .....	309,600
8	STF grant to department of attorney general .....	2,377,300
9	STF grant to civil service commission .....	5,447,000
10	STF grant to department of technology, management, and	
11	budget .....	1,136,300
12	STF grant to department of state police .....	11,413,900
13	STF grant to department of treasury .....	149,200
14	STF grant to legislative auditor general .....	719,100
15	SAF grant to department of attorney general .....	173,800
16	SAF grant to civil service commission .....	150,000
17	SAF grant to department of technology, management, and	
18	budget .....	31,200
19	SAF grant to department of treasury .....	75,300
20	SAF grant to legislative auditor general .....	29,700
21	CTF grant to department of attorney general .....	200,100
22	CTF grant to civil service commission .....	200,000
23	CTF grant to department of technology, management, and	
24	budget .....	36,800
25	CTF grant to department of treasury .....	8,900
26	CTF grant to legislative auditor general .....	<u>38,200</u>
27	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 46,506,900



1	Appropriated from:	
2	Special revenue funds:	
3	Comprehensive transportation fund.....	484,000
4	Michigan transportation fund.....	24,320,100
5	State aeronautics fund.....	460,000
6	State trunkline fund.....	21,242,800
7	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
8	<b>Sec. 104. EXECUTIVE DIRECTION</b>	
9	Full-time equated unclassified positions..... 6.0	
10	Full-time equated classified positions..... 29.3	
11	Unclassified salaries.....	\$ 735,600
12	Asset management council.....	1,626,400
13	Commission audit--29.3 FTE positions.....	<u>3,347,900</u>
14	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 5,709,900
15	Appropriated from:	
16	Special revenue funds:	
17	Michigan transportation fund.....	1,626,400
18	State trunkline fund.....	4,083,500
19	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
20	<b>Sec. 105. BUSINESS SUPPORT</b>	
21	Full-time equated classified positions..... 53.0	
22	Business support services--44.0 FTE positions.....	\$ 6,625,800
23	Economic development and enhancement programs--9.0 FTE	
24	positions .....	1,449,200
25	Property management.....	7,740,500
26	Worker's compensation.....	<u>1,805,200</u>
27	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 17,620,700

1	Appropriated from:	
2	Special revenue funds:	
3	Comprehensive transportation fund.....	1,742,700
4	Economic development fund.....	378,700
5	Michigan transportation fund.....	777,100
6	State aeronautics fund.....	661,900
7	State trunkline fund.....	14,060,300
8	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
9	<b>Sec. 106. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>	
10	Information technology services and projects.....	\$ <u>31,429,600</u>
11	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 31,429,600
12	Appropriated from:	
13	Federal revenues:	
14	Federal aid - transportation programs.....	520,500
15	Special revenue funds:	
16	Blue Water Bridge fund.....	53,600
17	Comprehensive transportation fund.....	217,800
18	Economic development fund.....	37,200
19	Michigan transportation fund.....	287,600
20	State aeronautics fund.....	170,000
21	State trunkline fund.....	30,142,900
22	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
23	<b>Sec. 107. FINANCE, CONTRACTS, AND SUPPORT SERVICES</b>	
24	Full-time equated classified positions.....	185.0
25	Finance, contracts, and support services.....	\$ <u>21,416,800</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 21,416,800
27	Appropriated from:	

1	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
2	IDG for accounting service center user charges .....	3,928,500
3	Special revenue funds:	
4	Michigan transportation fund.....	1,545,500
5	State trunkline fund.....	15,942,800
6	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
7	<b>Sec. 108. TRANSPORTATION PLANNING</b>	
8	Full-time equated classified positions.....	141.0
9	Transportation planning--141.0 FTE positions .....	\$ 38,213,700
10	Grants to regional planning councils .....	<u>488,800</u>
11	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 38,702,500
12	Appropriated from:	
13	Federal revenues:	
14	Federal aid - transportation programs .....	20,000,000
15	Special revenue funds:	
16	Comprehensive transportation fund.....	610,500
17	Michigan transportation fund.....	8,619,300
18	State aeronautics fund.....	15,000
19	State trunkline fund.....	9,457,700
20	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
21	<b>Sec. 109. DESIGN AND ENGINEERING SERVICES</b>	
22	Full-time equated classified positions.....	1,590.3
23	Systems operations management--460.6 FTE positions ...	\$ 78,572,900
24	Development and delivery--1,079.7 FTE positions .....	76,247,700
25	Welcome center operations--50.0 FTE positions .....	<u>4,457,200</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 159,277,800
27	Appropriated from:	

1	Federal revenues:	
2	Federal aid - transportation programs .....	23,529,800
3	Special revenue funds:	
4	Michigan transportation fund .....	11,913,200
5	State trunkline fund .....	123,834,800
6	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
7	<b>Sec. 110. HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE</b>	
8	Full-time equated classified positions .....	743.7
9	State trunkline operations--743.7 FTE positions .....	\$ <u>320,692,000</u>
10	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 320,692,000
11	Appropriated from:	
12	Special revenue funds:	
13	State trunkline fund .....	320,692,000
14	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
15	<b>Sec. 111. ROAD AND BRIDGE PROGRAMS</b>	
16	State trunkline federal aid and road and bridge	
17	construction .....	\$ 839,663,400
18	Local federal aid and road and bridge construction ...	240,443,000
19	Grants to local programs .....	33,000,000
20	Rail grade crossing .....	3,000,000
21	Local bridge program .....	26,828,600
22	County road commissions .....	615,734,000
23	Cities and villages .....	<u>343,299,300</u>
24	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 2,101,968,300
25	Appropriated from:	
26	Federal revenues:	
27	Federal aid - transportation programs .....	982,720,800

1	Special revenue funds:	
2	Local funds.....	30,000,000
3	Blue Water Bridge fund.....	10,580,400
4	Local bridge fund.....	26,828,600
5	Michigan transportation fund.....	995,033,300
6	State trunkline fund.....	56,805,200
7	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
8	<b>Sec. 112. BLUE WATER BRIDGE</b>	
9	Full-time equated classified positions.....	41.0
10	Blue Water Bridge operations--41.0 FTE positions.....	\$ <u>6,345,700</u>
11	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 6,345,700
12	Appropriated from:	
13	Special revenue funds:	
14	Blue Water Bridge fund.....	6,345,700
15	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
16	<b>Sec. 113. TRANSPORTATION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>	
17	Forest roads.....	\$ 5,000,000
18	Rural county urban system.....	2,500,000
19	Target industries/economic redevelopment.....	7,385,300
20	Urban county congestion.....	7,942,600
21	Rural county primary.....	<u>7,942,600</u>
22	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 30,770,500
23	Appropriated from:	
24	Special revenue funds:	
25	Economic development fund.....	30,770,500
26	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 0
27	<b>Sec. 114. AERONAUTICS SERVICES</b>	

1	Full-time equated classified positions.....	54.0	
2	Aviation services--54.0 FTE positions.....		\$ <u>7,039,300</u>
3	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 7,039,300
4	Appropriated from:		
5	Special revenue funds:		
6	State aeronautics fund.....		7,039,300
7	State general fund/general purpose.....		\$ 0
8	<b>Sec. 115. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES</b>		
9	Full-time equated classified positions.....	36.0	
10	Passenger transportation services--36.0 FTE positions		\$ <u>5,689,500</u>
11	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 5,689,500
12	Appropriated from:		
13	Federal revenues:		
14	Federal aid - transportation programs.....		972,100
15	Special revenue funds:		
16	Comprehensive transportation fund.....		4,717,400
17	State general fund/general purpose.....		\$ 0
18	<b>Sec. 116. BUS TRANSIT DIVISION: STATUTORY OPERATING</b>		
19	Local bus operating.....		\$ 167,400,000
20	Nonurban operating/capital.....		<u>26,027,900</u>
21	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....		\$ 193,427,900
22	Appropriated from:		
23	Federal revenues:		
24	Federal aid - transportation programs.....		24,027,900
25	Special revenue funds:		
26	Comprehensive transportation fund.....		167,400,000
27	Local funds.....		2,000,000

1	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	0
2	<b>Sec. 117. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT</b>		
3	Specialized services .....	\$	17,938,900
4	Municipal credit program .....		2,000,000
5	Transit capital .....		31,160,800
6	Van pooling .....		195,000
7	Service initiatives .....		2,349,800
8	Transportation to work .....		<u>3,900,000</u>
9	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	57,544,500
10	Appropriated from:		
11	Federal revenues:		
12	Federal aid - transportation programs .....		16,350,000
13	Special revenue funds:		
14	Local funds .....		5,635,000
15	Comprehensive transportation fund .....		35,559,500
16	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	0
17	<b>Sec. 118. INTERCITY PASSENGER</b>		
18	Full-time equated classified positions .....		39.0
19	Office of rail--39.0 FTE positions .....	\$	6,355,400
20	Freight property management .....		1,000,000
21	Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority .....		468,200
22	Intercity services .....		5,690,000
23	Rail operations and infrastructure .....		103,090,400
24	Marine passenger service .....		400,000
25	Terminal development .....		<u>150,000</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	117,154,000
27	Appropriated from:		

1	Federal revenues:	
2	Federal aid - transportation programs .....	64,600,000
3	Special revenue funds:	
4	Local funds .....	150,000
5	Private funds .....	100,000
6	Comprehensive transportation fund .....	43,449,500
7	Intercity bus equipment fund .....	140,000
8	Rail freight fund .....	6,000,000
9	Michigan transportation fund .....	2,007,500
10	State trunkline fund .....	707,000
11	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
12	<b>Sec. 119. CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>	
13	<b>(1) BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES</b>	
14	Special maintenance, remodeling, and additions .....	\$ <u>3,001,500</u>
15	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 3,001,500
16	Appropriated from:	
17	State trunkline fund .....	3,001,500
18	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
19	<b>(2) AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS</b>	
20	Airport safety, protection and improvement program ...	\$ <u>93,043,200</u>
21	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 93,043,200
22	Appropriated from:	
23	Federal revenues:	
24	Federal aid - transportation programs .....	79,000,000
25	Special revenue funds:	
26	Local funds .....	12,508,500
27	State aeronautics fund .....	1,534,700



1	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	0
2	<b>Sec. 120. ONE-TIME BASIS ONLY</b>		
3	State trunkline federal aid and road and bridge		
4	construction .....	\$	113,000,000
5	State and local road and bridge programs .....		20,000,000
6	Transit capital and rail infrastructure .....		25,000,000
7	Airport safety, protection and improvement program ...		<u>1,521,100</u>
8	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	159,521,100
9	Appropriated from:		
10	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	159,521,100

## PART 2

## PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

**GENERAL SECTIONS**

Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$2,343,912,500.00 and state spending from state resources to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$1,264,754,400.00. The itemized statement below identifies appropriations from which spending to local units of government will occur:

## STATE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

23	Grants to regional planning councils .....	\$	488,800
24	State and local road and bridge programs .....		12,180,000
25	Grants to local programs .....		33,000,000

1	Rail grade crossing.....	3,000,000
2	Local bridge program.....	26,828,600
3	Grants to county road commissions.....	615,734,000
4	Grants to cities and villages.....	343,299,300
5	Economic development fund.....	23,385,200
6	Local bus operating.....	167,400,000
7	Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority.....	468,200
8	Marine passenger service.....	400,000
9	Terminal development.....	150,000
10	Specialized services.....	3,853,900
11	Municipal credit program.....	2,000,000
12	Transit capital.....	24,610,800
13	Service initiatives.....	999,800
14	Transportation to work.....	3,900,000
15	Airport safety, protection, and improvement	
16	program.....	<u>3,055,800</u>
17	Total payments to local units of government.....	\$ 1,264,754,400

18       Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under this part and  
19 part 1 are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
20 MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

21       Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

22       (a) "Amtrak" means the National Railroad Passenger  
23 Corporation.

24       (b) "CTF" means comprehensive transportation fund.

25       (c) "Department" means the state transportation department.

26       (d) "Director" means the director of the department.

27       (e) "DOT" means the United States Department of

1 Transportation.

2 (f) "DOT-FHWA" means DOT, Federal Highway Administration.

3 (g) "FTE" means full-time equated.

4 (h) "IDG" means the interdepartmental grant.

5 (i) "IRS" means the Internal Revenue Service.

6 (j) "MTF" means Michigan transportation fund.

7 (k) "SAF" means state aeronautics fund.

8 (l) "STF" means state trunkline fund.

9 Sec. 204. (1) For each new program or program expansion for  
10 which funds in excess of \$500,000.00 are appropriated in part 1,  
11 the department shall identify specific benchmarks intended to  
12 measure the performance or return on taxpayer investment of the  
13 program and its associated expenditures. Not later than November 1,  
14 2015, the department shall report the proposed benchmarks to the  
15 house and senate appropriations subcommittees for that department,  
16 the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget  
17 director. The department shall provide an update on its progress in  
18 achieving those benchmarks at an appropriations subcommittee  
19 meeting called for the purpose of discussing benchmarks and their  
20 status.

21 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that, beginning with  
22 the budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, any  
23 proposal for a new program or an expansion of an existing program  
24 in excess of \$500,000.00 initiated by the executive branch or the  
25 legislature shall include, as part of the original proposal or  
26 budget request, a list of benchmarks intended to measure the  
27 performance or return on taxpayer investment of the program or

1 spending increase.

2       Sec. 206. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
3 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$200,000,000.00 for  
4 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
5 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
6 in part 1 pursuant to section 393(2) of the management and budget  
7 act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

8       (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
9 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$40,000,000.00 for state  
10 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
11 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
12 in part 1 pursuant to section 393(2) of the management and budget  
13 act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

14       (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
15 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 for local  
16 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
17 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
18 pursuant to section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984  
19 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

20       (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
21 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 for private  
22 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
23 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
24 pursuant to section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984  
25 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

26       Sec. 207. The department shall cooperate with the department  
27 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable

1 website accessible by the public at no cost that includes, but is  
2 not limited to, all of the following:

3 (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

4 (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

5 (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
6 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
7 payment description.

8 (d) The number of active department employees by job  
9 classification.

10 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

11 Sec. 208. The departments and agencies receiving  
12 appropriations in part 1 shall use the Internet to fulfill the  
13 reporting requirements of this part. This requirement may include  
14 transmission of reports via electronic mail to the recipients  
15 identified for each reporting requirement, or it may include  
16 placement of reports on an Internet or intranet site.

17 Sec. 209. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used for  
18 the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
19 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
20 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to  
21 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
22 businesses, if they are competitively priced and of comparable  
23 quality. In addition, preference shall be given to goods or  
24 services, or both, that are manufactured or provided by Michigan  
25 businesses owned and operated by veterans, if they are  
26 competitively priced and of comparable quality.

27 Sec. 210. The director shall take all reasonable steps to

1 ensure businesses in deprived and depressed communities compete for  
2 and perform contracts to provide services or supplies, or both.

3 Each director shall strongly encourage firms with which the  
4 department contracts to subcontract with certified businesses in  
5 depressed and deprived communities for services, supplies, or both.

6       Sec. 212. The department and agencies receiving appropriations  
7 in part 1 shall receive and retain copies of all reports funded  
8 from appropriations in part 1. Federal and state guidelines for  
9 short-term and long-term retention of records shall be followed.

10 The department may electronically retain copies of reports unless  
11 otherwise required by federal and state guidelines.

12       Sec. 215. A department shall not take disciplinary action  
13 against an employee for communicating with a member of the  
14 legislature or his or her staff.

15       Sec. 228. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
16 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
17 the total general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses at the  
18 close of the prior fiscal year. This report shall summarize the  
19 projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriation  
20 lapses by major departmental program or program areas. The report  
21 shall be transmitted to the office of the state budget, the  
22 chairpersons of the senate and house of representatives standing  
23 committees on appropriations, and the senate and house fiscal  
24 agencies.

25       Sec. 229. Within 14 days after the release of the executive  
26 budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate with the  
27 state budget office to provide the state budget director, the

1 senate and house appropriations chairs, the senate and house  
2 appropriations subcommittees on transportation, respectively, and  
3 the senate and house fiscal agencies with an annual report on  
4 estimated state restricted fund balances, state restricted fund  
5 projected revenues, and state restricted fund expenditures for the  
6 fiscal years ending September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016.

7       Sec. 233. Not later than April 1, the department shall prepare  
8 and transmit a report that provides detail regarding the  
9 department's expenditures for administration and planning  
10 associated with local units of government. The report shall list  
11 the portion of all the expenditures from part 1 that are allocated  
12 for administration and planning that are associated with the  
13 disbursement of all local funds. The report shall be transmitted to  
14 the office of the state budget, the senate and house appropriations  
15 chairs, the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on  
16 transportation, respectively, and the senate and house fiscal  
17 agencies.

18       Sec. 235. The department shall maintain, on a publicly  
19 accessible website, a department scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
20 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
21 improve the agency's performance.

22       Sec. 260. The departments and agencies receiving  
23 appropriations in part 1 shall prepare a report on out-of-state  
24 travel expenses not later than January 1 of each year. The travel  
25 report shall be a listing of all travel by classified and  
26 unclassified employees outside this state in the immediately  
27 preceding fiscal year that was funded in whole or in part with

1 funds appropriated in the department's budget. The report shall be  
2 submitted to the senate and house appropriations committees, the  
3 house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.

4 The report shall include the following information:

5 (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.

6 (b) The transportation and related costs of each travel  
7 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
8 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
9 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
10 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

11 Sec. 262. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used by a  
12 principal executive department, state agency, or authority to hire  
13 a person to provide legal services that are the responsibility of  
14 the attorney general. This prohibition does not apply to legal  
15 services for bonding activities and for those activities that the  
16 attorney general authorizes.

17 Sec. 263. (1) The department shall report no later than April  
18 1, 2016 on each specific policy change made to implement a public  
19 act affecting the department that took effect during the prior  
20 calendar year to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees  
21 on the budget for the department, the joint committee on  
22 administrative rules, and the senate and house fiscal agencies.

23 (2) Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used by the  
24 department to adopt a rule that will apply to a small business and  
25 that will have a disproportionate economic impact on small  
26 businesses because of the size of those businesses if the  
27 department fails to reduce the disproportionate economic impact of



1 the rule on small businesses as provided under section 40 of the  
2 administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.240.

3 (3) As used in this section:

4 (a) "Rule" means that term as defined under section 7 of the  
5 administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.207.

6 (b) "Small business" means that term as defined under section  
7 7a of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL  
8 24.207a.

9 Sec. 270. In order to reduce costs and maintain quality, it is  
10 the intent of the legislature that, excluding the fleet of motor  
11 vehicles for the department of state police, the department will  
12 prioritize the utilization of remanufactured parts as the primary  
13 means of maintenance and repair for the state of Michigan's fleet  
14 of motor vehicles.

15 Sec. 271. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
16 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September  
17 30, 2016 are \$68,873,400.00. From this amount, total agency  
18 appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at  
19 \$39,092,200.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care  
20 legacy costs are estimated at \$29,781,200.00.

## 21 DEPARTMENTAL SECTIONS

22 Sec. 301. (1) The department may establish a fee schedule and  
23 collect fees sufficient to cover the costs to issue the permits  
24 that the department is authorized by law to issue upon request,  
25 unless otherwise stipulated by law. All permit fees are  
26 nonrefundable application fees and shall be credited to the

1 appropriate fund to recover the direct and indirect costs of  
2 receiving, reviewing, and processing the requests.

3 (2) A bridge authority shall hold 3 public hearings on an  
4 increase in any toll charged by the authority at least 30 days  
5 before the toll change will become effective. Two of the hearings  
6 shall be held within 5 miles of the bridge over which the bridge  
7 authority has jurisdiction. One hearing shall be held in Lansing.  
8 Public hearings held under this section shall be conducted in  
9 accordance with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to  
10 15.275, and shall be conducted so as to provide a reasonable  
11 opportunity for public comment, including both spoken and written  
12 comments.

13 Sec. 303. On request, the department shall provide to a  
14 legislator, in writing, a report on the amount of money to be  
15 received by each city and village and the county road commission of  
16 each county, that is included in whole or in part within the  
17 legislator's legislative district.

18 Sec. 304. If, as a requirement of bidding on a highway  
19 project, the department requires a contractor to submit financial  
20 or proprietary documentation as to how the bid was calculated, that  
21 bid documentation shall be kept confidential and shall not be  
22 disclosed other than to a department representative without the  
23 contractor's written consent. The department may disclose the bid  
24 documentation if necessary to address or defend a claim by a  
25 contractor.

26 Sec. 305. (1) The department may permit space on public  
27 passenger transportation properties to be occupied by public or

1 private tenants on a competitive market rate basis. The department  
2 shall require that revenue from the tenants be placed in an account  
3 to be used to pay the costs to maintain and improve the property.

4 (2) The department shall charge public transit agencies and  
5 intercity bus carriers equal rates per square foot for leasing  
6 space in state-owned intermodal facilities.

7 Sec. 306. (1) The amounts appropriated in part 1 to support  
8 tax and fee collection, law enforcement, and other program services  
9 provided to the department and to transportation funds by other  
10 state departments shall be expended from transportation funds  
11 pursuant to annual contracts between the department and those other  
12 state departments. The contracts shall be executed prior to the  
13 expenditure or obligation of those funds. The contracts shall  
14 provide, but are not limited to, the following data applicable to  
15 each state department:

16 (a) Estimated costs to be recovered from transportation funds.

17 (b) Description of services provided to the department and/or  
18 transportation funds and financed with transportation funds.

19 (c) Detailed cost allocation methods appropriate to the type  
20 of services being provided and the activities financed with  
21 transportation funds.

22 (2) Not later than 2 months after publication of the state of  
23 Michigan comprehensive annual financial report, each state  
24 department receiving funding pursuant to an interdepartment  
25 contract with the department shall submit a written report to the  
26 department, the state budget director, and the house and senate  
27 fiscal agencies stating by spending authorization account the

1 amount of estimated funds contracted with the department, the  
2 amount of funds expended, the amount of funds returned to the  
3 transportation funds, and any unreimbursed transportation-related  
4 costs incurred but not billed to transportation funds. A copy of  
5 the report shall be submitted to the auditor general, and the  
6 report shall be subject to audit by the auditor general as provided  
7 in subsection (3).

8 (3) Biennially, in each even-numbered fiscal year, the auditor  
9 general shall conduct an audit of charges to transportation funds  
10 by state departments for the 2 preceding fiscal years. The audit  
11 shall include both charges governed by interdepartmental contracts  
12 as well as miscellaneous charges from other state departments not  
13 governed by contracts. The auditor general shall prepare a detailed  
14 report, with recommendations and conclusions, including a summary  
15 of charges and related services to transportation funds by  
16 department, the appropriateness of those charges, the cost  
17 allocation methodologies used in determining the level of funding,  
18 and any unreimbursed transportation-related costs, if any. The  
19 report shall be provided to the senate and house of representatives  
20 committees on appropriations, the senate and house fiscal agencies,  
21 and the state budget director 9 months after publication of the  
22 state of Michigan comprehensive annual financial report.

23 Sec. 307. Before March 1 of each year, the department will  
24 provide to the legislature, the state budget office, and the house  
25 and senate fiscal agencies its rolling 5-year plan listing by  
26 county or by county road commission all highway construction  
27 projects for the fiscal year and all expected projects for the

1 ensuing fiscal years.

2       Sec. 308. (1) As prescribed in subsection (2), the department  
3 shall submit reports to the state budget director, the house and  
4 senate appropriations subcommittees on transportation, and the  
5 house and senate fiscal agencies on department activities related  
6 to the prequalification of construction contractors under 1933 PA  
7 170, MCL 123.501 to 123.508, and related administrative rules. The  
8 report shall be submitted on or before March 1, 2016.

9       (2) The report shall include all of the following:

10       (a) A description of the department's processes and procedures  
11 for evaluating construction contractor performance on capital  
12 construction projects administered by the department including  
13 state trunkline projects, rail infrastructure projects, local  
14 agency federal-aid highway projects, and airport improvement  
15 projects.

16       (b) Criteria that would cause the department to rate  
17 contractor performance as unsatisfactory.

18       (c) The impact, if any, on a contractor's prequalification if  
19 given an unsatisfactory performance rating by the department.

20       (d) A description of all department actions related to  
21 unsatisfactory contractor performance ratings and restrictions on  
22 contractor prequalification during the fiscal year ending September  
23 30, 2015.

24       Sec. 310. The department shall provide in a timely manner  
25 copies of the agenda and approved minutes of monthly transportation  
26 commission meetings to the members of the house and senate  
27 appropriations subcommittees on transportation, the house and

1 senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.

2       Sec. 313. (1) From funds appropriated in part 1, the  
3 department may increase a state infrastructure bank program and  
4 grant or loan funds in accordance with regulations of the state  
5 infrastructure bank program of the United States Department of  
6 Transportation. The state infrastructure bank is to be administered  
7 by the department for the purpose of providing a revolving, self-  
8 sustaining resource for financing transportation infrastructure  
9 projects.

10       (2) In addition to funds provided in subsection (1), money  
11 received by the state as federal grants, repayment of state  
12 infrastructure bank loans, or other reimbursement or revenue  
13 received by the state as a result of projects funded by the program  
14 and interest earned on that money shall be deposited in the  
15 revolving state infrastructure bank fund and shall be available for  
16 transportation infrastructure projects. At the close of the fiscal  
17 year, any unencumbered funds remaining in the state infrastructure  
18 bank fund shall remain in the fund and be carried forward into the  
19 succeeding fiscal year.

20       (3) The department shall submit a report to the state budget  
21 director, the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on  
22 transportation, and the house and senate fiscal agencies on the  
23 status of the state infrastructure bank. The report shall be  
24 submitted on or before December 1, 2015. The report shall include  
25 all of the following:

26       (a) The balance in the state infrastructure bank at September  
27 30, 2015, including a breakdown of the balance by cash and cash

1 equivalents, outstanding loans, and balance available for loan to  
2 local agencies.

3 (b) A breakdown of the state infrastructure loan balance by  
4 amounts designated as originating from federal sources and the  
5 amounts originating from nonfederal sources.

6 (c) A list of outstanding loans by agency, original loan  
7 amount, project description, loan term, and amount outstanding.

8 Sec. 315. (1) On or before November 1, 2015, the department  
9 shall report to the state budget director, the house and senate  
10 appropriations subcommittees on transportation, and the house and  
11 senate fiscal agencies on projects funded in full or in part under  
12 the priority roads investment program authorized under 2013 PA 59  
13 and 2014 PA 34. The report shall include all of the following:

14 (a) A description of the project.

15 (b) The name of the project owner.

16 (c) The beginning and ending points of the project.

17 (d) The nature of the project work.

18 (e) The amount expended by the department by fund source.

19 (f) The date of final project acceptance.

20 (2) In addition to the requirements of subsection (1), for  
21 projects administered by a road agency other than the department,  
22 the report shall also identify whether the project was performed  
23 directly by a road agency or a private construction contractor,  
24 total project cost, whether project cost was more or less than the  
25 amount of priority roads investment program funding, and if project  
26 cost was less than priority roads investment program funding, the  
27 disposition of excess funds.

1           (3) If a road agency does not provide the information required  
2 under subsection (2) to the department, the report shall identify  
3 those road agency in the report required under subsection (1).

4           Sec. 319. The department shall post signs at each rest area to  
5 identify the agency or contractor responsible for maintenance of  
6 the rest area. The signs shall include a department telephone  
7 number and shall indicate that unsafe or unclean conditions at the  
8 rest area may be reported to that telephone number.

9           Sec. 353. The department shall review its contractor payment  
10 process and ensure that all prime contractors are paid promptly.  
11 The department shall ensure that prime contractors are in  
12 compliance with special provision 109.10 regarding the prompt  
13 payment of subcontractors.

14          Sec. 357. When presented with complete local federal aid  
15 project submittals, the department shall complete all necessary  
16 reviews and inspections required to let local federal aid projects  
17 within 120 days of receipt. The department shall implement a system  
18 for monitoring the local federal aid project review process.

19          Sec. 375. The department is prohibited from reimbursing  
20 contractors or consultants for costs associated with groundbreaking  
21 ceremonies, receptions, open houses, or press conferences related  
22 to transportation projects funded, in whole or in part, by revenue  
23 appropriated in part 1.

24          Sec. 381. The department shall require as a condition of each  
25 contract or subcontract for construction, maintenance, or  
26 engineering services that the prequalified contractor or  
27 prequalified subcontractor agree to use the E-Verify system to



1 verify that all persons hired during the contract term by the  
2 contractor or subcontractor are legally present and authorized to  
3 work in the United States. The department may verify this  
4 information directly or may require contractors and subcontractors  
5 to verify the information and submit a certification to the  
6 department. The department shall report to the house and senate  
7 appropriations committees and the house and senate fiscal agencies  
8 by March 1 of each year describing the processes it has developed  
9 and implemented under provisions of this section. As used in this  
10 section, "E-Verify" means an Internet-based system operated by the  
11 Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration  
12 Services in partnership with the Social Security Administration.

13       Sec. 382. In administering a contract with a county road  
14 commission, city, or village that allocates costs of construction  
15 or reconstruction of highways, roads, and streets as provided in  
16 section 18d of 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.668d, the department shall  
17 submit the final cost-sharing bill to the county road commission,  
18 city, or village not later than 2 years after the date of the final  
19 contract payment to the construction contractor.

20       Sec. 383. (1) The department shall prepare a report on use of  
21 department-owned aircraft during the fiscal year ending September  
22 30, 2015. With respect to each department-owned aircraft, the  
23 report shall include all of the following:

24       (a) Total hours of usage.

25       (b) Description of specific flights including dates of travel,  
26 names of passengers including state agency, university, or local  
27 government affiliation, travel origin and destination, purpose of

1 travel, and total estimated costs associated with the air travel.

2 (2) The report shall be submitted to the senate and house  
3 appropriations subcommittees on transportation and the house and  
4 senate fiscal agencies no later than February 1, 2016.

5 (3) The department shall maintain a system for recovering the  
6 cost of operating department-owned aircraft through charges to  
7 aircraft users.

8 (4) From the funds appropriated in part 1, the department is  
9 prohibited from transporting legislators or legislative staff on  
10 state-owned aircraft without prior approval from the senate  
11 majority leader or the speaker of the house of representatives and  
12 only when the aircraft is already scheduled by state agencies on  
13 related official state business.

14 (5) It is the intent of the legislature that the department  
15 work with the Michigan state police to establish a reciprocal  
16 agreement on employing fixed-wing aircraft with specifically  
17 designed equipment for use by the Michigan state police when  
18 conducting operations.

19 Sec. 384. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2),  
20 the department shall not obligate the state to expend any state  
21 transportation revenue for construction planning or construction of  
22 the Detroit River International Crossing or a renamed successor. In  
23 addition, except as provided in subsection (2), the department  
24 shall not commit the state to any new contract related to the  
25 construction planning or construction of the Detroit River  
26 International Crossing or a renamed successor that would obligate  
27 the state to expend any state transportation revenue. An

1 expenditure for staff resources used in connection with project  
2 activities, which expenditure is subject to full and prompt  
3 reimbursement from Canada, shall not be considered an expenditure  
4 of state transportation revenue.

5 (2) If the legislature enacts specific enabling legislation  
6 for the construction of the Detroit River International Crossing or  
7 a renamed successor, subsection (1) does not apply once the  
8 enabling legislation goes into effect.

9 Sec. 385. (1) The department shall submit reports to the state  
10 budget director, the speaker of the house, the house minority  
11 leader, the senate majority leader, the senate minority leader, the  
12 house and senate appropriations subcommittees on transportation,  
13 and the house and senate fiscal agencies on department activities  
14 related to all nonconstruction or construction planning activities  
15 related to the Detroit River International Crossing or a renamed  
16 successor. The initial report shall be submitted on or before  
17 December 1, 2015 and shall cover the fiscal year ending September  
18 30, 2015.

19 (2) The initial report shall include, at a minimum, all of the  
20 following:

21 (a) Department costs incurred in the fiscal year ending  
22 September 30, 2015, including employee salaries, wages, benefits,  
23 travel, and contractual services, and what activities those costs  
24 were related to.

25 (b) Costs of other executive branch agencies incurred in the  
26 fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, including employee salaries,  
27 wages, benefits, travel, and contractual services, and what

1 activities those costs were related to.

2 (c) A breakdown of the source of funds used for the activities  
3 described in subdivisions (a) and (b).

4 (d) A breakdown of reimbursements made by Canada under section  
5 384(1) to the state for expenditures for staff resources used in  
6 connection with project activities.

7 (e) A narrative description of the status of the Detroit River  
8 International Crossing or a renamed successor, including efforts  
9 undertaken to implement provisions of the crossing agreement  
10 executed June 15, 2012 by representatives of the Canadian  
11 government and this state.

12 (3) After submission of the initial report, a subsequent  
13 report shall be submitted on March 1, 2016, June 1, 2016, and  
14 September 1, 2016 and shall include the same information described  
15 in subsection (2) for the applicable previous fiscal quarter.

16 Sec. 393. (1) The department shall promote best practices for  
17 public transportation services in this state, including, but not  
18 limited to, the following:

19 (a) Transit vehicle rehabilitation to reduce life-cycle cost  
20 of public transportation through midlife rehabilitation of transit  
21 buses.

22 (b) Cooperation between entities using transit, including  
23 school districts, cities, townships, and counties with a view to  
24 promoting cost savings through joint purchasing of fuel and other  
25 procurements.

26 (c) Coordination of transportation dollars among state  
27 departments which provide transit-related services, including the

1 department of human services and the department of community  
2 health. Priority should be given to use of public transportation  
3 services where available.

4 (d) Promotion of intelligent transportation services for buses  
5 that incorporate computer and navigation technology to make transit  
6 systems more efficient, including stoplight coordinating, vehicle  
7 tracking, data tracking, and computerized scheduling.

8 (2) The department shall report on efforts taken to implement  
9 this section as well as section 393 of article XVII of 2011 PA 63.  
10 The department shall complete and submit the report to the state  
11 budget director, the house and senate appropriations subcommittees  
12 on transportation, and the house and senate fiscal agencies on or  
13 before March 1, 2016.

14 Sec. 394. The department and local road agencies shall make  
15 the preservation of their existing road networks a funding  
16 priority.

17 **FEDERAL**

18 Sec. 401. Within 30 days of receiving the applicable fiscal  
19 year authorization from the federal government to commit  
20 transportation funds, the department shall notify local agency  
21 representatives, the senate and house of representatives  
22 appropriations transportation subcommittees, the senate and house  
23 fiscal agencies, and the state budget director regarding the amount  
24 of federal aid for categorical allocations to state and local  
25 agency programs not specifically allocated in either federal or  
26 state law.

1       Sec. 402. A portion of the federal DOT-FHWA highway research,  
2   planning, and construction funds made available to this state shall  
3   be allocated to transportation programs administered by local  
4   jurisdictions in accordance with section 10o of 1951 PA 51, MCL  
5   247.660o. A local road agency, with respect to a project approved  
6   for federal aid funding in a state transportation improvement  
7   program, may enter into a voluntary buyout agreement with the  
8   department or with another local road agency to exchange the  
9   federal aid with state restricted transportation funds as agreed to  
10   by the respective parties. The state restricted transportation  
11   funds received in exchange for federal aid funds shall be used for  
12   the same purpose as the federal aid funds were originally intended.

13   **MICHIGAN TRANSPORTATION FUND**

14       Sec. 501. The money received under the motor carrier act, 1933  
15   PA 254, MCL 475.1 to 479.43, and not appropriated to the department  
16   of licensing and regulatory affairs or the department of state  
17   police is deposited in the Michigan transportation fund.

18       Sec. 503. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
19   economic development and local bridge programs shall not lapse at  
20   the end of the fiscal year but shall carry forward each fiscal year  
21   for the purposes for which appropriated in accordance with 1987 PA  
22   231, MCL 247.901 to 247.913, and section 10(5) of 1951 PA 51, MCL  
23   247.660.

24       (2) Interest earned in the department of transportation  
25   economic development fund and local bridge fund shall remain in the  
26   respective funds and shall be allocated to the respective programs

1 based on actual interest earned at the end of each fiscal year.

2 (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, the  
3 department of transportation economic development fund and local  
4 bridge fund may receive federal, local, or private funds or  
5 restricted source funds such as interest earnings. These funds are  
6 appropriated for projects that are consistent with the purposes of  
7 the respective funds.

8 (4) None of the funds statutorily dedicated to the  
9 transportation economic development fund and local bridge fund  
10 shall be diverted to other projects.

11 Sec. 504. Funds from the Michigan transportation fund shall be  
12 distributed to the comprehensive transportation fund, the economic  
13 development fund, the recreation improvement fund, and the state  
14 trunkline fund, in accordance with this part and part 1 and part  
15 711 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994  
16 PA 451, MCL 324.71101 to 324.71108, and may only be used as  
17 specified in this part and part 1, 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.651 to  
18 247.675, and part 711 of the natural resources and environmental  
19 protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.71101 to 324.71108.

#### 20 **STATE TRUNKLINE FUND**

21 Sec. 601. (1) The department shall work with the road  
22 construction industry and engineering consulting community to  
23 develop a warranty program for capital road and bridge  
24 construction, reconstruction, and rehabilitation projects. In  
25 developing the warranty program, the department shall consider the  
26 following:

1 (a) Scope of warranties, including warranties on materials and  
2 workmanship, pavement or bridge performance criteria, and the  
3 application of warranties to design/build projects.

4 (b) Length of warranty.

5 (c) Costs and benefits associated with scope of warranty and  
6 various warranty provisions, including length of warranty.

7 (d) Any other relevant factors that might determine the use of  
8 warranties and/or scope or length of warranty.

9 (e) Use of warranties on local agency projects administered by  
10 the department.

11 (f) Other measures to identify premature failure of road  
12 pavement or bridge elements and the related cause of failures.

13 (2) The department shall report on or before March 1, 2016 to  
14 the house of representatives and senate appropriations  
15 subcommittees on transportation, the state budget director, and the  
16 house and senate fiscal agencies on the warranty program described  
17 in subsection (1).

18 (3) On or before November 1, 2015, the department shall report  
19 to the state budget director, the house and senate appropriations  
20 subcommittees on transportation, and the house and senate fiscal  
21 agencies on efforts to address findings noted in the performance  
22 audit of the monitoring of warranties and road and bridge  
23 construction projects issued by the office of auditor general,  
24 February 2015. The report shall include a description of actions to  
25 ensure the completeness and accuracy of the statewide warranty  
26 administration database, the timely inspection of warranty  
27 projects, and efforts to obtain corrective action by contractors.



1 Sec. 603. The department shall use traffic congestion as 1 of the  
2 criteria in determining the priorities for designating which roads  
3 shall be remediated in its 5-year road plan, which must be  
4 submitted on or before March 1 of each year. Criteria for  
5 evaluating traffic congestion shall include, but not be limited to,  
6 coordination with local, county, and regional planning, improvement  
7 in traffic operations, improvement in physical roadway conditions,  
8 accident reduction, and coordination with area public  
9 transportation planning.

10 Sec. 604. At the close of the fiscal year, any unencumbered  
11 and unexpended balance in the state trunkline fund shall remain in  
12 the state trunkline fund and shall carry forward and is  
13 appropriated for federal aid road and bridge programs for projects  
14 contained in the annual state transportation program.

15 Sec. 605. (1) From the increased funds appropriated in part 1  
16 for highway maintenance, the department shall expand highway  
17 maintenance activities in the current fiscal year to support  
18 safety-related, high-priority, and deferred routine maintenance  
19 needs on Michigan's state trunkline network.

20 (2) The department shall identify specific outcomes and  
21 performance measures for highway maintenance, including, but not  
22 limited to, the following:

23 (a) Number of statewide crash fatalities.

24 (b) Number of statewide crash serious injuries.

25 (c) Percentage of roads in the paved federal aid system in  
26 good or fair condition.

27 Sec. 610. The department shall have as a priority the removal

1 of dead deer and other large animal remains from the traveled  
2 portion and shoulder of state highways. The department, and  
3 counties that perform state highway maintenance under contract,  
4 shall remove animal remains, wherever practicable and when funds  
5 are available, away from the traveled portion and shoulder of state  
6 highways.

7       Sec. 612. The department shall establish guidelines governing  
8 incentives and disincentives provided under contracts for state  
9 trunkline projects. The guidelines shall include specific financial  
10 information concerning incentives and disincentives. On or before  
11 January 1 of each year, the department shall prepare a report for  
12 the immediately preceding fiscal year regarding contract incentives  
13 and disincentives. This report shall include a list, by project, of  
14 the contractors that received contract incentives and/or  
15 disincentives, the amount of the incentives and/or disincentives,  
16 and the number of days that each project was completed either ahead  
17 or past the contracted completion date. This report shall be  
18 provided to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on  
19 transportation, the senate and house standing committees on  
20 transportation, and the senate and house fiscal agencies.

21       Sec. 660. (1) The legislature encourages the department to  
22 examine the use of alternative road surface materials, including  
23 recycled materials, and to develop criteria and specifications for  
24 their use in both department-managed and contracted projects.

25       (2) The department shall evaluate the use of a bituminous mix  
26 which incorporates crumb rubber from scrap tires.

27       (3) The department shall report on efforts taken to implement

1 this section. The report shall include descriptions of specific  
2 materials evaluated, evaluation methods, and results of specific  
3 field or laboratory tests. The department shall complete and submit  
4 the report to the state budget director, the house and senate  
5 appropriations subcommittees on transportation, and the house and  
6 senate fiscal agencies on or before March 1, 2016.

7 **TRANSIT AND RAIL RELATED FUNDS**

8       Sec. 701. The department shall establish an intercity bus  
9 equipment and facility fund as a subsidiary fund within the  
10 comprehensive transportation fund created under section 10b of 1951  
11 PA 51, MCL 247.660b. Proceeds received by this state from the sale  
12 of state-owned intercity bus equipment shall be credited to the  
13 intercity bus equipment facility fund for the purchase and repair  
14 of intercity bus equipment, as appropriated. Security deposits not  
15 returned to a lessee of state-owned intercity bus equipment under  
16 terms of the lease agreement shall be credited to the intercity bus  
17 equipment fund for the repair of intercity bus equipment, as  
18 appropriated. Money received by the department from lease payments  
19 for state-owned intercity bus equipment, and facility maintenance  
20 charges under terms of leases of state-owned intercity facilities,  
21 shall be credited to the intercity bus equipment facility fund for  
22 the purchase and repair of intercity bus equipment or for the  
23 maintenance and rehabilitation of state-owned intercity facilities,  
24 as appropriated. At the close of the fiscal year, any funds  
25 remaining in the intercity bus equipment facility fund shall remain  
26 in the fund and be carried forward into the succeeding fiscal year.

1       Sec. 702. Money that is received by this state as repayment  
2 for loans made for rail or water freight capital projects, and as a  
3 result of the sale of property or equipment used or projected to be  
4 used for rail or water freight projects shall be deposited in the  
5 rail freight fund created by section 17 of the state transportation  
6 preservation act of 1976, 1976 PA 295, MCL 474.67. At the close of  
7 the fiscal year, any funds remaining in the rail freight fund shall  
8 remain in the fund and be carried forward into the succeeding  
9 fiscal year.

10       Sec. 703. After receiving notification from a railroad company  
11 pursuant to section 8 of the state transportation preservation act  
12 of 1976, 1976 PA 295, MCL 474.58, the department shall immediately  
13 notify the house of representatives and senate appropriations  
14 subcommittees on transportation and the state budget office that  
15 the railroad company has filed with the appropriate governmental  
16 agencies for abandonment of a line.

17       Sec. 706. The Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority shall issue  
18 a complete operations assessment and a financial disclosure  
19 statement. The operations assessment shall include operational  
20 goals for the next 5 years and recommendations to improve land  
21 acquisition and development efficiency. The report shall be  
22 completed and submitted to the house of representatives and senate  
23 appropriations subcommittees on transportation, the state budget  
24 director, and the house and senate fiscal agencies by February 15  
25 of each fiscal year for the prior fiscal year.

26       Sec. 711. (1) As prescribed in subsection (2), the department  
27 shall submit reports to the state budget director, the house and

1 senate appropriations subcommittees on transportation, and the  
2 house and senate fiscal agencies on rail passenger service provided  
3 by Amtrak under a contractual agreement with the department. The  
4 report shall be submitted on or before May 1 of each year.

5 (2) The report shall include all of the following:

6 (a) Passenger counts for the preceding fiscal year for each of  
7 the 3 Amtrak routes in Michigan.

8 (b) Revenue and operating expenses by Amtrak route.

9 (c) Total state operating payments to Amtrak in the preceding  
10 fiscal year by Amtrak route.

11 (d) A discussion of major factors affecting route costs and  
12 revenue and net state costs in the preceding fiscal year, and  
13 factors affecting route costs and revenue and net state costs  
14 anticipated in the current and future fiscal years.

15 Sec. 713. On or before November 1, 2015, the department shall  
16 report to the state budget director, the house and senate  
17 appropriations subcommittees on transportation, and the house and  
18 senate fiscal agencies on the status of commuter rail demonstration  
19 projects in the state, including the disposition of rail cars  
20 leased by the department for commuter rail service.

21 Sec. 735. For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, the  
22 appropriation to a street railway pursuant to section 10e(22) of  
23 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.660e, is \$0.

24 Sec. 740. The department shall report by March 1 of each year  
25 to the house of representatives and senate appropriations  
26 subcommittees on transportation, the house and senate fiscal  
27 agencies, and the state budget director the encumbered and

1 unencumbered balances of the comprehensive transportation fund.

2 **AERONAUTICS FUND**

3       Sec. 801. Except as otherwise provided in section 903 for  
4 capital outlay, at the close of the fiscal year, any unobligated  
5 and unexpended balance in the state aeronautics fund created in the  
6 aeronautics code of the state of Michigan, 1945 PA 327, MCL 259.1  
7 to 259.208, shall lapse to the state aeronautics fund and be  
8 appropriated by the legislature in the immediately succeeding  
9 fiscal year.

10       Sec. 802. The legislature encourages the department to find  
11 private entities or local public agencies to assume ownership and  
12 operating responsibility for airports currently owned by the  
13 department.

14 **CAPITAL OUTLAY**

15       Sec. 901. (1) From federal-state-local project appropriations  
16 contained in part 1 for the purpose of assisting political entities  
17 and subdivisions of this state in the construction and improvement  
18 of publicly used airports and landing fields within this state, the  
19 state transportation department may permit the award of contracts  
20 on behalf of units of local government for the authorized locations  
21 not to exceed the indicated amounts, of which the state allocated  
22 portion shall not exceed the amount appropriated in part 1.

23       (2) Political entities and subdivisions shall provide not less  
24 than 5% of the cost of any project under this section, unless a  
25 total nonfederal share greater than 10% is otherwise specified in

1 federal law. State money shall not be allocated until local money  
2 is allocated. State money for any 1 project shall not exceed 1/3 of  
3 the total appropriation in part 1 from state funds for airport  
4 improvement programs.

5 (3) The Michigan aeronautics commission may take those steps  
6 necessary to match federal money available for airport construction  
7 and improvement within this state and to meet the matching  
8 requirements of the federal government. Whether acting alone or  
9 jointly with another political subdivision or public agency or with  
10 this state, a political subdivision or public agency of this state  
11 shall not submit to any agency of the federal government a project  
12 application for airport planning or development unless it is  
13 authorized in this part and part 1 and the project application is  
14 approved by the governing body of each political subdivision or  
15 public agency making the application and by the Michigan  
16 aeronautics commission.

17 Sec. 902. Before the end of each fiscal year, the state  
18 transportation department shall report to the house and senate  
19 appropriations subcommittees on transportation and the house and  
20 senate fiscal agencies on the status of airport improvement  
21 projects funded in part 1 with the estimated dollars allocated for  
22 each project. If there has to be a delay in reporting, the state  
23 transportation department shall notify the house and senate  
24 appropriations subcommittees on transportation in writing of the  
25 date the report will be received.

26 Sec. 903. The appropriations in part 1 for capital outlay  
27 shall be carried forward at the end of the fiscal year consistent

1 with the provisions of section 248 of the management and budget  
2 act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1248.

### 3 ONE-TIME APPROPRIATIONS

4 Sec. 1001. The 1-time state general fund/general purpose  
5 appropriation in part 1 for state trunkline federal aid and road  
6 and bridge construction shall be used to ensure that the state  
7 match all available federal-aid highway funds.

8 Sec. 1002. The 1-time \$20,000,000.00 general fund/general  
9 purpose appropriation in part 1 for state and local road and bridge  
10 programs shall be distributed to the state trunk line fund, county  
11 road commissions, and cities and villages in the same percentages  
12 described in section 10(1)(j) of 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.660. Funds  
13 distributed to county road commissions under this section shall be  
14 distributed among the county road commissions in accordance with  
15 section 12 of 1951 PA 51, MCL 247.662. Funds distributed to cities  
16 and villages under this section shall be distributed among cities  
17 and villages in accordance with section 13 of 1951 PA 51, MCL  
18 247.663.

19 Sec. 1003. By December 1, 2016, the department shall report to  
20 the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on  
21 transportation, and the house and senate fiscal agencies, on the  
22 use of 1-time general fund/general purpose funds appropriated in  
23 part 1 for transit capital and rail infrastructure. The report  
24 shall include a summary of funds expended, encumbered, and lapsed  
25 for both transit capital and rail infrastructure. With regard to  
26 transit capital projects, the report shall include grantees, grant



1 amounts, project description, and project completion dates. With  
2 regard to rail infrastructure projects, the report shall include  
3 grant amounts, project description, and project completion dates.



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY  
LT. GOVERNOR

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City of Flint

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015

## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Move back to Detroit water provides best protection for public health in Flint**

*State, city, Mott Foundation, join to fund switch until KWA is ready*

FLINT, Mich. — Flint families and children will be better protected by reconnecting with the Great Lakes Water Authority as the source of the city's drinking water until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed, Gov. Rick Snyder said.

Snyder said Thursday that he will request the state Legislature to provide half, or \$6 million, of the \$12 million needed to reconnect with the authority through next summer, when the KWA is expected to be completed. The Flint city government will provide \$2 million and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation has committed \$4 million.

"All Flint residents need clean, safe drinking water," Snyder said. "The technical experts helping the city on its water advisory all agree this move back to the Great Lakes Water Authority provides the best public health protection for children and families. This effort today is the result of people coming together to solve a problem. I appreciate Detroit's willingness to reconnect with Flint, the Mott Foundation's generous commitment, and the dedication of all parties to come together to protect Flint families and children."

Flint city leaders requested the state's help to fund the reconnection and to assist with health and infrastructure issues. Flint's move to the Great Lakes Water Authority is expected to cost about \$1.3 million per month until the Karegnondi Water Authority is completed next summer.

"It's heartening to know so many people are working at so many levels to bring safe, clean water back to Flint," Mott Foundation President Ridgway White said. "We believe this transitional solution is the right and necessary thing to do, and we're glad we could help the state and the city make it happen."

The move to Detroit water, which is expected to carry, carries many public health benefits. As large bodies of water, the Great Lakes are naturally prone to fewer problems from large rain events and other runoff issues that can sometimes be present in shallower rivers. Additionally, the Great Lakes Water Authority water already has additional corrosion control, using phosphates to help coat the insides of pipes and limit lead from leaching into the water.

However, reconnecting with the authority will not completely resolve the city's problem with lead service lines or aging infrastructure. It will take time for pipes in Flint to become coated with the phosphate corrosion control. Additionally, some households in the city could experience lead in their drinking water until all lead pipes and plumbing are replaced.

"Reconnecting to Detroit is the fastest way to deliver clean, safe water to Flint and stabilize the infrastructure system," Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said. "I appreciate the state, the Mott Foundation, Detroit, and the county's participation in a solution for Flint's water problems. The health and safety of Flint's families, children and seniors is my top priority, and reconnecting to Detroit is a major step that the city could not take alone given budget constraints."

To best protect public health, Snyder said state and local authorities will continue to carry out steps outlined on Oct. 2 in a comprehensive action plan, including continued testing, the use of faucet filters and providing residents with accurate information about steps to eliminate lead exposure. The Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services today also committed an additional \$3.5 million for water filters, free lead testing through the state laboratory for Flint water customers, and hiring additional staff to conduct health exposure monitoring for lead in drinking water.

Free filters are available for current MDHHS clients at the 125 E. Union St. or 4809 Clio Road MDHHS office locations. For residents who are not currently enrolled in MDHHS assistance programs, free filters are available at the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department offices at 2727 Lippincott and 601 North Saginaw in Flint. Staff will be at all four locations from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, to distribute filters and assist residents who have questions about proper installation. At the Lippincott location only, extended hours will be offered this weekend, including until 7 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Other good practices for residents concerned about lead include turning on the cold water tap and running the water until it's as cold as it will go. Additionally, only use cold water for cooking, drinking and especially mixing baby formula.

### ***School test results released; more investigation planned***

The state today also released the first results from its lead screening program in schools and homes. Of 37 total samples taken at 13 buildings, four samples spread over three buildings exceeded the federal action level of 15 parts per billion.

However, this sampling provides only an initial screen, and the state is committing to further testing water and inspecting plumbing at these schools. Until testing is complete, schools are advised to continue using bottled water and filtration as a precaution to protect children.

In addition, free testing is still available for any other Flint school, including daycares and Head Starts. Free testing is also available for any Flint resident.

Additional information, including more detailed lead screening results, is available at [www.michigan.gov/flintwater](http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater).

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**From:** gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service  
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**Sent:** Friday, October 02, 2015 2:46 PM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_updates@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** NEWS UPDATE--State To Contribute \$1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix



Friday, October 2, 2015, 02:45 PM

## State To Contribute \$1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix

In the short term, Flint residents will have access to water filters, some purchased with state funds, and in the longer term the city will be improving its corrosion controls to keep lead out of water supplies, state and city officials said today in unveiling a plan to address recent water safety concerns in the city.

Moving Flint back to getting water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage System is also still on the table for both state and local officials, but will require negotiations, both sides said.

Both sides said the water itself is not the source of lead and the city will be working in the coming years to replace the lead service lines that are the source.

Environmental Quality Direct Dan Wyant acknowledged that testing shows increased lead levels in the water since the city moved from the Detroit system in 2014, but he argued the problem was the switch and not the water source. He said one of the state's efforts is to ensure the city has sufficient corrosion controls in place so when it switches sources again away from the Flint River, the problem does not recur.

Mr. Wyant said the state has continued quarterly testing of the city's water source and those tests have continued to show no lead.

Eden Wells, chief medical officer for the state, said blood tests for children in the city did not change after the water change, but she said tests of children in two high-risk ZIP codes did, as tests by Hurley Medical Center had shown earlier, show increased blood lead levels in those areas after the water change.

But she and others said it was still not confirmed that the water was the source of the additional lead exposure.

Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said the city was still considering switching back to Detroit water while efforts to finish an agreement with Karegnondi Water Authority are completed. But he said the switch would cost the city up to \$2 million a month it does not have.

Mr. Wyant, asked if the state would cover those costs, said only that the state had committed \$1 million already toward the problem but that Governor Rick Snyder had said he would be willing to mediate discussions between the city and the Detroit system.

Gongwer News Service will have more on this story in the full Michigan Report.

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<gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 10:22 AM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_updates@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** NEWS UPDATE--Snyder Asks Legislature For \$6M To Reconnect Flint To Detroit Water



Thursday, October 8, 2015, 10:21 AM

## **Snyder Asks Legislature For \$6M To Reconnect Flint To Detroit Water**

FLINT – Governor Rick Snyder said today that Flint will reconnect to the Detroit water system and no longer draw water for its residents and businesses from the Flint River, a move that comes in response to insufficient corrosion treatment for the river water causing unsafe levels of lead to leach into the water.

The announcement follows one of the most serious environmental crises to confront the state and a major outcry that Mr. Snyder's administration, and the man he appointed to run the city when it was in a financial emergency, failed to assure the river water – more corrosive than the water from Lake Huron, where the Detroit system draws its water – was properly treated before making the switch to the river. Testing has shown rising levels of lead in the blood of some children in the city and pockets of the city with lead levels in the water that exceed recognized limits for safety.

Mr. Snyder said it will cost \$12 million to shift Flint to Detroit water through next summer, when a new pipeline to Lake Huron is expected to be completed to supply Flint and surrounding areas with its water. He said he is asking the Legislature to supply \$6 million. The Mott Foundation will contribute \$4 million and the city of Flint will chip in \$2 million.

Gongwer News Service will have more on this story in today's Michigan Report.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, October 14, 2015 8:45 PM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_updates@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** NEWS UPDATE--House Approves Flint Water Fix



Wednesday, October 14, 2015, 08:43 PM

## House Approves Flint Water Fix

The House unanimously voted this evening to approve \$9.35 million of state funds to return Flint to the Detroit water system and pay for additional state staff in the city's schools to gauge exposure to lead, handle evaluation and protocols on drinking water and to assist with plumbing engineers.

Governor Rick Snyder last week called for state funds to return the city to drawing water from the Detroit system and ending a disastrous move to pull water from the Flint River, as well as funds to pay for additional state staffers from the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs working in the city.

The supplemental (HB 4102) allocates \$6 million to get the city back on Detroit's water system; \$300,000 for DEQ's drinking water and environmental health services; \$1 million for DEQ's laboratory services; \$1 million for DHHS emergency services to purchase and distribute water to Flint residents; \$850,000 for follow up services for children, including testing lead levels and care for those with abnormal levels; and \$200,000 for plumbing inspections.

Insufficient corrosion controls for water drawn from the river – which is inherently more corrosive than water drawn from Lake Huron, where the Detroit system draws its water – caused lead from the city's old service lines to leach into the water, leading to lead levels in the water exceeding the federal standard to trigger remediation and to elevated lead levels in the blood of some Flint children.

Gongwer News Service will have more on this story in Wednesday's Michigan report.

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2015 10:56 AM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_updates@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** NEWS UPDATE--Flint Water Funds Head To Snyder



Thursday, October 15, 2015, 10:56 AM

## Flint Water Funds Head To Snyder

The Senate wasted no time in approving today more than \$9 million to help pay for temporarily returning the city of Flint to the Detroit water system and fund additional staffing in the city's schools to gauge the exposure to lead.

The fix came with unanimous passage of HB 4102, a supplemental appropriations bill the House passed late Wednesday.

The bill allocates \$6 million to get the city back on Detroit's water system; \$300,000 for the Department of Environmental Quality's drinking water and environmental health services; \$1 million for the department's laboratory services; \$1 million for Department of Health and Human Services emergency services to purchase and distribute water to Flint residents; \$850,000 for follow-up services for children, including lead testing and care for those with abnormal levels; and \$200,000 for plumbing inspections.

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) expressed thanks for his colleagues' support in the matter. The move to pump water for the city from the Flint River without proper corrosion controls allowed lead in service lines and welds to leach into the drinking water at levels beyond those requiring remediation.

Gongwer News Service will have more on this story in Thursday's Michigan Report.

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 27, 2015 10:29 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Christmas storm woes continue as tornado hits Alabama**

*"BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – Residents in northern Alabama were warned to be alert for moderate to severe flooding Saturday, a day after a tornado briefly touched down in the state's most populous city but caused only a hint of damage."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/12/26/severe-weather-toil-rises/77923874/>

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### **2015: A list of state legislative achievements, inaction**

*"LANSING — Michigan's Legislature was dominated in 2015 with trying to find a solution for Michigan's crumbling roads and bridges."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/26/2015-list-state-legislative-achievements-inaction/77769990/>

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### **Lions' Pettigrew helps local kids amid uncertainty in Detroit**

*"Brandon Pettigrew is not a crutches guy."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/sports/nfl/lions/2015/12/26/detroit-lions-brandon-pettigrew-possible-final-home-game/77934124/>

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## Internet speed wars heating up in Michigan

*"Ultra-high-speed Internet service has arrived in Michigan and could be spreading to your neighborhood block or apartment building next year."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/2015/12/26/internet-speed-wars-comcast-rocket-fiber/76334670/>

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## Obama feels 'small' compared with members of US Marines

*"Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii — President Barack Obama is one of the most powerful men in the world. He's commander in chief of one of its mightiest militaries, too."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/12/26/obama-feels-small-compared-members-us-marines/77925316/>

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## U.S. targets IS group with 17 Christmas Day strikes

*"Washington — The Pentagon says the United States hit Islamic State group targets in Iraq and Syria with 17 airborne strikes on Christmas Day."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/12/27/us-targets-group-christmas-day-strikes/77936626/>

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## Dozens protest fatal officer-involved shooting

*"Dearborn — While their fellow Metro Detroiters slept or shopped for deals the day after Christmas, several dozen protesters rallied at the Dearborn Police Department headquarters Saturday. The rally was held in response to the fatal shooting of Detroiters Kevin Matthews following a confrontation with a Dearborn police officer, Wednesday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/12/26/dozens-protest-fatal-officer-involved-shooting/77922124/>

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## Teacher works to make chemistry lovable to kids

*"Beverly Hills — Julia Winter loves organic chemistry. So much so, the Detroit Country Day Upper School chemistry teacher created an app for students to make it fun so they can love it as much as she does."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/12/26/organic-chemistry-teacher-apps/77924382/>

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## Convicts paying for courts as lawmakers trump ruling

*"Detroit — Without a comma of dissent, the Michigan Supreme Court struck down an enduring practice that had brought millions of dollars to local courts from people convicted of crimes."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/26/convicts-paying-courts-lawmakers-trump-ruling/77927118/>

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## Oakland crash pilot inadequately trained, NTSB says

*"A newly hired Oakland County pilot was inadequately trained when he crashed his plane on descent to Oakland County International Airport in January 2014, the NTSB concluded."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/12/26/oakland-crash-pilot-inadequately-trained/77925070/>

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## Christmas bird count tallies species in Southwest Michigan

*"KALAMAZOO, MI -- Birdwatchers checked the skies for falcons, the waters for an unusual duck and the wooded areas around Kalamazoo for whatever else they might see Saturday morning, Dec. 26 in the 67th annual Kalamazoo Christmas Bird Count."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/12/christmas\\_bird\\_count\\_tallies\\_s.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/12/christmas_bird_count_tallies_s.html#incart_river_home)

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## Freezing rain and high winds possible Monday in Southwest Michigan

*"KALAMAZOO, MI-- Stock up on salt and charge those phones. At shortly before 4 a.m. The [National Weather Service](#) issued a winter storm watch for Kalamazoo, Barry, Allegan and Van Buren counties, and counties throughout west Michigan, that forecasts high winds and freezing rain moving through the area Monday, Dec. 28 through Tuesday morning."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/12/freezing\\_rain\\_and\\_high\\_winds\\_n.html#incart\\_river\\_home\\_pop](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/12/freezing_rain_and_high_winds_n.html#incart_river_home_pop)

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## Proposed special ed tax increase would boost funding for Washtenaw County schools

*"A proposed millage could raise \$22 million per year for special education, reducing the amount Washtenaw County school districts need to pay for special education program to a total of \$2 million."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/washtenaw\\_isd\\_to\\_ask\\_for\\_special\\_education\\_millage\\_m-rpt-2.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/washtenaw_isd_to_ask_for_special_education_millage_m-rpt-2.html)

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## **Group wants probe of attempted fire at Calif. mosque**

*"TRACY, Calif. — A day after investigators said a Texas mosque fire was intentionally set, deputies here are looking into an attempted firebombing at a Muslim house of worship in California."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2015/12/27/california-mosque-fire/77937814/>

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

### **What Michigan leaders hope for in the New Year**

*"It's the season for celebrating and starting anew. So with 2016 only days away, I asked luminaries across Michigan to share some of their New Year's resolutions and wishes."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/carol-cain/2015/12/26/michigan-leaders-new-years-resolutions/77830620/>

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### **Dear Santa: See Virginia act on gun violence**

*"Thirty-two deaths in a single tragic instance can push a state to take drastic measures."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/12/27/dear-santa-see-va-act-gun-violence/77856080/>

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### **Michigan Gave Away Tens of Millions for Little in Return**

*"In mid-December when the Michigan Legislature passed a law giving data centers tax exemptions, it set a job creation requirement of 400 jobs by 2022 and 1,000 by 2026."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22034>

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### **Our editorial: Transparency is Job One in demo work**

*"Detroit hopes to get another bundle of money from Washington to help it keep tearing down blighted buildings. The expanded federal pipeline of funds makes it all the more urgent that the city's demolition programs operate under absolute transparency."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/26/transparency-job-one-demo-work/77924620/>

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## **Letter: Finley column points to key social challenge**

*"Re: Nolan Finley's Dec. 20 column "Black inclusion in Detroit's comeback still lagging". The column makes the important point, as Finley did a year ago ("Where are all the black people"), that African-Americans are benefiting far less than whites in the city's turnaround."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/27/detroit-social-change-black-african-american-inclusion/77924610/>

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## **Flint water probe may unleash flood of findings on mistakes**

*"It was very revealing how some readers responded to the post that the first lady thought her husband might die from a blood clot. Instead of reflecting on the gravity of that story, lots of folks wanted to beat up on the governor for allegedly poisoning the kids in Flint with lead."*

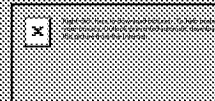
**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-27-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/flint\\_water\\_probe\\_may\\_unleash.html#tintcart\\_most\\_shared-lansing](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/flint_water_probe_may_unleash.html#tintcart_most_shared-lansing)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 06, 2015 6:47 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Politics at the pump: Will Michigan road funding deal help or hurt House Republicans in 2016?**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan House Republicans hadn't even started to vote on a new road funding plan when Democrats began to fundraise off the pending vehicle registration fee and gas tax increases."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/politics\\_at\\_the\\_pump\\_will\\_road.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/politics_at_the_pump_will_road.html#incart_river)

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### **Snyder signs Michigan teacher evaluation overhaul into law**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan school districts will have new rules for evaluating teacher performance under a new law signed Thursday by Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/snyder\\_signs\\_michigan\\_teacher.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/snyder_signs_michigan_teacher.html#incart_river)

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### **Ananich seeks subpoena power in call for legislative hearings on Flint water crisis**

*"LANSING, MI — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on Thursday formally requested legislative hearings on the Flint water crisis and response by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/ananich\\_seeks\\_subpoena\\_power.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/ananich_seeks_subpoena_power.html#incart_river)



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## **Failed prevailing wage repeal petition drive prompts calls for investigation, prosecution**

*"LANSING, MI — A group seeking to repeal Michigan's prevailing wage law turned in an estimated 161,781 invalid signatures, prompting rejection by the Board of State Canvassers and calls for investigation, prosecution and a review of circulator laws."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/failed\\_prevailing\\_wage\\_repeal.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/failed_prevailing_wage_repeal.html#incart_river)

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## **Legislators call for investigation into altered Flint lead report**

*"FLINT, MI — Two state representatives are pushing for a federal investigation into the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/legislators\\_call\\_for\\_investiga.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/legislators_call_for_investiga.html#incart_river_home)

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## **House approves new auto safety provisions**

*"Washington — The U.S. House approved a six-year \$325 billion transportation bill Thursday on a 363-64 vote that would require automakers to fix recall defects for 15 years — up from the current 10 years — and bars rental car companies from lending unrepaired recalled vehicles."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/11/05/auto-safety/75216792/>

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## **Snyder signs law setting teacher evaluation standards**

*"Lansing — Michigan teachers and school administrators will work within a new evaluation system based partly on students' improvement on standardized tests under a law signed Thursday by Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/11/05/teacher-evaluations-michigan/75225822/>

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## **Rep. Lawrence to campaign for Clinton in S.C.**

*"Democratic U.S. Rep. Brenda Lawrence is headed to South Carolina this weekend to be a campaign surrogate for former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's White House bid."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/05/brenda-lawrence-campaign-hillary-clinton-south-carolina/75247418/>

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## **Mich. lawmakers want Canada nuke waste facility blocked**

*"Washington — Twelve members of Michigan's congressional delegation have written to the new Canadian prime minister urging him to block plans for an underground storage facility for nuclear waste near Lake Huron in Ontario."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/05/michigan-lawmakers-canada-nuclear-waste-facility-block/75248820/>

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## **Experts: Water health dangers don't subside in Flint**

*"Local health officials and the federal government are warning Flint residents that the danger from their tap water has not subsided even though the city has reconnected to Detroit's water system."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/05/experts-water-health-dangers-subside-flint/75255704/>

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## **Detroit school rescue plan hits resistance**

*"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder's quest for a \$715 million state rescue of Detroit Public Schools is running into trouble in the Legislature even before the legislation has been introduced."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/05/detroit-school-financial-rescue-plan/75242694/>

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## **Ford says trade deal doesn't address currency manipulation**

*"WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama specifically mentioned Michigan automakers as being helped by a Pacific Rim trade deal which was released in detail on Thursday, but at least one — Ford Motor Co. — complained it still doesn't go far enough to address currency manipulation."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/05/ford-says-trade-deal-doesnt-address-currency->

## Flint lawmaker wants hearings on water controversy

*"LANSING — There are already at least three investigations into the Flint water crisis — one by a task force appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder, another by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and a third by the state's auditor general."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/05/flint-lawmaker-wants-hearings-water-controversy/75224762/>

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## Trudeau urged to reject Lake Huron nuclear waste site

*"WASHINGTON — Michigan's two U.S. senators and most of its members of the U.S. House on Thursday asked newly elected Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to reject the approvals needed for a proposed underground nuclear waste facility to be built less than a mile from Lake Huron's shores in Ontario."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/05/trudeau-urged-reject-lake-huron-nuclear-waste-site/75231344/>

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## Poll: Michigan voters favor Ben Carson for 2016

*"Perhaps it's his Detroit roots or his quiet demeanor, but retired pediatric neurosurgeon Ben Carson is a hit among Michigan voters, according to a poll of 600 likely voters taken by EPIC-MRA last week."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/05/michigan-voters-favor-detroit-native-ben-carson-2016/75171072/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Why are lawmakers balking at ban?

*"With looming issues like the state's inadequately funded road maintenance budget and the future of energy production in Michigan still unsolved, you'd hope that a clear-cut, seemingly obvious solution to one problem would be adopted and lawmakers would move on to the next."*

**Source:** Escanaba Daily Press **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.dailypress.net/page/content\\_detail/id/567243/Why-are-lawmakers-balking-at-ban.html?nav=5052](http://www.dailypress.net/page/content_detail/id/567243/Why-are-lawmakers-balking-at-ban.html?nav=5052)

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## Immigration reform would help Detroit

*"As the pressure mounts on the United States to aid refugees worldwide, Gov. Rick Snyder and Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan are busy preparing Michigan to step up with resettlement efforts. Except for Germany, few European countries are recognizing the economic benefits that refugees and migrants can add to society. In Detroit, immigrants can jumpstart an underpopulated city's economy with new skills and resources. Political hurdles, however, are keeping the welcome mat from being rolled out."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/05/immigration-reform-detroit-column/75254548/>

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## Jacques: In Detroit schools debate, listen to parents

*"Francie Kennedy chose to send her child to University Prep Academy in Detroit for several reasons, most notably safety and small class sizes."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/11/05/jacques-detroit-schools/75254890/>

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## How success of Snyder's DPS plan may land in voters' hands

*"Early last week, Gov. Rick Snyder re-introduced his plan to address the longstanding financial and academic crises in Detroit Public Schools. The plan involves a number of structural changes to the district's current governance, management and educational systems. The governor now turns his attention to selling lawmakers and the public on his plan. Although the plan appears designed to avoid the need for a state appropriation for what some may consider a bailout, such an appropriation may still be necessary for the completion of the plan if Detroit voters do not approve a local tax renewal before 2022."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/05/how-success-snyders-dps-plan-may-land-voters-hands/74771534/>

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## Cotter: Michigan roads plan gets the job done right

*"The people of Michigan want a long-term plan to fix our state's crumbling roads and bridges. They want it to be fair, they want it to be affordable, and they want it to result in higher-quality roads. On Tuesday night, your state Legislature delivered that plan."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/05/michigan-roads-deal/75233050/>

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## Michigan Home Price Rise Among Fastest in the Nation

*"Michigan is in the midst of a real estate market rebound, with only six other states and Washington D.C. seeing larger increases in home prices over the past five years, according to a report from the Federal Housing Finance Agency."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21870>

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## JACK SPENCER: Catching on to MEDC sleight of hand

"

*Magicians distract the audience's attention from what really takes place on the stage. In a similar fashion the Michigan Economic Development Corporation fosters an illusion that its accomplishments are substantive when they are primarily hokum. One would think at some point those who should know better, especially members of the news media, would figure this out.*

"

**Source:** Big Rapids Pioneer **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2015/11/05/jack-spencer-catching-on-to-medc-sleight-of-hand/>

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## The graying of Michigan farmers, and what they will leave behind

*"MASON – Jeff Oesterle may be the new face of farming, even though that face is 65 years old."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/the-graying-of-michigan-farmers-and-what-they-will-leave-behind/>

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## Detroit students unfairly pay the price for the district's debts

*"The Detroit Public Schools district (DPS) is facing very serious challenges. It was recently reported that DPS ranked last in academic achievement (4th and 8th graders) among large urban districts nationally on the National Assessment of Educational Progress, also known as the Nation's Report Card. This was the fourth time in a row that DPS ranked at the bottom. Also, the district is grappling with major financial problems, including annual operating deficits and massive legacy debts. Both sets of problems, academic and financial, are interrelated and require immediate attention in order to halt the "death spiral" in which the district currently finds itself."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/detroit-students->

## Press Releases

### Flint Legislators Call for Investigation Into Altered Lead Report

*"LANSING — State Representatives **Phil Phelps** (D-Flushing) and **Sheldon Neeley** (D-Flint) are pushing for a federal investigation into the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) after a story came out today claiming the DEQ knowingly dropped two lead test samples to avoid exceeding a federal drinking water standard. Had these tests been counted, action could have been taken earlier on the water crisis in Flint."*

**Source:** Michigan House Democrats **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446760718\\_dem.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446760718_dem.pdf)

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### Schuitmaker Photo Advisory: Senate adopts resolution honoring former lawmaker

*"LANSING, Mich. — The state Senate on Thursday unanimously adopted a resolution honoring the life and legacy of a former West Michigan lawmaker."*

**Source:** Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446760597\\_schuitmaker.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446760597_schuitmaker.pdf)

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### Statement on Board of Canvassers Vote to Reject Anti-Prevailing Wage Petition Drive

*"LANSING - Today **Dan Cortis**, CEO of **Cortis Brothers Trucking**, gave the following statement in response to the Board of Canvassers' vote to reject the petitions from the anti-prevailing wage ballot drive: "*

**Source:** Operating Engineers of Michigan **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446759443\\_oe.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446759443_oe.pdf)

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### Gov. Rick Snyder updates Pipeline Safety Advisory Board

*"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder today, announced the addition of Homer A. Mandoka, chairperson of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi to the Michigan Pipeline Safety Advisory Board.*

*"*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446757697\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446757697_gov.pdf)

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## **Rep. Lawrence introduces legislation to enforce existing federal firearms laws**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) today introduced a resolution on the House floor urging the enforcement of existing federal firearms laws and that all appropriate resources be allocated to ensure that the flood of unlawfully purchased firearms into our communities ends."*

**Source:** Rep. Brenda Lawrence **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446756496\\_lawrence.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446756496_lawrence.pdf)

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## **'Inventing the Outdoors' opens Saturday at Michigan Historical Museum**

*"The Michigan Historical Museum's new special exhibit, "Inventing the Outdoors," will open to the public Saturday, Nov. 7. The museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on opening day."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446756232\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446756232_dnr.pdf)

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## **Heartland Institute Experts Comment on House Highway Bill that Reauthorizes Export-Import Bank**

*"The U.S. House of Representatives on Thursday voted 363–64 to approve \$325 billion in spending on highway projects. The bill also reauthorizes the Export-Import Bank and approves selling off part of the nation's Strategic Petroleum Reserve. The U.S. Senate approved a similar spending bill earlier this year, and now the two bills will be combined into one bill in conference."*

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446755507\\_heart.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446755507_heart.pdf)

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## **Weekend lane closures on EB I-96 at Dorr Road**

*"I-96 at Dorr Road, Livingston County On Saturday, November 7, there will be lane closures on eastbound I-96 at Dorr Road for concrete pavement repairs. The right two lanes will be closed between 2 a.m. and 9 a.m. Then, starting at 9 a.m., there will be a single lane closure for concrete curing until Sunday, November 8, until approximately 3 p.m. "*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446754981\\_MDOT.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446754981_MDOT.pdf)

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## **Congressman Dan Kildee, Senators Stabenow, Peters Call for Newly Elected Canadian Prime Minister to**

*"WASHINGTON – Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05), U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) and U.S. Senator Gary Peters (D-MI) today urged newly elected Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to take action to stop nuclear waste from being buried less than a mile from Lake Huron."*

**Source:** Rep. Dan Kildee **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446754052\\_kildee.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446754052_kildee.pdf)

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## **Upton Votes to Advance Key Infrastructure Legislation**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today released the following statement on the passage of the highway bill, a multi-year surface transportation bill that reauthorizes and reforms federal highway, transit, and highway safety programs. The legislation was advanced by the House by a strong 363-64 bipartisan vote."*

**Source:** Rep. Fred Upton **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446753984\\_upton.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446753984_upton.pdf)

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## **Domestic Violence Survivors Will Benefit from Earned Paid Sick Time**

*"MICHIGAN — Today, the MI Time to Care Coalition is highlighting a recent report by the Michigan League for Public Policy titled: Survivors of Violence and Sexual Assault Need Earned Paid Sick Time. The report highlights the need for survivors to be able to gain financial stability as they seek to move on from abusive relationships."*

**Source:** Michigan Time to Care Coalition **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446753575\\_ttc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446753575_ttc.pdf)

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## **New Michigan Historical Museum exhibit pays long-overdue tribute to Upper Peninsula's greatest inven**

*"GLADSTONE, Mich. — A resolution to be introduced by state Sen. Tom Casperson would declare Nov. 15 – the start of the Michigan's firearm deer hunting season – as "Webster L. Marble Day" in the state in tribute to the man recognized as the Upper Peninsula's greatest inventor and founder of Gladstone-based Marble Safety Axe Company."*

**Source:** Sen. Tom Casperson **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446753090](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446753090)

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## **Bishop & Walberg Vote to Pay Michigan Workers Less**



*"LANSING – Last night, in Washington, D.C., Michigan Republican Congressmen Mike Bishop and Tim Walberg voted to pay Michigan highway workers less when they voted to prohibit enforcement of prevailing wage requirements in the Davis-Bacon Act."*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446752610\\_mdp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446752610_mdp.pdf)

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## **Senate panel OKs Jones bill to keep sex offenders away from schools**

*"LANSING, Mich. — The Senate Judiciary Committee on Thursday approved legislation sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to restore a law prohibiting sex offenders from working or living within 1,000 feet of a school."*

**Source:** Sen. Rick Jones **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446747626\\_jones.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446747626_jones.pdf)

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## **Upton Statement on Passage of NDAA**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today issued the following statement after the U.S. House of Representatives voted to advance S. 1356, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The NDAA Conference Report that previously had passed the House and Senate was adjusted to match the spending levels set forth in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 but retains the policies as passed by Congress."*

**Source:** Rep. Fred Upton **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446746330\\_upton.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446746330_upton.pdf)

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## **Senate Judiciary Committee approves 'Good Samaritan' prescription drug legislation**

*"The Senate Judiciary Committee today unanimously approved House Bill 4843, legislation introduced by State Rep. Al Pscholka that would protect individuals under 21 years of age from facing certain prescription drug-related legal charges when reporting a medical emergency."*

**Source:** Rep. Al Pscholka **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446747145](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446747145)

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## **Dingell: TPP Text Even Worse Than Expected**

*"WASHINGTON, DC – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement today after the Administration published the text of the secretive Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

## **State to host Great Lakes aquaculture meeting Nov. 19**

"

### ***Public session in Gaylord will focus on commercial net-pen proposals, state science panel findings***

*State leaders today announced an upcoming meeting in Gaylord, Michigan, to review and discuss the issues around net-pen fish farming in the Great Lakes."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446740750\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446740750_dnr.pdf)

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## **'Novembeard' healthy hunter event blends beards, bucks, blood pressure checks**

"

### ***Free health screenings and shopping incentives offered Nov. 10 in Gaylord***

*Just in time for the start of deer firearm season and in honor of No Shave November, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is encouraging male hunters traveling north on I-75 next week to set their sights on better health, too. The DNR, Jay's Sporting Goods, Otsego Memorial Hospital and Blue Cross Blue Shield have partnered to offer free health screenings Tuesday, Nov. 10, as part of their "Novembeard" campaign."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446740782](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446740782)

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## **UPDATED: Stamas participating in 'No-Shave November' to raise awareness of men's health**

***"UPDATED: Please use this updated release. The previous version did not include a photo of Sen. Stamas taken on Day One of his participation in No-Shave November.***

***LANSING, Mich. — For the next four weeks, Sen. Jim Stamas will grow awareness for key men's health issues by participating in "No-Shave November."***

**Source:** Sen. Jim Stamas **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446740836](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446740836)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder signs bipartisan measure implementing research-**

## based evaluations for Michigan educa

*"LANSING, Mich. — Teachers statewide will have better opportunities for continuous professional growth through new legislation strengthening and clarifying teacher evaluation systems, Gov. Rick Snyder said."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446739694\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446739694_gov.pdf)

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## Historic coalition gathers for Pavlov education bill signing

*"LANSING, Mich. — Gov. Rick Snyder on Thursday signed a bill sponsored by Sen. Phil Pavlov that creates new educator evaluation standards, establishes Michigan as a preeminent state for teacher quality and positions the state to once again lead the country in student performance."*

**Source:** Sen. Phil Pavlov **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446739325\\_pavlov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446739325_pavlov.pdf)

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## Labor-Backed Candidates Sweep Lansing City Council Races

*"LANSING — This Tuesday, all four labor-backed candidates swept to victory in races for Lansing City Council. The Greater Lansing Labor Council and the Capital Area UAW CAP Council jointly endorsed Carol Wood, Patricia Spitzley, Jody Washington, and Adam Hussain."*

**Source:** Michigan AFL-CIO **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446739091\\_aflcio.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446739091_aflcio.pdf)

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## Progress Michigan Statement on Schuette Bailout

*"MICHIGAN — This week, the House Appropriations Committee voted on Legislative Transfer Request 2015-8 to transfer funds to Attorney General Bill Schuette's office to pay for his failure in the marriage equality case. Schuette's fight against equality cost Michigan taxpayers \$2 million in legal fees."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446738919\\_progmic.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446738919_progmic.pdf)

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## Let's end the harmful state ID policy

*"Like anyone else, I want — no, I need — for the ID I carry to be an accurate reflection of who I am. And yet the State of Michigan makes this virtually impossible for me — and countless other transgender women and men in Michigan — thanks to an arbitrary, transphobic and mean-spirited Secretary of State ID policy that needlessly exposes transgender women and men to potential harm. This is why I'm*

one of six plaintiffs in Love v. Johnson, an ACLU lawsuit challenging the policy."

**Source:** ACLU of Michigan **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446738883\\_aclu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446738883_aclu.pdf)

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## Statement on Enactment of Key Law to Improve Teaching and Learning in Michigan

"ROYAL OAK, Mich. (November 5, 2015) – This morning, Governor Rick Snyder signed Senate Bill 103 (Pavlov - R) into law, which will help establish a critical framework for providing Michigan educators with high-quality feedback and support to help improve teaching and learning for Michigan students."

**Source:** Education Trust-Midwest **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446738401\\_etm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446738401_etm.pdf)

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## The Capital Area Salvation Army Hosts Red Kettle Campaign Kickoff Event on Nov. 12

"LANSING, MI – The Capital Area Salvation Army is officially kicking off its 2015 Red Kettle Fundraising Campaign with a special holiday event that is sure to excite the spirit of the season. The event will take place on the steps of the Capitol building at noon on Thursday, Nov. 12. New this year, WILX-TV anchor, Ann Emmerich will be the Red Kettle Campaign honorary chairperson for the 2015 season. "

**Source:** Salvation Army **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446738362\\_salvationarmy.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446738362_salvationarmy.pdf)

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## Stamas participating in 'No-Shave November' to raise awareness of men's health

"LANSING, Mich. — For the next four weeks, Sen. Jim Stamas will grow awareness for key men's health issues by participating in "No-Shave November."

**Source:** Sen. Jim Stamas **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446740900](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446740900)

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## Superintendents commend new evaluation laws

"LANSING, MI - The Michigan Association of School Administrators (MASA) announced their support of the new educator evaluation law today, and expressed appreciation to Governor Rick Snyder for signing this important legislation. "

**Source:** Michigan Association of School Administrators **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446735323\\_masa.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446735323_masa.pdf)

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## MDOT metro Detroit weekend construction 11-06-15

**"MDOT weekend construction for 11/06-11/09/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)"**

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446733364\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446733364_mdof.pdf)

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## MDOT invites public to webinar to discuss revising the state long-range transportation plan

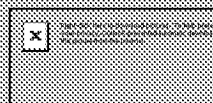
**"November 5, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) wants to engage the public in a discussion of how Michigan will meet its transportation challenges over the next 25 years. MDOT is hosting a webinar on Thursday, Nov. 12, from 6 to 8 p.m. EDT to discuss the information, forecasts and strategies contained in the current 2005-2035 plan, known as MI Transportation Plan: Moving Michigan Forward, and revisions to extend the planning horizon to 2040."

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-06-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446732114\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446732114_mdof.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnnews.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 07, 2015 10:12 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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## Edmund Fitzgerald memorials stretch from Minnesota and Michigan to Ohio

*"MICHIGAN – The 40th anniversary of the Edmund Fitzgerald's sinking is Tuesday and the passage of time hasn't lessened the famous shipwreck's legacy."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/a\\_guide\\_to\\_remembrance\\_events.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/a_guide_to_remembrance_events.html)

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## The Sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald

*"Whitefish Point, Michigan – For decades, Fran Gabor harbored a nagging guilt that intensified whenever she heard 'The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald,' Gordon Lightfoot's ballad about the maritime tragedy whose hold on popular culture is surpassed only by that of the Titanic."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:** <http://content-static.detroitnews.com/projects/fitzgerald/storymap.htm>

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## Gordon Lightfoot sings 'The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald'

*"Gordon Lightfoot sings his haunting song of the freighter the Edmund Fitzgerald and the loss of her 29 crewmen on Oct. 17, 2015, weeks before the 40th anniversary of the disaster. Daniel Mears"*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/videos/news/local/michigan/edmund-fitzgerald/2015/11/06/75345574/>

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## Michiganians of the Year: Here's to Detroit's revival

*"What a difference a couple years can make. When Detroit filed for bankruptcy in 2013, it was widely thought the process could only do harm — stripping the Detroit Institute of Arts of its treasures, impoverishing city retirees, and further soiling the Motor City's shaky reputation nationwide."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/michigan/michiganians-of-year/2015/11/05/michiganians-year-detroits-revival/75268420/>

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## Carson's Westmoreland story doesn't match records

*"Carlisle, Pa. — Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson's published account of having dinner with a top commander in the Vietnam War after marching in a Memorial Day parade in 1969 as a high school ROTC cadet in Detroit does not match historical records."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/06/carsons-westmoreland-story-match-records/75328960/>

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## U.S. gov't adding air security amid crash probe

*"Washington — The Homeland Security Department announced Friday a series of new security efforts aimed at international airports in the wake of the crash of a Russian jetliner over Egypt's Sinai Peninsula."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/06/us-govt-adding-air-security-amid-crash-probe/75304654/>

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## Hiring surge makes Fed rate hike likely

*"Washington — U.S. hiring swelled in October by the largest amount all year, and unemployment dropped another notch to 5 percent, making a Federal Reserve interest-rate increase next month a near certainty."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/11/06/economy/75282936/>

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## Senate leader opposes bonds to accelerate road fixes

*"Lansing — The leader of Michigan's Senate opposes pledging future increases in fuel taxes and vehicle*



*fees toward bonds to accelerate road construction projects next summer."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/06/road-bonds/75295568/>

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## **Hamtramck elects first majority-Muslim City Council**

*"Saad Almasmari ran for a seat on the Hamtramck City Council this year with a simple yet powerful goal in mind."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/11/06/hamtramck-elects-first-majority-muslim-city-council/75272654/>

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## **UAW, Ford reach deal; GM hits snag**

*"Even as ratification of General Motor Co.'s tentative agreement was delayed because of rejection from skilled trades workers Friday, Ford Motor Co. and the United Auto Workers reached their own tentative agreement that is the richest among the Detroit three automakers."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/11/07/uaw-ford-reach-deal-gm-hits-snaq/75336830/>

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## **Michigan animal sanctuary slammed with USDA violations**

*"A Brown City animal sanctuary that has been the target of animal activists was slammed with more violations by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in October."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/06/summer-wind-sanctuary-michigan/75281616/>

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## **Veterans parade, festival today in Detroit**

*"An annual parade honoring those who served in the military is taking place in Detroit today as part of two weeks of events around Veterans Day."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/11/07/veterans-parade-festival-detroit/75359896/>

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## Record Siberian snow could bode ill for Northeast

*"There is a theory about snow in Siberia during the month of October: If there is a lot, it can mean a particularly wicked winter in the northeast United States."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/07/record-siberian-snow-could-bode-ill-northeast/75224060/>

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## Gov. Snyder joins Bangladeshis in opening BanglaTown

*"Greektown and Mexicantown have been well known to metro Detroiters for decades."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/11/07/governor-snyder-joins-bangladeshis-opening-banglatown-hamtramck/75306854/>

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## Hear Michigan Supreme Court justices discuss Saginaw nurse firing case

*"SAGINAW, MI — A Saginaw man's wrongful termination case that he has been fighting since 2008 went before the Michigan Supreme Court this week."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/11/more\\_out\\_of\\_saginaws\\_case\\_in\\_t.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/11/more_out_of_saginaws_case_in_t.html#incart_river)

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## Michigan presidential poll: Carson tops Clinton, but Clinton and Sanders both top Trump

*"LANSING, MI — Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson topped Democrat Hillary Clinton in a new Michigan poll."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_presidential_poll_car.html#incart_river)

[news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan\\_presidential\\_poll\\_car.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_presidential_poll_car.html#incart_river)

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## Michigan AG Bill Schuette targeted by national PAC for Clean Power Plan lawsuit

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette is fighting the federal Clean Power Plan in court, something that will be highlighted as part of a four-state, eight-figure advertising buy from former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg's Independence USA PAC."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_ag_bill_schuette_targ.html#incart_river)

[news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan\\_ag\\_bill\\_schuette\\_targ.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_ag_bill_schuette_targ.html#incart_river)

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## Three tornadoes confirmed in Michigan

*"UPDATED: 5:45 p.m. - A third tornado in St. Clair County has been confirmed."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/11/two\\_tornadoes\\_confirmed\\_in\\_mic.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/11/two_tornadoes_confirmed_in_mic.html#incart_river_home)

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## Gov. Rick Snyder backs committee-approved House energy plan for Michigan

*"LANSING, MI -- Gov. Rick Snyder on Friday issued a statement in support of the House energy plan approved by the House Energy Policy Committee this week, saying the bills would be a victory for Michiganders."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/gov_rick_snyder_backs_committee.html#incart_river_home)

[news/index.ssf/2015/11/gov\\_rick\\_snyder\\_backs\\_committee.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/gov_rick_snyder_backs_committee.html#incart_river_home)

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## Michigan Political Points: Tough-vote fatigue, buyers remorse in wake of road funding deal

*"LANSING, MI — The Michigan Legislature finally got a roads deal done, which could clear the deck for other big action — if Republicans aren't too worn out from putting up tough votes that could come back to bite them in future elections."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_political_points_vote_1.html#incart_river_home)

[news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan\\_political\\_points\\_vote\\_1.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_political_points_vote_1.html#incart_river_home)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Honor veterans with support and services

*"I saw things no man should ever see — and did things no man should ever do."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:** [http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/07/honor-](http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/07/honor-veterans-support-services/75327854/)  
[veterans-support-services/75327854/](http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/07/honor-veterans-support-services/75327854/)

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## Lennox: New church leader faces tough times

*"A new leader took the helm of the Episcopal Church during an elaborate service in the iconic neo-Gothic*

*Washington National Cathedral on Sunday. Episcopalians under new Presiding Bishop Michael Curry face the dire reality of demographic extinction. To put it in perspective, the Detroit-based Diocese of Michigan reported a 37 percent decline in baptized membership from 2000 to 2013."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/07/dennis-jennox-episcopal-church-michael-curry/75328184/>

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## **Can Ryan lead with civility? On one day he did**

*"It was a day when dozens of new members converged on Capitol Hill."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/07/can-ryan-lead-civility-one-day/75328166/>

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## **Cotter: Michigan roads plan gets the job done right**

*"The people of Michigan want a long-term plan to fix our state's crumbling roads and bridges. They want it to be fair, they want it to be affordable, and they want it to result in higher-quality roads. On Tuesday night, your state Legislature delivered that plan."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/05/michigan-roads-deal/75233050/>

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## **Michigan Moves to Ban Red Light Ticket Cameras**

*"While the debate over road funding has been a prominent story in news outlets lately, few people have noticed that cameras on highways and at traffic lights could be a way for governments to take in more money from motorists. While governments may financially benefit from the cameras, the companies that lease them to governments lobby heavily for their use."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21875>

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## **Susan J. Demas: Angry Michigan voters will hate the GOP roads plan**

*"Gov. Snyder, call your office. Your brand is in crisis."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/rick\\_snyder\\_michigan\\_roads.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/rick_snyder_michigan_roads.html#incart_river)

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## **We can't go on paying the real cost of burning fossil fuels**

*"There still appears to be little political will in the U.S. for addressing the effects of our consumption of carbon fuels. Is this because the climate effects of burning fossil fuels do not impact us directly? Are clean energies like wind and solar more expensive than coal and oil? The answer to both questions is no."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/we\\_cant\\_go\\_on\\_paying\\_the\\_real.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/we_cant_go_on_paying_the_real.html#incart_river)

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## **Full investigation needed at every level in Flint water crisis**

*"It's clear that the Flint water crisis was a failure of government. Residents are rightfully angry, and I'm angry over the lack of immediate action to address unsafe lead levels in the city's water."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/full\\_investigation\\_needed\\_at\\_e.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/full_investigation_needed_at_e.html#incart_river)

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## **Ken Braun: American workers can't afford our corporate taxes**

*"Former Michigan Gov. John Engler, now president of the Business Roundtable, believes it's long past time for reforming the worst corporate tax code in the developed world."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/ken\\_braun\\_american\\_workers\\_can.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/ken_braun_american_workers_can.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Press Releases**

### **Michigan Capitol Online Virtual Tour Will Be First in The Country**

*"At the regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, the Michigan State Capitol Commission will unveil an online, virtual tour of Michigan's Capitol building. The Michigan State Capitol is the first in the country to develop its own tour using Google's Streetview technology. It will be integrated with 360-degree YouTube videos and an interactive, 3-D tour of the Governor's office."*

**Source:** Michigan State Capitol Commission **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446847072\\_mscoc.pdf](http://www.mirnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446847072_mscoc.pdf)

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### **Showcasing the DNR: Coho salmon going strong at Platte River hatchery**

*"Some years back, when Michigan's Chinook salmon program was in its greatest glory, some anglers suggested the Department of Natural Resources abandon raising the smaller, less spectacular coho salmon and put more emphasis on the kings. The DNR demurred, preferring a multispecies approach."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446846755\\_dnr.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446846755_dnr.pdf)

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## **JURY CONVICTS GRAND BLANC TWP. MAN OF KILLING HIS WIFE LAST FALL**

*"FLINT -- A jury has convicted a Grand Blanc Township man of murdering his wife last October at the couple's home, according to Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton."*

**Source:** Genesee County Prosecutor **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446846662\\_geneseeco.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446846662_geneseeco.pdf)

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## **Tarnished: Criminal Investigation Into DeVos-Funded Anti-Prevailing Wage Group Needed**

*"LANSING — Progress Michigan is joining the call for an investigation into the DeVos-backed, anti-prevailing wage group, Protecting Michigan Taxpayers, after it was revealed the group turned in tens of thousands of fraudulent and redundant signatures, in their effort to cut workers' wages for state construction projects."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446844382\\_progress.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446844382_progress.pdf)

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## **Fraudulent proposal signatures spark calls for investigation, reforms**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Today State Senator Curtis Hertel, Jr. (D-Meridian Twp.) highlighted Protecting Michigan Taxpayers' (PMT) botched petition drive to repeal prevailing wage as a prime example of why voter protections are necessary."*

**Source:** Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446843246\\_ananich.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446843246_ananich.pdf)

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## **MI Catholic Conference Responds to SCOTUS Decision to Hear HHS Cases**

*"(Lansing, Mich.) – This afternoon the United States Supreme Court announced it has agreed to hear arguments from non-profit religious organizations opposed to the mandated requirements of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to include morally objectionable services – including abortifacients and contraceptives - in their employee health benefit plan. As a separate litigant against the federal government on this matter, Michigan Catholic Conference offered the following response to today's news from the Supreme Court:"*

**Source:** Michigan Catholic Conference **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446842672\\_micathconf.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446842672_micathconf.pdf)

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## Ingham and Clinton counties receive state economic development grants

**"November 6, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding state transportation economic development grants that will support 417 new jobs and help retain 73 jobs in Ingham and Clinton counties. The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grants totaling \$1,854,000 will leverage \$56,554,926 in combined private investment, at a private/public ratio of more than 30 to 1. "

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446840433\\_mdof.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446840433_mdof.pdf)

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## Transportation economic development grants help bring 281 new jobs to Kent County

**"November 6, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding state transportation economic development grants totaling \$2,548,784 in Kent County that will support the creation of 281 new jobs and help retain 80 jobs. The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grants will help leverage \$99,443,400 in private and university investment, at a private/university-to-public ratio of 39-to-1."

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446840222\\_mdof.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446840222_mdof.pdf)

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## Transportation economic development grant will support 750 new jobs in Branch County

**"November 6, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding a state transportation economic development grant that will support 750 new jobs in Branch County. The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grant totaling \$2,590,699 will leverage \$255 million in private investment, at a private/public investment ratio of more than 98-to-1."

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446840167\\_mdof.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446840167_mdof.pdf)

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## Whiteford & Howell Win in Special House Elections

**"Mary Whiteford** (R-Casco Township), endorsed and supported by the Great Lakes Education Project (GLEP), was successful in Tuesday's special primary election to fill a vacancy in the 80th State House district. Whiteford came out on top of 8 Republican candidates to earn the nomination in the Allegan County seat. The special primary election was necessary due to the expulsion of former Representative Cindy Gamrat on September 11. Also, **Gary Howell** won the special primary election in the 82<sup>nd</sup> District, a seat vacant due to the resignation of former Representative Todd Courser. GLEP supported Jan Peabody, who came in 2<sup>nd</sup> among 11 Republican candidates in this Lapeer County seat. The general election for both

of these safe Republican seats will be held on March 8, 2016."

**Source:** Great Lakes Education Project **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446840099\\_lakes.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446840099_lakes.pdf)

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## **Heartland Institute Experts React to President Obama Rejecting Keystone XL Pipeline**

*"President Barack Obama today announced he has rejected construction of the Keystone XL pipeline, a project of TransCanada that would bring crude oil from Alberta to American refineries. The Canadian government and the company have been urging approval of the pipeline for seven years."*

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446837358\\_heartland.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446837358_heartland.pdf)

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## **MRP Chairman congratulates Linda Lee Tarver**

"

***LANSING, Mich., Nov. 6, 2015** – Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel issued the following statement on Linda Lee Tarver's election as President of the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan (RWFM):*

"

**Source:** Michigan Republican Party **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446836376\\_repub.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446836376_repub.pdf)

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## **Dispositive Order: In re Wangler/Paschke, Minors**

*"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued a dispositive order in No. 149537, In re Wangler/Paschke, Minors, that was argued on October 15, 2015."*

**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446835960\\_supreme.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446835960_supreme.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder: House energy legislation would help Michigan meet its needs long into future**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder issued the following statement regarding the state House Energy Policy Committee's approval of a package of legislation that will help Michigan meet its energy needs long into the future:"*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**



## **Rep. Bishop Comments on Rejection of Keystone XL Pipeline**

**"WASHINGTON** – *Congressman Mike Bishop issued the following statement after President Obama announced he will reject the Keystone XL Pipeline:*"

**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446834095\\_bishop.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446834095_bishop.pdf)

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## **Michigan Department of Education Press Release**

**"LANSING** – *The Michigan Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children has begun its work to support over 3,600 children of active military members in Michigan.*"

**Source:** Department of Education **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446834052\\_mde.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446834052_mde.pdf)

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## **Natural Resources Commission approves special Lake Gogebic walleye regulations**

**"At Thursday's regular meeting of the Michigan Natural Resources Commission, commissioners unanimously approved special walleye sportfishing regulations for the Upper Peninsula's Lake Gogebic. The new regulations, which take immediate effect, will allow anglers the option of keeping two smaller walleyes — from 13 inches up to 15 inches — within their five-fish daily possession limit. The proposed rule change, however, will not require anglers to keep fish smaller than 15 inches."**

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446831747\\_dnr.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446831747_dnr.pdf)

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## **Huizenga: The Obama Legacy Is Politics Before Policy**

**"Washington, D.C.** – *Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) released the following statement after President Obama announced his rejection of the Keystone Pipeline.*

"

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446831676\\_bh.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446831676_bh.pdf)

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## Benishek Reacts to Keystone Decision

"

Washington, D.C.: Following the announcement by President Barack Obama to reject the Keystone XL pipeline, Rep. Dan Benishek, a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources, released the following statement:

"

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446831593\\_db.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446831593_db.pdf)

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## WMU-COOLEY LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ELECTS PRESIDENT AND PRESENTS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI SERVICE

**"LANSING, MICH.,** – Nov. 6, 2015 – On November 4, 2015, Patrick Griffin was re-elected the Alumni Association president for a second term and Lawrence J. Kish was presented the Distinguished Alumni Service Award during WMU-Cooley Law School's Alumni Association annual meeting."

**Source:** Western Michigan University **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446829679\\_wmu.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446829679_wmu.pdf)

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## New fishing regulations adopted at Thursday's NRC meeting

*"The Michigan Natural Resources Commission approved several fishing regulations Thursday at its regular meeting in Lansing. All regulations immediately went into effect and will remain in effect for the 2016 fishing season (which begins April 1)."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446828408\\_dnr.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446828408_dnr.pdf)

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## Green announces November office hours in Tuscola County

**"LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Mike Green has announced that November office hours have been scheduled for Tuscola County."

**Source:** Sen. Mike Green **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446827943\\_green.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446827943_green.pdf)

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## Nofs: 2015 Hunting Update released

**"LANSING, Mich.** — With the start of the regular firearm hunting season approaching, Sen. Mike Nofs, R-

Battle Creek, announced that he has several resources for hunters on his Senate website."

**Source:** Sen. Mike Nofs **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446827706\\_nofs.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446827706_nofs.pdf)

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## Potato Day at the Capitol showcases Michigan's modern, growing potato industry

*"LANSING – Michigan's potato growers are known around the world for a high-quality, nutritious product, and the state's growing potato industry is creating more jobs than ever. On Wednesday, November 4, the **Potato Growers of Michigan, Inc. (PGMI)** teamed up with the **Michigan Potato Industry Commission (MPIC)** and showcased these benefits for policymakers during "Potato Day at the Capitol." "*

**Source:** Potato Growers of Michigan **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446828700](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446828700)

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## Jefferson Road lane shifts to accommodate bridge repairs over US-10 Nov. 11

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will complete joint repairs to the deck surface on the northbound side of the Jefferson Road bridge over US-10."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446827377\\_mdod.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446827377_mdod.pdf)

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## In Advance of Veterans Day, Dingell, Peters & Stabenow Introduce Legislation to Award Long-overdue M

*"WASHINGTON, DC – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) and U.S. Senators Gary Peters (MI) and Debbie Stabenow (MI) today introduced legislation that would allow Major Charles S. Kettles of Ypsilanti to be awarded the Medal of Honor. The bill was introduced following a request from the Ypsilanti Rotary Veterans History Project to review Major Kettles' actions during the Vietnam War. Upon review, Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter determined that Major Kettles' actions merited the nation's highest military honor, but because the statute of limitations has passed, Congressional action is required. The legislation waives the time limitation and allows the President to make the final decision."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell; Sen. Gary Peters; Sen. Debbie Stabenow **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446827341\\_dingell.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446827341_dingell.pdf)

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**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell; Sen. Gary Peters; Sen. Debbie Stabenow **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446827315\\_dingell.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446827315_dingell.pdf)

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## House panel approves sweeping energy plan for Michigan's future

"State Rep. Aric Nesbitt today praised members of the House Committee on Energy Policy for working together to approve a landmark energy plan that will provide reliable, affordable energy for Michigan families for decades to come."

**Source:** Rep. Aric Nesbitt **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446825199\\_nesbitt.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446825199_nesbitt.pdf)

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## Progress Michigan Calls on U.S. Attorneys to Investigate Flint Water Crisis

"LANSING — In the wake of accusations made against the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality by water researchers that the department "knowingly dropped lead test samples to avoid exceeding a federal drinking water standard." Progress Michigan is calling on Michigan's United States Attorneys to investigate."

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446825112\\_progress.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446825112_progress.pdf)

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## Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 11/5/2015

"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 11/5/2015.

For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see <http://courts.mi.gov/courts/cca/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx>"

**Source:** Michigan Court of Appeals **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446825068\\_court.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446825068_court.pdf)

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## Consumers Energy Teams Up with Food Banks to Distribute 71,000 Energy-Efficient Light Bulbs to Mich

"COMSTOCK PARK, Mich., Nov. 6, 2015 – Consumers Energy and its employees are teaming up with two

Michigan food banks to help families save energy and money, providing 71,000 energy-efficient light bulbs to over 20,000 families through local food pantries."

**Source:** Consumer Energy **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446825025\\_consumer.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446825025_consumer.pdf)

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## **Sparrow Children's Center Patients to receive books from Barnes & Noble Holiday Book Drive**

"LANSING, MI – Barnes & Noble customers can help make the holidays a little brighter this year for pediatric Patients at Sparrow Children's Center by donating a book."

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446824965\\_sparrow.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446824965_sparrow.pdf)

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## **Tesla V.P. James Chen to Keynote Michigan EIBC Energy Innovators Gala in East Lansing Tuesday**

"LANSING – James Chen, Tesla Motors' vice president of Regulatory Affairs based in Washington, D.C., will be the keynote speaker at the Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council's (EIBC) annual Energy Innovators Gala at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing on Tuesday, November 10. Also addressing the gala will be Valerie Brader, executive director of the Michigan Agency for Energy who will offer opening remarks. The sold-out event begins at 6 p.m."

**Source:** Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446824840\\_meibc.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446824840_meibc.pdf)

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## **Mackinac Bridge tokens and anniversary posters available for holiday gift-giving**

"**November 6, 2015** -- If you've got a Mackinac Bridge fan in the family, the Mackinac Bridge Authority (MBA) has anniversary posters, commemorative tokens, and medallions available for purchase by mail or in the authority's administration building in St. Ignace."

**Source:** Mackinac Bridge Authority **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446824777\\_mba.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446824777_mba.pdf)

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## **Blue Water Bridge exit ramp repairs**

"The Blue Water Bridge (BWB) westbound exit ramp to I-94 is in need of moderate deck repairs, which will require closing the ramp. This will affect Canadian traffic entering the U.S. exiting to I-94."

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446824720\\_mdof.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446824720_mdof.pdf)

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## **Freedom Fund: Side with Working Families, Not Monopoly Utility Providers**

*"LANSING, MI, November 5, 2015 – Michigan Freedom Fund President Terri Reid issued the following statement today following the House Energy Policy Committee's passage of HB 4298:"*

**Source:** Michigan Freedom Fund **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446824666\\_Michigan\\_Information\\_&\\_Research\\_Service\\_Inc.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446824666_Michigan_Information_&_Research_Service_Inc.pdf)

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## **Statement from Liesl Eichler Clark, Michigan EIBC President, on the House Energy Policy Committee's**

***"Statement from Liesl Eichler Clark, Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council President, on the House Energy Policy Committee's Recent Passage of Amended HB 4297."***

**Source:** Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council **Date:** 11-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446824614\\_meihc.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446824614_meihc.pdf)

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**Sent:** Tuesday, November 10, 2015 6:46 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **What Mayor Mike Duggan called 'No. 1 risk to Detroit's recovery'**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan thanked Grand Rapids Mayor George Heartwell for a good working relationship and congratulated mayor-elect Rosalynn Bliss during an Economic Club luncheon this afternoon.*

"

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/detroit\\_mayor\\_mike\\_duggan\\_econ.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/detroit_mayor_mike_duggan_econ.html#incart_river)

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### **Gov. Rick Snyder launches statewide tour to promote skilled trades**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Gov. Rick Snyder gazed out into an audience of around 250 Kent Career Tech Center students Monday, Nov. 9, and said he was looking at Michigan's economic future and it is bright."*

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/governor\\_snyder\\_launches\\_state.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/governor_snyder_launches_state.html#incart_river_home)

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### **Jeb Bush to visit Grand Rapids for town hall Thursday**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush will be in Grand Rapids this week for a town hall meeting."*

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/jeb\\_bush\\_visits\\_grand\\_rapids.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/jeb_bush_visits_grand_rapids.html#incart_river_home)

## Casperson enters U.S. House race

"

*ESCANABA - State Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba) has confirmed he will enter the race for U.S. Congress.*

"

**Source:** Escanaba Daily Press **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.dailypress.net/page/content\\_detail/id/567374/Casperson-enters-U-S--House-race.html?nav=5003](http://www.dailypress.net/page/content_detail/id/567374/Casperson-enters-U-S--House-race.html?nav=5003)

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## Michigan backers plan fundraiser for Kasich

*"Michigan supporters of Ohio Gov. John Kasich's presidential campaign are planning a Nov. 23 fundraiser in downtown Detroit for the Republican White House hopeful, according an invitation obtained by The Detroit News."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/09/kasich-michigan-fundraiser/75467240/>

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## Casperson runs for Congress, gets attacked by tax votes

*"State Sen. Tom Casperson on Monday became the first Republican to launch a campaign for the northern Michigan congressional seat being vacated next year by retiring U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/09/tom-casperson/75451628/>

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## Rick Santorum goes speechless in Michigan

*"Former U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum, the Pennsylvania Republican who finished a close second to Mitt Romney in the 2012 Michigan primary, is speechless."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/09/rick-santorum-cancels-ottawa-county-michigan-speech-laryngitis/75470436/>

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## Michigan's public disclosure laws slammed



*"Lansing — Michigan has the country's weakest laws requiring public disclosure of information that would allow citizens to understand what interest groups are doing to influence state policy-making, according to the results of an annual national report released Monday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/09/michigan-public-disclosure-laws-criticized/75474340/>

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## **GM could face punitive damages in ignition switch suits**

*"General Motors Co. may face and be liable for certain punitive damages in lawsuits related to the ignition switch recall, according to a bankruptcy court judge's ruling Monday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/general-motors/2015/11/09/gm-punitive-damages-ignition-switch-lawsuits/75468034/>

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## **State Sen. Tom Casperson announces congressional run**

*"WASHINGTON — As was widely expected, state Sen. Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba, will run for the nomination to replace U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek in Congress, announcing his decision Monday morning."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/09/tom-casperson-us-house/75449766/>

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## **Snyder to sign road funding package Tuesday**

*"LANSING — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder is to sign into law a controversial \$1.2-billion road funding package on Tuesday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/09/snyder-sign-road-funding-package-tuesday/75472388/>

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

### **M-STEP scores may shock, but don't shoot the messenger**

*"Five long years ago, Michigan and more than 40 other states adopted tough new standards in reading and math, setting dramatically higher expectations for students in elementary and secondary schools. Now we've reached a critical milestone in this effort, as the public just got to see for the first time the*

scores on the new tests aligned to the standards. The news was sobering. "

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/m-step\\_scores\\_may\\_shock\\_but\\_do.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/m-step_scores_may_shock_but_do.html#incart_river)

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## Road deal not great but good enough

"

*The road bill passed by the Legislature this week is the least possible deal they could have crafted, but at least, after four years of struggle, they finally found a majority.*

"

**Source:** Escanaba Daily Press **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**  
<http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/567361/Road-deal-not-great-but-good-enough.html?nav=5052>

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## Bensten: Why the Common Core tests are collapsing

*"Common Core is the latest in a series of failed federal education reforms. The goal was for individual states to adopt these national academic standards and tests."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**  
<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/09/bensten-common-core-column/75490502/>

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## Our Editorial: Keep momentum on rape kit testing

*"Wayne County will give \$1 million to the ongoing testing and investigation of backlogged rape kits discovered six years ago in a Detroit police facility. It's the right move for the county, past mismanagement of which no doubt contributed to the kits' neglect."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**  
<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/09/editorial-momentum-rape-kit-testing/75490170/>

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## Michigan Legislature, heal thyself

*"Since convening 10 months ago, the current Michigan Legislature has cracked down on local minimum wage requirements, authorized commercial quadricycles to serve alcohol, and even addressed (however inadequately) the chronic underfunding of state roads."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

## **Press Releases**

### **Michigan Army National Guard unit training exercises benefit local and state multiuse trails in Iron**

*"As we honor our military veterans this week, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources salutes the efforts of the 1432nd Engineer Company of the Michigan Army National Guard."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447105446\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447105446_dnr.pdf)

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### **Gov. Rick Snyder: Skilled trades provide job skills for the future**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – To showcase the opportunities for skilled trades careers in Michigan, Gov. Rick Snyder today kicked off a road show at the Kent Career Tech Center in Grand Rapids. Snyder toured the tech center's campus and lab facilities to see the innovative projects being worked on by students and instructors. Following the tour, he joined Stephanie Comai, director of the Michigan Talent Investment Agency, Jay Dunwell, president of Wolverine Coil Spring in Grand Rapids, to talk with students about in-demand skills that can lead to successful, well-paying careers."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447105394\\_go.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447105394_go.pdf)

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### **Freeman Elementary water testing shows lead exposure limited to fixtures**

*"As part of Gov. Rick Snyder's action plan for Flint drinking water, the DEQ today released water testing data from nearly 400 homes and businesses in Flint as well as comprehensive sampling results from Freeman Elementary School. "*

**Source:** Department of Environmental Quality **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447105337\\_deq.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447105337_deq.pdf)

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### **University Dr Bridge reopens Tuesday afternoon in Auburn Hills**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), in partnership with the City of Auburn Hills, is reopening the I-75/University Drive interchange in Auburn Hills. This new type of interchange, called a diverging diamond interchange (DDI), allows for safer driving on and off the freeway, as it eliminates conflict points, such as left turns."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447105293\\_mdor.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447105293_mdor.pdf)

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## **Mary Free Bed at Sparrow celebrates completed rehabilitation unit**

*"LANSING, MI – The renovation and expansion of the Mary Free Bed at Sparrow rehabilitation unit is now fully complete, as leaders unveiled 40 private Patient rooms and two state-of-the-art therapy gyms at an open house today."*

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447105252\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447105252_sparrow.pdf)

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## **Groups Call for Reform After Michigan Receives Failing Grades in Fighting Corruption**

*"MICHIGAN — Common Cause of Michigan and the Michigan Campaign Finance Network are calling for reforms after the release of a report showing Michigan is dead last in fighting corruption with strong ethics and transparency laws. The report released today gave 11 states failing grades but ranked Michigan as the worst state in the nation."*

**Source:** Common Cause of Michigan **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447098536\\_comcause.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447098536_comcause.pdf)

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## **Still time to enter the Wetland Wonders Challenge**

*"The Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that there's still time to enter the Consumers Energy-sponsored Wetland Wonders Challenge this waterfowl season. The contest began Oct. 10 and runs until Jan. 31, 2016. "*

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447096328\\_dnr4.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447096328_dnr4.pdf)

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## **Unemployed Workers Can Claim Benefits on Veterans Day**

"

**November 9, 2015** — Although the State of Michigan's Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) will be closed Wednesday, Nov. 11 to observe Veterans Day, unemployed workers can still contact the Agency's automated systems to report their eligibility for unemployment benefits."

**Source:** Talent Investment Agency **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447096294\\_tia.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447096294_tia.pdf)

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## Sen. Jones honored by Michigan probate judges

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Rick Jones was presented on Thursday with the Michigan Probate Judges Association's Legislator of the Year award by Clinton County Probate Judge Lisa Sullivan."*

**Source:** Senator Rick Jones **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447096251\\_rj.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447096251_rj.pdf)

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## ADVISORY: Huizenga To Join Holland Community In Honoring Staff Sgt. Andrew Seif, West Michigan Vets

*"Washington, D.C. — On Wednesday, Congressman Huizenga (MI-02) will join students, faculty, and members of the community to honor West Michigan veterans at West Ottawa High School. The event kicks off at 8 AM with a veterans' breakfast followed by an assembly to honor the men and women who have served in our nation's armed forces."*

"

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447096207\\_bh2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447096207_bh2.pdf)

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## MDOT looks for volunteer "Road Watchers" in U.P.

*"November 9, 2015 -- How was your ride? The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) wants to know. For the second year, the Road Watchers program will give motorists a chance to tell MDOT how well it's maintaining highways in the Upper Peninsula this winter."*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447096162\\_md0t3.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447096162_md0t3.pdf)

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## Bottom of the Barrel: Michigan Worst in Transparency/Ethics Under Snyder

*"LANSING — A new report being released today shows that Michigan is the worst in the country when it comes to having an accountable government when measured by open records laws and financial disclosure requirements."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447096131\\_pm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447096131_pm.pdf)

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## **Bills introduced to remove antiquated agriculture laws**

*"State Rep. Dan Lauwers, chair of the House Committee on Agriculture, was among 11 lawmakers to introduce a legislative package removing archaic laws that have not been enforced in years."*

**Source:** Rep. Dan Lauwers **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447096099\\_dl.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447096099_dl.pdf)

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## **Senator Hopgood and Representative Roberts Urge New Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau: Halt Nuke Stora**

*"LANSING, Michigan — State Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D-Taylor) and State Representative Sarah Roberts (D-St. Clair Shores) have asked new Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to halt plans for a permanent underground nuclear waste storage site near the shores of Lake Huron."*

**Source:** Michigan Dems **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447095953\\_hopgood.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447095953_hopgood.pdf)

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## **DNR Bear Forum to meet Dec. 9 in Mackinac County**

*"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will hold a public meeting of the state's Bear Forum next month in St. Ignace to begin discussions on possible future bear hunting regulation changes."*

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447092422\\_dnr2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447092422_dnr2.pdf)

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## **ADVISORY: Common Cause MI & MI Campaign Finance Network Call on the Governor & State Legislators**

*"MICHIGAN — Today at 2:00 p.m., Common Cause Michigan & the Michigan Campaign Finance Network are holding a conference call urging on the Governor and State Legislators to bring transparency and accountability to state government to fight secrecy, corruption and conflict of interests in state government."*

**Source:** Common Cause & the Michigan Campaign Finance Network **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447092384\\_cfn.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447092384_cfn.pdf)

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## **Residents reminded to eat nutritiously, exercise during Diabetes**

## Awareness Month

*"LANSING, Mich. – An estimated 10.4 percent of Michigan adults 18 years and older have been diagnosed with diabetes. That's why the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is highlighting Michigan Diabetes Awareness Month with an event at the Michigan Capitol Building on Thursday, November 12 at 9:30 a.m. at the State Capitol Rotunda. The event is jointly sponsored by the American Diabetes Association and the Diabetes Partners in Action Coalition."*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447087659\\_dhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447087659_dhhs.pdf)

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## Deer hunters, don't forget to apply for Pure Michigan Hunt

*"The Department of Natural Resources reminds deer hunters, while buying their deer licenses this year, to take a moment to purchase Pure Michigan Hunt applications, because there is still plenty of time to make 2016 the hunt of a lifetime."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447087567\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447087567_dnr.pdf)

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## Linda Lee Tarver elected President of the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan

*"On Saturday, October 24th, at their bi-annual convention, the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan (RWFM) elected Linda Lee Tarver as their new State President. President-elect Tarver will begin her official duties on January 1, 2016. Ms. Tarver will be the first African-American elected to this office in the 90-year RWFM history."*

**Source:** Republican Women's Federation of Michigan **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447087167\\_repub.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447087167_repub.pdf)

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## Common Cause of Michigan Statement on Center for Public Integrity Report

*"DETROIT — Common Cause of Michigan released the following statement following the release of a report by the Center for Public Integrity showing that Michigan ranks dead last in ethics and transparency laws."*

**Source:** Common Cause of Michigan **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447086800\\_comcause.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447086800_comcause.pdf)

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## House Dems: Clean Up Campaign Finance System

*"LANSING — State Representatives **Jon Hoadley** (D-Kalamazoo) and **Vanessa Guerra** (D-Saginaw) held a press conference today to introduce a new package of bills aimed at reforming campaign finance issues in Michigan. The six-bill package seeks to address problems ranging from striking 'dark money' from elections to the way fees for late campaign filings are administered and lowering contribution limits."*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447085948\\_mdp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447085948_mdp.pdf)

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## **Tom Casperson Wrong for U.P. and Northern Michigan Working Families**

*"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, issued the following release today in response to Tom Casperson's announcement that he will run for Michigan's 1st Congressional District: "*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447085280\\_mdp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447085280_mdp.pdf)

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## **Safety First: Consumers Energy's Hunting Policy Works to Protect Employees and Neighbors**

*"JACKSON, Mich., November 9, 2015 – Consumers Energy is reminding hunters making plans to tag a deer on Michigan's Nov. 15 firearm opener that hunting is not allowed on its property, with the exception of its hydro properties in the northern Lower Peninsula."*

**Source:** Consumer Energy **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447082428\\_consumer.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447082428_consumer.pdf)

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## **Tom Casperson Announces Run for U.S. House of Representatives**

*"ESCANABA, MI — Surrounded by the kind of big rigs and logging equipment that have defined his working life, State Senator Tom Casperson this morning announced his decision to run for the U.S. House of Representatives. "*

**Source:** Sen. Tom Casperson **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447078128\\_casperson.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447078128_casperson.pdf)

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## **Hagerstrom: Enough Tax-Hiking Republicans**

*"Lansing, MI—Conservative activist Scott Hagerstrom announced the formation of an organization "Tax-Hiking Republicans" dedicated to ensuring conservatives are elected to Congress and other*



*elected offices from Michigan."*

**Source:** Scott Hagerstrom **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447076222\\_hagerstrom.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447076222_hagerstrom.pdf)

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## **Consumers Energy Commemorates Final Freighter Delivery to B.C. Cobb Plant**

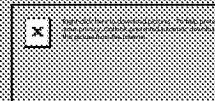
*"MUSKEGON, Mich., Nov. 8, 2015 – Consumers Energy today highlighted nearly 70 years of service and looked ahead to continued commercial shipping for the Port of Muskegon as the final Great Lakes coal freighter arrived at the B.C. Cobb Plant."*

**Source:** Consumer Energy **Date:** 11-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447076110\\_cons.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447076110_cons.pdf)

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**Sent:** Wednesday, November 11, 2015 6:41 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **'Dismemberment abortion' ban advances from House committee**

*"LANSING, MI -- A bill to ban what anti-abortion advocates refer to as "dismemberment abortion" advanced from the House Criminal Justice Committee on Tuesday without the support of Democratic members."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/dismemberment-abortion-ban-adv.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/dismemberment-abortion-ban-adv.html#incart_river)

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### **Snyder signs long-term road funding plan: 'It's about investing in Michigan's future'**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan motorists will pay more taxes and the state will re-prioritize spending under a long-term road funding deal signed into law Tuesday by Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/snyder-signs-long-term-road-fu.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/snyder-signs-long-term-road-fu.html#incart_river)

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### **Governing magazine names Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy among Public Officials of the Year**

*"DETROIT, MI -- Governing magazine has named Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy to its 2015 list of Public Officials of the Year."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/11/governing-magazine-names-wayne.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/11/governing-magazine-names-wayne.html#incart_river)

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## Michigan lawmaker arrested for drunken driving; seeking treatment for alcohol dependence

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan state Rep. John Kivela, D-Marquette, was arrested late Monday near Lansing for driving under the influence of alcohol, according to a statement released on his behalf."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan-lawmaker-arrested-for.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan-lawmaker-arrested-for.html#incart_river)

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## Straight-ticket voting ban speeds through Michigan Senate with shield against repeal

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan voters would lose the ability to cast a straight-ticket ballot for candidates of a single political party under fast-tracked legislation approved Tuesday evening in the state Senate."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/straight-ticket-voting-ban-spe.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/straight-ticket-voting-ban-spe.html#incart_river)

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## Panel OKs bills banning 2nd trimester abortion practice

*"Lansing — A Michigan House committee advanced legislation Tuesday that would expand Michigan's ban on partial birth abortions to outlaw a common second-trimester procedure opponents say amounts to "dismemberment" of the fetus."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/10/house-panel-bans-partial-birth-abortion-procedure/75521354/>

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## County school leaders cautious on DPS rescue plan

*"The leaders of intermediate school districts in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties said Tuesday they don't want a rescue of Detroit Public Schools to come at the expense of other districts."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/11/10/county-leaders-cautious-dps-rescue-plan/75535482/>

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## Senate votes to end straight-party voting

*"Lansing — The Michigan Senate voted along party lines Tuesday in favor of eliminating the straight-party*

*voting option on the state's general election ballots — a move that would tend to hurt Democrats."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/10/straight-ticket-voting-michigan/75509924/>

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder signs \$1.2B road funding package**

*"ALAIEDON TWP. — Gov. Rick Snyder capped a four-year effort Tuesday when he signed into law a \$1.2-billion road funding package that will hike fuel taxes and registration fees and also take \$600 million a year from the state's general fund to fix and maintain Michigan's crumbling roads and bridges."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/10/gov-snyder-signs-12b-road-funding-package/75510548/>

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## **Lawmaker arrested for drunk driving near Lansing**

*"LANSING — A lawmaker from the Upper Peninsula says he will seek help for an alcohol problem after he was arrested Monday night for driving under the influence."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/10/lawmaker-arrested-drunk-driving-near-lansing/75524716/>

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## **Gloves off as Senate OKs ban on straight-ticket voting**

*"LANSING — In moves political observers said were directly related to the recent resolution of the protracted road funding issue, Senate Republicans on Tuesday advanced a raft of election and union-related measures that enraged Democrats."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/10/panel-approves-elimination-straight-ticket-voting/75509026/>

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## **EPA to audit Michigan's oversight of water safety**

*"The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will audit the state of Michigan's drinking water safety program in the wake of Flint's water crisis, which found lead in the city's water system."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/10/drinking-water-audit-michigan/75522044/>

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## Sen. Green hopes road package means \$650k for Bay City bridges

**"BAY CITY, MI** — With a road funding package in place, state Sen. Mike Green says he feels more confident in legislation he authored that would see the state pick up maintenance costs for two of Bay City's four bascule bridges."

**Source:** Bay City Times **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/11/sen\\_green\\_hopes\\_road\\_package\\_m.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/11/sen_green_hopes_road_package_m.html#incart_river_home)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

**How much are your teeth worth to you? How much would they be worth to the random stranger idling next to you on Pine Grove Avenue waiting for the signal to turn green?**

**"LANSING, MI** — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder on Tuesday signed into law a series of new road funding laws that will raise taxes by \$600 million a year and eventually re-prioritize another \$600 million in state spending."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/what\\_michigans\\_new\\_road\\_fundin.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/what_michigans_new_road_fundin.html#incart_river)

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## Hoffa: TPP a punch to the gut of U.S. workers

**"The much-awaited text of the 12-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) was finally released for public consumption last week. But sunshine and scrutiny of the pact isn't making the deal look any brighter for workers in Michigan or around the country."**

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/10/hoffa-trans-pacific-partnership-us-workers/75555086/>

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## Justice system supports vets

**"Earl "Gunny" Christensen couldn't celebrate Independence Day after returning home from active duty because the fireworks "sounded like incoming enemy fire.""**

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/10/justice-system-veterans-treatment-courts/75555128/>

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## **Hillary Has It Wrong: Low Income City Doesn't Mean Low Income Schools**

*"Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton recently said in an interview that politicians don't fund schools in poor areas."*

**Source:** *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21882>

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## **Tracking progress in Detroit police response times a fool's errand**

*"When state-appointed Emergency Financial Manager Kevyn Orr first pleaded with a federal bankruptcy court to help Detroit in July 2013, he made his case with sobering statistics: the city's high levels of poverty, blight and abandonment, its declining population and tax revenues, and its insane crime rate."*

**Source:** *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/response-time/>

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## **Road deal made by politicians who won't face the consequences**

*"Nearly a quarter of a century ago, the Michigan Constitution was amended to impose term limits on those elected to govern our state. A governor may now only serve two four-year terms."*

**Source:** *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/road-deal-made-by-politicians-who-wont-face-the-consequences/>

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## **Press Releases**

### **MRP Chairman statement on violent threats against Republican candidate at Clinton campaign event**

*"Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2015 – Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel released the following statement Tuesday regarding Hillary Clinton laughing off a threat to Republican Presidential candidate Carly Fiorina:"*

**Source:** *Michigan Republican Party* **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447197351\\_mrp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447197351_mrp.pdf)

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### **Jones' trucking length bill sent to the governor; Legislation would help bring 300 jobs to Shiawassee**

*"LANSING, Mich. — The governor could soon sign legislation sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to help a trucking company bring hundreds of jobs to Shiawassee County. The measure was sent to the governor by the Senate after the House unanimously approved the bill earlier on Tuesday."*

**Source:** Sen. Rick Jones **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447197284\\_jones.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447197284_jones.pdf)

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## **New MVAA ad campaign promotes one call, one agency**

*"LANSING, Mich. – As Michigan celebrates Veterans Month and the more than 660,000 veterans who served, new statewide radio and digital ads highlight how one simple call can connect them with federal, state and local benefits they've earned."*

**Source:** Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447196214\\_mvaa.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447196214_mvaa.pdf)

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## **Congressman Dan Kildee Introduces Legislation to Help Curb Veteran Suicides**

*"FLINT – Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) today announced new legislation he has introduced to direct the U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) and the military to provide more effective mental health resources to veterans and active duty personnel at high risk of suicide."*

**Source:** Rep. Dan Kildee **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447193798\\_kildee.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447193798_kildee.pdf)

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## **Senate approves Knollenberg bills eliminating taxpayer-funded union lobbyists**

*"LANSING — The state Senate on Tuesday passed legislation that would prevent union lobbyists from misusing taxpayer money."*

**Source:** Sen. Marty Knollenberg **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447193730\\_knollenberg.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447193730_knollenberg.pdf)

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## **Upton Adds Long-Time Community Leader to his District Office Staff**

*"ST. JOSEPH, MI – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today formally announced the addition of Mike Ryan to his St. Joseph/Benton Harbor District Office as District Representative/Project Coordinator."*

**Source:** Rep. Fred Upton **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447193659\\_upton.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447193659_upton.pdf)

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## Small Business Group Applauds Senate Passage of Franchise Protections

*"November 10, 2015 (Lansing) – The state's leading small business organization, the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), praised the Michigan Senate today for passing two bills that would clarify the relationship between franchisor and franchisee employees. Senate Bills 492 sponsored by Senator Jack Brandenburg (R-8) and 493 sponsored by John Proos (R-21) amend the Franchise Act and the Workers Disability Act to clarify that franchisors and franchisees are treated as separate businesses under Michigan law."*

**Source:** National Federation of Independent Business **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447192397\\_NFI.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447192397_NFI.pdf)

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## Reps. Pscholka, Pagel, VerHeulen introduce facility care option for medically frail prisoners

*"State Reps. Al Pscholka, Dave Pagel, and Rob VerHeulen today introduced a legislative package that would grant the state parole board the ability to parole low-risk, medically frail inmates to a licensed care facility in order to complete their sentence."*

"

**Source:** Michigan Republicans **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447192338\\_RE.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447192338_RE.pdf)

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## 20 Michigan businesses urge Rep. Upton to extend federal energy tax credits, amid uncertainty of sta

*"Lansing, MI – Today, 20 renewable energy companies with a significant presence in Michigan urged U.S. Representative Fred Upton to support timely extensions of the Production Tax Credit (PTC) and Investment Tax Credit (ITC) in a letter to his office. Renewable power projects have attracted over \$3 billion in new investment to the state, and extensions of the PTC and ITC, the two primary federal incentives for renewable power development, are expected to come up for a vote later this fall."*

**Source:** A Renewable America **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447192263\\_RENAM.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447192263_RENAM.pdf)

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## Gov. Rick Snyder honors Michigan's veterans

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder issued the following statement in honor of Veterans Day. [Click here to watch the video.](#)"*

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**Source:** Governor Snyder **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447191724\\_GOVSN.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447191724_GOVSN.pdf)



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## **THURSDAY: Detroit, Flint House, Senate Members to Hold Water Quality, Affordability Press Conference**

*"LANSING – State Representatives **Stephanie Chang** (D-Detroit), **LaTanya Garrett** (D-Detroit), **Sheldon Neeley** (D-Flint), **Julie Plawecki** (D-Dearborn Heights) and state Senator **Bert Johnson** (D-Detroit) will announce the introduction of a bipartisan, bicameral package of bills to address the water affordability and quality issues that are occurring in Detroit, Highland Park and Flint at a press conference on **Thursday, Nov. 12, at 11:30 a.m. in Rooms 402-403 of the state Capitol in Lansing**. The representatives will be joined by Melissa Mays, a Flint mother, and Nicole Hill from Detroit. The women will explain their individual experiences with Flint's unsafe drinking water and Detroit's water shut-offs. Also joining the representatives to show their support will be representatives from groups that have worked with families and homeowners in these cities."*

**Source:** Michigan Dems **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447191291\\_DET.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447191291_DET.pdf)

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## **One-stop shopping for Secretary of State and County Clerk coming to Shelby Township**

*"A partnership between Macomb County Clerk / Register of Deeds Carmella Sabaugh and Secretary of State Ruth Johnson allows citizens the opportunity to one-stop shop. The clerk's office will be in the Secretary of State's Shelby Township branch office at 50640 Schoenherr, just South of 23 Mile Road, in Shelby Township on Thursday, November 19th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m."*

**Source:** Macomb County Clerk Carmella Sabaugh **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447189220\\_sabaugh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447189220_sabaugh.pdf)

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## **U.P. Focus: DNR launches "Keep the U.P. CWD Free!" campaign**

*"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has launched a public information and education campaign to try to keep chronic wasting disease from reaching the Upper Peninsula."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447189155\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447189155_dnr.pdf)

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## **Detroit Casinos Revenues and Wagering Taxes Reported for October 2015**

*"**Detroit** – The three Detroit casinos' aggregate revenue fell 0.5 percent during October compared with the same month last year. However, year-to-date aggregate revenue rose 3.1 percent through October compared with the casinos' revenues for the first 10 months of 2014."*

**Source:** Michigan Gaming Control Board **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

## **Progress Michigan Statement on EPA Audit of Michigan Water Oversight**

*"LANSING — Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced it would audit how Michigan oversees public water supplies. The audit is in response to the Flint water crisis caused by the indifference of Gov. Rick Snyder, emergency managers in Flint and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to the suffering of the residents in Flint due to austerity measures that put lead in the drinking water."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447185710\\_progsmich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447185710_progsmich.pdf)

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## **Seniors, hard-working families benefit with Rep. Hughes bill signed into law**

*"OKEMOS – Key legislation authored by Rep. Holly Hughes to expand the Homestead Property Tax Credit was signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder at the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association headquarters today."*

**Source:** Rep. Holly Hughes **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447184702\\_hughes.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447184702_hughes.pdf)

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## **Statement on 5th Circuit Court Decision on President Obama's Immigration Programs**

*"New Orleans, Louisiana - The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against the Obama Administration's Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA) and expanded Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA+) on Monday, allowing the case to move forward to the Supreme Court. The decision ends 4 months of politically motivated stalling by the court."*

**Source:** Michigan United **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447184644\\_michunited.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447184644_michunited.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill package implementing long-term funding plan for safer Michigan roads and**

*"OKEMOS, Mich. – Michiganders will have safer roads and stronger bridges to travel on, after Gov. Rick Snyder today signed a seven-bill package implementing the state's legislative solution to infrastructure funding."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447184339\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447184339_gov.pdf)

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## **Dems Launch New Ads Blasting GOP's 'Reckless and Irresponsible' Roads Plan**

*"LANSING – Today Michigan Democrats launched a wave of radio and online ads blasting Lansing Republicans for ramming through a so-called "roads plan" that sticks middle class and working families with the bill but doesn't fix the problem. The ads, which are one piece of a broader accountability campaign, will debut on radio and online in targeted districts this week. The ads call out the GOP for passing a 'reckless and irresponsible' plan that hits Michiganders with a new birthday tax by raising registration fees 20%, raises the gas tax drivers pay at the pump by \$400 million, cuts schools and police and fire but doesn't even fix the roads until 2021, if ever."*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447182829\\_dem.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447182829_dem.pdf)

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## **MDP Statement on Republican Plans to Strip Voters of Straight-Ticket Option**

*"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, in response to Republican plans to strip Michigan voters of the right to vote straight-ticket on their ballots."*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447180824\\_mdp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447180824_mdp.pdf)

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## **LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR CALLEY AND OTHERS TO ADDRESS DRUG ADDICTION AND RECOVERY AT WMU-COOLEY PARADIGM**

*"On Thursday, Nov. 12, WMU-Cooley Law School will present "Paradigm Shift: Changing Law and Education to Better Support Addiction Recovery." This unique and comprehensive conference will focus on improving addiction recovery support within our criminal justice and educational systems, and will feature nationally recognized speakers, including Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley; Craig DeRoche, former Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives and executive director of the Justice Fellowship in Washington, D.C.; Ivana Grahovac, executive director of Transforming Youth Recovery; and Michael Johnson, founder of the Justice/Quade Recovery Institute."*

**Source:** Western Michigan University **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447179257\\_west.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447179257_west.pdf)

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## **MCUCA Update Moves out of Committee**

*"Lansing, MI (Nov. 10, 2015) – Legislators on the House Financial Services Committee unanimously approved a six-bill package to update the Michigan Credit Union Act (MCUA) for the first time in more than*

a decade."

**Source:** Michigan Credit Union League & Affiliates **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447179212\\_micula.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447179212_micula.pdf)

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## **Progress Michigan Statement on Gov. Snyder Signing Failed Roads Plan**

*"LANSING — Today, Governor Rick Snyder signed a package of roads bills aimed to give Republicans political cover in the November 2016 elections. The package of bills was passed under the cover of darkness last Tuesday by one-vote margins in both the State House and State Senate. "*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447179140\\_prog.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447179140_prog.pdf)

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## **Road Funding Plan Hurts Michigan Residents, Communities**

*"LANSING – Today, Governor Rick Snyder signed a road-funding plan that shifts income tax revenue from the state budget general fund to transportation and does not specify what areas of the budget will be cut in the process. The plan will not be fully implemented until 2021."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447179068\\_prog.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447179068_prog.pdf)

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## **Dems Launch New Ads Blasting GOP's 'Reckless and Irresponsible' Roads Plan**

*"LANSING – Today Michigan Democrats launched a wave of radio and online ads blasting Lansing Republicans for ramming through a so-called "roads plan" that sticks middle class and working families with the bill but doesn't fix the problem. The ads, which are one piece of a broader accountability campaign, will debut on radio and online in targeted districts this week. The ads call out the GOP for passing a 'reckless and irresponsible' plan that hits Michiganders with a new birthday tax by raising registration fees 20%, raises the gas tax drivers pay at the pump by \$400 million, cuts schools and police and fire but doesn't even fix the roads until 2021, if ever."*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447176324\\_dems.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447176324_dems.pdf)

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## **Casperson Speaks with Thousands on Monday about Bringing Northern Michigan Values to Washington, D.C**

*"MANISTEE—Tom Casperson spoke with more than 5,000 northern Michigan residents on Monday evening about bringing their values to our nation's Capital. After announcing during the day his decision to run for the U.S. House of Representatives at stops in Escanaba and Traverse City, Casperson hosted two*

*tele-town halls where he was able to connect with more than 5,400 1<sup>st</sup> District voters about their concerns."*

**Source:** Sen. Tom Casperson **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447176052\\_casperson.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447176052_casperson.pdf)

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## **I-675 ramp closure for crash barrier repair Wednesday, Nov. 11**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will repair a crash barrier at Exit 3 (Davenport) on northbound I-675. Crews will begin work at 9 a.m. and expect to reopen the ramp by 2 p.m."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447175330\\_mdott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447175330_mdott.pdf)

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## **Entertainment Express Limousine and Party Bus loses operating authority over safety violations**

*"November 10, 2015 -- The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is advising consumers not to book any transportation with Entertainment Express, Inc. and Entertainment Limousine, which operate out of Dearborn Heights as one entity under the advertised name "Entertainment Express Limousine and Party Bus." This company's vehicles have failed several MDOT safety inspections and were subsequently cited multiple times by the Michigan State Police (MSP) Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division along with local law enforcement for operating a bus or limousine without a valid safety inspection. "*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447175272\\_mdott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447175272_mdott.pdf)

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## **Sen. Hansen welcomes Ravenna pastor to Senate session**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Goeff Hansen, R-Hart, welcomed Dan Smith (center) and Smith's wife Nancy to the Michigan Capitol on Tuesday. Smith is pastor of Jibson Immanuel Baptist Church of Ravenna and gave the invocation before the start of Senate session."*

**Source:** Sen. Goeff Hansen **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447173372\\_hansen.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447173372_hansen.pdf)

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## **Dems Oppose Method Ban Bills in Criminal Justice Committee**

*"LANSING – Democratic legislators on the House Criminal Justice committee came out in opposition today of a package of bills that would severely limit a woman's access to safe abortions. The Democratic committee members pushed the fact that substandard care should never be the practice in any health situation, and questioned legislation that would put women who choose to end a pregnancy at risk."*

**Source:** Michigan House Democrats **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

## **Helpful reminders for firearm deer season, starting this Sunday**

*"This Sunday, Nov. 15, tens of thousands of Michigan residents and nonresidents will take to the fields and forests to enjoy deer hunting. The Department of Natural Resources would like to share a few helpful reminders with those who will be heading out to hunt."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447172287\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447172287_dnr.pdf)

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## **Michigan Chemistry Council - News of the Day...November 10, 2015**

*"MCC News of the Day...November 10, 2015 Articles of interest to our industry..."*

**Source:** Michigan Chemistry Council **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447169781\\_mcc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447169781_mcc.pdf)

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## **Time Running Out to Purchase Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle Tickets**

*"LANSING, Mich., Nov. 10, 2015 – Michigan Lottery players are running out of time to buy tickets for the Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle. The game's jackpot is more than \$1.1 million and growing with each ticket purchased."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447169722\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447169722_lottery.pdf)

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## **Senate Republican Committee Punishes Voters for Voting Against Republicans**

*"LANSING — Today, the Michigan Senate Elections Committee voted along party lines to end straight ticket voting. The bill, SB 13, is a direct response to voters rejecting Republican candidates for statewide school board elections."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447169187\\_prog.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447169187_prog.pdf)

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## **M-100 closed in Potterville this coming weekend for the bridge slide**

*"On Friday, November 13, starting at 7 p.m., M-100 in Potterville will be closed so crews can undertake an*

innovative construction technique called a bridge slide. "

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447168863\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447168863_mdof.pdf)

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## **Consortium of Michigan Veterans Educators Receives \$500,000 Kresge Foundation Grant**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Consortium of Michigan Veterans Educators (CMVE) received a \$500,000 grant from The Kresge Foundation that will bolster the group's efforts to help Michigan veterans navigate their higher education pathways as they seek education and training to re-enter the civilian workforce."*

**Source:** Michigan Community College Association **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447166497\\_mcca.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447166497_mcca.pdf)

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## **Health Leaders Fellowship seeks doctors, nurses and other health professionals for 2016 class**

*"November 10, Ann Arbor, MI – Today the Ecology Center opened the application period for the 2016 Health Leaders Fellowship program. Since 2014, this innovative fellowship program has educated health professionals across Michigan about the links between the environment and human health. Through this program fellows learn critical civic engagement skills along with a community of likeminded peers. The program is entering into its third year and opened the application process to select the 2016 cohort of fellows."*

**Source:** Ecology Center **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447165475\\_eco.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447165475_eco.pdf)

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## **Gov. Snyder Signs Law to Help Students, Teachers Improve**

*"Last week, Governor Rick Snyder signed [Senate Bill 103](#) into law, which will help establish a critical framework for providing Michigan educators with high-quality feedback and support to help improve teaching and learning for Michigan students."*

**Source:** Education Trust-Midwest **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447165423\\_edu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447165423_edu.pdf)

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## **Carson Leads Clinton, Clinton leads Trump in latest Denno Research poll**

*"In the latest survey quarterly survey of Michigan voters conducted by Denno Research, Ben Carson has a two point lead over Hillary Clinton, 38%-36%. When the choices were Donald Trump v. Hillary Clinton, Clinton had an eight point lead, 42%-34%."*

**Source:** Denno Research, LLC **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447165367\\_denno.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447165367_denno.pdf)

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## Outage Alerts Keep Consumers Energy Customers Informed

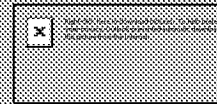
*"JACKSON, Mich., Nov. 10, 2015 – With stormy weather predicted later this week, Consumers Energy is introducing automatic outage alerts for its 1.8 million residential and business electric customers to provide them with accurate, up-to-date information during a power outage."*

**Source:** Consumer Energy **Date:** 11-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447165303\\_consumer.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447165303_consumer.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 17, 2015 6:48 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Class action lawsuit claims Snyder, Flint put water cost above safety**

*"FLINT -- City and state officials supplied highly toxic water to Flint residents solely because it was the cheaper option, attorneys seeking a class action lawsuit claimed in a news conference today, Nov. 16."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/class\\_action\\_lawsuit\\_claims\\_sn.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/class_action_lawsuit_claims_sn.html#incart_river_home)

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### **'People should be outraged' by allowing guns at school, Grand Rapids superintendent says**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — Grand Rapids Superintendent Teresa Weatherall Neal and a school board committee are recommending the district oppose gun legislation that would allow concealed carry instead of open carry in schools."*

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/superintendent\\_says\\_people\\_shou.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/superintendent_says_people_shou.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Candice Miller: Gov. Snyder's prior willingness to accept Syrian refugees was 'off the mark'**

*"U.S. Rep. Candice Miller, R-Harrison Twp., joined WJR 760 AM host Paul W. Smith on Monday to make clear her concerns regarding the U.S. accepting Syrian refugees in the wake of Friday's terrorist bombings in Paris."*

"

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/11/candice\\_miller\\_gov\\_snyders\\_pri.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/11/candice_miller_gov_snyders_pri.html#incart_river_index)

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## **Cindy Gamrat's husband behind 'extortion' texts, bugging her, says police report**

*"LANSING, MI – Besides orchestrating blackmail texts threatening to expose an affair between his wife and former Rep. Todd Courser, a police report released Monday shows Joe Gamrat planted recording devices and extracted information about his wife from legislative staff."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/cindy_gamrats_husband_behind_e.html#incart_river_index)

[news/index.ssf/2015/11/cindy\\_gamrats\\_husband\\_behind\\_e.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/cindy_gamrats_husband_behind_e.html#incart_river_index)

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## **Lead-exposed Flint kids need better nutrition now, Stabenow says**

*"FLINT, MI – Michigan's senior U.S. senator says Flint needs its water problems fixed and questions answered, but also needs to get lead-exposed children better access to good nutrition."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/stabenow\\_says\\_shes\\_working\\_to.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/stabenow_says_shes_working_to.html#incart_river_home)

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## **National group defends Schuette on pollution fight**

*"The Republican Attorneys General Association is rushing to the aid of Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, airing a cable television ad to counter other ads portraying Schuette as a friend of corporate polluters."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/16/schuette-ads/75873326/>

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## **Army Corps gets \$1.35M to study upgrade for Soo Locks**

*"Washington — The Obama administration has approved \$1.35 million in funding that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers requested for a cost-benefit study of an additional shipping lock on the river that connects Lakes Huron and Superior."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/16/army-corps-engineer-led-funds/75903696/>

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## Snyder among at least a dozen governors not taking Syrian refugees

*"Northville Township — After Gov. Rick Snyder suspended the acceptance of Syrian refugees following the Paris killings and bombings in Lebanon last week, the governors of at least 12 other states followed suit as President Barack Obama defended his policy of taking in 10,000 more Syrians next year."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/16/syrian-refugees-governors-giance/75868806/>

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## Report: Joe Gamrat denied he planned threatening texts

*"Lapeer — The husband of former state Rep. Cindy Gamrat twice denied to a Michigan State Police investigator that he was the source of anonymous text messages his wife and then-Rep. Todd Courser received in May threatening to expose their affair if they didn't resign from office."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/16/report-joe-gamrat-denied-planned-threatening-texts/75894386/>

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## Michigan's delay on Syrian refugees spurs debate

*"The decision to suspend moving Syrian refugees into Michigan is drawing mixed reactions from Metro Detroiters, opening up debate on the region's role as a haven for Mideast immigrants."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/2015/11/16/michigan-syrian-refugees-reaction/75908874/>

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## Snyder suspends Syrian refugee effort in Michigan

*"LANSING — Gov. Rick Snyder's decision to suspend efforts to bring Syrian refugees to Michigan in light of the deadly terrorist attacks in Paris on Friday has sparked controversy and launched the state into the national debate of how to protect U.S. citizens while providing a haven for those who desperately need help."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/15/snyder-suspends-efforts-settle-syrian-refugees/75825736/>

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## Judge: Firm to turn over coding for Express SOS system

*"LANSING — A Kent County judge on Monday ordered a computer firm to turn over to the State of Michigan the "source code" for the Express SOS online vehicle registration system, giving the state a partial victory in its ongoing legal fight with a fired contractor."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/16/judge-firm-turn-over-coding-express-sos-system/75873040/>

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## **Gamrat husband ID'd as person who sent Courser texts**

*"Lapeer County Prosecutor Timothy Turkelson said he will not file charges in the case of anonymous text messages sent to former state Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat in an effort to get them to end an extramarital affair."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/16/gamrat-husband-idd-person-who-sent-courser-texts/75862402/>

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## **Snyder change on Syrian refugees leads more opposition**

*"WASHINGTON — Gov. Rick Snyder's announcement Sunday that he would back off — at least temporarily — from an effort to relocate Syrian refugees in Michigan set off a wave of even stronger opposition by governors across the U.S. on Monday, with several saying they would reject outright any attempts to resettle Syrians in their states."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/16/snyder-clarifies-stance-syrian-refugees-michigan/75865256/>

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## **Voting on UAW-Ford contract to enter crucial 2nd phase**

*"The ratification process of the UAW's proposed national agreement with Ford will enter a crucial second phase on Tuesday as workers at plants representing 45% of the automaker's total workforce begin to weigh in on the contract."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/ford/2015/11/16/setback-uaw-ford-deal-2-plant-no-votes/75866214/>

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## **Funding approved for Soo Lock study**

*"WASHINGTON — Michigan's U.S. senators said Monday night that the Army Corps of Engineers and the Office of Management and Budget has agreed to move \$1.35 million into a cost-benefit study which could potentially lead to a new super-size shipping lock being built in Sault Ste. Marie someday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/16/funding-approved-soo-lock-study/75901350/>

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## Should Michigan change tax law to lure \$5B data center?

*"A vacant Grand Rapids site could become the largest data center in the eastern half of the United States but only if the Michigan legislature grants the company a tax break potentially worth millions of dollars."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2015/11/16/data-center-switch-steelcase-grand-rapids-pyramid/75896236/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### State Legislature, heal thyself

"

*Since convening 10 months ago, the current Michigan Legislature has cracked down on local minimum wage requirements, authorized commercial quadricycles to serve alcohol, and even addressed (however inadequately) the chronic underfunding of state roads.*

"

**Source:** Escanaba Daily Press **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.dailypress.net/page/content\\_detail/id/567629/State-Legislature--heal-thyself.html?nav=5052](http://www.dailypress.net/page/content_detail/id/567629/State-Legislature--heal-thyself.html?nav=5052)

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### Editor's Note: Clinton shuns charter schools

*"Hillary Clinton doesn't like charter schools anymore. While this won't come as a surprise to many school choice advocates, it's a telling move on the part of the Democratic presidential frontrunner."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/11/17/jacques-clinton-shuns-charters/75909562/>

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### Lupher: Initiative petition process cries for reform

*"We are about one year away from the 2016 general election and efforts are in full swing to qualify initiated statutes and constitutional amendments for that statewide ballot. Already we're seeing evidence with those efforts of the dysfunction that we've come to associate with the law/amendment drafting, petition circulation process, and voter information that comes with ballot questions."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/17/opinion-reform-michigan-initiative-petition-process/75909610/>

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## Help available for those struggling with utility costs

*"As temperatures begin to drop and forecasts of snow loom, the Coalition to Keep Michigan Warm is working to educate the public about options for energy assistance. With needs likely to outweigh funding from the state, it's important to plan ahead."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/17/help-available-utility-costs/75909614/>

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## Why collective bargaining still works

*"The recently concluded negotiations between the Detroit 3 and the UAW shows the benefits of collective bargaining in a democratic society. The parties reached accords in a manner devoid of media hype to serve the interests of their employees, companies and communities. Their agreements impact the livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of workers and affect a large swath of the U.S. economy, with global repercussions. Given recent attacks on unions and collective bargaining, it behooves us to elaborate the benefits of this longstanding and legally sanctioned workplace decision-making process between labor and management."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/16/why-collective-bargaining-still-works/75881774/>

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## Press Releases

### TCRPC's Turkey Drive is wrapping up this upcoming Friday!

*"Since the beginning of November, we have been collecting donations for the [Greater Lansing Food Bank](#), a non-profit organization providing emergency food to individuals and families in need. There will be a collection at our reception desk until Friday, November 20! Look for the big turkey and add a feather(s) to represent your donation!"*

**Source:** Tri-County Regional Planning Commission **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447711567\\_tcrpc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447711567_tcrpc.pdf)

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### Camphous-Peterson Forms Campaign Committee for State House of Representatives Race

*"HARRISON TOWNSHIP — Dana Camphous-Peterson announced today that she has filed the necessary paperwork to form a campaign committee to run for the state House of Representatives in House District 24. The seat is currently held by term-limited Republican Rep. Anthony Forlini."*

**Source:** Dana Camphous-Peterson **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447709230\\_filing.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447709230_filing.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder lowers flag in honor of victims of the Paris terror attacks**

*"Lansing, MI. – Gov. Rick Snyder joins President Barack Obama's proclamation to lower Michigan and U.S. flags to half-staff today through sunset on Thursday, Nov. 19 in honor of the victims of the Nov. 13 terrorist attacks in Paris, France."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447706192\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447706192_gov.pdf)

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## **Progress Michigan Statement on AG Bill Schuette's New Role**

*"LANSING — Today, Progress Michigan is calling attention to Attorney General Bill Schuette's new role as Chair of the Republican Attorneys General Association (RAGA). Attorney General Schuette will serve in his new capacity in the coming year."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447707401\\_prog.3.55.51 PM.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447707401_prog.3.55.51 PM.pdf)

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## **Hunting Access Program hunters: remember to register at HAP headquarters before hunting**

*"Michigan's Hunting Access Program has been providing great hunting opportunities in areas with limited access for hunters since 1977. With properties stretching across southern Michigan and a portion of the eastern Upper Peninsula, the program currently allows public hunting on 19,000 acres of privately owned lands."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447707313\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447707313_dnr.pdf)

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## **Pending Passage of Legislation, Nevada-Based Company, Switch, Will Choose Michigan As Site For New 2**

*"LAS VEGAS - November 16, 2015 – After substantial consideration in the search for its eastern U.S. data center campus, Switch has announced that upon the passage of three data center bills currently in the Michigan Legislature, Michigan will be home to the company's new 2 million square-foot, five-billion dollar SUPERNAP data center campus. The total capital investment reflects the costs for both the data centers and the computer servers that will be placed inside the buildings over a multi-year period. SUPERNAP Michigan will be the largest data center campus in the eastern U.S. and will serve the company's current clients in geographic redundancy and new clients with national connectivity."*

**Source:** Switch **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447707276\\_switch.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447707276_switch.pdf)

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## Southbound I-75 scheduled to re-open Nov. 16

**"November 16, 2015** – The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will reopen the southbound lanes of I-75 south of Saginaw today, marking the end of the first phase of the I-75 expansion between Hess Road and Dixie Highway. Work on this year's portion of the overall two-year, \$45 million investment included reconstructing the King Road, Hess Road and Baker Road bridges over I-75. The King Road bridge was opened in June, while crews opened the newly rebuilt Hess Road bridge to traffic last week. The Baker Road bridge is nearly complete and should open to traffic by Friday, Nov. 20."

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447705954\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447705954_mdof.pdf)

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## Bishop: U.S. Must Pause, Develop Protocols for Syrian Refugees

**"WASHINGTON** – During a House Judiciary Committee hearing with FBI Director James Comey last month, Congressman Mike Bishop (MI-08) voiced concerns about the vetting of Syrian refugees who wish to enter the United States, specifically the state of Michigan. Director Comey told Rep. Bishop that while the intelligence community has "gotten better at querying our holdings," there is little to no data on many of their refugees – which means the vetting process is not "risk-free."

**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447705911\\_bishop.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447705911_bishop.pdf)

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## U.P. Focus: Firearm deer season opens with improvement over last year

"Michigan Department of Natural Resources staff said Sunday's opening day of the firearm deer hunting season was improved in some parts of the Upper Peninsula over last year, based on reports from deer check stations."

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447705652\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447705652_dnr.pdf)

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## Snyder's Rhetoric on Refugees is Cowardly and Hypocritical

"LANSING — Today, Progress Michigan lambasted Gov. Rick Snyder for his cowardly reversal on accepting Syrian refugees into Michigan. Previously, Snyder had said Michigan would roll out the welcome mat for those fleeing violence and terrorism abroad. "

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447704655\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447704655_gov.pdf)



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## Macomb County Circuit Court to Celebrate Adoption Day

*"Macomb County Circuit Court will celebrate Adoption Day on Tuesday, November 24, 2015. The event begins at 8:30 a.m. and will be held on the second floor of the Circuit Court Building, 40 N. Main Street, Mount Clemens, Michigan."*

**Source:** Macomb County Circuit Court **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447703589\\_macomb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447703589_macomb.pdf)

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## Livonia Woman Wins \$1.3 Million Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle Jackpot

*"LANSING, Mich., Nov. 16, 2015 – The shock of winning a \$1.3 million jackpot playing the Michigan Lottery's Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle hasn't worn off for a Livonia woman."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447702024\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447702024_lottery.pdf)

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## National Emergency Preparedness Program Offered to Michigan's Fifth-Grade Students

*"LANSING. The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) is offering elementary schools across the state an opportunity to enroll their fifth-graders in the Student Tools for Emergency Planning program. Known as STEP, this classroom curriculum enables teachers to prepare students for various emergencies, including tornadoes, flooding and storms."*

**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447701984\\_police.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447701984_police.pdf)

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## Rep. Runestad's bills protect state from possible terrorists

*"State Rep. Jim Runestad recently drafted legislation giving state and local governments the ability to regulate which refugees are allowed to resettle in their communities, as well as suspending an existing admission program until the state's system of vetting the backgrounds of refugees can be reviewed."*

**Source:** Rep. Jim Runestad **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447703625\\_runestad.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447703625_runestad.pdf)

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## New Report Reveals that Mortgages Over \$500,000 are Rare in the U.S.

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – A Rare Occurrence: The Geography and Race of Mortgages Over \$500,000, released today by the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), reveals that only 5% of the mortgages obtained in the past three years in the U.S. were larger than \$500,000 and that lowering the Mortgage Interest Deduction (MID) cap to \$500,000 would have no impact on the majority of homeowners nationwide given the rarity of mortgages over that amount. "*

**Source:** National Low Income Housing Coalition **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447701090\\_nlihc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447701090_nlihc.pdf)

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## **Loving homes needed for 300 children in state's foster care system; November is Adoption Month in Mi**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Close to 300 children in Michigan's foster care system are waiting for adoptive families to open their hearts and homes."*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447700082\\_dhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447700082_dhhs.pdf)

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## **Phil Pavlov Signs The ObamaCare Repeal Pledge**

*"St. Clair, Michigan — Today, Independent Women's Voice announced that Phil Pavlov (R-MI) has signed the ObamaCare Repeal Pledge. Pavlov is a candidate for Congress in Michigan's 10th Congressional district."*

**Source:** Independent Women's Voice **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447698219\\_iwv.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447698219_iwv.pdf)

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## **Michigan Department of Transportation Rumble Strip Initiative Honored with a National Roadway Safety**

*"(Washington, DC) -- During a national awards ceremony on Capitol Hill, the Roadway Safety Foundation (RSF) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) today honored the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for its efforts to reduce run-off-the-road and fatal crashes caused by lane departure. MDOT's initiative was one of 10 recognized with a 2015 National Roadway Safety Award. "*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447697499\\_mdott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447697499_mdott.pdf)

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## **Huizenga Legislation To Reform The Federal Reserve on the Floor This Week**

*"WASHINGTON – The House is scheduled to vote next week on legislation designed to improve the*

economy's performance by making the Federal Reserve more accountable and transparent."

**Source:** Rep. Bill Huizenga **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447697426\\_huizenga.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447697426_huizenga.pdf)

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## **One thousand jobs targeted for veterans through MVAA's Veteran-Friendly Employer program**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Nearly 1,000 good-paying jobs are ready to be filled by veterans at companies throughout Michigan that recognize and respect their military skills, training and experience."*

**Source:** Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447697365\\_mvaa.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447697365_mvaa.pdf)

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## **Give something that means something - Give blood or host a blood drive**

*"(Nov. 16, 2015) – The American Red Cross encourages individuals and organizations to give something that means something this winter by making a lifesaving blood donation or hosting a blood drive."*

**Source:** American Red Cross **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447697302\\_redcross.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447697302_redcross.pdf)

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## **The 2015 MVCA Annual Awards Dinner is right around the corner!**

*"At the 2015 Annual Awards Dinner on November 30, the Michigan Venture Capital Association will honor Michigan's top investors and entrepreneurs, and celebrate the Great Lakes Region's venture capital successes. Honorees include Duo Security with the MVCA "100" Award, Mina Sooch with the Entrepreneur of the Year Award, and Arboretum Ventures with the Capital Event of the Year Award. Trillium Ventures' founder and general partner Tom Porter is receiving the MVCA Lifetime Achievement Award. The evening of the dinner, MVCA will also announce the winner of a new award, the "Up and Coming Investor of the Year", in recognition of a new investor making their mark on the entrepreneurial and investment community in Michigan."*

**Source:** Michigan Venture Capital Association **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447692671\\_mvca.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447692671_mvca.pdf)

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## **MSU releases comprehensive assessments of state takeovers and Flint during emergency manager years**

*"EAST LANSING, Michigan – Many cities in the United States are dealing with fiscal pressures, but no other state has dealt with more challenges at the municipal level than Michigan, most dramatically exemplified by the Chapter 9 bankruptcy filing of Detroit, the largest municipal bankruptcy filing in history. Policy changes at the state level allow the state to take over, through the appointment of emergency managers, school districts*

and even entire cities. "

**Source:** Michigan State University **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447691507\\_msu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447691507_msu.pdf)

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## **Progress Michigan Launches 'Sunshine Squad' Website and Campaign**

*"LANSING — On the heels of a recent report showing Michigan sitting dead last in the United States when it comes to ethics and transparency laws, as well as numerous problems with cronyism and secrecy from some of the state's elected officials, Progress Michigan today launched a new website as part of a broader "Sunshine Squad" campaign that aims to make the Michigan legislature more accountable."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447691449](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447691449)

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## **DNR conservation officers find lost hunter and deer tracker in Gladwin County**

*"Michigan Department of Natural Resources conservation officers were successful early Saturday in locating a lost bowhunter and a friend of his who had tagged along to help track a wounded deer in Gladwin County."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447697939\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447697939_dnr.pdf)

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## **SIERRA CLUB ENDORSES GRETCHEN DRISKELL FOR CONGRESS**

*"Saline, MI: The Michigan Chapter of the Sierra Club today announced its endorsement of Gretchen Driskell (democrat) in the 2016 election in Michigan's 7th Congressional District."*

**Source:** Sierra Club of Michigan **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447697168\\_sierra.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447697168_sierra.pdf)

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## **The inside scoop on Ready for Hillary**

*"As Ready for Hillary's first staff member, I had the opportunity to be part this movement from the very beginning. I came in when Ready for Hillary was just two volunteers and a P.O. Box, and I watched as you helped us grow into a movement powered by 4 million grassroots supporters."*

**Source:** Ready for Hillary PAC **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447697097\\_hillary.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447697097_hillary.pdf)

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## Time Running Out For \$50,000 Fantasy 5 Winner to Claim Big Prize!

**"LANSING, Mich., Nov. 16, 2015** – Only two weeks remain for the winner of a \$50,000 Fantasy 5 prize to claim the big pile of cash!"

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447681489\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447681489_lottery.pdf)

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## Army Veteran, Tax Accountant and Media Owner to sue the State of Michigan over violation of "Headlee"

*"Army Veteran, Tax Accountant and Media Owner to sue the State of Michigan over violation of "Headlee" - Tax Limitation Amendment*  
*Michigan politics in 2015 has been a real battle, fighting our term limited Gov. Rick Snyder and his agenda to raise fuel taxes and registration fees to provide road maintenance and bridge repairs."*

**Source:** Patriot Voice Radio Network **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447681276\\_veteran.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447681276_veteran.pdf)

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## Statement on second Democratic debate

**"LANSING, Mich., Nov. 14, 2015** – Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel on Saturday released the following statement regarding the second Democratic Presidential Primary debate:"

**Source:** Michigan Republican Party **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447681156\\_mrp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447681156_mrp.pdf)

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## Peters Statement on Paris Terror Attacks

**"WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) released the following statement after the attacks in Paris:"

**Source:** Sen. Gary Peters **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447681110\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447681110_peters.pdf)

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## Bishop Statement on Terror Attacks in France

**"WASHINGTON** – In response to the terror attacks in Paris tonight, Congressman Mike Bishop (MI-08) issued the following statement:"

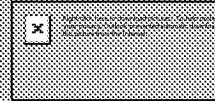
**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 11-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447681069\\_bishop.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447681069_bishop.pdf)

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**In God we trust, maybe, but not each other**


*"Washington — You can take our word for it. Americans don't trust each other anymore.*

"

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**  
<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131130/NATION/311300035>

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**Hundreds of shoppers hit small businesses to support local economy**

*"Detroit — In the wake of the rush for Black Friday deals  that saw customers rushing to national chains and retailers, Metro Detroiters were encouraged to use Saturday as a day to shop locally.*

"

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131130/BIZ/311300053/>

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**Tesla woos car-guy lawmakers with rides to counter dealers' cash**

*"Tesla Motors Inc. was in trouble in North Carolina. Prohibited from opening showrooms there, it was on the way to being unable to sell cars at all when the state Senate voted unanimously to block online auto sales.*

"

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**  
<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131201/AUTO01/312010011>

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## **New state law toughens standards for officials to sue counties over budget**

*"Detroit— A recently passed state law will make it harder for elected officials to sue their county over budget issues, a move that is expected to provide relief in litigious Wayne County.*

"

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131201/METRO08/312010012/New-state-law-toughens-standards-officials-sue-counties-over-budget?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

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## **Saginaw Township schools approves contract for bus drivers**

*"SAGINAW TOWNSHIP, MI — The Saginaw Township Community Board of Education has approved a new contract with the district's bus drivers."*

**Source:** *Saginaw News* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2013/11/saginaw\\_township\\_schools\\_appro.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2013/11/saginaw_township_schools_appro.html#incart_river)

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## **Hail aftermath means federal economic injury disaster loans available to some Great Lakes Bay Region small businesses**

*"SAGINAW, MI — Federal economic injury disaster loans are available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations in Saginaw, Bay and Midland counties, among others, because of hail between June 10 and Aug. 2, the U.S. Small Business Administration announced."*

**Source:** *Saginaw News* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/business/mid-](http://www.mlive.com/business/mid-michigan/index.ssf/2013/11/federal_economic_injury_disast.html#incart_river)

[michigan/index.ssf/2013/11/federal\\_economic\\_injury\\_disast.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/business/mid-michigan/index.ssf/2013/11/federal_economic_injury_disast.html#incart_river)

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## **Muskegon County Treasurer to crack down in 2014 on delinquent property tax payers**

*"MUSKEGON, MI – Muskegon County Treasurer Tony Moulatsiotis plans to crack down on delinquent taxpayers in 2014."*

**Source:** *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2013/11/muskegon\\_county\\_treasurer\\_to\\_c.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2013/11/muskegon_county_treasurer_to_c.html#incart_river)

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## **Rep. Collene Lamonte announces coffee hours for December**



*"MONTAGUE, MI – State Rep. Collene Lamonte, D-Montague, recently announced coffee hour events during the month of December, where residents are invited to a cup of coffee and to talk about state government."*

**Source:** *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2013/11/rep\\_lamonte\\_announces\\_coffee\\_h.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2013/11/rep_lamonte_announces_coffee_h.html#incart_river)

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### **How to keep grandma connected when phone companies want out of landline business?**

*"LANSING — Michigan senior citizens are worried they're going to lose access to vital phone, medical alert and alarm services if the state passes legislation making it easier for phone companies to discontinue traditional landline service."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2013/11/michigan\\_landline\\_phone\\_servic.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2013/11/michigan_landline_phone_servic.html#incart_river)

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### **Flint emergency manager to consult with governor about councilman's arrest**

*"FLINT, MI -- Flint Emergency Manager Darnell Earley said he will discuss a city councilman's weekend arrest with Gov. Rick Snyder on Monday."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/11/city\\_leaders\\_residents\\_react\\_t.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/11/city_leaders_residents_react_t.html#incart_river)

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### **Michigan officials investigate cases of dog infection that can spread to humans**

*"LANSING — State officials are warning dog owners, especially those who breed dogs, to be aware that their animals could have brucellosis."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2013/12/michigan\\_officials\\_investigate\\_2.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2013/12/michigan_officials_investigate_2.html#incart_river)

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### **Small retailers fight for slice of holiday shopping pie**

*"Saline business owner Joy Ely says that today, Small Business Saturday, is a reminder to customers that they need to "use it or lose it" when it comes to supporting local small businesses."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2013/12/shoppers_flock_to_dexter_chels.html#incart_river_default)

[arbor/index.ssf/2013/12/shoppers\\_flock\\_to\\_dexter\\_chels.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2013/12/shoppers_flock_to_dexter_chels.html#incart_river_default)

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### **Deadline's here: Is Healthcare.gov fixed? Sort of**

*"WASHINGTON — All the glitches won't be gone, but the federal health care website is expected to be working more smoothly Sunday, the deadline that the administration set for improvements and fixes."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131130/NEWS15/311300046/Healthcare-gov-fixes-ObamaCare>

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### **U.S. offers to destroy Syrian chemical weapons**

*"DAMASCUS, SYRIA — The U.S. has offered to help destroy some of the most lethal parts of Syria's chemical weapons stockpile at an offshore facility, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons said Saturday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131130/NEWS15/311300053/U-S-offers-to-destroy-Syrian-chemical-weapons>

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### **Toronto Mayor Rob Ford to reprise radio show**


*"Reports say Toronto Mayor Rob Ford along with his brother Doug, a city councillor, will again start hosting an online radio show."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131129/NEWS15/311290041/2850121114001-2849484867001>

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### **Cost-saving plan will hurt U-M research and teaching, faculty petition warns**


*"A plan by University of Michigan administrators to save millions of dollars by consolidating some business  office operations has drawn heavy fire from faculty, who believe teaching and research will suffer."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131201/NEWS05/312010061/University-of-Michigan-support-staff>

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### **I-94 project will help truckers find open parking spots**

*"Larry Harris of Benton Harbor, who drives a tractor-trailer, said he's looking forward to a pilot program designed to alert truck  drivers to available parking spaces along the I-94 corridor between Detroit and Chicago."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131201/NEWS06/312010063/truckers-signs-I-94-Truck-Parking-Information-and-Management-System-pilot-program-MDOT>

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### **Goodfellows to bring Detroit holiday spirit with newspaper sales, parade**


*"Members of the Old Newsboys' Goodfellow Fund of Detroit will bring holiday cheer to the city's streets Monday for the group's 100th sales day and a parade."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131201/NEWS01/312010062/Old-Newsboys-Goodfellow-Fund-of-Detroit-sales-day-parade>

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### **Michigan holiday ornament on sale to help blind**

*"LANSING — Michigan's official holiday  ornament celebrating the state Capitol building is on sale, with proceeds going to help the blind."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131201/NEWS06/312010105/michigan-holiday-ornament-sale-blind>

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### **Auto loan boom follows surge in car sales**

*"A boom in auto loans continues to support a resurgence in U.S. car buying that has hit its highest sales pace since 2007."*

**Source:** *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/viewart/20131201/BUSINESS01/312010060>

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### **UAW President Bob King's legacy to be decided in the South**

*"DETROIT — With eight months left in his tenure, United Auto Workers union president President Bob King has reversed the union's membership decline, negotiated contracts that accelerated the Detroit Three automakers' recovery and established stronger ties with international labor organizations."*

**Source:** *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20131201/BUSINESS01/312010059>

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

## **Council needs Jenkins, not Jones**

*"Even with its elected policymakers temporarily stripped of most of their powers, leadership still matters in Detroit."*

"

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131201/OPINION01/312010001/Council-needs-Jenkins-not-Jones?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

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## **Obamacare problems symptomatic of unhealthy politics (Kalamazoo Gazette Editorial)**

*"The roll out of the Affordable Care Act has been a mess."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2013/12/affordable\\_care\\_act\\_symptomati.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2013/12/affordable_care_act_symptomati.html#incart_river)

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## **Tim Skubick: Which man will be happy next Thanksgiving - Mark Schauer or Rick Snyder?**

*"Next Thanksgiving either Rick Snyder or Mark Schauer will be smiling around the family dining room table. Mr. Schauer could be governor-elect or Mr. Snyder will dust off his governor title for another four years."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/12/tim\\_skubick\\_which\\_man\\_will\\_be.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/12/tim_skubick_which_man_will_be.html#incart_river)

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## **Feedback: Is Detroit better off without I-375?**

*"A plan would rip out I-375 in downtown Detroit and replace it with pedestrian-friendly walkways and neighborhoods. Readers offered their thoughts:"*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131201/OPINION04/312010034/Feedback-Detroit-better-off-without-375->

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## **John Gallagher: Detroit's recipe for success calls for a bit of everything**

*"There's an old saying that offers wisdom for Detroit right now: "Nothing works, but everything might.""*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131201/OPINION05/312010044/Detroit-unemployment-Gallagher>

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**Tom Walsh: Michigan can't afford to lose its lead in engineering talent**

*"Think back five years to the end of 2008, when the U.S. Treasury was doling out billions of dollars to keep the nation's banks and Detroit's auto industry from collapsing."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131201/COL06/312010055/Tom-Walsh-engineers-Business-leaders-for-Michigan>

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**Jim Schaefer: A few minutes with ... A woman who made and gave away a hundred Thanksgiving dinners**

*"I don't know about your Thanksgiving, but mine pretty much consisted of watching the Lions on TV, eating too much, visiting with family and napping."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131201/COL44/312010059/thanksgiving-meals-give-away-less-fortunate-detroit>

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**Susan Tompor: Detroit retirees facing cuts anxiously await bankruptcy eligibility decision**

*"After 38 years of working as a clerk at the main branch of the Detroit Public Library, Barbara Yokom retired in April 2012. A little more than a year later, Detroit filed for Chapter 9 relief and threw her health care coverage and a chunk of her pension into the great bankruptcy unknown."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-01-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131201/COL07/312010058/Detroit-bankruptcy-retiree-cuts-Susan-Tompor>

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 22, 2015 6:06 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Fred Upton, Congress panel to hold hearing on Volkswagen emissions trickery**

*"DETROIT, MI - A congressional panel will be held in the coming weeks on revelations that Volkswagen has been tricking U.S. emissions tests for nearly half a million of its cars with diesel engines. "*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2015/09/fred\\_upton\\_congress\\_panel\\_to\\_h.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2015/09/fred_upton_congress_panel_to_h.html#incart_river)

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### **Michigan SOS, after review, says expelled Rep. Cindy Gamrat eligible to run for re-election**

*"LANSING, MI — Former Michigan state Rep. Cindy Gamrat is eligible to run for her old seat in an upcoming special election despite her recent expulsion, according to the Bureau of Elections."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_sos_after_review_says.html#incart_river)

[news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan\\_sos\\_after\\_review\\_says.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_sos_after_review_says.html#incart_river)

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### **Allegan County GOP to hold debate for 80th House candidates**

*"The Allegan County Republican Party is sponsoring a debate next month for the eight GOP candidates on the primary ballot for the 80th State House seat."*

**Source:** Kalamazoo Gazette **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/09/allegan\\_county\\_gop\\_to\\_hold\\_deb.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/09/allegan_county_gop_to_hold_deb.html#incart_river)

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## Recent poll shows U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg leads challenger Gretchen Driskell

*"JACKSON, MI – A recent poll shows U.S. Representative Tim Walberg leading against his challenger Gretchen Driskell in the race for Michigan's 7th District."*

**Source:** Jackson Citizen Patriot **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2015/09/recent\\_poll\\_indicates\\_voters\\_1.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2015/09/recent_poll_indicates_voters_1.html#incart_river)

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## Hooker wants Planned Parenthood, cucumbers out of sex education

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Planned Parenthood and any other organization "that provides abortion or abortion counseling" would be prohibited from teaching sex education in Michigan schools, per a bill introduced by state Rep. Tom Hooker, R-Byron Township."*

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/hooker_wants_planned_parenthoo.html#incart_m-rpt-2)

[rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/hooker\\_wants\\_planned\\_parenthoo.html#incart\\_m-rpt-2](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/hooker_wants_planned_parenthoo.html#incart_m-rpt-2)

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## U.S. congressman calls for more testing of Flint water

*"FLINT, MI – Congressman Dan Kildee says more homes need to to have water tested for lead in Flint and wants an agency or company other than the city or state to carry out the testing."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/kildee\\_says\\_independent\\_tests.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/kildee_says_independent_tests.html#incart_river)

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## Father of Republican hopeful Ted Cruz to address Flint-area pro-life group

*"GRAND BLANC TWP, MI – Rafael Cruz, father of presidential candidate Ted Cruz of Texas, will be guest speaker Friday, Sept. 25, at a luncheon in Brick Street restaurant honoring pastors and pro-life advocates."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/father\\_of\\_presidential\\_candida.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/father_of_presidential_candida.html#incart_river)

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## State rules ex-Rep. Gamrat eligible for ballot

*"The Michigan Bureau of Elections ruled Monday that former state Rep. Cindy Gamrat is eligible to run in the special primary election for her seat even though she was expelled 10 days ago."*



**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/21/gamrat-courser/72566018/>

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## Michigan State Police urged to return DNA evidence

*"State law says biological evidence collected from crime suspects is to be returned or destroyed after acquittal. But samples stored by the Michigan State Police can be kept for months after a case is resolved, unless a court intervenes."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/21/dna-evidence/72602950/>

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## Cindy Gamrat eligible for ballot, but may not be seated

*"LANSING — The state's Bureau of Elections has concluded former state Rep. Cindy Gamrat, a Plainwell Republican, is eligible to try to regain her seat in Michigan's 80th House District, despite her recent expulsion from the Legislature, a spokesman said Monday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/21/cindy-gamrat-eligible-ballot-but-maybe-not-seat/72557428/>

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## Snyder to meet in Seattle with Chinese president

*"LANSING — Gov. Rick Snyder — along with governors from four other states — is to fly to Seattle Tuesday to meet with Chinese president Xi Jinping, officials said Monday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/21/gov-rick-snyder-xi-jinping-michigan-governor-chinese-president/72583552/>

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## Evans to set terms for 1 union, extend others' deadline

*"The administration of County Executive Warren Evans has announced its second order under the consent agreement, setting the stage for it to impose contract terms on one of the county's unions, even as it extends the time for others to potentially ratify their own contracts."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/09/21/wayne-county-unions-warren-evans-contract-ratification/72593068/>

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### 3 corporate expansions upbeat news for region

*"Just a few days after eliminating 65 jobs in its economic development agency, the state of Michigan is expected to announce some upbeat news today — three corporate expansions in metro Detroit that will bring \$109 million of investment and more than 600 jobs to the region."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/tom-walsh/2015/09/22/valiant-carhartt-expansions/72573006/>

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### \$1.4B Windsor highway could set tone for new bridge

*"As southwest Detroit prepares for construction of the Gordie Howe bridge to Canada, community leaders have taken notice of a new \$1.4-billion highway in Windsor that they hope can be a model for similar improvements in Detroit."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/09/22/gordie-howe-bridge-windsor-detray/72570636/>

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### Advocacy/Opinion

#### Nuclear energy offers benefits to Michigan

*"All of us from Michigan are used to frigid winters and scorching summers. These temperature extremes underscore the need to keep the lights, air conditioning, and heat on and running reliably. Every time you flip a switch, turn a dial, or plug into an outlet, electricity is there when you need it — something many seem to take for granted. What we should not take for granted, however, is the vital role that our nuclear power plants play in making the electricity we use each and every day, and more broadly, the role that the generation of nuclear power plays in our state's economy and environment. This is especially true in light of the Environmental Protection Agency's recently announced Clean Power Plan to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from existing generating sources across the country."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/22/column-nuclear/72601496/>

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#### Editorial: Common-sense Detroit pot rules a good start

*"Marijuana dispensaries, commonly called pot shops, have sprung up throughout Detroit in the years since medical marijuana was legalized in Michigan, and local officials are worried about getting too many without a regulatory structure in place."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/21/editorial-common-sense-detroit-pot-rules->

## Press Releases

### Gov. Snyder's Press Advisory

**"Wednesday, Sept. 22 at 5 p.m. Eastern**

Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks as part of a bipartisan delegation of U.S. governors meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping that will focus on collaborative economic development efforts. Snyder will be joined by U.S. governors Jerry Brown (D-California), Terry Branstad (R-Iowa), Kate Brown (D-Oregon) and Jay Inslee (D-Washington) and six governors from China."

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder's Office of Communications **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442872733](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442872733)

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### Coalition Plans Lansing Symposium on the Bipartisan Movement for Michigan Criminal Justice Reform

"

LANSING - A broad coalition of groups on the left and right is hosting a symposium on the bipartisan movement for Michigan criminal justice reform tomorrow morning in downtown Lansing.

"

**Source:** Grassroots Midwest **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442870541\\_gm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870541_gm.pdf)

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### Walker Declares War on Working People, Immediately Waves White Flag

"MICHIGAN — Today, Republican presidential hopeful Scott Walker is expected to suspend his campaign amid abysmal polling numbers and a resume that held one feature: attacking working people. In a pathetic, last ditch effort to save his own national political aspirations, Walker once again took the attack to unions and working families during the last presidential debate."

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442870504\\_pm2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870504_pm2.pdf)

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### ADVISORY: JEB BUSH TO VISIT IOWA ON TUESDAY

"**Miami, FL** – Tomorrow, Governor Jeb Bush will visit Iowa. In the morning, he will participate in a meet and greet event in Cedar Falls, IA. Later in the morning, Governor Bush is unveiling his regulatory reform policy at John Putney's Farm in Gladbrook, IA, where he will participate in a roundtable discussion on regulatory reform with local farmers and small business owners. That afternoon, Governor Bush will attend the Linn

Eagles Lunch event at the Cedar Rapids Country Club."

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442870448\\_jb2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870448_jb2.pdf)

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## **Rep. Cole encourages local residents to explore Michigan farms**

*"State Rep. Triston Cole, R-Mancelona, invites local residents to share their Michigan farm fresh experiences this fall by uploading photos to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram using the hashtag: #MIFarmFresh105."*

**Source:** Rep. Triston Cole **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442870418\\_tc3.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870418_tc3.pdf)

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## **Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future Ad Shows Utilities are Behind Bad Energy Bills**

*"MICHIGAN – Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future (CMEF), a utility front group, released an ad this month calling for public support for legislation introduced in the Michigan House and Senate to eliminate Michigan's renewable energy and energy efficiency standards. The misleading ad falsely claims that Michigan will face power shortages unless electric utilities are given carte blanche to build expensive, dirty power plants instead of abiding by state standards for greater energy efficiency and renewable energy."*

**Source:** Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442870375\\_cen.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870375_cen.pdf)

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## **Traffic Advisory - M-20 traffic restrictions at Leaton Road now starting Sept. 22**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will begin reconstruction of the intersection at M-20 (East Pickard Road) and Leaton Road.*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442870339\\_mdott4.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870339_mdott4.pdf)

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## **Michigan Announces Regional Approach to the Blueprint for Health Innovation**

*"LANSING, Mich. – In an effort to better coordinate care, lower costs, and improve the health of Michigan residents, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has chosen to move forward with the Blueprint for Health Innovation through a regional approach.*

"

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442870311\\_dhs2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870311_dhs2.pdf)

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## **Sept. Coffee Hour, Home Heating Credit Deadline Quickly Approaching**

*"It is an honor and a pleasure to contact you once again as the state representative for the 53<sup>d</sup> Michigan House District. Throughout the year, I will send regular updates to keep you informed about issues that affect the Ann Arbor area and our state. I will continue to represent our values and interests here in Lansing."*

**Source:** Rep. Jeff Irwin **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442870274\\_ji.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870274_ji.pdf)

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## **Dingell Announces \$500,000 COPS Grant to Hire Four Additional Police Officers in Taylor**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today announced that the City of Taylor has been awarded a \$500,000 grant so that the police department can hire four additional police officers. The grant was awarded through the Department of Justice's Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program."*

**Source:** U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442870239\\_dd.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870239_dd.pdf)

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## **Final Call for Benishek Academy Nominations**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C.- Each year, Dr. Benishek has the honor of nominating a number of young men and women to our nation's military academies. **The application submission deadline is October 16, 2015.** Applicants must submit complete documentation of all required information by this date. Students will then be scheduled for an interview with the advisory board on November 10, 2015. All applications should be mailed to:*

"

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442870211\\_db.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870211_db.pdf)

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## **Secretary of State Ruth Johnson: National Voter Registration Day reminds us of the importance of vot**

"

LANSING, Mich. – Secretary of State Ruth Johnson is commemorating National Voter Registration Day on Tuesday, Sept. 22, by calling on eligible voters in Michigan to get registered or update their information."

**Source:** Michigan Secretary of State **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442870183\\_sos.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870183_sos.pdf)

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## **Imminent Hazard Requires Immediate Actions to Eliminate Oil Risk in Straits of Mackinac**

"

TRAVERSE CITY – Filling a void left by the state, a Great Lakes law and policy group and its scientific advisors released a report today calling on the Snyder administration to take interim steps – including the immediate temporary halt of oil flowing through two aging pipelines in the Mackinac Straits – and swiftly pursue an "action plan" to prevent an oil spill that likely could not be cleaned up and would threaten the state and regional economy, a vital fishery, and the drinking water supply for Mackinac Island and St. Ignace. "

**Source:** For Love of Water **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442870136\\_flow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870136_flow.pdf)

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## **ICYMI: CNN: Cruz, the 'Original Outsider'**

"HOUSTON, Texas – CNN's Nia-Malika Henderson recently discussed Cruz's standing as the 'original outsider' and how he has the record of leading the fight in Washington on issues important to American voters."

**Source:** Ted Cruz for President **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442870028\\_tc2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442870028_tc2.pdf)

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## **Peters Tours Michigan State University Facility for Rare Isotope Beams**

"WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI), the Ranking Member on the Space, Science and Competitiveness Subcommittee, toured the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) at Michigan State University and held a roundtable discussion with academic leaders and researchers from Michigan State University to gather input as the Senate Commerce Science and Transportation Committee works to formulate new legislation to shape federal science research and development priorities."

**Source:** U.S. Senator Gary Peters **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442869597\\_qp2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442869597_qp2.pdf)

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## **HUD AWARDS \$12.4 MILLION TO 18 TRIBES NATIONWIDE TO ADDRESS MOLD**

"WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced today it has awarded \$12.4 million to 18 tribal communities in 13 states to remove and prevent dangerous mold in more than 1,000 homes. This is the largest amount to date awarded by HUD for this purpose. The grants are being made available through HUD's Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) program, which addresses a wide variety of community development and affordable housing activities."

**Source:** HUD **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442869565\\_hud.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442869565_hud.pdf)

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## **Medication disposal event to be held Tuesday at state Capitol**

"The DEQ will participate in a medication disposal event for the public from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 22 at the state Capitol building in Lansing.

"

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442851782\\_deq2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851782_deq2.pdf)

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## **Davenport University Honors TC Chamber Executive Director**

"TRAVERSE CITY, MI – Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Laura Oblinger is among six Davenport University graduates who will be honored at the university's Alumni Awards Celebration in October."

**Source:** Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442851741\\_tc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851741_tc.pdf)

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY: Enbridge to Conduct Functional Oil Spill Response Exercise**

"MACKINAW CITY, MI--(Marketwired - September 21, 2015) - Enbridge, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and several local emergency management agencies will conduct a functional oil spill response exercise in Mackinaw City and St. Ignace, Michigan, Thursday, September 24.

"

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442851675\\_deq.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851675_deq.pdf)

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## **Additional closure needed tonight at I-96/US-127 in Lansing**

*"Starting tonight at 8 p.m. there will be a single lane closure on eastbound I-96 under US-127 and the ramp from eastbound I-96 to northbound US-127 will be closed until 5 a.m. the following morning. "*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442851640\\_mdof3.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851640_mdof3.pdf)

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY- TOMORROW: Schuette at Detroit's Cass Tech to Promote Anti-Bullying Program**

*"A.G. Schuette to highlight new statistics on OK2SAY's success promoting student safety, OK2SAY designed to reduce violence in Michigan schools through confidential 24-hour multimedia tipline, mobile app, website.*

"

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442851612\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851612_ag.pdf)

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## **Fall asset management conference set for Oct. 15 in Marquette**

*"September 21, 2015 -- The Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) will sponsor the 2015 TAMC Fall Conference on Thursday, Oct. 15, at the Ramada of Marquette. The conference will once again provide a forum for state and local officials to examine the relationship between asset management, pavement management, and road funding."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442851568\\_tam.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851568_tam.pdf)

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## **Improvements to Online Education to Benefit Michigan Students**

*"September 21, 2015 - Online postsecondary distance education for Michigan students just got a lot better, along with streamlined regulation for colleges and universities, with the State of Michigan joining a new national reciprocity agreement under the enactment of Public Act 45 of 2015."*

**Source:** LARA **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442851531\\_lara.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851531_lara.pdf)

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## **MDHHS to host public forum in Escanaba about MI Health Link**

"

*LANSING, Mich. -- The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services will be hosting a public forum about the MI Health Link program that integrates care*



*for individuals who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid on Tuesday, October 20, 2015, in Escanaba. MDHHS will also provide a conference line for those interested to participate by phone.*

"

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442851499\\_dhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442851499_dhs.pdf)

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## **Sparrow transforms care for Patients with new approach to hip replacement surgery**

"

*LANSING, MI – Orthopedic Surgeon Jason Cochran, D.O., at Sparrow, now provides an alternative to traditional hip replacement surgery, featuring a smaller incision and quicker recovery time."*

**Source:** Sparrow Hospital **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442843831\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442843831_sparrow.pdf)

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## **TODAY: Peters to Tour Michigan State University Facility for Rare Isotope Beams**

*"EAST LANSING, MI – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) will tour the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) at Michigan State University **TODAY, September 21<sup>st</sup>, at 10:45 AM. Media should plan to arrive at 10:30am to access the tour site.** Following the tour, Peters will hold a roundtable discussion with academic leaders and researchers from Michigan State University to gather input as the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee works to formulate new legislation setting federal science research and development priorities. Peters is the Ranking Member on the Space, Science and Competitiveness Subcommittee."*

**Source:** U.S. Senator Gary Peters **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442843718\\_gp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442843718_gp.pdf)

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## **ADVISORY: JEB BUSH TO VISIT IOWA TODAY**

*"Miami, FL – This evening, Governor Jeb Bush will attend a town hall in Mason City, IA."*

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442843681\\_jb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442843681_jb.pdf)

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## **Final Adopt-A-Highway cleanup of the year starts Sept. 26**

*"September 21, 2015 – The final Adopt-A-Highway pickup of the year will mark the completion of the 25th*

anniversary of the popular Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) program. Thousands of volunteers will be scouring the roadsides looking for trash from Saturday, Sept. 26, through Sunday, Oct. 4.

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442843645\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442843645_mdof.pdf)

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## WalletHub Survey: 2015's Most & Least Fair State Tax Systems

*"With taxes being top of mind for many American voters as political hopefuls sell their tax-reform ideas to the public, the personal finance website WalletHub released its annual report on the 2015's Most & Least Fair State Tax Systems."*

**Source:** Wallet Hub **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442843433\\_wh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442843433_wh.pdf)

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## CONGRESSMAN WALKS 570 MILES FOR VETERANS

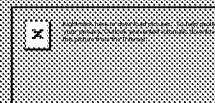
*"Congressman Kerry Bentivolio is fed up and he's taking it to the streets! The 64 year old Congressman from Milford, MI and veteran of two wars left this past Friday at 0800 and is literally walking for justice for his fellow veterans, soldiers, sailors, airmen and women and the US Marines on a 570 mile journey from his home to Washington, D.C. to raise awareness of the abominable conditions that our veterans and their families are living under after giving their lives to protect and serve this country."*

**Source:** Congressman Kerry Bentivolio **Date:** 09-22-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442843312\\_kb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442843312_kb.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirnews.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 19, 2015 10:42 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Late night bill raises fear of stifling voter education**

*"Lansing — School leaders, municipal officials and Democrats are urging the governor to veto late-night legislation they say clamps a virtual gag order on local officials and may curtail union efforts to raise money for political causes."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/18/bill-raises-fears-stifling-voter-education/77610120/>

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### **WMU president donates salary increase to school**

*"Western Michigan University President John Dunn got a raise Friday morning — then gave it back to the university, plus some."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/18/wmu-president-donates-salary-increase-school/77558820/>

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### **Michigan law lets arenas, other venues stock EpiPens**

*"LANSING — A new Michigan law lets arenas, camps and other venues stock epinephrine injectors to treat allergic reactions."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/19/michigan-law-epipens-arenas-other-venues/77622440/>

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## Michigan's late elk season a success for most hunters

*"LANSING — This year's final elk hunt in northern Michigan has come to a close."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/19/michigans-late-elk-season/77622542/>

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## MSU president requests no raise; board approves

*"EAST LANSING — Michigan State University President Lou Anna K. Simon will continue to receive a \$750,000 annual salary after asking for the eighth time in 10 years not to get a pay increase."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/18/msu-president-requests-no-raise-board-approves/77577510/>

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## Feds: Detroit man built bombs to protect pot plants

*"A Detroit man is facing federal charges for allegedly building bombs and placing them in his yard to protect his marijuana plants — a plan that authorities say landed one man in the hospital."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/12/18/feds-detroit-man-built-bombs-protect-pot-plants/77584014/>

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## Texas company gives every employee \$100K bonus

*"HOUSTON — Talk about an early Christmas."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** [http://www.freep.com/story/money/nation-](http://www.freep.com/story/money/nation-now/2015/12/17/company-gives-every-employee-100k-bonus/77473988/)

[now/2015/12/17/company-gives-every-employee-100k-bonus/77473988/](http://www.freep.com/story/money/nation-now/2015/12/17/company-gives-every-employee-100k-bonus/77473988/)

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## Long-secret audit shows Wayne Co. knew jail would blow budget

*"Wayne County officials knew in 2011 that a proposed new jail was projected to be at least \$41 million over budget but never told county commissioners or members of the Wayne County Building Authority, which was supposed to be overseeing the project."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/focal/michigan/wayne/2015/12/18/audit-wayne-county-jail/77547072/>

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## **There They Go Again: Liberals Claim Bogus Education Funding Cuts**

*"The headline atop a press release from the [Michigan League for Public Policy](#) is clear enough: "Michigan still lags significantly behind nation in per pupil funding." But easily accessible data proves the headline wrong."*

**Source:** *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22023>

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## **Lake Superior, other Great Lakes among world's fastest warming lakes**

*"The Great Lakes are some of the world's fastest warming lakes, a new study finds."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/12/new\\_study\\_shows\\_great\\_lakes\\_wa.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/weather/index.ssf/2015/12/new_study_shows_great_lakes_wa.html#incart_river_home)

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## **EMU education faculty votes to censure regents' chairman after comments on EAA**

*"In the latest chapter of the Eastern Michigan University community's unrest over the Board of Regents continued dedication to the Education Achievement Authority, the school's College of Education faculty submitted a vote of censure against regent chairman Mike Morris."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/emu_education_faculty_submits.html#incart_river_home)

[arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/emu\\_education\\_faculty\\_submits.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/emu_education_faculty_submits.html#incart_river_home)

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## **\$2 billion for blight elimination efforts approved by Congress**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. — As five Michigan communities wrap up the federally-funded demolition of thousands of blighted houses, Congress this week allocated an additional \$2 billion expected to further fund the effort nationwide."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/12/congress\\_okays\\_2\\_billion\\_for\\_b.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/12/congress_okays_2_billion_for_b.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Eastern Michigan University regents to vote Monday on new interim president**

*"The Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents will host a special meeting Monday, Dec. 21, at 9 a.m. to vote on the appointment of a new interim president. The meeting will take place on campus at 201 Welch Hall."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.mlive.com/news/ann->

[arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/eastern\\_michigan\\_university\\_ca\\_1.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/eastern_michigan_university_ca_1.html#incart_river_home)

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## **U.S. 131 pileup: Motorists describe chaos, fear as vehicles collided**

*"ALGOMA TOWNSHIP, MI – Drivers involved in a large pileup Friday on U.S. 131 described frightening scenes and near-misses as dozens of vehicles crashed in whiteout conditions."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/motorists\\_describe\\_chaos\\_fear.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/motorists_describe_chaos_fear.html#incart_river_home)

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## **He's a college senior with a 3.4 GPA — and he's homeless**

*"YPSILANTI — Ramone Williams is always hungry, but at the end of a Shakespeare class recently at Eastern Michigan University, he was ravenous."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2015/12/hes\\_a\\_college\\_senior\\_with\\_a\\_36.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2015/12/hes_a_college_senior_with_a_36.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Outrageous stories from Grand Rapids' 'Lost Restaurants'**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Dining out, whether in the most elegant restaurants or humblest lunch counters, always has a final chapter."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/entertainment/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/grand\\_rapids\\_historic\\_restaura.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/entertainment/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/grand_rapids_historic_restaura.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Dutch churchgoers with Michigan ties could set tone for presidential race**

*"A Dutch enclave with cultural and religious ties to West Michigan may have an extraordinary impact on this year's presidential campaign, the [New York Times](#) reports."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/dutch\\_churchgoers\\_with\\_ties\\_to.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/dutch_churchgoers_with_ties_to.html#incart_river_home)

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## **President Obama commutes drug-related prison sentences for 2 Saginaw men**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. — Two former Saginaw men will be released from federal prisons earlier than expected next year due to commutations of their sentences announced this week by President Obama."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/12/president\\_obama\\_commutes\\_priso.html#incart\\_most\\_shared-lansing](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/12/president_obama_commutes_priso.html#incart_most_shared-lansing)

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## Michigan bills would ease vaccination waiver process, undermine new health rules

*"LANSING, MI — A state policy requiring parents to sit down with a local health worker before obtaining a vaccination waiver for their kids is "bureaucracy gone a bit too far," according to the chairman of the Michigan House Health Policy Committee."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_lawmakers\\_want\\_to\\_eas.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_lawmakers_want_to_eas.html#incart_story_package)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### College: Islamic view, not hijab, got teacher suspended

*"If Wheaton College professor Larycia Hawkins had simply donned a headscarf to support her Muslim neighbors without explaining herself, she still might be administering final exams this week."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/life/2015/12/18/wheaton-college-professor-larycia-hawkins-firing/77591042/>

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### Simpler enrollment improves access to charter schools

*"Charter schools are making their presence known in American cities. After more than a decade of steady growth, 10 percent of urban public school students are now enrolled in charters, where research shows the typical student benefitting more than at district schools."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/18/fixing-charter-school-access/77598088/>

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### GOP struggles with identity crisis on foreign policy

*"National security was front and center this past week as nine presidential hopefuls took to the stage for the final Republican showdown of the year."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/18/gop-struggles-identity-crisis-foreign-policy/77598210/>

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## **Susan J. Demas: Anti-vaccination bills will harm Michigan children**

*"When it comes to keeping kids healthy in Michigan, it seems we always take one step forward and two steps back."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/vaccinations\\_michigan\\_hooker.html#incart\\_most\\_shared-lansing](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/vaccinations_michigan_hooker.html#incart_most_shared-lansing)

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## **Press Releases**

### **Defunding Planned Parenthood and Repealing ObamaCare**

*"Washington, D.C. – House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (CA-23) released the following statement announcing a House vote on reconciliation in January."*

**Source:** United States House Majority Floor Leader Kevin McCarthy **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450473726\\_mccarthy.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450473726_mccarthy.pdf)

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### **Schuetzte: Orchard Lake Attorney Sentenced in Fake Mortgage Assistance Scheme**

*"LANSING – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuetzte today announced the sentencing of Stephen Barry Ruza, 52, of Orchard Lake, former owner of Home Legal Group Inc., for one felony count of Conducting a Criminal Enterprise. Ruza was sentenced to 12 months in Oakland County Jail, followed by five years of probation by Judge Nanci Grant in Oakland County's 6th Circuit Court. Ruza pleaded guilty to the charges of defrauding his victims with a fake mortgage assistance scheme in September."*

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuetzte **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450473397\\_ag.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450473397_ag.pdf)

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### **Beloved 52-1 District Court magistrate passes away**

*"Friday, Dec. 18, 2015, Novi, Mich. – Charles Y. Cooper, magistrate of 52-1 District Court in Novi, Mich., died this morning following a brief illness. He was 79."*

**Source:** Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450473219\\_oak.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450473219_oak.pdf)

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### **Metro Detroit AFL-CIO Members to Feed Those in Need**

*"DETROIT — Members of the Metro Detroit AFL-CIO will hand out food baskets for those in need. The giveaway will ensure that families will be able to enjoy a Christmas dinner."*

**Source:** Metro Detroit AFL-CIO **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

## **Legislature Wraps; More Detroit Talk; M-STEP Results; Education & Poverty; Unions down 20%; HS Grad**

### **"Legislature wraps up for the calendar year**

*The State Senate and House of Representatives have finished up their work for the year, and they are officially on recess until January 13, 2016. While there was much activity during the final days of session, none of the focus was on K-12 education issues. We expect to kick-start the debate on passing HB 4822 (K-3 Reading) in the Senate when they return on January 13. By the way, please [click here](#) to read Rep. Price's strong defense of HB 4822 in MLive."*

**Source:** Great Lakes Education Project **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450469710\\_edu.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450469710_edu.pdf)

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## **Clean Water Action launches "Lansing Clean Energy First" campaign**

*"**LANSING** – Clean Water Action is asking businesses throughout the Board of Water and Light service territory to make their voices heard and encourage the BWL to become a national leader by investing in clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency first, before coal and natural gas-based energy production."*

**Source:** Clean Water Action **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450468608\\_mich.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450468608_mich.pdf)

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## **Michigan State Police Adds Six Canine Teams**

*"**LANSING, MICH.** Michigan State Police (MSP) Director Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue is pleased to announce that Michigan citizens will soon benefit from the services of six new canine teams that graduated from the MSP 2015 Basic Canine School today.*

"

**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450467172\\_msp.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450467172_msp.pdf)

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## **Dem Leader Greimel to Wrap Up 2015 Legislative Session, Preview 2016**

*"**LANSING** – House Democratic Leader **Tim Greimel** (D-Auburn Hills) will hold an informal press conference in **room 167 of the state Capitol on Monday, Dec. 21, at 10:30 a.m.** to review the past year's legislative session and to look ahead to the major issues of 2016."*

**Source:** Rep. Tim Greimel **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450467015\\_greimel.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450467015_greimel.pdf)

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## Obama Administration Announces Competition to Designate the Third and Final Round of Promise Zones

*"WASHINGTON – Today, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Julián Castro and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that communities may now apply to be designated a Promise Zone under the third and final round competition. [Read the new notice seeking Promise Zone applications.](#)"*

**Source:** Michigan USDA **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450465603\\_usda.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450465603_usda.pdf)

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## Rally and March in Honor of Kajavia Globe Saturday, December 19th 4pm

*"Detroit - Tomorrow, Saturday, December 19, 2015, Council Member Sheffield and concerned young women from Detroit will march and rally in honor of Kajavia Globe and the hundreds of other young women who have been abducted and killed every year in America. Kajavia Globe was found murdered earlier this week."*

**Source:** Detroit City Council - Mary Sheffield **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450465105\\_detroit.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450465105_detroit.pdf)

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## New Charges Against One Defendant in Linden Schools Shooting Plot

*"Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton and Argentine Twp. Police Chief Dan Allen will hold a press conference to provide updates as to additional charges against one of the defendants charged in the alleged plot to shoot up Linden Schools."*

**Source:** Office of Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450465037\\_genesees.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450465037_genesees.pdf)

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## Congresswoman Dingell's Holiday Jingle

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today continued a Dingell holiday tradition, releasing the 2015 edition of the annual [Dingell Jingle](#). Full text of the jingle can be read below."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450464673\\_dingell.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450464673_dingell.pdf)

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## Heartland Education Experts React to Judge Denying Injunction against Croydon

## School Board

*"Strafford Superior Court Justice Brian Tucker on Monday ruled against the New Hampshire Department of Education's request for an injunction against the Croydon School Board for paying tuition to send five students to the Newport Montessori School. The following statements from education policy experts at The Heartland Institute – a free-market think tank – may be used for attribution. For more comments, refer to the contact information below. To book a Heartland guest on your program, please contact Jim Lakely, director of communications, at [jlakely@heartland.org](mailto:jlakely@heartland.org) and 312/377-4000."*

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450463178\\_Michigan\\_Information\\_&\\_Research\\_Service\\_Inc.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450463178_Michigan_Information_&_Research_Service_Inc.pdf)

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## Shoulder closures next week on Trowbridge Road at US-127

*"Trowbridge Road at US-127, Ingham County Starting Monday, December 21, through Wednesday, December 23, there will be a shoulder closure on Trowbridge Road at US-127. The shoulder closure is needed so crews can install temporary supports to bridges at the interchange. There will be no lane closures on US-127 while work is taking place. After this week, work will be suspended until the new year. Work will resume in January after the holiday season. "*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450462485\\_mdod.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450462485_mdod.pdf)

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## First Female MING FA

*"LANSING, Mich. - In 2014, a directive was issued from the secretary of the Army, authorizing more opportunities for women to serve in a wider range of roles within the U.S. Army. By January 2016, the U.S. military must open all combat jobs to women or explain why any must remain closed."*

**Source:** Michigan National Guard **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450462232\\_mng.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450462232_mng.pdf)

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## HOUSE - The next legislative day set by the Constitution is Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 12:00 pm

*"The next legislative day set by the Constitution is Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 12:00 pm"*

**Source:** Michigan House of Representatives **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450462284\\_2016.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450462284_2016.pdf)

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## Peters Applauds Extension of Tax Credit for Businesses Employing Military Reservists & National Guard

**"WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI), a former Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve, today applauded the expansion and permanent extension of a tax credit for employers that provide differential pay to military reservists and National Guard members called to serve on active duty. The tax credit, which was included in an end-of-year government spending and tax bill, would apply to all businesses, but the extension is particularly helpful for small businesses that may find it more difficult to absorb the costs of providing differential pay. Earlier this year, Peters introduced the Military Reserve Small Business Jobs Act with Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA), a former Lieutenant Colonel in the Iowa Army National Guard, to extend this tax credit for small businesses for five years, providing financial security for the families of Reservists and National Guardsmen serving on active duty."

**Source:** Sen. Gary Peters **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450462036\\_peters.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450462036_peters.pdf)

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## **Dingell Statement on Omnibus Appropriations Bill**

**"WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today joined colleagues in the House to adopt, by a vote of 316 to 113, the fiscal year 2016 Omnibus Appropriations bill, which funds the government for 2016."

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450456389\\_dingell.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450456389_dingell.pdf)

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## **Securing Michigan Priorities**

**"WASHINGTON** – Following House passage of the omnibus spending package, the Consolidated Appropriations Act for FY 2016 (H.R. 2029), Congressman Mike Bishop issued the following statement: "

**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450456177\\_bisho.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450456177_bisho.pdf)

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## **Jones and Barrett to Set Up Nativity at Capitol**

**"LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Rick Jones, with help from Rep. Tom Barrett, will be setting up a nativity scene on Saturday on the East Lawn of the Michigan Capitol. Jones encourages the public to come out to see the display, which will be up from Saturday through Christmas Day."

**Source:** Sen. Rick Jones and Rep. Tom Barrett **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450456116\\_jones.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450456116_jones.pdf)

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## **CPAN Administrative Director Receives Humanitarian Award**

**"LANSING** – The Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault (CPAN) is proud to announce that on Wednesday, Dec. 9, Administrative Director Martha Levandowski was awarded the Catalina Andres Humanitarian Award for her ongoing and tireless efforts to advocate on behalf of auto accident survivors. The award was presented to Levandowski by

*the ACS Foundation during the acclaimed Holiday Schmooze black tie gala held at The Reserve in Birmingham."*

**Source:** *Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault* **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450455910\\_cpan.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450455910_cpan.pdf)

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## **Michigan Legislative Black Caucus Calls For A State of Emergency In Flint**

*"LANSING – The Michigan Legislative Black Caucus (MLBC) today joined the City of Flint, and urged Gov. Rick Snyder to issue a State of Emergency to address the continuing health concerns caused by the increased lead levels in their water."*

**Source:** *Michigan Legislative Black Caucus* **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450455851\\_dem.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450455851_dem.pdf)

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## **Hunting Access and Anti-Poaching Bills Signed**

*"In the past week, we have seen a lot of activity on a few of our priority issues at both the state and federal level. At the state level, we celebrated the passage of our anti-poaching and hunting access legislative packages with ceremonial bill signings with Governor Snyder on Wednesday! Members of the Michigan Hunting Dog Federation, the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association, and MUCC board and staff attended signings on Public Acts 185 and 187-189."*

**Source:** *Michigan United Conservation Clubs* **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450455585\\_mucc.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450455585_mucc.pdf)

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## **Benishek Votes to Fund Michigan Priorities**

*"WASHINGTON - Today, the House voted in favor of a \$1.1 trillion budget agreement that will keep the federal government funded through next September. "*

**Source:** *Rep. Dan Benishek* **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450454920\\_benishek.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450454920_benishek.pdf)

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## **Powerball Jackpot Tops \$200 Million**

*"LANSING, Mich., Dec. 18, 2015 – A very happy holiday season could be in store for a lucky Michigan Lottery player if they win the \$202 million Powerball jackpot on Saturday."*

**Source:** *Michigan Lottery* **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450453762\\_lottery.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450453762_lottery.pdf)

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## **Huizenga Supports Omnibus Legislation Impacting West Michigan Economy**

*"Washington, D.C. – Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga released the following statement after voting in support of the year-end government funding legislation:"*

**Source:** Rep. Bill Huizenga **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450453426\\_huizenga.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450453426_huizenga.pdf)

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## **Expert available to discuss historically high automotive sales forecast for December 2015**

*"It was announced yesterday that two companies who forecast automotive sales predict the U.S. will see the highest sales since July 2005. Consumers are expected to spend more than \$44 billion on new vehicles this month, contributing \$437 billion to automotive sales for 2015 overall. An AEG expert is available to discuss how these sales may affect the automotive industry."*

**Source:** Anderson Economic Group **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450453060\\_aeg.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450453060_aeg.pdf)

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## **Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 12/17/2015**

*"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 12/17/2015.*

*For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see <http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx>"*

**Source:** Michigan Court of Appeals **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450452118\\_court.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450452118_court.pdf)

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## **State transportation economic grants to support 155 jobs in St. Clair County**

*"December 18, 2015 – The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding state transportation economic development grants totaling \$266,503 that will support 155 jobs in Yale, St. Clair County. The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grants will leverage more than \$5,453,500 in private investment, at a private-to-public ratio of about 20-to-1."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450451604\\_mdott.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450451604_mdott.pdf)

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## **State transportation economic development grant to help support 100 new jobs in Howell**

*"December 18, 2015 -- One hundred new jobs in the city of Howell will be supported thanks to a state transportation*

economic development grant provided by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grant totaling \$267,200 will leverage \$52.5 million in private investment, at a private/public investment ratio of more than 196-to-1."

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450451565\\_mdod.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450451565_mdod.pdf)

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## **Upton Statement on Passage of Omnibus**

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, released the following statement upon passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act."

**Source:** Rep. Fred Upton **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450451525\\_upton.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450451525_upton.pdf)

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## **State transportation economic development grant to foster 175 new jobs in west Michigan**

"**December 18, 2015** -- The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is awarding state transportation economic development grants totaling \$461,147 in Kent and Ottawa counties that will support the creation of 175 new jobs. The Transportation Economic Development Fund (TEDF) Category A grants will help leverage \$26,370,000 in private investment, at a private-to-public ratio of about 57-to-1."

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450451487\\_mdod.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450451487_mdod.pdf)

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## **UM Wolverine Caucus January 20th (Happy Holidays)**

"

As in the past, I am requesting that you note our University of Michigan Wolverine Caucus forums in your calendar of events. Attached is a flyer highlighting our first Wolverine Caucus forum of 2016 - Sustainable Energy Future for Michigan: Challenges, Opportunities and the Role You Play featuring Dr. Gregory Keoleian, UM School of Natural Resources.

"

**Source:** University of Michigan **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450449701\\_um.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450449701_um.pdf)

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## **Seven Michigan Lottery Players Headed to Las Vegas for Monopoly Millionaires'**



## Club(tm) Game Show

**"LANSING, Mich., Dec. 18, 2015** – Seven lucky Michigan Lottery players are heading to Las Vegas to appear on the Monopoly Millionaires' Club game TV show."

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450449256\\_lottery.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450449256_lottery.pdf)

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## MSP Canine School Graduation Ceremony Today

*"The media is invited to attend the Canine School graduation ceremony at 2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 18 at the MSP Training Academy. Six new canine teams will graduate. Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue will address the graduates."*

**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450449205\\_msp.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450449205_msp.pdf)

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## Dapper Dads 2016 calendar raises funds for women's health

*"LANSING, MI – Thirteen of the region's leading men are featured in the Dapper Dads 2016 calendar, a great Christmas gift that benefits the health of women in mid-Michigan."*

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450449150\\_sparrow.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450449150_sparrow.pdf)

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## Audit Report Released - Physical Security & Environmental Controls Over IT Resources, DTMB (071-0500

**"Report title:** Performance audit report on the Physical Security and Environmental Controls Over Information Technology Resources, Department of Technology, Management, and Budget · **Project number:** 071-0500-15"

**Source:** Auditor General Doug Ringler **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450449101\\_auditor.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450449101_auditor.pdf)

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## Dingell Statement on Tax Extender Package

**"WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement today on the Protecting Against Tax Hikes (PATH) Act."

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450449057\\_dingell.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450449057_dingell.pdf)

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## Heartland Institute Experts Comment on the Omnibus Spending and Tax Bill

*"The U.S. House of Representatives and Senate came to an agreement late last night over a \$1.1 trillion omnibus spending bill and a separate \$622 billion tax bill. The House approved the tax package Thursday afternoon. Additional votes are expected today and Friday."*

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450448999\\_heartland.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450448999_heartland.pdf)

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## Investiture of Oakland Circuit Judge Jeffery S. Matis

*"The Honorable Jeffery S. Matis will be sworn in as the newest circuit judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court in Oakland County. Justice David F. Viviano of the Michigan Supreme Court will administer the oath of office to Judge Langton. You are invited to attend. Please RSVP with Karen Koshen, Court Resource and Program Specialist, at 248-858-0296 or at [koshenk@oakgov.com](mailto:koshenk@oakgov.com)."*

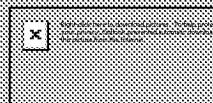
**Source:** Oakland County Circuit Court **Date:** 12-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450448956\\_oak.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450448956_oak.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 17, 2013 6:53 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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**Marquette-Delta economic zone approved by state legislature**

*"MARQUETTE - Local officials are pleased with the state legislature's passage of a bill designating Marquette and Delta counties as a new economic development zone, which will make the areas eligible for tax incentives and state funding."*

**Source:** Mining Journal (Marquette) **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** *MARQUETTE - Local officials are pleased with the state legislature's passage of a bill designating Marquette and Delta counties as a new economic development zone, which will make the areas eligible for tax incentives and state funding.*

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**GM getting ready for new \$44.5 million logistics center in Lansing**

*"General Motors Co. is within a month of starting construction on a \$44.5 million logistics center at its Lansing Grand River assembly plant."*

**Source:** Livingston County Daily Press & Argus **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**  
[http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20131216/BUSINESS/312160029/GM-getting-ready-new-44-5-million-logistics-center-Lansing?nclink\\_check=1](http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20131216/BUSINESS/312160029/GM-getting-ready-new-44-5-million-logistics-center-Lansing?nclink_check=1)

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**Gov. Rick Snyder answers questions about Flint's emergency manager, police, school deficits**

*"FLINT, MI – Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder sat down with The Flint Journal Editorial Board and reporters while he was in town for a major General Motors announcement Monday, Dec. 16."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**  
[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/12/gov\\_rick\\_snyder\\_answers\\_questi.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/12/gov_rick_snyder_answers_questi.html#incart_river_default)

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**General Motors invests \$600 million in Flint plant as executive tells workers, 'You earned this'**

"

*FLINT, MI -- General Motors is investing \$600 million in Flint Assembly, its oldest assembly plant, setting it up with a state-of-the-art paint facility and other upgrades that officials say will keep it on a par with production lines that are decades newer.*

**Source:** *Flint Journal* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** *FLINT, MI -- General Motors is investing \$600 million in Flint Assembly, its oldest assembly plant, setting it up with a state-of-the-art paint facility and other upgrades that officials say will keep it on a par with production lines that are decades newer.*

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#### **Michigan to coordinate donations to support reading**

*"LANSING — Education officials in Michigan are planning an effort to coordinate private donations to help build a culture of reading in the state."*

**Source:** *Associated Press* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**  
<http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/viewart/20131217/NEWS/312170003/Michigan-coordinate-donations-support-reading>

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#### **U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee to speak at Bay Area Chamber Congressional Luncheon**

*"FRANKENLUST TOWNSHIP, MI — U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee has a lunch date with bay area business leaders."*

**Source:** *Bay City Times* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** *FRANKENLUST TOWNSHIP, MI — U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee has a lunch date with bay area business leaders.*

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#### **Tim Skubick: Democratic attorney general candidate Mark Totten takes shot at Bill Schuette's political aspirations**

*"Democrat Mark Totten wants to be the state's next attorney general and he is burning up the shoe leather and mileage on his car to get there."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**  
[http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/12/tim\\_skubick\\_democratic\\_attorne.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/12/tim_skubick_democratic_attorne.html#incart_river_default)

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#### **Right to work survey: Local government leaders anticipate moderate impacts from law**

*"LANSING — Michigan's local government officials expect the right-to-work law will have a fairly limited effect on their municipality's fiscal health, ability to attract and retain workers and businesses, and their relationship with unions, according to a new report."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**  
[http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/12/michigan\\_right\\_to\\_work\\_local\\_g.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/12/michigan_right_to_work_local_g.html#incart_river_default)

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### **Gov. Rick Snyder 'open' to talks on adding gay, lesbian protections to anti-discrimination law**

*"LANSING, MI -- Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, responding last week to anti-gay comments made by Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema, called the remarks "discriminatory" and suggested they had no place in any political party."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/12/gov\\_rick\\_snyder\\_open\\_to\\_talks.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/12/gov_rick_snyder_open_to_talks.html#incart_river)

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### **Average Michigan teaching salary down over last 13 years after inflation**

*"LANSING -- The average salary for a public school teacher in Michigan has fallen by 8 percent when compared to salaries in 1999-2000, while the national average has fallen 1.5 percent over the same period."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2013/12/average\\_michigan\\_teaching\\_sala.html#incart\\_2box](http://www.mlive.com/education/index.ssf/2013/12/average_michigan_teaching_sala.html#incart_2box)

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### **Michigan report shows a 7-year, 53% hike in child food assistance**

*"Lansing— Michigan experienced a 53 percent increase in the rate of young children who qualified for federal food assistance between 2005 and 2012, according to a study on child health released today."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131217/METRO06/312170019/Michigan-report-shows-7-year-53-hike-child-food-assistance?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

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### **UAW official: Leadership wants to eliminate 2-tier wage system**

"

*Flint — A regional UAW official who has been nominated to an executive role with the union told reporters Monday that the UAW wants to eliminate the two-tier wage system which initially pays newer auto workers about half the hourly wages of veteran workers."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131216/AUTO01/312160093/UAW-official-Leadership-wants-eliminate-2-tier-wage-system?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE>

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### **GM to invest nearly \$1.3B in Midwest**

"

*Flint — General Motors Co. 's announcement Monday that it will invest nearly \$1.3 billion in five Midwest plants — with most money staying in Michigan — shows the company's commitment and optimism behind its U.S. workforce and continued rebirth, now that it's out of government ownership."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131216/AUTO0103/312160070/GM-invest-nearly-1-3B-Midwest?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p>

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#### **Many local officials back Michigan's right-to-work law**

*"Slightly less than half of Michigan's local government officials support the state's public-sector right-to-work law, while 22 percent oppose it, according to a University of Michigan poll released Tuesday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131217/METRO06/312170020/Many-local-officials-back-Michigan-s-right-work-law?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>

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#### **Legislators in abortion rider vote unswayed by minority leader's personal plea**

"

*It took less than an hour last week for the Michigan Legislature to introduce and pass one of the most restrictive abortion laws in the nation."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131217/METRO06/312170018/Legislators-abortion-rider-vote-unswayed-by-minority-leader-s-personal-plea?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>

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#### **Michigan report shows a 7-year, 53% hike in child food assistance**

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*Lansing— Michigan experienced a 53 percent increase in the rate of young children who qualified for federal food assistance between 2005 and 2012, according to a study on child health released today."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131217/METRO06/312170019/Michigan-report-shows-7-year-53-hike-child-food-assistance?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

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#### **Grosse Pointe Farms parents say their kids denied 'equal education'**

"

*Grosse Pointe— Graduation rates are in the mid-90s at both high schools in the Grosse Pointe Public School System."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131216/SCHOOLS/312160091/Grosse-Pointe-Farms-parents-say-their-kids-denied-equal-education-?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

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#### **Abortion insurance ban to affect 33% of policyholders**

"

*Lansing— One in three individuals with group or government-sponsored health plans in Michigan may be affected by an upcoming ban on insurance coverage for abortions that is creating confusion about how widely it may apply."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131217/POLITICS02/312170017/Abortion-insurance-ban-affect-33-policyholders?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

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#### **MDOT employee won't be disciplined for violating state ethics law**

*"LANSING — The Michigan Department of Transportation will strengthen its code of conduct but won't discipline an employee found to have violated the state ethics law, the Board of Ethics was told today."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131216/NEWS06/312160080/Michigan-Department-of-Transportation-Board-of-Ethics-sign>

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#### **Helmet use among Michigan motorcyclists down in wake of law change**

*"LANSING — Seventy-three percent of Michigan motorcyclists wear helmets, down from seven years ago when almost all riders used them, according to a state report released Monday."*

**Source:** *Associated Press* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131216/NEWS06/312160098/Helmet-use-among-Michigan-motorcyclists-down>

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#### **GM to invest \$1.3 billion in new equipment, expansions mostly in Michigan**

*"FLINT — General Motors' \$1.3-billion investment, mostly in three Michigan plants, will retain or add about 1,000 jobs, many of which are in the company's Flint birthplace that has endured the bumpy road of GM's decades-long contraction."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131216/BUSINESS0101/312160074/general-motors-gm-investment-business>

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#### **Report: More Michigan kids qualify for food aid**

*"LANSING, MICH. — A report by a private foundation says the percentage of young Michigan children qualifying for federal food assistance has jumped in recent years."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131217/NEWS06/312170060/michigan-children-poverty-kids-count>

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#### **Detroit bankruptcy judge allows appeal of eligibility, pension rulings**

*"U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Steven Rhodes on Monday allowed appeals of two of his critical rulings — finding Detroit eligible for bankruptcy and its pension systems subject to cuts to retirees — to proceed to the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131217/NEWS01/312160058/detroit-bankruptcy-case-appeals-judge-rhodes>

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#### **Akerson: GM won't pay any more back to the government**

*"WASHINGTON — General Motors Chairman and CEO Dan Akerson rejected any suggestion that the company pay an extra \$10 billion to cover the gap between taxpayers' investment and what the U.S. Treasury recovered from selling its GM stock."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131216/BUSINESS01/312160081/general-motors-dan-akerson-flint-romulus-jobs>

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#### **U-M survey: 47% of Michigan local government leaders support right-to-work law**

*"LANSING — Just under half of local government leaders in Michigan support the state's year-old right-to-work law, but they don't approve of an exemption the Legislature gave to police officers and firefighters, according to a University of Michigan survey to be released today."*



**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131217/NEWS06/312170042/right-to-work-legislation-michigan-local-government>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

**Viewpoint: No dispute: GOP and Dem legislators agree Michigan's college savings programs are a smart choice**

*"Republicans and Democrats in the Michigan Legislature often agree to disagree on many issues."*

**Source:** *Muskegon Chronicle* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/muskegon/index.ssf/2013/12/viewpoint\\_marcia\\_hovey\\_wright.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/muskegon/index.ssf/2013/12/viewpoint_marcia_hovey_wright.html#incart_river_default)

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## Supporting Michigan's teachers and students

*"Michigan's students have lost substantial ground over the last decade. Michigan has among the worst achievement gaps in the nation, and our state is not keeping up with the rest of the country – in achievement or improvement – according to new 2013 national assessment data. Indeed, that assessment found an astonishing 69 percent of Michigan's fourth graders cannot read on grade level."*

**Source:** *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2013/12/supporting-michigans-teachers-and-students/>

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## Cutting our universities, harming our future

*"There's no doubt about one thing: Michigan needs a better educated work force, more now than ever."*

**Source:** *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2013/12/cutting-our-universities-harming-our-future/>

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## Community college degrees in demand

*"To see the difference between yesterday's skilled-trade career and today's, Michael Hansen offers what's happening at BOSS Products, a snowplow manufacturer in Iron Mountain."*

**Source:** *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2013/12/community-college-degrees-in-demand/>

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## **For career success, higher degree means higher earnings**

*"The charts don't lie: If you want to have a decent shot at a decent living in Michigan, you must be prepared to sit in a classroom – virtual or otherwise – the rest of your life."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2013/12/higher-degree-higher-earnings/>

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## **Michigan's Christmas Carol: A scary look at our jobs outlook**

*"This is not a holiday story Gov. Rick Snyder wants to read to his children."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2013/12/michigans-christmas-carol/>

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## **JACK SPENCER: The ghosts of Christmases past**

*"At the beginning of the Dickens classic, "A Christmas Carol," Ebenezer Scrooge wouldn't give so much as a farthing to the poor. However, he didn't reach into the pockets of others and spend their money so irresponsibly that it risked putting them and their children in the poorhouse."*

**Source:** Big Rapids Pioneer **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** <http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2013/12/16/jack-spencer-ghosts-christmases-past/>

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## **Helping the Little Guy: Relieve Occupational Licensing Requirements and Fees**

*"When it comes to financial burdens, both Republicans and Democrats often claim to "fight for the little guy.""*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19435>

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## **Constitutional Convention Delegates Wanted State Worker Pensions To Be Fully Funded**

*"Retiree pensions in Detroit were underfunded. Politicians fretted about the city's inability to pay the obligations and state officials debated what to do about the problem."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19459>

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## **The latest threat to free and fair elections**

*"Over the last two months, the Michigan Legislature passed a bill that threatens to open elections in Michigan to more outside spending and influence. Senate Bill 661, introduced by Sen. Arlan Meekhof, R-West Olive,*

*would make significant changes to the 1976 Michigan Campaign Finance Act, making it easier for big money from special interests to influence Michigan's democratic process."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131217/OPINION01/312170003/The-latest-threat-free-fair-elections?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>

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## **Right to work, one year later**

"

*One year ago today, a momentous and historical event took place in Lansing as Michigan's 629,000 union members were granted additional rights, freedoms, and protections. Ignoring political consequences and some personal threats, our elected officials in the Legislature and governor's office stood stoically by principle and passed right to work legislation."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131217/OPINION01/312170004/Right-work-one-year-later?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>

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## **Signing campaign finance bill would betray Snyder's pledge to voters**

*"That grunting and straining you hear is the sound of Gov. Rick Snyder's struggle to reconcile campaign finance legislation recently adopted by state lawmakers with a pledge he made as a candidate to help voters learn who's spending how much to influence Michigan's political process."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20131217/OPINION01/312170041/Michigan-campaign-finance-SB-661-Rick-Snyder-Ruth-Johnson>

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## **Press Releases**

### **IFA APPLAUDS BIPARTISAN LEGISLATION TO BOOST FRANCHISE SMALL BUSINESS OWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

*"The International Franchise Association today applauded Rep. Bill Flores (R-Texas) for introducing bipartisan legislation that would help qualified veterans invest in their own franchise small business. The Veterans Entrepreneurs Act of 2013 (HR3725) would create a tax credit for veterans and their spouses who purchase a franchise up to 25 percent of the total initial franchise fee, capped at \$100,000. "*

**Source:** International Franchise Association **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** [1387230539\\_IFA APPLAUDS BIPARTISAN LEGISLATION TO BOOST.pdf](#)

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## **DIRECTOR OF MICHIGAN CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM AFFAIRS NAMED**

*"Department of Agriculture's Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), has announced the appointment of Billie Kops Wimmer to head Michigan CACFP affairs. In this role, Ms. Wimmer will oversee ACD assistance to child care providers in serving nutritious food to children in their care and to provide nutrition education for child care personnel."*

**Source:** *Director of Michigan CACFP Affairs* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** 1387227652\_DIRECTOR OF MICHIGAN CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM AFFAIRS NAMED.pdf

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## **Conservative leaders, activists from across state to launch Michigan Conservative Energy Forum**

*"Conservative leaders and activists from across Michigan will hold a tele-press conference to announce the launch of the Michigan Conservative Energy Forum (Forum). The Forum is a new group of conservative leaders in Michigan who are also favorable toward expanding use of clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency programs, such as those included in Governor Snyder's recent reports."*

**Source:** *Ally Converse* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** 1387225598\_Conservative leaders.pdf

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## **Dr. Benishek To Attend Christening of USS Milwaukee on December 18**

*"Dr. Dan Benishek (MI-01) will be attending the christening ceremony of the U.S. Navy Littoral Combat Ship USS Milwaukee in Menominee/Marinette on Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>."*

**Source:** *Kyle Bonini* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** 1387225543\_dr benishek.pdf

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## **Union Workers Rally for Fairness**

*"The Coalition of State Employee Unions (CSEU) will hold a rally on Wednesday, December 18 in Lansing to draw attention to the unfair treatment state workers received when bargaining for wages and benefits this year. During impasse hearings on the issue earlier this month, the impasse panel failed to recognize workers' past financial sacrifices, major portions of unions' testimony and Michigan's growing budget surplus. "*

**Source:** *Coalition of State Employee Unions* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** 1387225499\_Union Workers Rally for Fairness.pdf

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## **House Dem Leader Greimel to Wrap Up 2013 Legislative Session, Preview 2014**

*"House Democratic Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) will hold an informal press conference in room 167 of the state Capitol on Tuesday, Dec. 17 at 3 p.m. to review the past year's legislative session and to look ahead to the major issues of 2014."*

**Source:** *Katie Carey* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** 1387225445\_House Dem Leader Greimel to Wrap Up 2013 Legislative Session.pdf

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#### **Expedited Action Plan on Asian Carp Due January 2014**

*"Today, Congressman Dave Camp (R-MI) and Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (D-NY) released the following statements in anticipation of the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) expedited action plan to stop Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes. The report is due, by law, on January 6, 2014. "*

**Source:** *Congressman Dave Camp Press Office* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** 1387225407\_Expedited Action Plan on Asian Carp Due January 2014.pdf

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#### **National, State Democratic Leaders to Hold LGBT Community Forum**

*"Prominent LGBT community leaders will be joined tomorrow in Ferndale by DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate Gary Peters, and Democratic candidate for Michigan Governor Mark Schauer. The event comes just days after the Michigan Republican Party State Committee failed to take any action to hold Republican National Committee member Dave Agema accountable for making offensive public comments about LGBT Michiganders."*

**Source:** *Michigan Democratic Party* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** 1387225313\_National state democratic leaders.pdf

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#### **Toxic chemicals found in interiors of some of this year's hottest electronic kids' tablets**

*"A new study released by Michigan-based Ecology Center today found lead, PVC, and hazardous flame retardants inside of some of the most popular electronic tablets for children. The study comes out just as many families are considering holiday gifts of electronic devices for their children."*

**Source:** *Environmental Health Campaign Director* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** 1387221696\_Toxic chemicals found in interiors of some of this year.pdf

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#### **Economic Crimes Unit helps local retailers pursue bad-check writers, speeding process and avoiding**

*"Local merchants who receive a lump of coal – in the form of bad checks – from their customers this holiday season can contact the Economic Crimes Unit (ECU) of the Eaton County Prosecutor's Office to get speedy restitution without having to go through the overburdened court system. The service is available to retailers in Ingham and Eaton counties."*

**Source:** *Jake Knapp* **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** 1387221628\_Economic Crimes Unit helps local retailers pursue.pdf

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## **MIA Again: Land in Hiding Amidst Agema Homophobia Scandal**

*"In what is becoming an increasing trend, RNC Committeewoman and U.S. Senate Candidate Terri Lynn Land skipped yet another event this weekend. This time, she canceled on the Michigan Republican State Committee Meeting in Lansing - apparently hiding from her fellow RNC member Dave Agema. Her campaign has signaled that she does not think Agema's homophobia is important."*

**Source:** MDP Press **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** [1387209326\\_MIA Again.pdf](#)

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## **'Feeding Frenzy' Keeps Legislators Fueled Through Last Days of 2013 Session**

*"State lawmakers, legislative staff and lobbyists remained full and energized during the final legislative session days of 2013, consuming more than 363 pounds of food and 30 gallons of coffee, provided by Truscott Rossman."*

**Source:** Truscott Rossman **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** [1387208113\\_Feeding Frenzy' Keeps Legislators Fueled Through Last Days of 2013 Session.pdf](#)

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## **Senators Johnson and Hopgood Dismiss Colleagues on Failure to Vote on Discharged Legislation**

*"Senators Bert Johnson (D – Detroit) and Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D – Taylor) today dismissed their Republican colleagues for ignoring their own commitment to revisit motions to discharge legislation to the Senate floor. On March 14, 2013, Senator Hopgood made the motion to discharge his legislation to repeal the so-called "Right to Work" laws. On April 11, 2013, Senator Johnson made the motion to discharge his legislation to repeal the Pension Tax."*

**Source:** Clare Liening **Date:** 12-17-2013 **Link:** [1387207962\\_Senators Johnson and Hopgood Dismiss Colleagues on Failure to Vote on Discharged Legislation.pdf](#)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnnews.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 18, 2015 6:54 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **After Syrian refugee stance, is Michigan's Rick Snyder still the most pro-immigration governor?**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder calls himself the most pro-immigration governor in the nation, but he ended up on a forefront of a national wave of governors questioning or opposing the relocation of Syrian refugees."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/after\\_syrian\\_refugee\\_stance\\_is.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/after_syrian_refugee_stance_is.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Former Rep. Cindy Gamrat 'shocked' by police report that detailed her husband's involvement**

*"LANSING, MI — A police report on an investigation into a series of blackmail texts shocked former Rep. Cindy Gamrat when it was released by the Lapeer County Prosecutor's Office on Monday."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/former\\_rep\\_cindy\\_gamrat\\_shocke.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/former_rep_cindy_gamrat_shocke.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Bay County group opposing guns in school heads to Lansing with 1,584 signatures**

*"BAY CITY, MI — A Bay County group opposing the carrying of concealed firearms in sensitive areas like churches and schools is heading to Lansing to share more than 1,500 signatures they've garnered in*



support."

**Source:** Bay City Times **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/11/bay\\_county\\_group\\_opposing\\_guns.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/11/bay_county_group_opposing_guns.html#incart_river_index)

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## **EPA group to take testimony on Flint water crisis as it weighs rule changes**

*"FLINT, MI – Congressman Dan Kildee says he intends to tell the story of Flint's water crisis during testimony to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Drinking Water Advisory Council on Wednesday, Nov. 18."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/kildee\\_scheduled\\_to\\_testify\\_on.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/kildee_scheduled_to_testify_on.html#incart_river_home)

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## **UAW mounts push for passage of Ford deal**

*"The United Auto Workers is gearing up for an 11th-hour push for ratification of its tentative labor contract with Ford Motor Co. after calling an out-of-the-ordinary Wednesday press conference in the midst of voting."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/ford/2015/11/17/uaw-ford-deal-key-voting-wrapping-tuesday/75929380/>

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## **FBI says it's investigating threats in Dearborn**

*"Dearborn police are working with state and federal authorities amid concerns about "recent threats in Dearborn" and last week's terrorist attacks in Paris, according to the FBI."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/11/17/fbi-investigating-dearborn-threats/75942846/>

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## **Michigan can't bar refugees; it's up to feds**

*"Gov. Rick Snyder and state lawmakers can do little to stop the flow of refugees from war-torn Syria into Michigan, though they could make it tougher for the immigrants once they arrive, legal experts say."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/17/michigan-refugees/75941414/>

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## Democrats target Rep. Mike Bishop in ads

*"WASHINGTON — A Democratic group is targeting U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, in radio ads running this week in Detroit and Lansing."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/17/democrats-target-rep-mike-bishop-ads/75940744/>

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## A super-sized Soo Lock? Study to decide

*"WASHINGTON — More than a year's worth of effort trying to get the Obama administration to launch a study that could someday lead to a new super-sized shipping lock being built on the Upper Peninsula appears to have paid off."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/16/funding-approved-soo-lock-study/75901350/>

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## Michigan could potentially see more Syrian refugees

*"WASHINGTON — Senior Obama administration officials said Tuesday they would not typically resettle refugees in communities where they're not welcomed, but stopped short of promising not to send individuals and families fleeing war-torn Syria to states where governors have raised concerns — meaning more could potentially be headed to Michigan, which has already received more refugees than all but two other states."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/17/michigan-could-potentially-see-more-syrian-refugees/75937540/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Republicans may have to do a deal over changing how you vote

*"For you truly old-timers, you will recall the slogan, "Make it emphatic, vote straight Democratic.'"*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/republicans\\_may\\_have\\_to\\_do\\_a\\_d.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/republicans_may_have_to_do_a_d.html#incart_river_index)

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**Michigan has regained 400,000 jobs over the past five years, roughly half what was lost during the Lost Decade at the start of this century. Its economy is growing along with employment, and its business climate**

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"

*Michigan has regained 400,000 jobs over the past five years, roughly half what was lost during the Lost Decade at the start of this century. Its economy is growing along with employment, and its business climate ranking has strengthened.*

"

**Source:** Escanaba Daily Press **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.dailypress.net/page/content\\_detail/id/567666/Michigan-growing--but-not-fast-enough.html?nav=5052](http://www.dailypress.net/page/content_detail/id/567666/Michigan-growing--but-not-fast-enough.html?nav=5052)

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## Bill a step toward fair, secure energy for Michigan

*"The recent vote by the House Energy and Technology Committee was an important step toward securing an affordable, reliable and clean energy future for Michigan. Bills — passed with strong bi-partisan support — also help assure that Michigan maintains control over its own energy future and does not give up control to the federal government or out-of-state interests."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/18/kurmas-step-toward-energy-future/75967550/>

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## Sen. Colbeck: Healthcare option could finance roads

*"What if there were a way that state government could fix the roads, repair potholes in Healthy Michigan, stretch school dollars, free up more resources for local government and reform auto no-fault? How about one that would accelerate job growth? It turns out that one tool does it all. What is that tool? Direct Primary Care."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/18/health-care-saving-fund-michigans-roads/75967514/>

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## Bieber: Shine a light on state contracts

*"When it comes to transparency and ethics in state government, Michigan is 50 out of 50. Dead last. That's according to a new report from the nonpartisan Center for Public Integrity."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/18/shine-light-michigan-contracting/75967486/>

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## Editorial: Reject short-sighted child abuse list bills

*"Michigan made a big mistake in adopting a broad sex offender registry, one that can't distinguish between*

*a bona fide predator and a teenager who had consensual relations with his girlfriend. It should not compound that error by adopting a similar permanent list of those convicted of child abuse.*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/18/reject-child-abuse-list-bills/75967454/>

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## **What federal transportation bill will mean for Michigan**

*"In going about our regular routines, we depend daily on our roads, bridges and public transportation to get us where we need to go. Our local businesses also depend on them to grow, create good-paying jobs and remain competitive."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/17/michigan-walberg-transportation-bill-opinion/75948798/>

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## **Snyder talks tough on refugees, flunks social studies**

*"For the record, I don't for a minute believe Rick Snyder is an Islamophobic bigot."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/11/17/snyder-refugees/75936716/>

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## **'Union Time on Taxpayers' Dime' Bills Fate Uncertain in GOP House**

*"Just before recessing for a two-week Thanksgiving break, the Michigan Senate passed a pair of bills to prohibit two particular schemes that require taxpayers to pay for work done on behalf of teacher and government employee unions. The legislation, Senate bills 279 and 280, has been dubbed by some "the Steve Cook bills.""*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21902>

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## **How Media Bias Works**

*"Sound bites usually aren't very sound." — Thomas Sowell, senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21903>

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## City blues: MSU study finds state tax policies cripple cities

*"Michigan and California don't often land in the same sentence for economic comparison, but a new report concludes that both states share a dubious distinction: Their tax policies help cultivate financial crisis in their cities."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/city-blues-msu-study-finds-state-tax-policies-cripple-cities/>

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## How technology can disrupt divide over government's role

*"Reflections in the aftermath of a roads bill finally being passed and signed into law in Lansing: Think about this: Roads are an example of what economists call "public goods," things we all need, have access to and share. Other examples include national defense, (hopefully) good schools, local fire and police departments, clean air and water."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/how-technology-can-disrupt-divide-over-governments-role/>

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## Press Releases

### Upton, Bruce Merchant Attend CERCLA Implementation Briefing

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, and his colleagues on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce's Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy hosted a bipartisan briefing today titled "Overview of CERCLA Implementation."*

**Source:** Rep. Fred Upton **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447796206\\_upton.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447796206_upton.pdf)

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### Baker College upgrades IT program technology; adds Business Solution Center

*"JACKSON, Mich. – Baker College of Jackson has upgraded its computer technology lab and created a Business Solution Center to provide resources for the growing number of students in its information technology (IT) programs."*

**Source:** Baker College **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447796137\\_baker.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447796137_baker.pdf)

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### Detroit Lions' Tahir Whitehead talks school and life success with Detroit ninth-graders

*"DETROIT, Mich. – To start high school off with the right attitude and game plan, Detroit Lions' linebacker Tahir Whitehead teamed up with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to share ways ninth-graders at Martin Luther King, Jr. Senior High School can succeed in life and school by creating a personal culture of success."*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447792484\\_dhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447792484_dhhs.pdf)

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## **USDA Announces \$53 Million to Enhance Michigan Rural Health and Public Safety**

*"WASHINGTON, Nov. 17, 2015 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced investments to improve rural community infrastructure, provide essential services and improve access to health care across rural America through Rural Development's Community Facilities (CF) program. Today's investments in health facilities and support for first responders comes as the department celebrates National Rural Health Week. "*

**Source:** Michigan USDA **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447792434\\_usda.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447792434_usda.pdf)

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## **M-100 bridge slide in Potterville**

*"The new M-100 bridge over the CN Railroad in Potterville was successfully slid into place last Saturday, Nov. 14."*

**Source:** MI Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447790499\\_Timelapse.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447790499_Timelapse.pdf)

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## **Heartland Institute, CFACT Announce Speakers for 'Day of Examining Data' in Paris for COP-21**

*"The Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT) and The Heartland Institute are joining forces with other allied organizations to bring some of the world's most esteemed climate scientists and policy experts to Paris for the COP-21 conference."*

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447789885\\_Heartland\\_Institute.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447789885_Heartland_Institute.pdf)

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## **Upton, House Advance Bipartisan Package of Bills to Aid Veterans and their Families**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, joined the majority of his House colleagues in voting to advance four bipartisan pieces of legislation designed to improve the lives of*

veterans, and their families."

**Source:** Office of Representative Fred Upton **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447789266\\_Upton.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447789266_Upton.pdf)

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## **MYCA Recruiting to host an event at the Lansing State Police Training HQ**

*"The Lansing State Police Training Headquarters is the site for the next recruiting event for the Michigan Youth Challenge Academy. This event is set for Saturday, November 21st, 2015, with a start time of 10:00 AM. The address is 7426 N. Canal Rd, Dimondale, MI 48913. Cadet Representatives (current MYCA Students) assist in the presentation, which is followed by a Q&A. Recruiting events finish with applicant interviews. "*

**Source:** Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447787208\\_MI\\_Dept\\_of\\_Veterans.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447787208_MI_Dept_of_Veterans.pdf)

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## **Iron Belle Trail second-round grants now available**

*"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources today announced that a second round of grant funding is available for communities and organizations working on sections of trail that will be part of Michigan's two Iron Belle Trail routes. Proposals are due Jan. 8, 2016."*

**Source:** MI Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447780354\\_Iron\\_Belle.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447780354_Iron_Belle.pdf)

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## **Gov. Snyder signs Rep. Sheppard bill clarifying ownership of surplus workers' comp insurance funds**

*"Gov. Rick Snyder this week signed into law legislation ensuring that employers who pay into self-insured workers' compensation funds are rightly entitled to any surplus dollars."*

**Source:** Office of Governor Snyder **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447780404](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447780404)

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## **Casperson Makes 23 Stops, Traveling More than 1,400 Miles in First Week on the Campaign Trail**

*"**MANISTEE**—Tom Casperson last week traveled more than 1,400 miles across Michigan's first Congressional District after announcing his candidacy for the United States House of Representatives."*

**Source:** Resch Strategies **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447779956\\_Tale\\_of.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447779956_Tale_of.pdf)

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## **Benishek Applauds Move Towards Soo Locks Study Decision Follow Requests From Congressman to OMB**

*"Washington, D.C. - In response to efforts by Dr. Benishek and a bi-partisan group of members of the House and Senate, the Army Corps of Engineers has agreed to perform an Economic Impact study on the Soo Locks. This study is critical to the effort to increase the priority of the construction of a replacement Lock in the Army Corps' list of authorized projects. "*

**Source:** Office of Congressman Benishek **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447778126\\_Benishek.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447778126_Benishek.pdf)

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## **State Rep. Bradford Jacobsen and Sen. David Knezek Announced as 2015 Excellence in Education Award**

*"LANSING, MI, Nov. 16, 2015 – Two Michigan lawmakers will receive Excellence in Education Awards at the 15<sup>th</sup> annual AT&T/MACUL/MVU Student Technology Showcase at 9:15 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2, in the State Capitol Building Rotunda in Lansing."*

**Source:** Resch Strategies **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447776648\\_Jacobsen.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447776648_Jacobsen.pdf)

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## **Health Advocates Pleased with Steps to Avoid Chemicals Found in Reprocessed Plastic**

*"Today, flooring retailer Lumber Liquidators became the first major retailer to commit to selling vinyl flooring made without reprocessed plastic."*

**Source:** Michigan-based Ecology Center **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447776552\\_lumber.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447776552_lumber.pdf)

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## **ICBA Updates are published twice a month!**

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### **Lawyer's Table - NEW**

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**Source:** ICBA **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447776487\\_ICBA.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447776487_ICBA.pdf)



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## THREE NEW \$300,000 BUSES TO TRANSPORT JUNIOR AND SENIOR STUDENTS

*"Juniors and seniors from Powers Catholic will be leaving school in three brand new donated buses Tuesday afternoon to participate in Kairos, a Catholic retreat program for high school students. Kairos, originally defined as "the opportune time," has been adapted to mean "the Lord's time." Powers students have been participating in the program since the late 1990s."*

**Source:** Powers Catholic **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447774638\\_anonymous.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447774638_anonymous.pdf)

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## Michigan Education Savings Program marks 15 years of helping families save for college

*"LANSING – Rachael Hunter credits the Michigan Education Savings Program for helping her keep her vow that her daughter won't face a mountain of student loan debt after she graduates from college."*

**Source:** Michigan Education Savings Program **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447774612\\_mesp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447774612_mesp.pdf)

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## Reminder: State to host Great Lakes aquaculture meeting Thursday in Gaylord

*"State leaders today reminded the public of an upcoming meeting in Gaylord, Michigan, to review and discuss the issues around net-pen fish farming in the Great Lakes."*

**Source:** MI Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447774411\\_DNR.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447774411_DNR.pdf)

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## Colbeck to hold November office hours in Livonia

*"State Sen. Patrick Colbeck and District Manager Penny Crider will hold monthly office hours for November in Livonia. The office hours are at the Civic Park Senior Center and will be open to the public."*

**Source:** Office of Senator Patrick Colbeck **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447774224\\_Colbeck.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447774224_Colbeck.pdf)

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## 13th Annual Celebration of Michigan Adoption Day

*"The Family Division of the Oakland County Circuit will hold the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration of Michigan Adoption Day program in the Board of Commissioners Auditorium beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 24, 2015. This event is being held in conjunction with the statewide celebration of Adoption Day. Michigan Supreme Court Justice Joan L. Larsen will provide remarks and present a resolution from the Michigan Supreme Court recognizing Adoption Day in Oakland County."*

**Source:** Oakland County **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447774080\\_Media\\_Advisory\\_-\\_Adoption\\_Day\\_Program\\_-\\_11-24-15\\_\(2\).pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447774080_Media_Advisory_-_Adoption_Day_Program_-_11-24-15_(2).pdf)

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## **Business Leaders: Education should be top priority**

*"Southeast Michigan business owners and executives say education is a top priority in Michigan now, according to a new survey of Crain's subscribers conducted by EPIC-MRA Corp. for Crain's Detroit Business and Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP."*

**Source:** Education Trust-Midwest **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447769131\\_etm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447769131_etm.pdf)

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## **Focus on Forever Families at Michigan Adoption Day on November 24 Washtenaw Families to Highlight Ce**

*"LANSING, MI, November 17, 2015 – With the theme of "Giving Thanks for Families," courts statewide will celebrate Adoption Day on Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. Held on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving each year, Adoption Day has become holiday tradition, highlighting the importance of adoption and the needs of children in foster care. Many courts will finalize adoptions while others will hold informational events to reach potential adoptive parents. [Click here for a list of events statewide.](#) "*

**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447769070\\_court.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447769070_court.pdf)

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## **M-100 in Pottersville now open**

*"M-100 in Pottersville The M-100 bridge in Pottersville is now open. The bridge over the CN Railroad has been closed since Friday, November 13, for an innovative construction technique called a bridge slide. One lane of traffic is now open in each direction. Construction at the bridge will continue through next year including removing the temporary bridge approaches and restoration. "*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447769011\\_mdod.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447769011_mdod.pdf)

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## **Judge orders Hewlett-Packard to turn over source code to state**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – A Kent County judge today ordered global information technology company Hewlett-Packard to turn over computer source code to the state of Michigan. The court recognized in its ruling that success on the state's breach of contract claim "appeared inevitable," and that the state was the rightful owner of the computer source code."*

**Source:** Secretary of State Ruth Johnson **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447766972\\_sos.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447766972_sos.pdf)

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## **Wayne Bradley to be honored at Michigan Black Chamber of Commerce event**

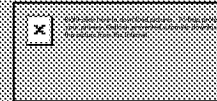
*"LANSING, Mich., Nov. 16, 2015 – Wayne Bradley, Deputy State Director and African-American Engagement Director for the Michigan Republican Party, will be honored on Thursday, Nov. 19 at the Michigan Black Chamber of Commerce's 3rd Annual Sankofa Awards Business Gala."*

**Source:** Michigan Republican Party **Date:** 11-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447766908\\_mrp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447766908_mrp.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 28, 2013 10:11 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases

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**Activists: Syrian airstrike kills 20 in Aleppo**

*"BEIRUT (AP) — A Syrian government airstrike hit a crowded vegetable market in a rebel-held neighborhood of the northern city of Aleppo on Saturday, killing at least 20 people, activists said."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2013/12/28/activists-syrian-airstrike-kills-20-in-aleppo/4231185/>

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**South Sudan: 'White Army' militia marches to fight**

*"JUBA, South Sudan (AP) — Twenty-five thousand young men who make up a tribal militia known as the 'White Army' are marching toward a contested state capital in South Sudan, an official said Saturday, dimming hopes for a cease-fire."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2013/12/28/south-sudan-white-army-militia/4231213/>

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**Lebanese politician killed in car bombing**


*"Beirut— A powerful car bomb killed a prominent Lebanese politician critical of Syria and its ally Hezbollah, hitting his SUV Friday as it drove through a ritzy business district near Beirut's waterfront, shredding trees and scattering glass and twisted scraps of metal across the pavement."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131228/NATION/312280025>

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**Snyder OKs self-driving vehicles on Michigan's roads**

"Gov. Rick Snyder has signed legislation allowing the testing of automated or self-driving vehicles  on Michigan's roads, but that doesn't mean state residents will see cars with empty drivers' seats anytime soon.

"

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**  
<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131227/POLITICS02/312270067>

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#### **Judge rules NSA phone surveillance is legal**

*"New York — A federal judge on Friday found that the National Security Agency's bulk collection of millions of Americans' telephone records is legal and a valuable part of the nation's arsenal to counter the threat of terrorism.*

"

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**  
<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131227/NATION/312270069>

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#### **Obama looking at busy, contentious year**

*"Honolulu— The last vestiges of 2013's political wrangling officially behind him, President Barack Obama is setting his sights on the coming year, when a number of unfinished tasks will increasingly compete for attention with the 2014 midterm elections.*

"

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**  
<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131228/POLITICS03/312280026>

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#### **Detroit pension funds ask for quick appeal of bankruptcy eligibility**

*"Detroit — The city's pension funds late Thursday asked a federal appeals court to fast-track a fight to overturn Detroit's eligibility for bankruptcy relief, arguing the "stakes could not be higher" for retirees whose pensions likely will be slashed soon.*


"

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131227/METRO01/312270063/Detroit-pension-funds-ask-quick-appeal-bankruptcy-eligibility?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE>

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#### **Shinola poised for global expansion in 2014**

*"Shinola, the Detroit-based watch and bicycle maker, plans  to expand in the Motor City — and around the world — in 2014."*

"

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131228/BIZ02/312280019/Shinola-poised-global-expansion-2014?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

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#### **Courts for mentally ill gain steam in Michigan**

*"Mount Clemens— Michigan is stepping up efforts to help accused criminals with mental issues get the medical assistance and guidance they need instead of housing them in the state's crowded prisons."*

"

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131228/METRO06/312280023/Courts-mentally-ill-gain-steam-Michigan?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

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#### **Parent group absorbs \$11,000 cost of offering art classes to Columbia Elementary School students**

*"BROOKLYN, MI – A poster hanging on the wall at Columbia Elementary School speaks to how important art classes are to staff, students and parents."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2013/12/parent\\_group\\_absorbs\\_11000\\_cos.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2013/12/parent_group_absorbs_11000_cos.html#incart_river)

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#### **Guatemalan immigrant fights to stay in Detroit with wife, children after receiving holiday deportation order**

*"DETROIT, MI -- It's two days after Christmas and the Gonzalez family, Marco, Oralia, a couple who immigrated from Guatemala in the early-1990s, and their five U.S.-born children, sits solemnly in the wood-floored family room of their house in a tough section of southwest Detroit. "*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/12/guatemalan\\_immigrant\\_fights\\_to.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/12/guatemalan_immigrant_fights_to.html#incart_river)

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#### **Why has Gov. Snyder not declared a state of emergency due to ice storm? Spokesman, MSP explain**

*"Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder has not declared a state of emergency in response to the ice storm that left hundreds of thousands without power because there haven't been any formal requests for state assistance, officials said."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2013/12/michigan\\_state\\_police\\_gov\\_rick.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2013/12/michigan_state_police_gov_rick.html#incart_river)

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#### **Cases of the flu are on the rise in Southwest Michigan**

*"KALAMAZOO, MI – Cases of the flu are on the rise in Southwest Michigan, according to an advisory issued Friday by Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services (KCHCS)."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2013/12/cases\\_of\\_the\\_flu\\_are\\_on\\_the\\_rise.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2013/12/cases_of_the_flu_are_on_the_rise.html#incart_river)

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#### **Chelsea Clinton to profile Detroit's Downtown Boxing Gym on NBC's 'Nightly News' for second time**

*"DETROIT, MI - Detroit's Downtown Boxing Gym, a hub for developing young talent, is expected to be profiled soon for the second time on NBC's "Nightly News.""*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/12/chelsea\\_clinton\\_to\\_profile\\_det.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2013/12/chelsea_clinton_to_profile_det.html#incart_river)

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#### **Michigan Public Service Commission to look into power companies following widespread ice storm outages**

*"LANSING, MI – After the lights eventually come on everywhere following the widespread outages across the state this week, the Michigan Public Service Commission plans to take a deeper look into what exactly happened and why so many people were in the dark for so long."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/12/michigan\\_public\\_service\\_commission\\_1.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2013/12/michigan_public_service_commission_1.html#incart_river)

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## West Michigan superintendents react to bills that would strip driver's licenses from truant teens

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI - State Rep. Andy Schor, D-Lansing, is scheduled to formally introduce legislation on Jan. 8 that would take away or deny driver's licenses to students who are repeatedly absent from school, according to the Michigan Legislative Services Bureau."*

**Source:** *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2013/12/west\\_michigan\\_superintendents.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2013/12/west_michigan_superintendents.html#incart_river)

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## Firefighters bring gifts to West Michigan family after Christmas fire

*"WYOMING — Fire may have ruined Christmas Day for a family in the Grand Rapids area. But the flames couldn't overcome the spirit of the season."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/article/20131228/NEWS06/312280088/christmas-day-fire>

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## Michigan lottery player steps forward with \$1M ticket in Niles

*"NILES — Amy Gourlay didn't win the recent \$648 million Mega Millions jackpot. But she's pleased with the consolation prize."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/article/20131228/NEWS06/312280087/niles-michigan-lottery-winner>

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## Flu outbreak a special hazard for Michiganders struggling for breath with COPD

*"Smoking and industry emissions put Michigan near the top of the national list for rates of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, or COPD, now the third leading cause of death in the U.S."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/article/20131228/NEWS/312280061/Flu-outbreak-extra-hard-Michiganders-struggling-breath-COPD>

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## Power outages hit Michigan residents hard - in the wallet

*"This year's Christmas won't be soon forgotten by the hundreds of thousands of Michiganders who observed the holiday amid power outages caused by last weekend's ice storms."*



**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**  
<http://www.freep.com/article/20131227/NEWS06/312270117/>

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### **Michigan gas prices surge to average \$3.42 a gallon amid production woes**

*"Several weeks after gas prices in Michigan made a momentary dip to under \$3 a gallon, they jumped to an average of \$3.42 a gallon on Friday."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**  
<http://www.freep.com/article/20131227/BUSINESS06/312270108/gas-prices-to-fall-2014>

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### **West Lansing resident says his neighborhood is a 'forgotten zone'**

*"LANSING TWP. Increasingly desperate for power and warmth, Dave Behnke's cold, wet, icy week had him in tears Thursday in the neighborhood he calls "the forgotten zone.""*

**Source:** *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**  
<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/viewart/20131226/NEWS01/312260024/West-Lansing-resident-says-his-neighborhood-forgotten-zone->

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### **Clinton, Eaton, Delta Twp., Meridian Twp. declare emergencies**

*"Clinton and Eaton counties have joined Delta Township, Meridian Township and two other Michigan counties in declaring states of emergency after last week's ice storm that left nearly 600,000 homes and businesses across the state without power."*

**Source:** *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**  
<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/viewart/20131227/NEWS01/312270029/Clinton-Eaton-Delta-Twp-Meridian-Twp-declare-emergencies>

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### **Board of Water and Light: 'We have heard loud and clear'**

*"LANSING — The head of the Lansing Board of Water and Light had a message for thousands of cold and frustrated customers on their sixth day without power: We hear you."*

**Source:** *Lansing State Journal* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**  
<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/viewart/20131227/NEWS01/312270013/Board-Water-Light-We-heard-loud-clear->

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

## Motor City, international attraction

*"Fodor's Travel has placed Detroit on its 2014 "Go List," naming the city one of the 25 "can't miss" destinations for the New Year.*

"

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**  
<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20131228/OPINION01/312280004>

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## MEA Testimony: Lower K-12 Spending State Does Better Than Michigan

*"A teacher speaking on behalf of the Michigan Education Association wandered off the union's message at a Senate committee hearing when he said Tennessee's education system performs better than Michigan's in at least one key area."*

**Source:** *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19470>

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## Happy New Year: The Center Looks Back and Looks Forward

*"As 2013 comes to an end it may surprise the reader to learn that the Snyder Administration has most likely put pen to paper in building next year's budget, and perhaps the governor's official State of the State address, too. "*

**Source:** *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19434>

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## Ken Braun: Mortgage welfare is the worst tax loophole there is

*"For a would-be government reformer seeking scapegoats rather than solutions, so-called "tax loopholes" are an easy mark. For example, President Obama often misrepresents the substantial payments oil companies make to the federal piggy bank, maligning 'Big Oil' as if they are feasting rather than feeding the treasury, and all the while ignoring the real and more substantial wind energy welfare his administration promotes. But a new report from the Reason Foundation says the very biggest of the real federal loopholes isn't going onto a balance sheet in a corporate boardroom. Instead, it's in the house down the street - or maybe even your house."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**  
[http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/12/mortgage\\_welfare\\_is\\_the\\_worst.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2013/12/mortgage_welfare_is_the_worst.html#incart_river)

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## Press Releases

**Statement from House Democratic Leader Tim Greimel on Governor Snyder signing Senate Bill 661**

*"I'm disappointed to see Governor Snyder sign Senate Bill 661 into law today which would drastically change Michigan elections by allowing special interests to spend more money on politicians and campaigns while weakening financial disclosure."*

**Source:** Katie Carey **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1388177785\\_Statement from House Democratic Leader Tim Greimel.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1388177785_Statement from House Democratic Leader Tim Greimel.pdf)

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### **Survivor of Torture and Father of Five US Citizen Children Faces Imminent Deportation**

*"Marco Gonzalez fled Guatemala in 1993 after being tortured and press-ganged by guerilla fighters, and eventually made his way to Detroit. He has five US Citizen children, ages 8 - 14, all of whom would be forced to stay in the United States on public assistance in the event of Mr. Gonzalez's deportation. Mr. Gonzalez currently works as a pool-builder, and is fixing up two houses in Southwest Detroit. He faces deportation on December 30th."*

**Source:** Ryan Bates **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1388177624\\_Survivor of Torture and Father of Five US Citizen Children Faces Imminent Deportation.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1388177624_Survivor of Torture and Father of Five US Citizen Children Faces Imminent Deportation.pdf)

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### **Snyder Fails Statement on Rick Snyder's After Christmas Gift to the Wealthy**

*"Today, Governor Rick Snyder gave us another example of failed leadership by completely reversing course on yet another campaign promise and once again siding with the wealthy few instead of the middle class majority, said Sam Ingot, project director of Snyder Fails."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1388177552\\_Snyder Fails Statement on Rick Snyder's After Christmas Gift to the Wealthy.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1388177552_Snyder Fails Statement on Rick Snyder's After Christmas Gift to the Wealthy.pdf)

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### **Snyder Media Advisory**

*"Representatives from the Office of Governor Rick Snyder and the Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division will hold a conference call for reporters to receive an update on the recent winter ice storm and to discuss the emergency declaration process. "*

**Source:** GOV Newsroom **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1388172258\\_Snyder Media Advisory.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1388172258_Snyder Media Advisory.pdf)

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### **Gov. Snyder signs bills to update campaign finance laws, add unprecedented levels of transparency**

*"Michigan's 40-year-old campaign finance laws have been updated to bring an unprecedented level of transparency and openness to the state's political system through bills signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** GOV Newsroom **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1388172194\\_Gov\\_snyder\\_signs.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1388172194_Gov_snyder_signs.pdf)

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#### **MICHIGAN STATE POLICE Media Advisory – Conference Call Today @ 3 p.m.**

*"The Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) and Executive Office of Governor Rick Snyder are holding a conference call for reporters to receive an update on the recent winter ice storm and to discuss the emergency declaration process. Reporters must contact the MSP Public Affairs Section at 517-241-0977 or at [MSP\\_Public\\_Affairs@michigan.gov](mailto:MSP_Public_Affairs@michigan.gov) for call-in and passcode information."*

**Source:** MICHIGAN STATE POLICE **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1388172154\\_MICHIGAN\\_STATE\\_POLICE.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1388172154_MICHIGAN_STATE_POLICE.pdf)

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#### **State Fire Marshal Urges Safety While Using Generators During Power Outages**

*"State Fire Marshal Richard Miller today urges consumers to take extra safety precautions while using generators when the power is out, especially to reduce risk of injury or death from carbon monoxide poisoning, a silent killer that builds up quickly without any warning signs or odors."*

**Source:** LARA NEWS **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1388160879\\_State\\_Fire\\_Marshal\\_Urges\\_Safety\\_While\\_Using\\_Generators\\_During\\_Power\\_Outages.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1388160879_State_Fire_Marshal_Urges_Safety_While_Using_Generators_During_Power_Outages.pdf)

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#### **Snyder signs bills allowing driverless vehicles in Michigan**

*"Gov. Rick Snyder recently signed legislation allowing the testing of automated motor vehicles on Michigan roadways."*

**Source:** GOV Newsroom **Date:** 12-28-2013 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1388160795\\_Snyder\\_signs\\_bills\\_allowing.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1388160795_Snyder_signs_bills_allowing.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 15, 2014 6:45 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Immigration will be key topic in Snyder's speech**

*"Harkening back to his first State of the State address, Gov. Rick Snyder will propose measures in his latest address on Thursday to help attract and retain more immigrants with advanced degrees — and spur job growth — he said Tuesday."*

**Source:** Lansing State Journal **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20140115/NEWS01/301150009/state-of-state-michigan-snyder>

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### **Iron County man announces bid for First Congressional District seat**

*"IRON MOUNTAIN - Although the 2014 midterm election is still months away, Iron Mountain business owner Alan Arcand has already announced his candidacy for Michigan's First Congressional District seat."*

**Source:** Iron Mountain Daily News **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.ironmountaindailynews.com/page/content.detail/id/544110/Iron-County-man-announces-bid-for-First-Congressional-District-seat.html?nav=5002>

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### **Dianda calls for repeal of pension tax**

*"LANSING - State Representative Scott Dianda, D-Calumet, introduced House Bill 5219 Monday which calls for the repeal of the state's new pension tax."*

**Source:** Houghton Daily Mining Gazette **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.mininggazette.com/page/content.detail/id/532655/Dianda-calls-for-repeal-of-pension-tax.html?nav=5006>

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## Flint emergency manager awaiting legal opinion on making blue ribbon meetings public

*"FLINT, MI – Interested in listening to what Flint's committee on governance is discussing during its first meeting Thursday?"*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/01/discussion\\_on\\_flints\\_governanc.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/01/discussion_on_flints_governanc.html#incart_river_default)

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## Federal budget proposal good for Michigan

*"WASHINGTON — After years of fractious and often dead-end debates over how to fund government, leaders in both parties in Congress reached an agreement over a \$1 trillion spending bill this week that looks good for Michigan."*

**Source:** Battle Creek Enquirer **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20140114/NEWS/301140014/Federal-budget-proposal-good-Michigan>

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## Americans for Prosperity unveils 'issue ad' against Gary Peters after getting booted from state Capitol

*"LANSING, MI – National conservative advocacy group Americans for Prosperity unveiled a new television commercial at the Michigan Capitol on Tuesday, criticizing U.S. Rep. Gary Peters and sparking outrage from Democrats before the press event even began."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/americans\\_for\\_prosperity\\_unvei.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/americans_for_prosperity_unvei.html#incart_river_default)

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## GM declares 30 cent dividend

*"DETROIT, MI- General Motors Co. today announced its Board of Directors will issue a quarterly dividend of 30 cents per share on its common stock."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2014/01/gm\\_declares\\_30\\_cent\\_dividend.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/auto/index.ssf/2014/01/gm_declares_30_cent_dividend.html#incart_river_default)

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## Report: UAW President Bob King asked Gretchen Whitmer to reconsider

## run for governor

*"LANSING, MI -- United Auto Workers President Bob King recently talked with Michigan Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer and personally asked her to reconsider a run for governor, according to a report by the MIRS subscription news service."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:** LANSING, MI -- United Auto Workers President Bob King recently talked with Michigan Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer and personally asked her to reconsider a run for governor, according to a report by the MIRS subscription news service.

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## Vice President Biden to meet with Duggan during Detroit visit

*"Vice President Joe Biden will meet with Mayor Mike Duggan during a visit to Detroit Wednesday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**  
<http://www.freep.com/article/20140115/NEWS01/301150043/Vice-President-Joe-Biden-visit-Detroit-auto-show-Mike-Duggan>

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## Committeeman Agema is under fire yet again

*"A Republican leader in Michigan is under fire for comments he made regarding gays and Muslim Americans."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**  
<http://www.freep.com/article/20140115/NEWS06/301150032/Agema-comments-gay-Muslim>

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## Detroit Auto Show: Gov. Rick Snyder visits with Chrysler CEO Marchionne

*"Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder stopped by Chrysler's stand at the Detroit auto show today and talked with Chrysler and Fiat CEO Sergio Marchionne as the combined company prepares to choose where to establish a global headquarters."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**  
<http://www.freep.com/article/20140114/BUSINESS03/301140105/>

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## Conservative group launches health care ad against Rep. Peters

"

*Lansing — The conservative political group Americans for Prosperity is launching a \$1 million, three-week statewide advertising campaign in Michigan targeting Democratic U.S. Rep. Gary Peters for his support of the new federal health care law."*



**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140114/POLITICS03/301140112/Conservative-group-launches-health-care-ad-against-Rep-Peters?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE>s

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## **Bill would spend \$350M on Michigan projects, Great Lakes restoration**

"

*Washington— The \$1.1 trillion appropriations bill before Congress includes pages of good news for the Great Lakes."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140114/POLITICS03/301140104/Bill-would-spend-350M-Michigan-projects-Great-Lakes-restoration?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE>p

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## **Holiday sales jumped 3.8 percent on discounts, online buys**

"

*Holiday shoppers were more than willing to spend during the holiday season, if they saw big discounts or were shopping online."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140115/BIZ/301150027/Holiday-sales-jumped-3-8-percent-discounts-online-buys?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE>s

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## **Snyder talks up auto show, efforts to resolve Detroit's bankruptcy**

"

*Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder said the North American International Auto Show may help reverse Detroit's battered image after the Motor City's record-setting Chapter 9 bankruptcy filing."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140114/AUTO04/301140078/Snyder-talks-up-auto-show-efforts-resolve-Detroit-s-bankruptcy?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE>s

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## **Barra makes history as GM's new chief**

"

*General Motors Co. makes history today as the first female to lead an automaker takes the reins of the global powerhouse that sells nearly 10 million vehicles a year in more than 140 countries and employs more*

than 214,000 people."

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140115/AUTO04/301150037/Barra-makes-history-GM-s-new-chief?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p>

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## Biden, Duggan to meet over dinner in Detroit before auto show visit

"

*Detroit — Vice President Joe Biden will hold a "working dinner" with Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan on Wednesday, ahead of Biden's visit to the auto show Thursday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140114/METRO01/301140139/Biden-Duggan-meet-over-dinner-Detroit-before-auto-show-visit?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>

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## Marchionne downplays Chrysler, Fiat HQ decision

"

*Detroit — Sergio Marchionne says the location of a new headquarters for the combined Chrysler and Fiat doesn't matter."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140115/BIZ/301150029>

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## Snyder road, bridge plan hits a GOP roadblock

"

*Lansing— Republican lawmakers say they won't give Gov. Rick Snyder a permanent infusion of extra cash for road and bridge repairs this year even though the GOP incumbent is expected to renew his call Thursday to commit to spending more money every year on infrastructure."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140115/POLITICS02/301150024/Snyder-road-bridge-plan-hits-GOP-roadblock?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

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## UAW overture exposes cracks in Schauer's support

"

Lansing— United Auto Workers president Bob King recently asked state Senate Democratic Leader Gretchen Whitmer to run for governor, even though most Democratic leaders have coalesced around the candidacy of former U.S. Rep. Mark Schauer."

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140115/POLITICS02/301150033/UAW-overture-exposes-cracks-Schauer-s-support?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

### **SELWESKI: Liberals in a quandary for 2014**

*"The 2014 mid-term elections are nearly upon us and liberal Democrats are feeling feisty."*

**Source:** Dearborn Press and Guide **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2014/01/14/opinion/doc52d58f6fef1a675792991.txt>

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### **Bureaucrats Befuddled By America's Auto Market**

*"DETROIT — My muffled chuckle was not appreciated by the 20-something clipboard carrier hovering around EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy here at the auto show."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19549>

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### **Westland Dropping 'Gatekeeper' FOIA Fee, Lowering Costs for Public Documents**

*"The \$45 an hour copy clerk is a thing of the past in Westland thanks to a lawsuit filed by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy about the excessive fees the Wayne County city was charging for public documents."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19548>

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### **Tim Skubick: Is a tax cut in Michigan's future? The debate begins**

*"It should come as no shock to anyone that the guy leading the tax cut parade in this town is from Macomb County. The county that invented the anti-tax movement."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/tim\\_skubick\\_is\\_a\\_tax\\_cut\\_in\\_mi.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/tim_skubick_is_a_tax_cut_in_mi.html#incart_river_default)

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## Michael Shpunt: Michigan's anti-ticket scalping law isn't helping anyone

*"Every year, thousands of sports and music fans in Michigan engage in a practice that many likely don't know is illegal: buying and selling tickets above face value."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140115/OPINION05/301150034/michigan-ticket-scalping-prices-legislature>

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## Kid Rock: Put average Michiganders ahead of greedy ticket scalpers

*"When state lawmakers take a look at House Bill 5108, which would eliminate Michigan's law prohibiting ticket scalping, they need to remember the first concert they went to and how much fun it was."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140115/OPINION05/301150031/kid-rock-detroit-ticket-prices-scalping-concerts>

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## Brian Dickerson: Foundations and auto show spotlight magnify pressure on Snyder

*"Enterprising people have always used Detroit's auto show to sell all kinds of things that have nothing to do with cars — hotel rooms, tuxedos, perfume, booze."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140115/OPINION05/301150038/Brian-Dickerson-Foundations-auto-show-spotlight-magnify-pressure-Snyder>

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## Congress, help put America back to work

*"Congress erred last month when it approved a budget compromise that did not extend long-term unemployment benefits for some of the nation's most vulnerable citizens. And now nearly 190,000 Michiganders are suffering."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140115/OPINION01/301150006/Congress-help-put-America-back-work?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>

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## Foundations pave way out of bankruptcy

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*Detroit is going through bleak times, struggling to manage bankruptcy while restoring services and security, and uncertain what the future holds. But we can't say the city doesn't have friends."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140115/OPINION01/301150004/Foundations-pave-way-out-bankruptcy?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p>

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## **Joshua Pugh: Make 2014 Gov. Snyder's Last State of the State**

*"This week, Republican Gov. Snyder will address a joint session of the Legislature for his fourth and, hopefully, final time. In his speech, he will undoubtedly attempt to spin his disappointing record as governor, take credit for the work of others and plead with the people of Michigan not to look too closely at what he's done to the middle class, seniors and working families all over this state."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:** <http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2014/01/14/snyders-last-state-state/>

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## **Press Releases**

### **Heartland Institute Experts React to Net Neutrality Ruling by DC Circuit Court**

*"The D.C. Circuit Court today struck down the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) 2010 "net neutrality" rule requiring Internet service providers to treat all traffic across their networks the same – discriminating against none and favoring none. The court also, however, ruled the FCC may impose its net neutrality rule if it reclassifies broadband as a "common carrier" as it does telephone service."*

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389736503\\_Heartland Institute Experts React to.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389736503_Heartland%20Institute%20Experts%20React%20to.pdf)

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### **Snyder names Jarrod Agen communications director**

*"Gov. Rick Snyder today announced Jarrod Agen will join the governor's team as communications director. He begins his new job today."*

**Source:** GOV Newsroom **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389732770\\_Snyder names Jarrod Agen communications director.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389732770_Snyder%20names%20Jarrod%20Agen%20communications%20director.pdf)

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### **MVU and REMC Association of Michigan establish new strategic alliance**

*"The Regional Educational Media Center Association of Michigan (REMCAM) and Michigan Virtual University® (MVU®) have signed a multiyear agreement to collaborate on targeted projects. The two organizations formed a strategic alliance to explore greater alignment and coordination with new and existing projects to support Michigan schools as they expand their use of online and blended learning solutions. "*

**Source:** Pace Marketing & Communications **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389731520\\_MVU and REMC Association of Michigan establish new strategic alliance.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389731520_MVU_and_REMC_Association_of_Michigan_establish_new_strategic_alliance.pdf)

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## **Consumers Energy Warns Against Continued "Green Dot" Imposter Phone Scam**

*"Consumers Energy is again alerting the public that a scam demanding people quickly pay bills over the telephone using a Green Dot prepaid credit card continues in Michigan."*

**Source:** Consumers Energy **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389731427\\_01-14-14 Phone Scam.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389731427_01-14-14_Phone_Scam.pdf)

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## **Michiganders Boot Land's Special Interest Billionaire Friends from the Capitol**

*"Michiganders today threw out the Koch Brothers' special interest group, Americans for Prosperity from the Capitol in Lansing where the group had planned to launch their smear campaign to benefit Republican U.S. Senate Candidate Terri Lynn Land. "*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389728395\\_Michiganders Boot Land.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389728395_Michiganders_Boot_Land.pdf)

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## **Spring turkey hunting applications on sale now through Feb. 1**

*"The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) encourages hunters to start dreaming of spring by purchasing their spring turkey hunt applications today. "*

**Source:** The Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389727800\\_Spring turkey hunting applications on sale now through Feb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389727800_Spring_turkey_hunting_applications_on_sale_now_through_Feb.pdf)

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## **Heartland Institute Experts Comment on \$1.1 Trillion Federal Spending Bill**

*"House and Senate negotiators late Monday released a \$1.1 trillion federal spending bill that would supplant the so-called "sequester" spending cuts, give all federal workers a 1 percent raise, and fully fund many of President Barack Obama's priorities, including Head Start. The federal government is at risk of*

another partial "shutdown" at midnight Wednesday if Congress does not approve a new spending bill or continuing resolution."

**Source:** The Heartland Institute **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389727123\\_Heartland Institute Experts Comment.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389727123_Heartland%20Institute%20Experts%20Comment.pdf)

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## Michigan Conservative Energy Forum releases polling data showing broad, strong support for clean

*"The Michigan Conservative Energy Forum (MCEF) today released data from a statewide survey of Michigan voters on energy-related issues. The polling was completed by Public Opinion Strategies and found strong support for renewable energy and energy efficiency across the state – even, and in some cases especially, among Republicans."*

**Source:** Ally Converse **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389727081\\_Michigan Conservative Energy Forum releases polling data showing broad.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389727081_Michigan%20Conservative%20Energy%20Forum%20releases%20polling%20data%20showing%20broad.pdf)

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## Treasurer Confirms Dillon Getting Paid Not to Work

*"In an interview with MIRS, State Treasurer Kevin Clinton confirmed that Governor Snyder's former Treasurer Andy Dillon is essentially being paid not to work. In the interview, Clinton says he doesn't "have a tally of hours," and that in his role as "senior advisor" Dillon communicates with the new Treasurer "less than twice a week." Clinton also stated he thought this arrangement was "fair."*"

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389727015\\_Treasurer Confirms Dillon Getting Paid Not to Work.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389727015_Treasurer%20Confirms%20Dillon%20Getting%20Paid%20Not%20to%20Work.pdf)

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## House Dem Leader Greimel, Senate Dem Leader Whitmer to Preview State of the State

*"House Democratic Leader **Tim Greimel** (D-Auburn Hills) and Senate Democratic Leader **Gretchen Whitmer** (D-East Lansing) will hold a press conference Wednesday to illustrate how the agenda of Gov. Rick Snyder and legislative Republicans has harmed Michigan families. "*

**Source:** Katie Carey **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389723269\\_House Republicans Allow Billionaires to Launch Political Attacks from Capitol.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389723269_House%20Republicans%20Allow%20Billionaires%20to%20Launch%20Political%20Attacks%20from%20Capitol.pdf)

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## On the Death of Connie Binsfeld

*"Michigan Catholic Conference President and CEO Paul A. Long released the following statement*

regarding the death of former Lieutenant Governor Connie Binsfeld."

**Source:** David Maluchnik **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389723203\\_On the Death of Connie Binsfeld.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389723203_On the Death of Connie Binsfeld.pdf)

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## **Dr. Benishek Fights to Protect Vital Services for Northern Michigan Communities**

"

Dr. Dan Benishek (MI-01) today joined a bipartisan effort to press leaders in Congress to fully support the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program that provides critical funding to local governments in Northern Michigan.

"

**Source:** Dr. Dan Benishek **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389722802\\_dr benishek.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389722802_dr benishek.pdf)

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## **GOODWILL GREATER GRAND RAPIDS WELCOMES DAVID ABBOTT**

"Goodwill Industries of Greater Grand Rapids is pleased to welcome David Abbott, CMU grad and Grand Rapids native, as the new Director of Friends and Corporate Relations. David's role deepens the relationships of individuals (friends) and corporate partners for Goodwill Industries of Greater Grand Rapids."

**Source:** Goodwill Industries **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389722756\\_GOODWILL GREATER GRAND RAPIDS WELCOMES DAVID ABBOTT.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389722756_GOODWILL GREATER GRAND RAPIDS WELCOMES DAVID ABBOTT.pdf)

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## **Consumers Energy Awards \$40,000 for Early Childhood Efforts**

"Efforts to create a regional early childhood development network will take another major step forward thanks to a grant from Consumers Energy to the Traverse Bay Great Start Collaborative."

**Source:** Consumers Energy **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389722709\\_2014\\_01\\_13 Great Start-Consumers release\\_mum edit.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389722709_2014_01_13 Great Start-Consumers release_mum edit.pdf)

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## **House Republicans Allow Billionaires to Launch Political Attacks from Capitol**

"House Democratic Leader **Tim Greimel** (D-Auburn Hills) criticized House Speaker Jase Bolger and House Republicans today for allowing a billionaire-led special interest group to use the state Capitol as a launch pad for a political attack ad. Bolger permitted Americans for Prosperity, a special interest group led by the



*Koch brothers, to use the Speaker's Conference Room to unveil a political attack advertisement in Michigan's U.S. Senate race."*

**Source:** Katie Carey **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389717871\\_House\\_Republicans\\_Allow\\_Billionaires\\_to\\_Launch\\_Political\\_Attacks\\_from\\_Capitol.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389717871_House_Republicans_Allow_Billionaires_to_Launch_Political_Attacks_from_Capitol.pdf)

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## **Education Experts Urge Snyder to Bolster Public Schools in State of State**

*"Education experts representing nearly half of all public schools today called on Gov. Rick Snyder to use his State of the State speech Thursday to address core challenges facing students and to provide real solutions that positively affect children, including restoring classroom funding cut previously by his administration and to begin fighting poverty head on."*

**Source:** Azlan Ibrahim **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389717828\\_Education\\_Experts\\_Urge\\_Snyder\\_to\\_Bolster\\_Public\\_Schools\\_in\\_State\\_of\\_State.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389717828_Education_Experts_Urge_Snyder_to_Bolster_Public_Schools_in_State_of_State.pdf)

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## **Coalition: Spending Bill 'Significant Victory for Millions Who Depend on Great Lakes'**

*"The U.S. Congress released its 2014 spending bill last night. The bill restores funding to two essential Great Lakes programs. It provides \$300 million for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative; the program received \$285 million in 2013. The Clean Water State Revolving Fund is set to receive \$1.44 billion for fiscal year 2014; the program received \$1.37 billion in 2013."*

**Source:** National Wildlife Federation's Great Lakes Regional Center **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389717793\\_Coalition.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389717793_Coalition.pdf)

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## **MDP Chair Lon Johnson: RNC Committeewoman Land Must Come Clean on Super PAC Communication**

*"Today, Michigan Democratic Party Chair Lon Johnson demanded answers from RNC Committeewoman Terri Land regarding her communication with Super PACs."*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389717734\\_MDP\\_Chair\\_Lon\\_Johnson.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389717734_MDP_Chair_Lon_Johnson.pdf)

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## **Lawmakers to Consider Lifting Cap on Ticket Resale Prices**

*"The House Criminal Justice Committee will hear testimony on House Bill 5108 on Wednesday. The bill would repeal the 1931 law that caps ticket resales at face value. Members of Michigan Ticket Fairness will join sports and music fans in testifying how the legislation will create a more fair and open secondary ticket*

market."

**Source:** Truscott Rossman **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389717350\\_Lawmakers to Consider Lifting Cap on Ticket Resale Prices.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389717350_Lawmakers to Consider Lifting Cap on Ticket Resale Prices.pdf)

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## **Michigan Inland Lakes Convention set for May 1-3 in Boyne Falls**

*"The first-ever Michigan Inland Lakes Convention will be held May 1-3 at Boyne Mountain Resort in Boyne Falls. This convention presents an opportunity for lake enthusiasts, lake professionals, researchers, local government officials and other interested individuals to participate in three days of educational presentations and discussions, in-depth workshops, tours, exhibits and much more."*

**Source:** MI Dept of Natural Resources **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389715138\\_Michigan Inland Lakes Convention set for May 1.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389715138_Michigan Inland Lakes Convention set for May 1.pdf)

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## **Michigan Conservative Energy Forum to release statewide energy polling data**

*"LANSING, MI – The Michigan Conservative Energy Forum (MCEF) will hold a tele-press conference today, January 14, to release data from a statewide survey of Michigan voters on energyrelated issues. The polling was completed by Public Opinion Strategies and found strong support for renewable energy and energy efficiency across the political spectrum and around the state."*

**Source:** Sterling Corporation **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389715028\\_MCEF Polling Release Advisory 1-14.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389715028_MCEF Polling Release Advisory 1-14.pdf)

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## **DNR welcomes Michigan Outdoor News as Pure Michigan Hunt title sponsor**

*"Although the 2014 Pure Michigan Hunt (PMH) winners will be announced within weeks, promotional efforts for the 2015 hunt are well under way at the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The DNR today announced that Michigan Outdoor News has been named title sponsor for Pure Michigan Hunt."*

**Source:** MI Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389714873\\_DNR welcomes Michigan Outdoor News as Pure Michigan Hunt title sponsor .pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389714873_DNR welcomes Michigan Outdoor News as Pure Michigan Hunt title sponsor .pdf)

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## **Michigan Agri-Business Association recognizes industry leaders at annual event**

*"LANSING – The **Michigan Agri-Business Association** (MABA) recognized the achievements and*

leadership of its members during its annual Winter Conference and Trade Show."

**Source:** MI Agri-Business Association **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389714773\\_Michigan\\_Agri.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389714773_Michigan_Agri.pdf)

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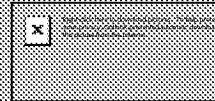
## Citizens Groups Hopeful Gov. Snyder will Lead on Clean Energy in State of the State address Clean En

"LANSING – Members of the Clean Energy Now coalition are hopeful that Governor Rick Snyder will outline specific plans to advance clean energy policies in Michigan when he delivers his fourth State of the State address this Thursday."

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 01-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1389714670\\_Citizens\\_Groups\\_Hopeful\\_Gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1389714670_Citizens_Groups_Hopeful_Gov.pdf)

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### **In Saginaw stop, Sen. Stabenow says officials are 'on borrowed time' in dealing with Asian carp**

*"KOCHVILLE TOWNSHIP, MI— U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., hosted a press conference Wednesday, Jan. 22, in Saginaw County to discuss the latest developments — and issue a call to action — in efforts to keep Asian carp out of the Great Lakes."*

**Source:** Saginaw News **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2014/01/sen\\_stabenow\\_says\\_officials\\_ar.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2014/01/sen_stabenow_says_officials_ar.html#incart_river)

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### **Lake levels longterm**

*"TRAVERSE CITY- Rising and falling water levels in the Great Lakes are influenced by evaporation, rain and snowfall in ways that aren't fully understood and are becoming less predictable as the climate warms, according to scientific reports made public Tuesday."*

**Source:** Mining Journal (Marquette) **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.miningjournal.net/page/content.detail/id/594410/Lake-levels-longterm.html?nav=5006>

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### **Retired businessman John Decker announces GOP run for 73rd District House seat**

*"CANNON TOWNSHIP, MI — John Decker says he wants to give back to his community after it has provided him with so much in return."*

**Source:** *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/01/john\\_decker\\_former\\_businessman.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/01/john_decker_former_businessman.html#incart_river_default)

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## **Judge dismisses Dave Agema's suit against Allegan, police chief who halted speech by 'ex-terrorist'**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – A federal judge dismissed a lawsuit against the City of Allegan and its police chief, Rick Hoyer, who shut down a speech by a self-professed ex-Muslim terrorist at Allegan High School over safety concerns."*

**Source:** *Grand Rapids Press* **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/01/judge\\_dismisses\\_dave\\_agemas\\_su.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/01/judge_dismisses_dave_agemas_su.html#incart_river_default)

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## **Michigan House OKs tougher child sex solicitation law**

*"LANSING — The Michigan House has voted to increase penalties for soliciting sex from a minor, making it a felony with a maximum sentence of five years in prison."*

**Source:** *Associated Press* **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** <http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/viewart/20140122/NEWS/301220015/Michigan-House-OKs-tougher-child-sex-solicitation-law>

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## **In town hall event, Amash calls for bipartisan support on NSA**

*"In a town hall event Wednesday, about 65 people gathered to hear U.S. Rep. Justin Amash discuss the economy, spying and health care at W.K. Kellogg Middle School."*

**Source:** *Battle Creek Enquirer* **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20140122/NEWS01/301220032/In-town-hall-event-Amash-calls-bipartisan-support-NSA?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20140122/NEWS01/301220032/In-town-hall-event-Amash-calls-bipartisan-support-NSA?nclick_check=1)

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## **Attorney General: Bay County businessman accused of running Ponzi scheme arrested in Germany**

*"BAY CITY, MI — A Bay County businessman who relocated to Germany after criminal racketeering charges were filed against him has been arrested and could be back stateside soon."*

"

**Source:** *Bay City Times* **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2014/01/saginaw\\_business\\_man\\_accused\\_o.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2014/01/saginaw_business_man_accused_o.html#incart_river_default)

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## Bankruptcy judge rejects creditors' request for influence in fate of high-priced Detroit art

*"DETROIT, MI -- Just as Gov. Rick Snyder was announcing a proposal to contribute \$350 million in a state funding to help preserve Detroit pensions and the Detroit Institute of Arts, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Steven Rhodes rejected a request from city creditors seeking a say in the fate of the city's high-priced art."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2014/01/bankruptcy\\_judge\\_rejects\\_credi.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2014/01/bankruptcy_judge_rejects_credi.html#incart_river_default)

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## Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder proposes \$350M plan to boost Detroit pensions: 'This is not a bailout'

*"LANSING, MI -- Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, stressing the statewide importance of a strong Detroit, confirmed Wednesday a plan to bolster retiree pensions as part of a possible settlement to speed up the city's ongoing bankruptcy case."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/michigan\\_gov\\_rick\\_snyder\\_propo.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/michigan_gov_rick_snyder_propo.html#incart_river_default)

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## Detroit EM: \$680 million in state, private aid would go far in resolving bankruptcy

*"DETROIT, MI -- Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr in the past called for keeping expectations "sober" around a plan to raise \$500 million to bolster the city's pension funds and protect the Detroit Institute of Arts."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2014/01/detroit\\_em\\_580\\_million\\_in\\_stat.html#incart\\_2box](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2014/01/detroit_em_580_million_in_stat.html#incart_2box)

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## Detroit group proposes business zone that would collect \$4M a year for downtown upkeep

"

*The Downtown Detroit Partnership is reaching out to property and business owners in an effort to establish a \$4 million a year business improvement zone."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140123/METRO01/301230046/Detroit-group-proposes-business-zone-would-collect-4M-year-downtown-upkeep?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>

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## Snyder's plan to protect DIA, pensions may be tough sell

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*Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder's plan to pour \$350 million into Detroit's ailing pension funds over two decades got a wary reception Wednesday among some lawmakers worried it would be labeled a bailout or not enough to satisfy retirees owed billions of dollars in benefits."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140122/METRO01/301220058/Snyder-s-plan-protect-DIA-pensions-may-tough-sell?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

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## Legislators grapple with court decision on parole for juvenile lifers

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*Lansing— In April 2004, Nicole Dupure's 19-year-old boyfriend William Blevins killed 89-year-old Shirley Perry, according to all accounts, strangling and stabbing Dupure's childhood babysitter seven times in her St. Clair Shores apartment."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140123/METRO06/301230043/Legislators-grapple-court-decision-parole-juvenile-lifers?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

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## Dave Agema skips GOP meetings in Washington amid rumors of resignation

*"WASHINGTON — Republican National Committee member Dave Agema — beset by calls for his resignation because of comments and postings on social media seen as homophobic and racist — said Wednesday he would skip this week's GOP meetings, raising questions about whether he can continue to effectively serve."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140122/NEWS06/301220099/dave-agema-republican-cancelled-washington>

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## Snyder pledges \$350M to save Detroit pensions, DIA artwork, but hurdles remain

*"LANSING — A settlement of Detroit's bankruptcy that would protect city retirees and the collection at the Detroit Institute of Arts appeared closer Wednesday after Gov. Rick Snyder pledged \$350 million to a growing rescue fund designed to bring all the major parties together in a grand resolution."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140122/NEWS06/301220084/DIA-pension-Snyder-funding>

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## Kevin McNamara joins race for Wayne County executive

*"Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara said he will officially announce his candidacy for county executive this evening at an event at Wayne County Community College District's Downriver campus."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140123/NEWS02/301230028/Kevin-McNamara-running-for-wayne-county-executive>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Little Disclosure on Business Subsidies

*"Last week, Eric Mosher of PIRGIM and I published a piece about how the state can increase transparency at the Michigan Economic Development Corp."*

**Source:** *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19560>

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### Energy Expert: Michigan Should Eliminate Its Utility Monopoly For Lower Prices

*"LANSING — If Michigan wants lower electricity rates it should eliminate its utility monopoly as it had in the past and as has been done by other nearby states successfully, an energy expert said Wednesday."*

**Source:** *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19614>

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## Money for Nothing

*"At a press conference Wednesday, Gov. Rick Snyder explained why he wants to give \$350 million in state money — which he insists is not a bailout — to Detroit."*

**Source:** *Capitol Confidential* **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/19613>

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### Emergency managers in black-majority cities reflect growing income gap

*"Benton Harbor, Detroit, Flint, Highland Park, Inkster and Pontiac. What do they have in common?"*

**Source:** *Bridge Magazine* **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2014/01/emergency-managers-in-black-majority-cities-reflect-growing-income-gap/>



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## Michigan rivers polluted by human, animal waste more than double previous estimates

*"Pathogen pollution in Michigan's lakes and rivers – caused by human and animal waste draining into surface waters – is far more widespread than previously documented, according to new state data."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2014/01/michigan-rivers-polluted-by-human-animal-waste-more-than-double-previous-estimates/>

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## Tim Skubick: With Detroit bankruptcy deal, Gov. Snyder once again looks to Democrats for support

*"It's not a blank check from the state, but it will still be a tough sell."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/tim\\_skubick\\_with\\_detroit\\_bankr.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/tim_skubick_with_detroit_bankr.html#incart_river_default)

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## Detroit deal is good for Michigan

"

*We applaud the announcement Wednesday from Gov. Rick Snyder and state legislative leaders supporting an offer of \$350 million to resolve Detroit's bankruptcy. It will likely come as welcome news to the Detroit Institute of Arts and city retirees, but it's already raising cries of a "bailout" elsewhere."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140123/OPINION01/301230005/Detroit-deal-good-Michigan?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>

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## At the gas pumps, reaction to L. Brooks is mostly combustible

"

*Fadi Naji said he feels safe."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140123/LIFESTYLE/301230041/At-gas-pumps-reaction-L-Brooks-mostly-combustible?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>

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## GM's Mary Barra: Most Likely to Succeed?

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*In July 2012, Mary Barra, then head of global product development at General Motors Co., announced the Detroit automaker would remove management layers and eliminate about 20 executive positions to reduce complexity and increase accountability."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140123/OPINION01/301230004/GM-s-Mary-Barra-Most-Likely-Succeed-?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p>

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## At the gas pumps, reaction to L. Brooks is mostly combustible

"

*Fadi Naji said he feels safe."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140123/LIFESTYLE/301230041/At-gas-pumps-reaction-L-Brooks-mostly-combustible?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>

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## Snyder's pledge means others must deliver

"

*Gov. Rick Snyder's pledge of \$350 million to bolster Detroit pensions and rescue the Detroit Institute of Arts from creditors ups the pressure on the museum — and others — to deliver."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140123/BIZ/301230030/Snyder-s-pledge-means-others-must-deliver?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|s>

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## Dawud Walid: Agema, Patterson fiascos summon need for GOP internal reform

*"The recent fiascos pertaining to racist discourse from Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema and Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson highlight the need for the GOP to systematically encourage diversity and robustly eschew race politics as a top priority for its own survival."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** <http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2014/01/22/agema-patterson-fiascos-summon-need-gop-internal-reform/>

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## **Laurie: If you're outraged over Patterson (and defended Cushingberry), you are the problem**

*"Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson doesn't care much for Detroit. If you think this is news, there's a good chance that this is the first time you've ever read a newspaper, watched a TV newscast, or listened to news radio in Detroit."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** <http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2014/01/22/youre-outraged-patterson-defending-cushingberry-youre-problem/>

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## **Michele Corey: Make candidates accountable to vulnerable Michigan children and families**

*"As the election blitz begins in Michigan, amid the stump speeches, attack ads and debates we'll see in upcoming months, it's unlikely you'll hear much about our most pressing issue: the future of children and families in Michigan."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/article/20140122/OPINION05/301220147/Michigan-elections>

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## **Editorial: State's plan to aid Detroit pensioners, DIA needs fast OK**

*"State lawmakers: Get behind this plan. And do it fast."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/article/20140122/OPINION01/301220148/Editorial-State-s-plan-aid-Detroit-pensioners-DIA-needs-fast-OK>

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## **Press Releases**

### **Michigan Representatives Statement Condemning Intolerance**

*"Washington, DC – Today, U.S. Representatives Dave Camp (MI-04), Candice S. Miller (MI-10), Fred Upton (MI-06) and Mike Rogers (MI-08) issued the following statement condemning intolerance:"*

**Source:** U.S. Reps. Dave Camp, Candice Miller, Fred Upton and Mike Rogers **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390430177\\_CampCondemns.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390430177_CampCondemns.pdf)

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## **Snyder Media Advisory**

*"Gov. Rick Snyder will announce a new immigration initiative to benefit Detroit's economy at IDEAL Group."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick SNYDER's Office **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390430019\\_Snyder.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390430019_Snyder.pdf)

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## **Statement from Detroit regional Chamber CEO on announcement by governor on plan to help protect Detr**

*"DETROIT, January 22, 2014: Detroit Regional Chamber President and CEO **Sandy K. Baruah** issued the following statement on the announcement by Governor Rick Snyder of a proposed plan as an effort to protect Detroit pensioners and the Detroit Institute of Arts collection throughout the ongoing bankruptcy proceedings."*

**Source:** Detroit Chamber of Commerce **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390427665\\_DetroitChamber.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390427665_DetroitChamber.pdf)

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## **Hunter Commends Bipartisan Effort to Protect Detroit Pensions**

*"LANSING—Senate Minority Floor Leader **Tupac A. Hunter** (D-Detroit) issued the following statement today in support of the continuing negotiations between Governor Rick Snyder and legislative leaders to help protect the pensions of retired Detroit workers as well as the Detroit Institute of Arts' art collection."*

**Source:** Senate Minority Floor Leader Hunter **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390427573\\_Hunter.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390427573_Hunter.pdf)

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## **Statement from House Democratic Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) on Gov. Rick Snyder's bankruptcy**

*"Although we don't yet have enough information to agree to the governor's request to expend state dollars, I am encouraged by the willingness of the governor, my fellow quadrant leaders and other stakeholders to have meaningful discussion on the situation in Detroit."*

**Source:** House Minority Leader Greimel **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390427436\\_Greimel.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390427436_Greimel.pdf)

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## **Busiest Secretary of State offices to pilot new system to manage, shorten lines**

"

***Don't want to wait in person? MI-TIME Line allows customers to check in online, or by phone, to hold their place in line at their local branch***

"

**Source:** Secretary of State Ruth Johnson **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390427358\\_Johnson.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390427358_Johnson.pdf)

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## **Whitmer: Terri Lynn Land's RNC Anti-Middle Class Platform Wrong for Michigan Women**

*"Today on the 41st anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade decision that guaranteed women the right to control their own health care decisions with their families and their doctors, RNC Committeewoman Terri Lynn Land is in Washington, D.C. with the authors of an archaic anti-middle class agenda that restricts access to women's health and includes no exception for rape, incest, or even life of the mother."*

**Source:** Michigan Democrats **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390425156\\_WhitmerLand.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390425156_WhitmerLand.pdf)

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## **Senate Democratic Leader Gretchen Whitmer Releases Statement on Detroit Bankruptcy Process**

*"LANSING – Senate Democratic Leader Gretchen Whitmer (D – East Lansing) issued the following statement today in support of the ongoing discussions taking place to help protect the pensions of retired Detroit workers as well as the artwork housed within the Detroit Institute of Arts."*

**Source:** Senate Minority Leader Whitmer **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390425081\\_WhitmerDetroit.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390425081_WhitmerDetroit.pdf)

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## **Rep. Abed Calls for Immediate Tax Relief for Seniors**

*"LANSING – State Rep. **Theresa Abed** (D-Grand Ledge) requested that the Michigan Legislature act quickly to bring tax relief to Michiganders today by requesting that House Bill 4564, which would repeal the pension tax that has burdened seniors since being put into place by the Republican-led Legislature, be discharged from the House Tax Policy Committee and brought to the floor of the House for a vote. Abed's bill is one of six in the House Democrats' package of legislation to bring real tax relief to Michigan's hard-working families and seniors."*

**Source:** Rep. Theresa Abed **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390425004\\_ABED.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390425004_ABED.pdf)

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## **Award Established in Honor of Long-time Legislative Staffer Jon Farley**

*"LANSING, MI – Today, a new, annual award was announced to recognize excellence in legislative staff work. The Jon Farley Exceptional Legislative Staffer Award, named in honor of Jon Farley who worked in the Legislature for more than a decade and who passed away in 2013 at the age of 40 from esophageal cancer, will seek to recognize current Michigan legislative staffers who possess similar outstanding qualities as Jon."*

**Source:** Resch Strategies **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390424926\\_Farley.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390424926_Farley.pdf)

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## House approves stiffer penalties for Human Trafficking of teens

*"Criminal penalties for those caught soliciting sex from a minor will be increased under legislation overwhelmingly approved today by the House, announced state Reps. Dale Zorn and Eileen Kowall."*

**Source:** House Republicans **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390424808\\_trafficking.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390424808_trafficking.pdf)

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## In Lansing, Sen. Stabenow Calls for More Action to Stop Asian Carp

*"Sen. Stabenow urges Army Corps to fully develop plan to protect the Great Lakes, encourages Michigan residents to make their voices heard"*

**Source:** U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390424735\\_Stabenow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390424735_Stabenow.pdf)

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## Michigan's December Unemployment Rate Declines Annual Rate Falls for Fourth Year in a Row Lansing

*"Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in December declined over the month by four-tenths of a percentage point to 8.4 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB)"*

**Source:** MI Dept. of Technology Management & Budget **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390424635\\_document.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390424635_document.pdf)

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## Schuetz Announces Arrest, Launch of Extradition Process for Saginaw Man Accused of Running \$474K Po

*"**LANSING** - Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuetz today announced the arrest of a Saginaw man for his alleged role in an extensive Michigan Ponzi scheme. Joel Wilson, 31, of Saginaw, allegedly defrauded at least three Michigan victims out of hundreds of thousands of dollars and has been on the lam in Europe for more than a year. "*

**Source:** **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390416940\\_Schuetz](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390416940_Schuetz)  
*Announces Arrest.pdf*

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## Americans United for Change Releases Groundbreaking "Tea Party

## Scorecard"

**"Washington DC** – It's official: The Tea Party has taken over the Michigan Republican Party. Even the six Republicans who represent moderate districts in the U.S. House of Representatives, on average voted with the most radical elements of their party 86 percent of the time in 2013, according *"Tea Stained,"* a groundbreaking new legislative scorecard compiled by Americans United for Change."

**Source:** AMERICANS UNITED **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390414375\\_Americans\\_United\\_for\\_Change\\_Releases\\_Groundbreaking .pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390414375_Americans_United_for_Change_Releases_Groundbreaking.pdf)

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## Boynton Beach, Florida, Osteopathic Physician Summarily Suspended

**"For Immediate Release.** The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) has suspended the Michigan license to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery of Donald Kaplan, D.O., of Boynton Beach, Florida, after his felony convictions in the Court of Common Pleas of Fairfield County, Ohio. Additionally, Kaplan has a pharmacist license that expired on June 30, 2012 and a controlled substance license that expired on December 31, 2011."

**Source:** LARA **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390414275\\_Boynton Beach.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390414275_Boynton_Beach.pdf)

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## MICHIGAN RESTAURANT INDUSTRY EXPECTED TO POST GROWTH IN 2014 DESPITE SUSTAINED CHALLENGES

**"LANSING, MI** – The restaurant industry in Michigan is expected to post 3.1 percent sales growth in 2014 to reach \$13,471,777,000, according to the National Restaurant Association's (NRA) 2014 Restaurant Industry Forecast. Michigan restaurants will employ 399,300 next year, and create an additional 23,000 jobs in the next decade."

**Source:** MI RESTAURANT ASSN. **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390414115\\_MICHIGAN RESTAURANT INDUSTRY EXPECTED TO POST GROWTH IN 2014 DESPITE SUSTAINED CHALLENGES.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390414115_MICHIGAN_RESTAURANT_INDUSTRY_EXPECTED_TO_POST_GROWTH_IN_2014_DESPITE_SUSTAINED_CHALLENGES.pdf)

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## Jones calls for BWL to have outside board members

**"LANSING—**State Sen. Rick Jones reported on Wednesday that he has requested a bill mandating that the Lansing Board of Water and Light (BWL) allow every municipality served by BWL to have a member on the board."

**Source:** SENATOR JONES OFFICE **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390414038\\_Jones\\_calls\\_for\\_BWL\\_to\\_have\\_outside\\_board members.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390414038_Jones_calls_for_BWL_to_have_outside_board_members.pdf)

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## **CORRECTION: MDP LGBT & Allies Caucus Calls on Land to Condemn Agema**

*"LANSING - Today **MDP LGBT & Allies Caucus Chair Mark LaChey** blasted Michigan's RNC members Dave Agema and Terri Land for failing to address repeated instances of hate speech against Muslims and the LGBT community. He pointed out that Land has been given repeated opportunities to address this issue, but has remained silent."*

**Source: Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390413952\\_CORRECTION.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390413952_CORRECTION.pdf)

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## **Rep. Zemke Testifies in Support of Bill Before Education Panel**

*"LANSING – State Representative **Adam Zemke** (D-Ann Arbor) testified today in the House Education Committee in support of legislation he introduced dealing with educator and administrator evaluations. House Bills 5223 and 5224 were introduced by Rep. **Margaret O'Brien** (R-Portage) and Zemke, respectively."*

**Source: Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390413864\\_RepZemke.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390413864_RepZemke.pdf)

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## **2:00 P.M. TODAY: Senator Stabenow to Hold Media Availability in Lansing to Call for More Action to S**

*"**Lansing**– U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow will call for more action to stop Asian carp during a media availability at Constitution Hall in Lansing at **2:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, January 22**. The media availability will follow a meeting (closed to media) hosted by the Army Corps of Engineers. Asian carp pose a serious threat to the Great Lakes ecosystem and the region's \$16 billion boating and \$7 billion fishing industries."*

**Source: Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390413794\\_Timechange.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390413794_Timechange.pdf)

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## **MLBA Optimistic About Proposed SB 505 Substitutes**

*"**ANSING, MI** – Yesterday, members of the House Regulatory Reform Committee met to discuss two new proposed substitutes to Senate Bill 505, also known as the "secondary use" bill. Rep. Cindy Denby (R-Fowlerville) introduced House Substitute 1, and Regulatory Reform Chair Hugh Crawford (R-Novi) introduced House Substitute 2."*

**Source: MLBA Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390407380\\_MLBA\\_Optimistic\\_About\\_Proposed\\_SB\\_505\\_Substitutes.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390407380_MLBA_Optimistic_About_Proposed_SB_505_Substitutes.pdf)

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## Snyder Media Advisory

**"Wednesday, Jan. 22 at 3:30 p.m.** Gov. Rick Snyder will hold a press conference to make an announcement regarding the city of Detroit. He will be joined by Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville and Speaker of the House Jase Bolger."

**Source:** Office of Governor Snyder **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390407294\\_Snyder Media Advisory.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390407294_Snyder Media Advisory.pdf)

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## Former US Assistant Secretary of Education Diane Ravitch Endorses State Senator Howie Morales for Ne

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**Silver City, NM** – Today, nationally renowned education leader Diane Ravitch publicly announced her support of New Mexico State Senator Howie Morales' (SD-28) bid to become New Mexico's next Governor. Ravitch has established herself as a national education leader through her work as a teacher, policy analyst, author, federal administrator and historian. She has served on the National Assessment Governing Board under Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton. She has written multiple New York Times best selling books ("The Death and Life of the Great American School System" and "Reign of Error") that have critically assessed the state of our national education system and have offered real solutions as to how to strengthen our schools.

"

**Source:** **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390407176\\_Howie.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390407176_Howie.pdf)

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## Statement from The Nature Conservancy

"Last week, the Army Corps of Engineers released the Great Lakes Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS) that presents potential options and controls to prevent the transfer of aquatic invasive species (AIS) between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins via the Chicago Area Waterways System (CAWS)."

**Source:** The Nature Conservancy **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390407096\\_Document9.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390407096_Document9.pdf)

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## MDP LGBT & Allies Caucus Calls on Land to Condemn Agema

"LANSING - Today **MDP LGBT & Allies Caucus Chair Mark LaChey** blasted Michigan's RNC members Dave Agema and Terri Land for failing to address repeated instances of hate speech against Muslims and the LGBT community. He pointed out that Land has been given repeated opportunities to address this issue, but has remained silent."

**Source:** MI Democrats **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390407008\\_MDP LGBT.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390407008_MDP LGBT.pdf)

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## **Dr. Benishek Announces New Congressional Contest for Northern Michigan Students**

*"WASHINGTON, DC: Dr. Dan Benishek (MI-01) today announced his office is accepting entries from high school aged students in Northern Michigan for the 2014 House App Contest, a national competition for students to design an award winning smartphone app."*

**Source:** Dan Benishek Office **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390406923\\_Dr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390406923_Dr.pdf)

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## **LARA's Bureau of Fire Services Accepting Consumer Fireworks Applications Now Through Midnight, April**

*"January 22, 2014. The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and the Bureau of Fire Services (BFS) today announced the opening of the 2014 consumer fireworks application period and low impact registration process. All consumer fireworks applications must be submitted by midnight, April 1, 2014. Low impact registrations can be submitted at any time but must be completed at least 10 days prior to sales."*

**Source:** LARA **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390406842\\_LARA's Bureau of Fire Services Accepting Consumer Fireworks Applications Now Through Midnight.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390406842_LARA's Bureau of Fire Services Accepting Consumer Fireworks Applications Now Through Midnight.pdf)

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## **The United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 333 have officially endorsed Curtis Hertel**

*"The United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 333 have officially endorsed Curtis Hertel Jr. for the Michigan State Senate's 23<sup>rd</sup> district, in Ingham County. The UA represents over 1,000 members and retired members in the Lansing area and Ingham County."*

**Source:** Curtis Hertel Jr. **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390406767\\_UA Local 333 Press release.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390406767_UA Local 333 Press release.pdf)

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## **Justin Amash's Bizarre Vote #5:**

*"Grand Rapids, MI (3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District)- Today is the March for Life in Washington DC, in which tens of thousands of people gather on the National Mall to rally in defense of the sanctity of life. On May 31, 2012, Justin Amash voted against the Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act which would ban gender selection abortions. Right to Life of Michigan labeled Justin Amash's vote "pro-abortion". Every Michigan Republican, except Justin Amash, voted in favor of the ban on gender selection abortions. "*

**Source:** **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390406636\\_Justin Amash's Bizarre Vote.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390406636_Justin Amash's Bizarre Vote.pdf)

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## Legislators and Local Businesses Wear Suits and Sneakers to Promote Making Healthy Choices to Prevent

*"Lansing, Mich., (January 22, 2014) – Starting January 20<sup>th</sup>, the American Cancer Society's Suits and Sneakers events across the country will unite basketball coaches, players, fans, legislators and businesses in the fight against cancer. Participants in the annual event will trade in their dress shoes for sneakers for a day to show their support of the American Cancer Society's initiative to promote healthy behaviors to prevent cancer."*

**Source:** American Cancer Society **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390402682\\_AM.Cancer.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390402682_AM.Cancer.pdf)

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## WAGES, AGES, IMMIGRATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

*"IPPSR's first Public Policy Forum of 2014 explores Michigan's demographic story: from income, to population trends, higher education and geography's surprising role in the economic success of the state's urban centers."*

**Source:** IPPSR **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390402573\\_IPPSR.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390402573_IPPSR.pdf)

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## Powerball Power Play option returns to random multiplier!

"

***LANSING**, Jan. 22, 2014 – Powerball's \$1 Power Play add-on-option will return to the random multiplier! This change starts with the drawing that takes place **tonight**.*

"

**Source:** MI Lottery **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390402440\\_Powerball Power Play option returns to random multiplier!.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390402440_Powerball Power Play option returns to random multiplier!.pdf)

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## Reflecting on the sanctity of human life

*"Forty-one years have passed since the landmark Supreme Court rulings that changed our nation's response to pregnancy. Forty-one years and the words Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton still darken the hearts of all who defend the right to life."*

**Source:** Right To Life **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390402351\\_RTL.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390402351_RTL.pdf)

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## TODAY: Senator Stabenow to Hold Media Availability in Lansing to Call for More Action to Stop Asian

*"Lansing– U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow will call for more action to stop Asian carp during a media availability at Constitution Hall in Lansing at 2:30 P.M. TODAY, January 22. The media availability will follow a meeting (closed to media) hosted by the Army Corps of Engineers. Asian carp pose a serious threat to the Great Lakes ecosystem and the region's \$16 billion boating and \$7 billion fishing industries"*

**Source:** Office of Senator Debbie Stabenow **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390402246\\_TODAY.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390402246_TODAY.pdf)

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## Performance Audit Report Number: Selected General and Application Controls of the State's Electronic

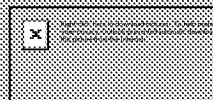
*"Department of Community Health (DCH) and Department of Technology, Management, and Budget (DTMB) Released: January 2014 DCH's Division of Vital Records and Health Statistics (DVRHS) is responsible for administering the State's electronic birth and death records."*

**Source:** Office of the Auditor General **Date:** 01-23-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1390402006\\_Auditor General.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1390402006_Auditor General.pdf)

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Lansing, MI 48915



**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirnews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 01, 2015 7:04 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Michigan motorists can prove auto insurance coverage on cell phone under approved bill**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan motorists involved in traffic stops or crashes will have the option to show proof of no-fault auto insurance coverage in an electronic form under legislation heading to the desk of Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan\\_motorists\\_can\\_prove\\_i.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_motorists_can_prove_i.html#incart_river)

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### **Gov. Rick Snyder appoints U-M attorney Joan Larsen to Michigan Supreme Court**

*"LANSING, MI — University of Michigan attorney and law professor Joan Larsen is heading to the state Supreme Court."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/snyder\\_appoints\\_u-m\\_attorney\\_i.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/snyder_appoints_u-m_attorney_i.html#incart_river)

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### **Big trucks not bad for Michigan roads, truckers say**

*"LANSING, MI — Heavy trucks may not be doing as much damage to Michigan roadways as many people think, industry experts argued Wednesday."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** <http://www.mlive.com/lansing->

[news/index.ssf/2015/09/big\\_trucks\\_not\\_bad\\_for\\_michiga.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/09/big_trucks_not_bad_for_michiga.html#incart_river)

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## **Detroit-area congresswoman blasts questioning of Planned Parenthood head in hearing**

*"SOUTHFIELD, MI -- Frustrated by what she called insensitive and uniformed questions asked during testimony of Planned Parenthood President Cecile Richards in a congressional hearing, U.S. Rep. Brenda Lawrence, D-Southfield, chastised other members of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee on Tuesday."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/09/detroit-area\\_congresswoman\\_bla.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/09/detroit-area_congresswoman_bla.html#incart_river)

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## **Bay County commissioner, high school teacher Don Tilley enters 96th District state Rep race**

*"BAY CITY, MI — The number of candidates hoping to represent Bay City in Lansing continues to grow."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/09/bay\\_county\\_commissioner\\_high\\_s.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/09/bay_county_commissioner_high_s.html#incart_river)

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## **Judge rejects portions of Ambassador Bridge lawsuit fighting Gordie Howe bridge project**

*"DETROIT, MI -- A judge on Wednesday dismissed several portions of Ambassador Bridge owner Manuel "Matty" Moroun's lawsuit against the federal government, but his fight to build a second span to Windsor continues."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/09/judge\\_rejects\\_portions\\_of\\_amba.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/09/judge_rejects_portions_of_amba.html#incart_river)

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## **Governor says fallout from Flint water switch wasn't fully understood**

*"FLINT, MI -- Gov. Rick Snyder says "There are probably things that weren't as fully understood" as they should have been before the city tapped into the Flint River for drinking water."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/snyder\\_says\\_he\\_helped\\_bring\\_wa.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/snyder_says_he_helped_bring_wa.html#incart_river_home)

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## No plea for former State Rep. Roy Schmidt on marijuana charges

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – "This is going to trial," Roy Schmidt said Wednesday, Sept. 30 as he appeared briefly in Kent County Circuit Court where is charged with two counts of manufacturing/delivery of marijuana, a four-year felony."*

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/no\\_plea\\_for\\_former\\_state\\_rep\\_r.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/no_plea_for_former_state_rep_r.html#incart_river_home)

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## Michigan House candidate urges bus drivers to catch 'blue flu,' call in sick

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Characterizing The Rapid as a "bully" for its handling of labor contract negotiations, state House candidate Michael Scruggs is urging bus drivers to fight back by calling in sick."*

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan\\_house\\_candidate\\_urges.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_house_candidate_urges.html#incart_river_home)

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## Legislative Black Caucus urges state of emergency for Flint water

*"FLINT, MI — The Michigan Legislative Black Caucus is putting pressure on Gov. Rick Snyder to issue a state of emergency for the city of Flint's water problems."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/michigans\\_black\\_causus\\_urges\\_go.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/michigans_black_causus_urges_go.html#incart_river_home)

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## Sen. Peters: Triple Syrian refugees accepted into U.S.

*"Washington — U.S. Sen. Gary Peters wants the Obama administration to triple the number of refugees from war-ravaged Syria that it will accept next year and to give higher priority to resettling persecuted minorities from both Syria and Iraq in the United States."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/peters-syria/73090848/>

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## 8 Mich. lawmakers urge Obama to extend Great Lakes aid

*"Washington — Eight Michigan lawmakers have signed a bipartisan letter urging President Barack Obama to extend funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative into 2017."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/mich-lawmakers-urge-obama-extend-great-lakes-aid/73117826/>



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## Rep. Bishop gets first bill passed among Mich. freshmen

*"U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, this week became the first among Michigan's five House freshmen to get a piece of legislation approved by the U.S. House of Representatives."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/rep-bishop-gets-first-bill-passed-among-mich-freshmen/73129588/>

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## Pay, right to work cited in slow Mich. teacher talks

*"Nearly a month into the school year, teachers in more than a dozen Michigan districts are working without contracts as negotiations bog down over wages and other issues."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/01/teacher-contract-talks-michigan/73131112/>

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## Rep. Tinsley-Talabi linked to Detroit corruption case

*"Federal officials are investigating state Rep. Alberta Tinsley-Talabi in a bribery and kickback scandal stemming from her time as a city councilwoman and a Detroit pension fund trustee, The Detroit News has learned."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/09/30/scream-sentencing-detroit-corruption-case/73095744/>

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## Flint water woes seep into city, state politics

*"Flint — The questionable quality of the city's drinking water made headlines again this week, but not much of it has been news to Ashley Holt."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/30/flint-water-woes-seep-city-state-politics/73129478/>

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## Stakes high after UAW workers reject Fiat Chrysler deal

*"The rejection by United Auto Workers members of a tentative contract with Fiat Chrysler for the first time in a generation is pushing leaders of both sides down an unpredictable road that doesn't guarantee a better deal"*

for the union's 40,000 members."

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/09/30/stakes-high-uaw-workers-reject-fiat-chrysler-deal/73127166/>

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## Most Wayne County unions sign off on new contracts

"Most Wayne County unions have signed off on new contracts that administration officials say are key to the county's recovery plans, and commissioners are poised to consider, and likely approve, the agreements at their regular meeting on Thursday."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/09/30/most-wayne-county-unions-sign-off-new-contracts/73110080/>

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## Snyder appoints Joan Larsen to Supreme Court

"LANSING — Gov. Rick Snyder on Wednesday named to the Michigan Supreme Court University of Michigan attorney and law professor Joan Larsen, a former legal adviser to the administration of President George W. Bush and a former clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/30/snyder-appoints-joan-larsen-supreme-court/73079114/>

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## Peters wants more Syrian refugees resettled in U.S.

"WASHINGTON — U.S. Sen. Gary Peters sent a letter to the White House on Wednesday asking that the U.S. accept no fewer than 100,000 refugees fleeing bloodshed from Syria and Iraq in the coming years, including 30,000 during the next fiscal year."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/peters-wants-more-syrian-refugees-resettled-us/73089266/>

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## Traffic stops might become easier with bill passage

"LANSING — Frantically digging around in vehicle glove boxes may become a thing of the past because of a bill that received final passage in the state Senate on Wednesday."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/traffic-stops-might-become-easier-bill/>

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## Michigan's lone venomous snake may get fed protection

*"The eastern massasauga rattlesnake, Michigan's lone venomous viper, is the scariest snake you've probably never seen — except in pictures, perhaps. But the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is proposing that this chicken of a snake needs federal protection as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/30/michigans-lone-venomous-snake-may-get-fed-protection/73092180/>

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## Defense authorization bill protects Selfridge's jets

*"WASHINGTON — A10 fighter jets at Selfridge Air National Guard Base and elsewhere across the U.S. would be protected by a congressional compromise measure being readied for a vote, but the White House says in its present form it is still likely to be vetoed."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/defense-authorization-bill-protects-selfridges-jets/73105588/>

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## Morouns lose on virtually all counts in bridge lawsuit

*"WASHINGTON — A federal judge on Wednesday dismissed virtually all of the remaining legal counts in a lawsuit against the U.S. government brought by owners of the Ambassador Bridge, rejecting Manuel (Matty) Moroun's contention that his company has an exclusive rights to operate a span to Canada in Detroit without competition."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/30/morouns-lose-virtually-all-counts-bridge-lawsuit/73083798/>

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## UAW didn't get through to members

*"Over the past two weeks UAW members appear to have overwhelmingly rejected a contract that their elected union leaders openly celebrated, dealing an embarrassing blow to UAW President Dennis Williams and his leadership team."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/09/30/uaw-didnt-get-through-members/73095526/>

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## Former Congressman John Dingell honored for Head Start support

*"Half a century ago, Michigan Congressman John Dingell supported a new program called Head Start, which at the time provided eight weeks of summer programming for kids in poverty."*

**Source:** Ann Arbor News **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/former\\_congressman\\_john\\_dingell.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/former_congressman_john_dingell.html#incart_river_home)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Let's block attacks on sports referees before they happen

*"Referees make tough calls, and it's not uncommon for them to find themselves in the middle of heated confrontations. And while thick skin is a requirement for officiating, fiercely competitive athletes sometimes vent their feelings in potentially dangerous ways."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/09/lets\\_block\\_assaults\\_on\\_referee.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/09/lets_block_assaults_on_referee.html#incart_river)

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### Campbell: Unregulated prescribing authority wrong move

*"At the beginning of the summer, Gov. Rick Snyder announced the formation of a "Prescription Drug and Opioid Abuse Task Force." It was an important move and perhaps an even more important acknowledgment — Michigan is facing a prescription drug abuse crisis."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/01/campbell-unregulated-prescribing-authority-wrong/73123270/>

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### Buss: Debtor's prison trap must go

*"David Stojcevski died in the Macomb County jail after being placed behind bars for failing to pay a traffic ticket."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/30/buss-debtor-prison-trap/73123056/>

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### Finley: Keep politics out of taxes

*"If you don't own a home, if you don't have dependent children, if you aren't a senior citizen and if you don't have outstanding college loans, don't bother to check out the "Blueprint for Michigan Families" offered by Democrats this week. It isn't for you."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/09/30/finley-keep-politics-taxes/73121466/>

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## **Editorial: Adding Larsen should make good court better**

*"Gov. Rick Snyder is making the case for the appointment of Supreme Court justices look quite appealing. The governor's third pick for an opening on the court, Joan Larsen, reflects his preference for justices with solid legal grounding over those with political connections."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/30/editorial-larsens-pick-make-good-court-better/73121506/>

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## **Firm Picked to Evaluate Education Funding Has Long History of Recommending Spending Hikes**

*"The Snyder administration's preliminary pick for a contractor to do a study on whether Michigan spends an "adequate" amount on public schools has a long history of coming to the same conclusion on similar questions: "Not adequate." The company's 12 most recent state studies have all concluded that spending on public schools should be increased."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michiganconfidential.com/21754>

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## **Press Releases**

### **Proos, Pscholka, Pagel honor the late Sen. Harry Gast at the Michigan Capitol**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. John Proos was joined by Reps. Al Pscholka and Dave Pagel at the Michigan Capitol on Wednesday to honor former state Sen. Harry Gast, who died in July."*

**Source:** Senator Proos **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443647020\\_jpro.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443647020_jpro.pdf)

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## **Upton, Committee Advance Key Energy Legislation**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today joined by his colleagues on the*

House Energy and Commerce Committee, advanced key energy legislation to the House floor. H.R. 8, the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act was approved by the full committee by a bipartisan vote of 32 - 20. Today's vote marks another important milestone in the multi-year, multi-Congress effort to modernize the nation's energy laws.

"

**Source:** Congressman Fred Upton **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443646956\\_fru.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646956_fru.pdf)

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## **Iowa State Senator and Former Walker Supporter Randy Feenstra Endorses Ted Cruz for President**

"

**HOUSTON, Texas** – Presidential candidate Ted Cruz today announced the endorsement of former Scott Walker supporter, Iowa State Senator Randy Feenstra. The endorsement follows Cruz's earlier announcement that all three of Walker's former grassroots co-chairs in Georgia are also now organizing for the Cruz campaign.

"

**Source:** Ted Cruz **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443646922\\_cru.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646922_cru.pdf)

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## **Sen. Schmidt announces October coffee hours**

**"LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Wayne Schmidt announced he will hold coffee hours in the 37th District this month."

**Source:** Senator Schmidt **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443646875\\_schm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646875_schm.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder lowers flags to honor fallen firefighter Richard Crosby**

**"LANSING, Mich.** - Gov. Rick Snyder has ordered U.S. and Michigan flags to be lowered to half-staff on Thursday, Oct. 1 within the State Capitol Complex and on all state buildings in honor of Casnovia Township firefighter Richard Crosby Sr., who died Saturday, Sept. 26.

"

**Source:** Governor Snyder **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443646833\\_govs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646833_govs.pdf)

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## **Zorn outlines need for firefighter certification bill**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Dale Zorn on Wednesday urged the Senate Regulatory Reform Committee to support his legislation to provide firefighter certification reciprocity with states that have the same certification as Michigan."*

**Source:** Senator Zorn **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443646743\\_zor.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646743_zor.pdf)

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## **Peters, Stabenow Applaud \$2.5 Million Grant for Muskegon Community College**

*"WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow today applauded a \$2,514,000 grant for Muskegon Community College to be used for renovations of the new Muskegon College Applied Technology Center. The funding comes from the Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Public Works Program."*

**Source:** U.S. Senate **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443646706\\_ps.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646706_ps.pdf)

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## **Snyder Media Advisory for Thursday, Oct. 1**

*"Snyder Media Advisory for Thursday, Oct. 1"*

**Source:** Gov. Newsroom **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443646679\\_smedia2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646679_smedia2.pdf)

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## **Dingell: Congress Should be Embarrassed for Letting Conservation Fund Expire**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement today in support of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), one of our nation's oldest and most significant conservation programs. Authorization for LWCF will expire at midnight tonight without action by Congress."*

"

**Source:** U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443646654\\_dd.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443646654_dd.pdf)

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## **MDHHS releases RFP for community coalitions focused on obesity reduction**

*"LANSING, Mich. – To support the continued efforts of the Michigan Health and Wellness 4 x 4 Plan, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recently released a Request for Proposals to*

*assist community coalitions in implementing components that will further healthy lifestyles and help prevent obesity.*

"

**Source:** MDHHS **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443641793\\_mdhh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443641793_mdhh.pdf)

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## **Traffic Advisory - I-69/M-54 ramp closure in Genesee County**

*"Traffic Advisory – Genesee County On Thursday, Oct. 1 the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will replace the sign over the ramp from eastbound I-69 to M-54 (Dort Highway). Crews will need to close the ramp (Exit 138) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to complete this work.*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443641751\\_mdt.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443641751_mdt.pdf)

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## **Dingell Language to Help Evacuate US Citizens from Yemen Included in Final Defense Authorization Bil**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today thanked the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Committee for including language she authored in the final FY2016 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) conference report. The report urges President Obama to work with international partners, to the extent practicable, to protect non-combatants and assist in the evacuation of U.S. citizens and nationals from Yemen."*

**Source:** Congresswoman Dingell **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443641690\\_yme.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443641690_yme.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder signs bills modifying local regulations to save resources, improve customer service**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed three bills that clarify operations of municipalities, making it easier for counties, cities, townships and villages to file documents and save money at the local government level.*

"

**Source:** Governor Snyder **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443641431\\_sny.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443641431_sny.pdf)

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## Schuetzte Convicts Southfield Doctor of Sex Offenses, Drug Delivery, Fraud

"

**LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuetzte today announced that John Ronald Verbovsky, 67, of Southfield, was sentenced by Ingham County Circuit Judge William Collette to five to 20 years in prison for prescribing controlled substances without any legitimate medical need in exchange for sex or cash.

"

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuetzte **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443641304\\_schue.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443641304_schue.pdf)

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## Ag leaders urge lawmakers to maintain Michigan's truck weight regulations

"LANSING – The **Agricultural Leaders of Michigan** today called on state legislators to maintain Michigan's truck weight regulations, allowing trucks of up to 11 axles and 160,000 pounds to operate on roads and highways. The policy reduces the number of trucks needed, and spreads out weight over additional axles, reducing wear on roads and highways."

**Source:** Agricultural Leaders of Michigan **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443641251\\_alm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443641251_alm.pdf)

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## Booher works on Great Lakes issues with fellow state and provincial lawmakers from the basin

"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Darwin Booher recently joined other regional leaders in Great Lakes policy to discuss important Great Lakes water issues."

**Source:** Senator Booher **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443640814\\_booh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443640814_booh.pdf)

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## Rep. Glenn moves to roll back occupational licensing

"Rep. Gary Glenn, R-Midland, today announced he will introduce legislation to protect the state of Michigan from liability for overreaching occupational licensing boards following a recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling."

**Source:** Rep. Gary Glenn **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443635256\\_gg.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443635256_gg.pdf)

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## **Jones bill would eliminate benefits to unmarried couples**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Rick Jones has introduced legislation to ban health insurance benefits for domestic partners of state employees unless the couple is married."*

**Source:** Senator Rick Jones **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443635066\\_rj.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443635066_rj.pdf)

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## **Senate adopts MacGregor resolution establishing Michigan Hunger Solutions Day**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The state Senate on Wednesday approved a resolution declaring Oct. 21, 2015 as Michigan Hunger Solutions Day."*

**Source:** Senator Peter MacGregor **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443635032\\_pm2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443635032_pm2.pdf)

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## **Runners Hit the Road 8AM this Saturday for the M23.1K Run**

*"Twenty three years after the first M231 planning meeting, three-hundred athletes will hit the road on Saturday, October 3 at 8AM for the CU Link M23.1K Run. The event takes place on the new M231 highway before it opens to vehicles. The start and finish lines are at Robinson Elementary School in Grand Haven. (11801 120th Avenue Grand Haven, MI) The running event is full, but spectators are welcome. Following the race, from 11:45AM until 1PM, the community is welcome to walk or ride their bikes on the new stretch of highway."*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443634918\\_md0t4.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634918_md0t4.pdf)

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## **Peters Urges Obama Administration to Resettle More Syrian, Persecuted Religious Minority Refugees**

*"WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today announced that he has sent a letter to President Obama urging the United States to resettle at least 100,000 refugees in the coming years from Syria and persecuted religious minority refugees in both Iraq and Syria, including 30,000 refugees in fiscal year 2016. The Obama administration has previously announced a goal of resettling 85,000 refugees in the next fiscal year, including at least 10,000 Syrian refugees in the United States through the United States Refugee Admission Program (USRAP)."*

**Source:** U.S. Senator Gary Peters **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443634680\\_gp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634680_gp.pdf)

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## **I-75 in Auburn Hills- Chrysler Drive to nb I-75 opens Fri - wb University to nb I-75 ramp closes Mon**

*"Chrysler Drive on ramp to northbound I-75 will open Friday, 10/2/15 and will allow traffic direct access to northbound I-75 without the need to go to University Drive."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443634647\\_mdof3.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634647_mdof3.pdf)

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## **Sen. Wayne Schmidt named Michigan Manufacturers Association Legislator of the Year**

*"**LANSING, Mich.** – The Michigan Manufacturers Association (MMA) on Tuesday announced state Sen. Wayne Schmidt as its 2015 Legislator of the Year."*

**Source:** Senator Wayne Schmidt **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443634599\\_ws.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634599_ws.pdf)

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## **Senate OKs Rep. Nesbitt bill for electronic proof of insurance**

*"A bill authored by state Rep. Aric Nesbitt enabling drivers to present electronic proof of auto insurance was approved today by the state Senate and is on its way to the governor for consideration."*

**Source:** Rep. Aric Nesbitt **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443634562\\_an.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634562_an.pdf)

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## **Successful Michigan Operation Freedom Outdoors Liberty Hunt event**

*"Hunters with health challenges from all corners of Michigan joined Michigan Operation Freedom Outdoors Sept. 19-20 for a Liberty Hunt event at Sharonville State Game Area in Jackson County. A firearm deer hunt for wounded veterans and others with disabilities, it also marked the first hunt period for the new restricted hunt area at the Pierce Road Unit."*

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443634523\\_dnr2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634523_dnr2.pdf)

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## **Questions Abound: Snyder Supreme Court Appointee Authored Secret Bush-Era Indefinite Detention Memo**

*"MICHIGAN — Gov. Rick Snyder's appointee to the Michigan Supreme Court, Joan Larsen, helped author a legal document while at the Office of Legal Counsel regarding habeas corpus rights of detainees during the Bush Administration."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443634485\\_pm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634485_pm.pdf)

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## **ACLU Statement on Appointment of Bush Administration Attorney to Michigan Supreme Court**

*"DETROIT – In a press conference today, Governor Rick Snyder officially announced his appointment of University of Michigan legal professor Joan Larsen to the Michigan Supreme Court. From January 2002 through May 2003, Larsen served as deputy assistant U.S. attorney general in the Department of Justice Office of Legal Counsel. During her tenure, the OLC weakened the rule of law by issuing several legal opinions authorizing torture, indefinite detention, warrantless wiretapping, and other abuses of power. While it's unclear the general role Larsen played in crafting policies, the ACLU has learned through ongoing litigation that Larsen co-authored a secret memo in March 2002 regarding detainees' right to habeas corpus, the constitutional right to challenge one's detention in a court of law."*

**Source:** ACLU of Michigan **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443634445\\_aclu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443634445_aclu.pdf)

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY - TOMORROW: Schuette Joins North Rockford Middle School Students For OK2SAY Program**

*"A.G. Schuette to highlight new statistics on OK2SAY's success promoting student safety, OK2SAY designed to reduce violence in Michigan schools through confidential 24-hour multimedia tipline, mobile app, website."*

"

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443629839\\_ag2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629839_ag2.pdf)

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## **Laborers endorse Nathan Triplett**

*"EAST LANSING—Laborers' Local 499 today announced its endorsement of Nathan Triplett for re-election to East Lansing City Council."*

**Source:** Byrum & Fisk **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443629787\\_bf2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629787_bf2.pdf)

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## **Assessment of Breathing Chemicals Related to 2010 Kalamazoo River Oil Spill Finalized**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has finalized the Public Health Assessment evaluating levels of oil-related chemicals in the air following the July 2010 oil spill in Calhoun and Kalamazoo counties. MDHHS has concluded that residents are not expected to experience long-term harm to*

*their health from breathing chemicals released into the air from the spilled oil.*

"

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443629742\\_dhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629742_dhs.pdf)

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## **Liberty Leaders Coalesce Around Ted Cruz for President**

*"HOUSTON, Texas – Presidential candidate U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, today announced 17 members of his Liberty Leaders for Cruz coalition from New Hampshire and South Carolina, joining chairman Bob Barr and eight previously announced Iowa Liberty leaders."*

**Source:** Ted Cruz for President **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443629311\\_fc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629311_fc.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Joan L. Larsen to Michigan Supreme Court**

*"LANSING, Mich. -- Joan L. Larsen, a University of Michigan legal expert with experience with the U.S. Supreme Court and U.S. Justice Department, was appointed today to the Michigan Supreme Court by Gov. Rick Snyder."*

"

**Source:** Gov. Newsroom **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443629283\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629283_gov.pdf)

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## **Statement on Larsen's Supreme Court appointment**

*"LANSING, Mich., Sept. 30, 2015 – Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel released the following statement on Joan Larsen being appointed to the Michigan Supreme Court:"*

**Source:** Michigan Republicans **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443629251\\_mr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629251_mr.pdf)

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## **Chief Justice Young: Justice Joan Larsen is "perfect fit" for Court**

*"LANSING, MI, September 30, 2015 – Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert P. Young, Jr. today said that Governor Snyder's appointment of Joan L. Larsen was "a perfect fit with a Court that is second to none in its commitment to the rule of law and legal scholarship." Larsen is currently special counsel and adjunct professor at the University of Michigan Law School."*

"

**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443629223\\_courts.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629223_courts.pdf)

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## Schuetzte Statement on Appointment of Joan Larsen to Michigan Supreme Court

"

**LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuetzte today issued the following statement on Gov. Snyder's appointment of Joan Larsen to the Michigan Supreme Court:

"

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuetzte **Date:** 10-01-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443629182\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443629182_ag.pdf) <hr style='margin:20px 0;

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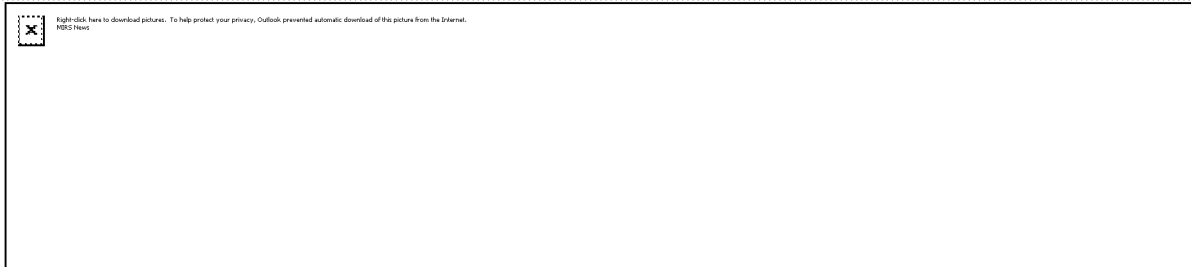
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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2014 6:41 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **State Rep. Stacy Erwin Oakes sets campaign launch for state Senate bid**

*"SAGINAW, MI — State Rep. Stacy Erwin Oakes, D-Saginaw, is planning two events to formally announce her plans to run for Michigan's 32nd State Senate District."*

**Source:** Saginaw News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2014/02/stacy\\_erwin\\_oakes\\_sets\\_campaign.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2014/02/stacy_erwin_oakes_sets_campaign.html#incart_river_default)

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### **Saginaw City Councilman Norman Braddock resigns to run for state representative**

*"SAGINAW, MI — After a little more than two years sitting on Saginaw City Council, Norman Braddock on Monday, Feb. 17, resigned his seat and announced his intention to run for State Rep. Stacy Erwin Oakes' seat in the state Legislature."*

**Source:** Saginaw News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2014/02/saginaw\\_city\\_councilman\\_norman.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2014/02/saginaw_city_councilman_norman.html#incart_river_default)

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### **Michigan State endowment tops \$2 billion**

*"EAST LANSING — Buoyed by strong investment returns, the value of Michigan State University's endowment topped \$2 billion for the first time in the 2013 fiscal year, according to a report from the university."*

**Source:** Lansing State Journal **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20140218/NEWS01/302180002/Michigan-State-endowment-tops-2-billion>

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## Candidate for US Senate visits Great Lakes center

*"HOUGHTON - One of the candidates to replace retiring U.S. Senator Carl Levin visited Michigan Technological University Saturday."*

**Source:** Houghton Daily Mining Gazette **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.mininggazette.com/page/content.detail/id/533140/Candidate-for-US-Senate-visits-Great-Lakes-center.html?nav=5006>

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## Local control for Flint hinges on seven-point plan, emergency manager tells council

*"FLINT, MI – The city of Flint is not yet ready to start regaining local control over its operations and finances, Emergency Manager Darnell Early told the City Council Monday, Feb. 17."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/02/flint\\_em\\_darnell\\_earley\\_calls.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/02/flint_em_darnell_earley_calls.html#incart_river_default)

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## 'We have a really glorious story to tell:' State Rep. Woodrow Stanley honors Genesee County black elected officials

*"FLINT, MI – It was day set aside during Black History Month to honor and celebrate the black elected officials in Genesee County – past and present – and recognize their achievements."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/02/we\\_have\\_a\\_really\\_glorious\\_stor.html#incart\\_2box](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/02/we_have_a_really_glorious_stor.html#incart_2box)

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## Michigan gets big benefits from farm bill

*"EAST LANSING (AP) - Michigan might be better known for its manufacturing muscle, but agriculture isn't exactly small potatoes: It generates \$91.4 billion for the state's economy, and the state ranks at or near the top of the list nationally in production of tart cherries, blueberries, pickling cucumbers, apples, beans, carrots and geraniums. (When it comes to potatoes, it ranks ninth, but spuds are Michigan's leading produce crop.)"*

**Source:** Associated Press **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/546195/Michigan-gets-big-benefits-from-farm-bill.html?nav=5003>

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## Rep. Knezek announces that he'll run for state Senate this year



*"State Rep. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) won't be running for a second two-year term come Nov. 4."*

**Source:** Dearborn Press and Guide **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2014/02/17/news/doc53027bf345519994257190.txt>

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## **Schwarz sharply criticizes Kellogg over G.R. plan**

*"Dr. Joe Schwarz on Monday lambasted the Kellogg Co. for its handling of a plan to create a regional business services center in the Grand Rapids area employing 300 to 600 people, some of whom now work in Battle Creek."*

**Source:** Battle Creek Enquirer **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20140217/NEWS01/302170031/Schwarz-sharply-criticizes-Kellogg-over-G-R-plan>

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## **Michigan lawmakers to revisit Medicaid expansion, road maintenance with supplemental spending bill**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan lawmakers, already working on the fiscal year 2015 budget, will revisit current-year spending levels in the face of unanticipated costs and an unexpected revenue "surplus.""*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/02/michigan_lawmakers_to_revisit.html#incart_river_default)

[news/index.ssf/2014/02/michigan\\_lawmakers\\_to\\_revisit.html#incart\\_river\\_default](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/02/michigan_lawmakers_to_revisit.html#incart_river_default)

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## **U.S. auto dealers average sales set record in '13**

"

*The nation's nearly 18,000 new car dealerships set a record for most sales per average dealership in 2013, climbing 7.6 percent — even as the dealer network shrank by 0.1 percent."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140217/AUTO01/302170081/U-S-auto-dealers-average-sales-set-record-13>

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## **Snyder's attorneys defend state ban on health insurance for some domestic partners**

"

*Lansing —Attorneys for Gov. Rick Snyder say a state ban on health insurance for domestic partners of some public employees "does not target anyone," while acknowledging the law seeks to enshrine workplace benefits as a right afforded only to heterosexual couples and their families."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140217/POLITICS02/302170088/Snyder-s-attorneys-defend-state-ban-health-insurance-some-domestic-partners>

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## Michigan state rep fights unopposed candidates' use of public money

"

*Lansing — Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mark Schauer's decision last month to apply for nearly \$1 million in public money for an August primary without an opponent has spurred a Republican lawmaker to propose outlawing the practice."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140218/POLITICS02/302180025/Michigan-state-rep-fights-unopposed-candidates-use-public-money>

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## Tlaib blames 'broken' system for failure to pay Dearborn school taxes

"

*Lansing — A Democratic state representative from Detroit who helps her constituents prepare their income taxes acknowledged Monday she has been erroneously claiming a homestead tax exemption on a second home in Dearborn for about five years."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140217/METRO01/302170071/Tlaib-blames-broken-system-failure-pay-Dearborn-school-taxes>

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## Detroit area transit project stuck in neutral

"

*It was supposed to be the year of momentum for the agency tapped to coordinate the area's bus service, with organizers hoping to make a splash with a new CEO and an ambitious agenda that would put a funding initiative on the ballot this fall."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140217/METRO08/302170019/Detroit-area-transit-project-stuck-neutral>

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## Kilpatrick wants \$24K in public funds to pay lawyer for appeal

"

*Detroit —Former Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick wants taxpayers, who spent \$813,806 defending him against corruption*

charges, to pay \$24,000 more for a second lawyer to appeal his conviction and prison sentence."

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140217/METRO01/302170077/Kilpatrick-wants-24K-public-funds-pay-lawyer-appeal>

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## Ballot group raises bid on minimum wage above \$10 an hour

"

*Lansing — A group seeking the first increase in Michigan's minimum wage in six years wants to break the \$10-an-hour mark for low-wage workers — a move that at least one opponent called "arbitrary and political."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140218/METRO06/302170089/Ballot-group-raises-bid-minimum-wage-above-10-an-hour>

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## After rocky start, Orr, Duggan learn to trust each other as they run Detroit

"

*They call it a work in progress, but Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr and Mayor Mike Duggan appear to be forging a solid working relationship as they try to improve services and move Detroit out of bankruptcy."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140218/METRO01/302180024/After-rocky-start-Orr-Duggan-learn-trust-each-other-they-run-Detroit>

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## Lawmakers seek more training for security guards in wake of Northland mall death

*"Two state lawmakers announced today that they are sponsoring a bill that would require training for security guards in the wake of the Jan. 28 death of a 25-year-old Ferndale man after he was handcuffed, pepper-sprayed and allegedly sat on by guards at Northland Center."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140217/NEWS03/302170085/security-guard-training-mall-death>

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## GM Foundation gives \$1 million to Detroit nonprofits to honor former CEO Ackerson

*"A Detroit soup kitchen received half of the \$1 million in donations the General Motors Foundation delivered today*

*in honor of the auto company's former CEO."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140217/NEWS01/302170064/GM-Foundation-1-million-charity-donations-Detroit>

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## **State Rep. Tlaib to pay school district after claiming tax break in error**

*"LANSING — A state representative has shortchanged the Dearborn Public Schools district since 2008 by claiming a property tax break she didn't qualify for, records show."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140217/NEWS06/302170042/Lawmaker-Rashida-Tlaib-property-tax-error>

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## **Group wants to push Michigan minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour**

*"LANSING — A group launching a petition drive to raise Michigan's minimum wage has set its sights higher."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140217/NEWS06/302170078/minimum-wage-increase-10-raising-michigan>

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## **Ficano speech to focus on Wayne County debt, successes**

*"When Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano presents his State of the County address today, much of his speech will deal with the plan presented to commissioners last week to eliminate about \$200 million in debt, as well as "a lot of successes that don't make the 6 o'clock news.""*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/article/20140217/NEWS02/302170142/Wayne-County-Robert-Ficano>

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## **Analysis: 4 ways Detroit's bankruptcy has changed Wall Street**

*"As Detroit weighs a plan to pay pensioners more than bondholders and pursues a lawsuit against several banks, Wall Street is quickly changing how it views municipal debt in the midst of the largest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/article/20140217/NEWS01/302170128/>

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## **Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan to deliver first State of City address next week**

*"Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan will make his first State of the City address next week."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/article/20140217/NEWS01/302170080/>

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## **Detroit's bankruptcy blueprint due out this week: Here's what to expect**

*"Detroit's fight for survival will enter a critical stage this week when the insolvent city unveils an early blueprint of how it plans to exit bankruptcy, with a restructuring plan that would shed massive amounts of debt and allow the city to improve some of the basic public services it has struggled for years to provide."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**  
<http://www.freep.com/article/20140218/NEWS01/302180020/Plan-of-adjustment-bankruptcy>

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

### **Despite efforts, little progress has been made in educating poor, vulnerable kids**

*"What is the sound of one hand clapping?"*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2014/02/despite-efforts-little-progress-has-been-made-in-educating-poor-vulnerable-kids/>

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### **Education policy makes schools hard to fund**

*"Gov. Rick Snyder's proposal of an approximate 3 percent increase to K-12 funding spurred a debate over whether he has increased or slashed education spending during his time in office. Either way, there are pressing policy issues behind education spending, one being the funding of the Michigan Public Employees Retirement System, or MPERS, its pension plan."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2014/02/education-policy-makes-schools-hard-to-fund/>

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### **Snow Wars: Schools struggle to meet required days of instruction**

*"West of Kalamazoo, the Mattawan Consolidated School district shut down school for two days after a November windstorm knocked out power throughout the district and damaged the roof of the high school gym. Heavy snow, icy roads and dangerous wind chills have closed school seven more days since then."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2014/02/snow-wars/>

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## **JACK SPENCER: A debating point we'll probably never see**

*"The following is make-believe and unlikely to occur, but stranger things have happened in election-year politics. For it to take place presumed Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mark Schauer would need to adjust his posture on government using taxpayer dollars in an attempt to spur economic growth. However, because the object of his attack would be a lack of transparency, this might not be too much of a stretch."*

**Source:** Big Rapids Pioneer **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2014/02/17/jack-spencer-debating-point-well-probably-never-see/>

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## **Editorial: February elections a disservice to voters**

"

*School districts and municipalities are conducting elections throughout Michigan on Feb. 25. In many cases, they will be asking voters to raise taxes."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140218/OPINION01/302180007/Editorial-February-elections-disservice-voters>

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## **Editorial: UAW had little to offer VW workers**

"

*In losing its best shot ever to organize a southern transplant automaker, the United Auto Workers union ran into organized labor's worst enemy: a happy workforce."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140218/OPINION01/302180004/Editorial-UAW-had-little-offer-VW-workers>

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## **Calabrese: Volkswagen workers assess the reality, not the legend, of the UAW**

*"The leaders of the United Auto Workers have quite the heroic view of themselves. You can hear it in their rhetoric. You can sense it in their organizing strategies. They are absolutely convinced — as are many of their media allies — that they are the only thing standing between workers and sweat shop squalor."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:** <http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2014/02/17/volkswagen-workers-assess-reality-legend-uaw/>

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## **Gary Wolfram: Mandatory spending drives debt limit debate, demands reform**

*"Last week's increase in the federal government debt ceiling was done with relatively fanfare. The House passed a*

*bill that would suspend the borrowing cap until March 15, 2015 on a partisan vote, with Democrats providing 193 of the 221 votes for passage. The Senate then overcame an attempted filibuster by Senator Ted Cruz when twelve Republican Senators joined 55 Democrats in a vote that allowed the bill to come to a vote on the floor. The bill then passed with only Democratic votes."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:** <http://blogs.detroitnews.com/politics/2014/02/17/gary-wolfram-mandatory-spending-drives-debt-limit-debate-demands-reform/>

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## **Brian Dickerson: Michigan Supreme Court justices should take high schooler seriously**

*"A junior at one of the state's most prestigious Catholic high schools thinks she and her classmates have a lot in common with 353 Michigan prison inmates serving mandatory life sentences for crimes that they committed as teenagers."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/article/20140217/BLOG25/302170074/Michigan-Supreme-Court-juvenile-lifers-offenders-Father-Gabriel-Richard-High-School>

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## **Stephen Henderson: Time to see whether Detroit's big bet on shedding its debt pays off**

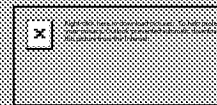
*"Kevyn Orr's plan to restructure Detroit's debt will land with a thud in federal court this week, and the loudest reactions will come from those creditors with whom he plans to break pledges that, historically, have been seen as sacrosanct."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 02-18-2014 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/article/20140216/COL33/302160039/Stephen-Henderson-Time-see-whether-Detroit-s-big-bet-shedding-its-debt-pays-off>

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
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### **Todd Courser says he was a 'bad victim' in extortion text scandal**

*"LANSING, MI -- Former Rep. Todd Courser said the local prosecutor's office told him he was a 'bad victim' in an extortion texting scandal he brought forward in August, but he encouraged former Rep. Cindy Gamrat to tell her side of the story."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/todd\\_courser\\_says\\_he\\_was\\_a\\_bad.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/todd_courser_says_he_was_a_bad.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Anti-fracking ballot effort fails to collect enough signatures, seeks more volunteers**

*"LANSING, MI -- A grassroots effort to institute a statewide ban on horizontal fracking in Michigan gathered more than 150,000 signatures over the past 180 days but failed to meet the 252,253-signature threshold to make it on the ballot."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/anti-fracking\\_ballot\\_effort\\_fa.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/anti-fracking_ballot_effort_fa.html#incart_river_index)

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### **4,700 pro-Syrian refugee signatures delivered to Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder**

*"LANSING, MI — When Julie Quiroz of Ann Arbor heard that Gov. Rick Snyder was putting Syrian refugee efforts on hold, she started her first online petition."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/4700\\_pro-syrian\\_refugee\\_signat.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/4700_pro-syrian_refugee_signat.html#incart_river_index)

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## Activists demand Snyder accept Syrian refugees

*"Lansing — A small group of activists brought 4,700 petitions to Gov. Rick Snyder demanding Thursday that he welcome Syrian refugees to Michigan."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/19/activists-demand-snyder-accept-syrian-refugees/76052606/>

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## House passes Huizenga bill to increase Fed oversight

*"Washington — The House voted 241-185 Thursday to approve a bill sponsored by Rep. Bill Huizenga of west Michigan aimed at boosting congressional oversight of the Federal Reserve."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/19/house-passes-huizenga-bill-increase-fed-oversight/76080710/>

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## Cotter: Private cash would help Detroit school deal

*"Lansing — House Speaker Kevin Cotter said Thursday that an infusion of private cash into a rescue of Detroit Public Schools would make a \$715 million plan to fix the district's balance sheets "more palatable" to wary lawmakers."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/19/cotter-detroit-school-debt/76069562/>

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## Michigan GOP helps pass bill to 'pause' Syrian refugees

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**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/19/michigan-gop-syrian-refugees-pause/76061882/>

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## UAW skilled trades workers lack veto power

*"Skilled trades workers with the United Auto Workers don't have the authority that many believe they*

have in vetoing contracts with Detroit automakers."

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/11/19/uaw-skilled-trades-workers-lack-veto-power/76084452/>

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## **U.S. House passes bill to suspend refugee resettlements**

*"WASHINGTON — Despite a veto threat by President Barack Obama, the U.S. House on Thursday approved a bill that would effectively suspend the process for more Syrian refugees to be resettled in the U.S., a measure that, if enacted, could derail efforts to integrate more refugees into Michigan."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/11/19/us-house-passes-bill-suspend-refugee-resettlements/76061122/>

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

### **Grade retention harms students rather than helps them with reading proficiency**

*"There is a reading crisis in the state of Michigan. Some studies have indicated that as few as 40 percent of our third-graders are proficient readers. While the Smart Promotion Bill (House Bill 4822) attempts to address this crisis, it is tragically flawed. This bill institutes mandatory retention for any third-grader who does not test proficient in reading."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/grade\\_retention\\_harms\\_students.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/grade_retention_harms_students.html#incart_river_index)

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## **Runestad: Give communities say on refugees resettlement**

*"The heinous attack in Paris by Islamic State terrorists is an example of how this group of extremists continues to infiltrate peaceful communities worldwide and wreak havoc."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/19/jim-runestad/76081610/>

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## **Finley: Hold a refugee summit in Michigan**

*"Rather than allow the resettlement of Syrian refugees to fester into another divisive partisan issue, the nation's governors and the federal agencies involved should convene an emergency summit to discuss the concerns."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/11/19/finley-refugee-summit-michigan/76062382/>

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## Room for balance on 'dark stores' tax issue

*"Local governments across Michigan say they are losing millions of dollars in taxes and facing cuts in services because big box retailers such as Target and Home Depot are arguing a "dark store" theory of retail property assessment before the Michigan Tax Tribunal to cut their costs.*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/19/editorial-dark-stores-tax-assessments/76082422/>

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## Howes: Memory, fantasy collide in UAW contract drama

*"What do you get when you combine short memories with social media?"*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/11/19/howes-memory-fantasy-collide-uaw-contract-drama/76082250/>

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## Other States Divulge What Michigan's Corporate Welfare Arm Keeps Secret

*"The Michigan Economic Development Corporation — the state's corporate welfare arm — won't disclose the companies to which it hands out public money. In other states, this type of information is routinely made available, which strongly suggests the barriers to doing so in Michigan are strictly homegrown."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21813>

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## Amid Flint's water crisis, a quiet success story

*"Over the past year, as Detroit officials came under fire for fluctuating demolition costs and the Flint water contamination crisis was widely publicized, Flint has been making quiet progress on another front."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/amid-flints-water-crisis-a-quiet-success-story/>

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## Legislature must close 'dark stores' tax loophole

*"Michigan's local governments and schools are losing millions of dollars that otherwise would go to libraries, classrooms and police, fire and senior services through a gaping tax loophole large retailers across the state are quietly exploiting to lower their local property taxes."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/legislature-must-close-dark-stores-tax-loophole/>

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## Press Releases

### Rep. Kelly disappointed in foundation's lack of commitment on DPS

*"LANSING – Rep. Tim Kelly, R – Saginaw Township, expressed disappointment today with comments made by the Skillman Foundation's President and CEO Tonya Allen regarding a potential financial overhaul of Detroit Public Schools (DPS)."*

**Source:** Rep. Tim Kelly **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447969699\\_kelly.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447969699_kelly.pdf)

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### MCSC announces Julie Calley as next Board Chairperson

*"LANSING – The Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC) this week announced the election of Julie Calley, Michigan's Second Lady, as the new board chairperson during the MCSC's board meeting on Nov. 19 at the Lansing Center. Also announced were the 2015-2016 Executive Committee members."*

**Source:** Michigan Community Service Commission **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447967098\\_mcsc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447967098_mcsc.pdf)

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### Speaker Cotter on Detroit school coalition comments

*"House Speaker Kevin Cotter, R-Mt. Pleasant, issued the following statement on Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren head Tonya Allen taking community support for Detroit Public Schools off the table:"*

**Source:** Speaker Kevin Cotter **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447966976\\_cotter.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447966976_cotter.pdf)

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### 65 groups to Canada's new Environment Minister: Stop Great Lakes nuke waste dump!

*"Ottawa, Ontario, Canada and Washington, D.C., U.S.A. – Calling the federal review report issued in May*

*on a proposal to bury nuclear waste beside Lake Huron "deeply flawed", sixty-five Canadian and U.S. public interest groups have sent a joint letter to the federal minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna urging her to reject Ontario Power Generation's bid to bury radioactive wastes right beside Lake Huron.*"

**Source:** *Beyond Nuclear* **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447966348\\_nuclear.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447966348_nuclear.pdf)

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## **Upton: "This is about our national security"**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today voted in support of H.R. 4038, the American Security Against Foreign Enemies (SAFE) Act of 2015. Upton was joined by a majority of his House colleagues as the legislation advanced by a veto-proof 289-137 margin."*

**Source:** *Congressman Fred Upton* **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447964984\\_Upton.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447964984_Upton.pdf)

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## **Huizenga Statement on Bipartisan Syrian Refugee Legislation**

*"Washington, D.C. – Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga released the following statement after voting in favor of the Bipartisan American Security Against Foreign Enemies (SAFE) Act. This legislation passed the House by a vote of 289-137."*

**Source:** *Office of Congressman Bill Huizenga* **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447964858\\_Huizenga\\_Statement\\_on\\_Syrian\\_Refugee\\_Legislation\\_-\\_laurie@mirsnews.com\\_-\\_Michigan\\_Information\\_&\\_Research\\_Service\\_Inc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447964858_Huizenga_Statement_on_Syrian_Refugee_Legislation_-_laurie@mirsnews.com_-_Michigan_Information_&_Research_Service_Inc.pdf)

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## **HOMELESSNESS IN MICHIGAN FELL 14% PERCENT IN 2015**

*"WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) today released the latest national estimate of homelessness, highlighting a continuing decline across the nation. HUD's 2015 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress found an overall 11 percent decline in the number of persons experiencing homelessness since 2010, including a 26 percent drop in the number of persons living on the streets. "*

**Source:** *HUD* **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447964684\\_Homelessness.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447964684_Homelessness.pdf)

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## **Rep. Trott's Statement on Passage of the SAFE Act**

*"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today released the following statement after the House of Representatives passed the American Security Against Foreign Enemies (SAFE)*

Act: "

**Source:** Office of Dave Trot **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447962828\\_trott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447962828_trott.pdf)

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## Hagerty Boosts Economic Development Efforts of TraverseCONNECT

*"TRAVERSE CITY – A major grant from Hagerty will help expand the regional economic development initiatives of TraverseCONNECT ."*

**Source:** TraverseCONNECT **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447962523\\_traverse.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447962523_traverse.pdf)

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## Rep. Lawrence introduces H.R. 4068, The Promote Startups Act of 2015

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. –Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) on Wednesday introduced H.R. 4068, The Promote Startups Act of 2015, which would permanently increase the limitations on deductions for startup and organizational expenditures that entrepreneurs face. The Act seeks to raise the current tax deduction limit for startup expenses from \$5,000 to \$15,000 and raise the deduction limit for organizational expenses from \$5,000 to \$10,000."*

**Source:** Office of Congresswoman Lawrence **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447960607\\_The\\_Promote\\_Startups\\_Act.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447960607_The_Promote_Startups_Act.pdf)

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## House Passes SAFE Act with Bishop's Support

*"WASHINGTON – Today, the House passed H.R. 4038, the American Security Against Foreign Enemies (SAFE) Act of 2015, by a vote of 289-137 with Congressman Mike Bishop's support. In response, Rep. Bishop issued the following statement:"*

**Source:** Office of Congressman Mike Bishop **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447960070\\_Mike\\_Bishop.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447960070_Mike_Bishop.pdf)

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## 400 Students For Rand Chapters Established Throughout the Country

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*WASHINGTON, D.C. - Rand Paul for President (RFPF) recently launched a student organization effort across the nation with the goal of establishing 300 new college chapters within 30 days. Rand Paul for President achieved this goal, and today while hosting an event at The George Washington University, Sen. Rand Paul announced the addition of 100 more Students for Rand (SFR) chapters throughout all 50 states.*

"

**Source: Rand Paul Date: 11-20-2015 Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447959209\\_Rand\\_Paul.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447959209_Rand_Paul.pdf)

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## **Urge Gov. Snyder to show compassion for Syrian refugees**

*"We are deeply disappointed that Gov. Rick Snyder has announced that he would suspend his efforts to resettle refugees from Syria in Michigan, particularly at such a critical juncture."*

**Source: MI ACLU Date: 11-20-2015 Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447956726\\_ACLU.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447956726_ACLU.pdf)

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## **Senator Stabenow Applauds Initiative to Expand Quality Health Care in Mid-Michigan**

*"WASHINGTON D.C. – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, today announced support for MidMichigan Health to help connect people in rural areas with quality health care. This \$494,900 grant will benefit eight counties in Mid-Michigan. The funding, which comes from the USDA's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant program, was authorized by Senator Stabenow's 2014 Farm Bill."*

**Source: Sen. Debbie Stabenow Date: 11-20-2015 Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447955971\\_satbenow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447955971_satbenow.pdf)

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## **Can Democrats' Anti-Koch Attacks Actually Work?**

*"Recently, Bridge Project conducted six focus groups with swing voters in swing states on the billionaire Koch brothers as they gear up to spend nearly \$900 million pushing their agenda and backing their puppet candidates in 2016. The focus groups revealed that to know the Kochs is to dislike them and that voters are turned off by their harmful, self-enriching agenda also backed by their puppet candidates."*

**Source: American Bridge Date: 11-20-2015 Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447955854\\_Can\\_Democrats.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447955854_Can_Democrats.pdf)

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## **We Need Fed Reform for a Stronger Economy**

*"Washington, D.C. – House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (CA-23) released the following statement on House passage of H.R. 3189, the Fed Oversight Reform and Modernization Act:"*

**Source: House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy Date: 11-20-2015 Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447955505\\_Majority\\_Leader\\_McCarthy\\_Huizenga\\_Legislation\\_Will\\_Strengthen\\_Economy\\_-\\_laurie@mirsnews.com\\_-\\_Michigan\\_Information\\_&\\_Research\\_Service\\_Inc](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447955505_Majority_Leader_McCarthy_Huizenga_Legislation_Will_Strengthen_Economy_-_laurie@mirsnews.com_-_Michigan_Information_&_Research_Service_Inc)



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## **BISHOP and WALBERG: MICHIGAN'S TERRIBLE TWOSOME AGAINST COLLEGE STUDENTS**

*"In honor of American Education Week, Michigan State University College Dems are holding Congressmen Mike Bishop and Tim Walberg accountable for their many votes against college students."*

**Source:** Michigan State University **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447955662](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447955662)

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## **Equality Michigan Honors Transgender Day of Remembrance**

*"Ashton O'Hara, 25, Amber Monroe, 20, and the non-gender conforming black gay man known as "Melvin," 30, who was perceived to be a trans woman because he was cross-dressing at the time of his murder, are three Michigan victims too many. On November 20th, we say their names, in honor of Transgender Day of Remembrance, a memorial to those murdered due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice."*

**Source:** Equality Michigan **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447954089\\_Equality\\_Michigan.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447954089_Equality_Michigan.pdf)

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## **House Passes Huizenga Legislation to Reform the Federal Reserve**

*"Washington, D.C. – Today, Monetary Policy and Trade Subcommittee Chairman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) released the following statement after the House of Representatives passed the FORM Act, legislation he authored to reform the Federal Reserve by restoring accountability, increasing transparency, and strengthening our nation's monetary policy. The FORM Act passed the House by a vote of 241 – 185."*

**Source:** Office of Bill Huizenga **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447953673\\_House\\_Passes.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447953673_House_Passes.pdf)

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## **Sparrow Attempts to Silence Nurses About Substance Abuse Unit Closure**

*"The Michigan Nurses Association (MNA) is asking the federal government to protect nurses speaking out for patient safety. Today MNA filed an unfair labor practice (ULP) charge with the National Labor Relations Board on behalf of registered nurses at Sparrow Hospital's St. Lawrence campus."*

**Source:** Sparrow Hospital **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447952528\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447952528_sparrow.pdf)

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## **Agricultural Sector to Benefit from New Natural Gas Pipeline Infrastructure**

*"FREDERICKTOWN, OHIO – The Ohio State Grange today released a new analysis examining the interrelationship between the agricultural sector and access to affordable natural gas supplies in Ohio and Michigan. "*

**Source:** Acuitas LLC **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447951668\\_Agriculture.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447951668_Agriculture.pdf)

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## **Join us for Silver Bells in the City Friday, November 20 at 5 p.m.**

*"We invite you and your family to join us before, during, and after the 31st Annual Silver Bells in the City in downtown Lansing. Stay warm and enjoy the parade from the comfort of our office!"*

**Source:** Marketing Resource Group **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447951499\\_MRG\\_Silver\\_Bells.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447951499_MRG_Silver_Bells.pdf)

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## **Michigan celebrates National Rural Health Day, recognizes achievements in rural communities**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services today is joining the Michigan Center for Rural Health (MCRH) and state offices of rural health across the country to recognize the Fifth Annual National Rural Health Day."*

**Source:** MI Dept of Health and Human Services **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447951021\\_national\\_rural.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447951021_national_rural.pdf)

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## **Federal Funding Flows While Lake Erie Contamination Grows**

*"LANSING, MI—NOVEMBER 19, 2015—Today, the Less=More Coalition released a report that takes an unprecedented look at the relationship between the manure load from factory farms in the Western Lake Erie Watershed (WLEW) and the federal subsidies that have poured into the region to facilities that generate that waste over the last seven years."*

**Source:** Sierra Club **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447949907\\_lake\\_erie.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447949907_lake_erie.pdf)

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## **Michigan National Guard further strengthens Liberian Partnership**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Michigan Army National Guard engineers have arrived in Monrovia, Liberia where they join their Liberian counterparts to improve living conditions for 96 soldiers. The overseas trip also holds historic significance, representing the first time Michigan Guard members have flown large refueling*

tankers to the Liberian base."

**Source:** MI Army National Guard **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447947816\\_MI\\_National.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447947816_MI_National.pdf)

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## **Know Before You Go: Travel Safety Tips for Your Thanksgiving Holiday**

*"CHICAGO –The Thanksgiving week ahead is one typically filled with travel, a busy schedule and potentially bad weather."*

**Source:** FEMA **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447946866\\_FEMA.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447946866_FEMA.pdf)

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## **MDOT weekend construction Metro Detroit 11/20-11/23/15**

*"MDOT weekend construction for 11/20-11/23/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)"*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447945317\\_mdott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447945317_mdott.pdf)

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## **DETROIT RETIREES, OTHER GROUPS TO PROTEST AGAINST BANKRUPTCY CRIMINALS JUDGES ROSEN AND RHODES AT**

*"U.S. District Court Chief Judge Gerald Rosen and U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Steven Rhodes will receive Dennis W. Archer Awards for Outstanding Service today, Thursday, Nov. 18 at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA), in recognition of the roles they played in Detroit's ruinous bankruptcy."*

**Source:** Detroit Active and Retired Employees Association **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447945042\\_dareea.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447945042_dareea.pdf)

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## **Mockingjay Rebel Art Pops Up In East Lansing**

*"Mockingjay Rebel Art Pops Up In East Lansing Last night, a collective of anonymous street artists plastered "Mockingjay" artwork across the campus of MSU. Found on windows, walls, and lamp posts from the Union to the South neighborhood, Wells, and Snyder Phillips buildings, it bears the symbol from the movie Mockingjay, which is being released today."*

**Source:** Michigan State University **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447944960\\_mocking.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447944960_mocking.pdf)

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## **Ohio Grange to Release Study on Economic Benefits of Natural Gas Pipelines**

*"Ohio Grange to Release Study on Economic Benefits of Natural Gas Pipelines to Agriculture Communities*

*Announcement and details on the paper will be discussed on a call the public and media are encouraged to join. The call will cover the paper's conclusions and methodology and will open the participants to questions.*

*"*

**Source:** Ohio Grange **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447943117\\_grange.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447943117_grange.pdf)

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## **Baker College instructors honored: 'Educator of the Year' and state association board member**

*"JACKSON, Mich. – Two Baker College of Jackson health sciences instructors were recently recognized by their respective industries' state professional organizations."*

**Source:** Baker College **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447942908\\_baker.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447942908_baker.pdf)

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## **Lon Johnson taking a vacation to the 1st District soon**

*"In case you missed it, Lon Johnson is in northern Michigan this week after avoiding the press and voters in Michigan's 1st Congressional District. To help him acquaint himself with the district as he makes the trip up north, we created the travel guide below to help him find his way around."*

**Source:** Michigan Republican Party **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447942848\\_gop.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447942848_gop.pdf)

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## **Schuetz Partners with Nonprofits to Help Michigan Citizens Make Smart Donations**

*"**LANSING** — The Michigan Nonprofit Association, Council of Michigan Foundations, Michigan Association of United Ways, and Attorney General Bill Schuetz today released a helpful resource to help Michigan donors make wise charitable gifts this holiday season. "*

**Source:** Attorney General Schuetz **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447942797\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447942797_ag.pdf)

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## **Senators Voting to Block EPA Rules Received 17 Times as Much Money**

## from the Coal Mining Industry

**"November 19, 2015 --** On November 17, 2015, the Senate passed joint resolutions S.J.Res.23 and S.J.Res.24, each by an identical vote of 52-46. These resolutions block Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rules designed to address climate change: S.J.Res.23 strikes an EPA rule on greenhouse gas emissions, while S.J.Res.24 strikes an EPA rule on carbon pollution emission guidelines. The votes come ahead of an international climate change summit that will begin in Paris on November 30. "

**Source:** Maplight **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447942694\\_maplight.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447942694_maplight.pdf)

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## Michigan parents and health advocates thank Senators Stabenow and Peters for supporting America's CI

"MICHIGAN- Yesterday, the Senate voted on America's Clean Power Plan, specifically S.J.Res.24, a joint resolution that seeks to use the Congressional Review Act to prohibit the plan from going into effect."

**Source:** Moms Clean Air Force **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447941909\\_airforce.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447941909_airforce.pdf)

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## Michigan's Mighty 14th District Democrats!

"Upcoming Events and Activities:"

**Source:** Michigan 14th District Democrats **Date:** 11-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447941836\\_14.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447941836_14.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnnews.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 03, 2015 10:50 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Interest hike likely to hold off after hiring pace fell**

*"September hiring fell well short of consensus expectations and previous gains were less robust than thought, new Labor Department statistics show a dismal monthly report that painted a picture of an economy in downshift mode."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/10/02/interest-hike-likely-hold-hiring-pace-fell/73251560/>

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### **Capitol Park first residences with fiber-optic Internet**

*"A Capitol Park building converted to lofts will be the first residences in Detroit to get fiber optic-based Internet service, which can be 100 times faster than DSL and home cable connections."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/10/02/capitol-park-first-residences-fiber-optic-internet/73217542/>

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### **Courser, opponents debate gun control at forum**

*"Lapeer — One day after a gunman killed nine people in a shooting rampage at an Oregon community college, the issue of gun control was a hot debate topic at a Lapeer County candidates forum to fill an open seat in the Michigan House."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/03/courser-opponents-debate-gun-control-forum/73268132/>

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## 9 killed after Afghan hospital hit in suspected U.S. airstrike

*"Nine Doctors Without Borders staff members were killed and another 37 people were seriously wounded after a suspected U.S. airstrike early Saturday near the organization's hospital in Kunduz, Afghanistan."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/10/03/doctors-without-borders-killed-afghanistan/73271370/>

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## MDOT seeks input on massive I-275 closure in 2016

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation is planning a massive construction project for I-275, which will affect traffic for a year or more. How it affects traffic is something they'd like to hear from the public about."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/10/02/mdot-seeks-input-massive--275-closure-2016/73235784/>

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## Ship with 33 aboard missing as Hurricane Joaquin slams Bahamas

*"The U.S. Coast Guard was searching Friday for a missing cargo ship with 33 crewmembers, including 28 Americans, as a slow-moving Hurricane Joaquin continued to batter the Bahamas."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/weather/2015/10/02/southeast-floods-flooding-hurricane-joaquin-bahamas/73196666/>

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## UAW to explore new deal with FCA

*"The UAW will formally explore whether it should renegotiate a proposed contract with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles before making the bolder decision to move on to General Motors or Ford to reach a deal, according to a report obtained by the Free Press that gives details of a private Thursday meeting of union officials."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/02/uaw-fca-explore-new-deal/73241184/>

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## Monica Conyers files for divorce from Rep. John Conyers

*"She went from City Hall to federal court to prison. Now embattled former Detroit City Councilwoman Monica Conyers is headed to divorce court, seeking to end her marriage of 25 years to one of the highest-ranking*



Democratic members of Congress, U.S. Rep. John Conyers."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/02/monica-conyers-john-conyers-divorce/73229188/>

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## What will become of woolly mammoth bones found near Chelsea?

"Eighty-five-year-old Paul Bollinger has lived in the Chelsea area all his life. For decades, he's dug foundations for houses and graves. But the discovery of a woolly mammoth buried in a farm field shocked the old-timer."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/woolly_mammoth_bones_will_be_c.html#incart_river_home)

[arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/woolly\\_mammoth\\_bones\\_will\\_be\\_c.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/woolly_mammoth_bones_will_be_c.html#incart_river_home)

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## Charles Stewart Mott Foundation awards grant to purchase water filters in Flint

"FLINT, MI – The Charles Stewart Mott Foundation has awarded an grant to the United Way of Genesee County in an effort to provide help with citizens' water concerns."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/charles\\_stewart\\_mott\\_foundatio\\_7.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/charles_stewart_mott_foundatio_7.html#incart_story_package)

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## State offers city cash for filters, but no break from Flint River

"FLINT, MI – The state is offering to speed up work aimed at reducing lead in the city's water system, to pay for faucet filters and to do more to encourage people to flush their pipes to clear lines of lead."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/state\\_rolls\\_out\\_flint\\_water\\_pl.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/state_rolls_out_flint_water_pl.html#incart_river_home)

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## Ride along for a sneak peek at Michigan's newest highway

"OTTAWA COUNTY, MI - In downtown Grand Rapids between Wealthy and Leonard streets there are 10 bridges over the Grand River, more than triple the number in all of Ottawa County."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/ride_along_on_unfinished_m-231.html#incart_river_home)

[rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/ride\\_along\\_on\\_unfinished\\_m-231.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/ride_along_on_unfinished_m-231.html#incart_river_home)

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## Todd Courser, Cindy Gamrat sued by staffers they fired in Michigan House

## sex scandal case

"LANSING, MI — Ex-staffers have sued former state Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat under the Michigan Whistleblowers' Protection Act, alleging they were fired "solely in retaliation" for telling House management about the lawmakers' extra-marital affair, cover-up and other behavior."

Source: M-Live Date: 10-03-2015 Link: [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/todd\\_courser\\_cindy\\_gamrat\\_sued.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/todd_courser_cindy_gamrat_sued.html#incart_story_package)

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## Ken Braun: Proposed laws would bring sensible speed limits and phantom student funding

"The Michigan House is taking another stab at sensible speed limits. Hearings have begun on House Bill 4423, sponsored by Republican Rep. Bradford Jacobsen of Oxford. The bill would allow for a maximum state speed limit of 80 miles per hour on rural freeways."

Source: M-Live Date: 10-03-2015 Link: [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/ken\\_braun\\_proposed\\_laws\\_would.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/ken_braun_proposed_laws_would.html#incart_story_package)

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## Michigan Political Points: Vice presidential speculation begins for Gov. Rick Snyder

"LANSING, MI — Is Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder "positioning himself to be an attractive" vice presidential candidate?"

Source: M-Live Date: 10-03-2015 Link: [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_political\\_points\\_vice.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_political_points_vice.html#incart_river_home)

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## 14 rapes, more than 1,400 liquor law violations cited in U-M's annual crime report

"From 2013 to 2014, the number of rapes reported at the University of Michigan's Ann Arbor campus doubled from 7 to 14, while the number of liquor law violations referred for disciplinary action grew from 1,234 to 1,429, or 16 percent, according to the school's annual crime statistics report. In 2012, there were 941 liquor law violation referrals."

Source: M-Live Date: 10-03-2015 Link: [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/14\\_rapes\\_more\\_than\\_1400\\_liquor.html#incart\\_m-rpt-2](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/14_rapes_more_than_1400_liquor.html#incart_m-rpt-2)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

## Letter: Stakes high for patent reform

*"If current trends continue, as many as 1 of every 3 American adults could have diabetes by 2050. That's up from an already staggering 1 in 10 adults today. But the future of innovation leading to the development of new medicines for diabetes and other illnesses is under threat. "*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/02/letter-stakes-high-patent-reform/73240886/>

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## Opinion: Congress should legislate Open Internet

*"Media in the 21st century is characterized by the convergence of content, communication, and connectivity. This means that the future of the Internet is also the future of the television. Recent Open Internet regulations created by the Federal Communications Commission are indicative of one thing: Congress has not done its job to keep pace with evolving technologies."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/02/opinion-congress-open-internet/73241250/>

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## Opinion: Political polarization approaches crisis level

*"Political polarization is a serious problem for the United States because it impedes steps necessary to solve mounting national problems. These problems include rising levels of government debt, illegal immigration, spending on entitlement programs, the deterioration of America's roads, bridges, railways and airports, the impending failure of employee pension systems, and lackluster economic growth, not to mention various pressing international issues."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/02/opinion-political-polarization/73241186/>

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## Press Releases

### Snyder Media Advisory for Monday, Oct. 5

#### **"Monday, Oct. 5 at 4:10 p.m."**

*Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks highlighting the importance of continued workforce development at a general session of the 2015 Michigan Works! Annual Conference."*

**Source:** Date: 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443820467\\_snyder.pdf](http://www.mirnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443820467_snyder.pdf)

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## Agribusinesses say new report highlights need for state energy optimization standard

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### *MPSC report demonstrates increase in savings from energy efficiency*

LANSING – The **Michigan Agri-Business Association (MABA)** today emphasized the importance of Michigan's energy optimization standard in light of a new report showing businesses save more than \$4 for every dollar invested in energy efficiency. The report is issued annually by the **Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC)**."

**Source: Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443819764\\_agribusiness.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443819764_agribusiness.pdf)

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### **MDOT is looking for public feedback for I-275 lane closures**

**"PROJECT DETAILS:** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is seeking public input in selecting the best traffic control option for a \$70-\$80 million I-275 repair project. Construction will begin in the spring of 2016 on I-275 between 5 Mile Road and the I-96/I-696/M-5 interchange, including all the ramps, which involves the removal and replacement of 13 miles of concrete pavement. Repair work also will occur on the entrance and exit ramps at each "Mile Road" and with 16 bridges along the route."

**Source: Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443819573\\_mdott.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443819573_mdott.pdf)

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### **Sierra Club Calls For Urgent Action on Snyder Water Plan, Probe of Michigan Department of Environmen**

"LANSING—Sierra Club today called on Gov. Rick Snyder to act decisively and urgently to implement plans to end the public health crisis in Flint and to support an independent investigation into the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's oversight of federal drinking water laws."

**Source: Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443818369\\_sierra.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443818369_sierra.pdf)

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### **Judge LeDuc and Clerk Sabaugh offer Clerk Mobile Office and foreclosure prevention services at Dist**

"Judge Denis LeDuc, 42-I District Court in Romeo, will host Macomb County Clerk / Register of Deeds Carmella Sabaugh and her mobile office services on Thursday, October 15th from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the 42-I District Court at 14713 - 33 Mile Road, Romeo, MI, just West of Powell Road."

**Source: Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443818290\\_judgedeluc.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443818290_judgedeluc.pdf)

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### **OCDP - OCTOBER MEETING/ DEBATE WATCH PARTY!!**

"Join us Tuesday, October 13th at Overtyme Bar and Grill located at 4724 Dixie Hwy, Waterford Township at 7:00 p.m. for our October meeting. We will have a short meeting and then be watching the first of the

democratic presidential primary debates. "

**Source:** Date: 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443818194\\_ocdp.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443818194_ocdp.pdf)

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## **Dingell Joins Southeast Michigan Students to Celebrate National Manufacturing Day**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today joined students from across Southeast Michigan to kick off National Manufacturing Day, a nationwide effort to draw greater attention to modern manufacturing and the career opportunities available in the manufacturing sector. Dingell and Congresswoman Candice Miller (MI-10) introduced a bipartisan resolution this week designating October 2 as National Manufacturing Day."*

**Source:** Date: 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443815596\\_dingell.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443815596_dingell.pdf)

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## **Senator Stabenow Announces Support for Mid-Michigan Farmers Markets and Local Food Initiatives**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, today announced \$255,469 for four Mid-Michigan farmers markets and local food initiatives. The grants were awarded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Programs, which help expand access to farmers markets and food hubs and develop new opportunities for farmers to sell locally."*

**Source:** Date: 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443814730\\_stabenow.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443814730_stabenow.pdf)

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## **DNR participates in mock oil spill exercise**

*"UPDATE: We are reissuing this release, to ensure the photo folder links at the end of the story are working correctly."*

**Source:** Date: 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443813297\\_DNR.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443813297_DNR.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments to Community Service Commission**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced eight appointments and reappointments to the Michigan Community Service Commission."*

**Source:** Date: 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443812705\\_GOV.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443812705_GOV.pdf)

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## DNR participates in mock oil spill exercise

*"Department of Natural Resources personnel from a handful of divisions were on hand for the recent daylong exercise by Enbridge, Inc., designed to test the capabilities of dealing with an oil spill near the Mackinac Bridge."*

**Source:** **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443812390\\_DNR.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443812390_DNR.pdf)

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## MCEF: MPSC report shows energy efficiency standards save ratepayers billions of dollars

*"LANSING – Members of the **Michigan Conservative Energy Forum** today applauded Michigan's highly successful energy efficiency standard, which was highlighted in a report issued this week by the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC). According to the report, Michigan's energy efficiency standard saves ratepayers \$4.2 billion."*

**Source:** **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443811326\\_MCEF.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443811326_MCEF.pdf)

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## Gov. Rick Snyder: Comprehensive action plan will help Flint residents address water concerns

*"FLINT, Mich. – Flint residents need to have access to safe, clean, water now and long into the future, Gov. Rick Snyder said, announcing a comprehensive action plan created with state, federal and city leaders to address concerns about drinking water."*

**Source:** Gov. Newsroom **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443810447\\_gov2.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443810447_gov2.pdf)

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## 2015 deer season forecast and important reminders

*"With archery deer season just under way, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources would like to share the annual deer season forecast and remind hunters of important changes to the deer regulations for the 2015 deer seasons."*

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443808150\\_dnr2.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443808150_dnr2.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Comprehensive action plan will help Flint residents address water concerns**

*"FLINT, Mich. – Flint residents need to have access to safe, clean, water now and long into the future, Gov. Rick Snyder said, announcing a comprehensive action plan created with state, federal and city leaders to address concerns about drinking water."*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443808107\\_deg.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443808107_deg.pdf)

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## **Rep. Jim Lyons to Serve as Massachusetts Chairman for Cruz For President**

"

**HOUSTON, Texas** – Presidential candidate, U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, today announced State Rep. Jim Lyons, 18th Essex District, chairman of the Cruz campaign in Massachusetts. Rep. Lyons and his wife, Bernadette, hosted Cruz at their home in Andover this past May, which drew a crowd of 600 who came to hear Sen. Cruz's optimistic vision for the future of our nation.

"

**Source:** Ted Cruz for President **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443808069\\_fc.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443808069_fc.pdf)

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## **Kowall to attend check presentation to outreach center**

**"LANSING, Mich.** — Michigan Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall on Friday announced that he will attend a check presentation on Friday, Oct. 16 for the Open Door Outreach Center in Waterford."

**Source:** Senator Mike Kowall **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443808028\\_mk.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443808028_mk.pdf)

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## **Section of Warren Ave. to Close for M-1 RAIL Construction**

**"DETROIT** – M-1 RAIL and the Michigan Department of Transportation announced today that construction crews will be closing a section of Warren Ave. at Woodward beginning next Friday, October 9. "

**Source:** M-1 Rail **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443807998\\_m1rail.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443807998_m1rail.pdf)

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## **MRG Michigan Poll: Prevailing wage repeal may not prevail**

**"LANSING, Mich.** – In a recent Marketing Resource Group (MRG) survey, Michigan general election likely voters support the repeal of the Michigan's Prevailing Wage law. Forty-five percent support and 39 percent oppose the repeal with 16 percent undecided. Support is highest among behavioral Republicans (60 percent). Ticket-splitters and behavioral Democrats are less likely to support the laws repeal (49 percent and 33 percent, respectively)."

**Source:** Marketing Resource Group **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443807263\\_mrgi.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443807263_mrgi.pdf)

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## **Michigan advocates react to federal criminal justice reform**

"Michigan - Bipartisan legislation aimed at reducing the nation's mushrooming prison population was introduced in Washington DC. The "Criminal Justice Reform and Corrections Act of 2015" would reduce mandatory sentences such as "Three strikes" rules and 10 year minimums for nonviolent felonies.

"

**Source:** Michigan United **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443807179\\_mu.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443807179_mu.pdf)

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## **First wave of filters coming for Flint families, much more to be done**

"LANSING, Michigan — Local experts and community leaders provided details this morning about how water filters would be distributed to Flint residents, and demonstrated how to install them. This assistance comes on the heels of \$105,000 in combined donations for water filters announced yesterday by United Way, General Motors and the Making Our Children Smile Foundation.

"

**Source:** Michigan Dems **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443807143\\_md.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443807143_md.pdf)

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## **Consumers Energy, GVSU Break Ground on State's Largest Community Solar Project**

"ALLENDALE, Mich., Oct. 2, 2015 – Officials from Consumers Energy and Grand Valley State University celebrated their collaboration to expand renewable energy in Michigan, breaking ground on a new, 17-acre community solar project."

**Source:** Consumers Energy **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443807093\\_ce.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443807093_ce.pdf)

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## **Michigan Works! Association Hosts Workforce Development Conference in**



## **Mount Pleasant Oct. 4–6**

*"LANSING, Mich. (Oct. 1, 2015) – Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder headlines the agenda for this year's Michigan Works! Association annual conference, which begins at 12:00 PM on Sunday, Oct. 4 at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort in Mount Pleasant."*

**Source:** Michigan Works **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443807015\\_mw.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443807015_mw.pdf)

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## **DNR conservation officers perform lifesaving operations during Pentwater fire**

*"The quick response and lifesaving actions of two Michigan Department of Natural Resources conservation officers prevented injuries and potentially saved lives Monday during an Oceana County business fire."*

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443806555\\_dnr.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806555_dnr.pdf)

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## **Sparrow Clinton Hospital recognizes Emergency Department Nurse for extraordinary care**

*"ST. JOHNS, MI – Carol Pickott, BSN, RN, of Dimondale has been recognized by Sparrow Clinton Hospital (SCH) for her special nursing skills, earning the hospital's first DAISY Award."*

**Source:** Sparrow Hospital **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443806469\\_sparrow.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806469_sparrow.pdf)

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## **Sen. Jones introduces court e-filing bill**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Rick Jones has introduced legislation to develop and implement a statewide e-filing system to make Michigan's courts more cost efficient and easier for residents."*

**Source:** Senator Rick Jones **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443806420\\_rj.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806420_rj.pdf)

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## **USDA Now Accepting Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Project Applications**

*"EAST LANSING, Oct 2, 2015 – U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Rural Development State Director for Michigan James J. Turner today announced the agency is currently accepting applications for the Rural Energy for America Program. The deadline for the current funding cycle is Oct. 31, 2015."*

**Source:** USDA **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443806393\\_usda.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806393_usda.pdf)

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## Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 10/1/2015

*"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 10/1/2015."*

**Source:** Michigan Appellate Courts **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443806354\\_courts.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806354_courts.pdf)

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## MABA leads Michigan agriculture delegation to Cuba, focuses on strengthening dialogue

*"LANSING – The **Michigan Agri-Business Association** last week led a delegation of more than 20 industry leaders on a visit to Cuba to learn more about the nation's agriculture sector and enhance dialogue with Cuban leaders. The visit, from Sept. 20-23, included meetings with government officials from Cuba and the U.S., agriculture industry experts and academics, as well as visits to rural areas of the country."*

**Source:** Michigan Agri-Business Association **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443806309\\_maba.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806309_maba.pdf)

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## Bloomfield Hills Woman Wins \$100,000 Playing Instant Football Payout Online Game

*"LANSING, Mich., Oct. 2, 2015 – A touchdown celebration was in order after a Bloomfield Hills woman won \$100,000 playing the Michigan Lottery's Instant Football Payout online game."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443806274\\_lottery.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806274_lottery.pdf)

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## Traffic Advisory – Genesee County

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will complete bridge inspections this Saturday and Sunday (Oct. 3 and 4) on I-475 in Flint. Motorists should expect intermittent lane closures on I-475 between Chavez and Leith from the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m."*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 10-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443806247\\_mdott.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806247_mdott.pdf)

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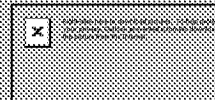
"

**Source: MDOT Date: 10-03-2015 Link: [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443806150\\_mdott.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443806150_mdott.pdf)**

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 22, 2015 9:57 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Built on Lake Michigan, new U.S. Navy warship is commissioned**

*"The U.S. Navy's newest combat ship will be formally commissioned in Wisconsin today after finishing her initial trials this summer in heavy Lake Michigan waves."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/11/new\\_warship\\_uss\\_milwaukee.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/11/new_warship_uss_milwaukee.html#incart_river_home)

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### **Black Friday loosens grip on Thanksgiving as retailers pull back**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- The war over Thanksgiving for Black Friday shoppers appears to be reaching a turning point."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/business/west-](http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/11/black_friday_loosens_grip_on_t.html#incart_more_business)

[michigan/index.ssf/2015/11/black\\_friday\\_loosens\\_grip\\_on\\_t.html#incart\\_more\\_business](http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/11/black_friday_loosens_grip_on_t.html#incart_more_business)

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### **See which Michigan counties have the most 'super drunk' arrests, alcohol-related crashes**

*"Police in Michigan have written fewer "super drunk" driving tickets each year since the law was implemented five years ago this fall."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/11/look_up_to_see_where_your_coun.html#incart_river_home)

[arbor/index.ssf/2015/11/look\\_up\\_to\\_see\\_where\\_your\\_coun.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/11/look_up_to_see_where_your_coun.html#incart_river_home)

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## Howard Meyerson: Muskegon River gets 50,000 additional hatchery trout

*"Anglers who fish the Muskegon River for trout are going to get a little extra something this month."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2015/11/howard\\_meyerson\\_muskegon\\_river.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2015/11/howard_meyerson_muskegon_river.html#incart_river_home)

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## Are Michigan roads any safer after 5 years of 'super drunk' law?

*"For five years, Michigan police have been writing tickets under the state's "super drunk" driving law. But has it helped to keep Michigan roads safer?"*

"

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/11/alcohol-related\\_crashes\\_and\\_fa.html#incart\\_m-rpt-2](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/11/alcohol-related_crashes_and_fa.html#incart_m-rpt-2)

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## Mich. DNR investigates elk killing during deer season

*"Montmorency Township — Officials investigating the death of a bull elk in Montmorency County believe the hunter may have thought he was shooting at a whitetail deer."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/21/mich-dnr-investigates-elk-killing-deer-season/76171192/>

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## Crews begin pumping oil from sunken barge in Lake Erie

*"Toledo, Ohio — Salvage crews have begun an underwater operation to pump a hazardous oil-based substance from a sunken barge that apparently had been sitting undiscovered on the bottom of Lake Erie for nearly 80 years."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/22/crews-begin-pumping-oil-sunken-barge-lake-erie/76208428/>

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## Michigan urged to overhaul Rx monitoring system

*"Michigan's prescription drug monitoring system, thought to be a major tool in the state's effort to reduce opioid-related deaths, needs to be revamped to make it more efficient and comprehensive, according to a task*

force named by Gov. Rick Snyder."

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/21/michigan-prescription-monitoring-system/76178146/>

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## Administration assures govs refugee vetting is rigorous

*"Washington — The Obama administration is assuring governors that refugees who come to the United States in its resettlement program undergo a "rigorous security vetting process," particularly if they are fleeing from Syria."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/22/administration-assures-govs-refugee-vetting-rigorous/76196608/>

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## Cities show state's problem with cost vs. value

*"State government tells cities in Michigan that they'd better balance their budgets, keep debt under control and not promise more to retirees than can be paid."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/stephen-henderson/2015/11/21/cities-reflect-states-problem-cost-value/76037152/>

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## Conyers to run for re-election to Congress

*"WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. John Conyers, D-Detroit, already the longest-serving active member of Congress and the longest-serving African-American congressman in U.S. history, will run for a 27th two-year term next year, looking to extend a legislative tenure stretching back to the Civil Rights era."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/21/conyers-run-reelection-congress/76124406/>

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## Drummond Island Resort in the U.P. is up for auction

*"Drummond Island Resort, which was once Domino's Pizza founder Tom Monaghan's dream getaway and corporate retreat, is going to auction."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/carol-cain/2015/11/21/drummond-island-resort-auction/76064518/>

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## Best bosses in Michigan: 2015 Top Workplace winner

*"In special coverage, the Detroit Free Press celebrates the region's Top Workplaces and that special something that keeps their employees so happy. It's usually about building a winning culture of respect and continued learning."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/top-workplaces/2015/11/21/what-top-workplaces-workplace-dynamics/76105242/>

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## Snyder's top aide talked 'Flint water supply alternatives'

*"LANSING — Flint's fateful decision to sever its ties with the City of Detroit as its supplier of drinking water went all the way up to the Michigan governor's office, state records obtained under Michigan's Freedom of Information Act show."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/21/snyders-top-aide-talked-flint-water-supply-alternatives/76037130/>

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## Criminal tethers save money, but what about lives?

*"On any given day, more than 500 people charged with crimes including murder, rape and armed robbery roam free in Wayne County wearing electronic tethers on their ankles."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/21/wayne-county-tethers/76184506/>

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## DIA survives city bankruptcy, but remains at crossroads

*"MIDLAND — Tucked into a corner of the top-floor galleries at the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science & Art are two girls visiting from Detroit."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/entertainment/2015/11/21/dia-after-grand-bargain-detroit-bankruptcy/75113624/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Will Snyder hand off his legacy to Calley? Can't rule it out

*"Everybody sing along: 'Tis the season for spec-u-la-tion, fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la, la."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/will\\_snyder\\_hand\\_off\\_his\\_legacy.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/will_snyder_hand_off_his_legacy.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Rick Haglund: Fewer workers, but Michigan still has room for other economic growth**

*"Last week's column dealt with Michigan's improving job market and questioned whether the state was in danger of running out of available workers."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/rick_haglund_fewer_workers_but.html#incart_river_home)

[news/index.ssf/2015/11/rick\\_haglund\\_fewer\\_workers\\_but.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/rick_haglund_fewer_workers_but.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Letter: State needs child abuse registry**

*"Re: The Detroit News' Nov. 18 editorial, 'Reject short-sighted child abuse list bills': As sponsors of Wyatt's Law, which creates a child abuse registry to protect children, we felt the need to respond and clarify what this bill package actually does."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/22/opinion-child-abuse-registry/76178054/>

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## **Editorial: Wayne commissioners enrich their health care**

*"While county Executive Warren Evans is trying to sell employees on the necessity of shared sacrifice to stave off bankruptcy, Wayne County's elected commissioners are reverting to form and stuffing their own pockets."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/21/editorial-wayne-county-commissioners/76177940/>

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## **Finley: Obama fiddling while terror threat grows**

*"Last weekend's terrorist attacks in Paris drove home a reality Western leaders have been trying to avoid: The barbarism of the Islamic State and other such fanatics will not wither under a patient strategy of containment, and the ideology that fuels their brutality can't be negotiated away."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/11/21/opinion-obama-terrorism/76177722/>



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## Straight ticket voting helps GOP, too

*"The Michigan State Senate recently passed Senate Bill 13, which does away with straight party ticket voting. All Republicans but two voted for it, and all Democrats voted against it. It is unclear why the legislation is needed, and legislators haven't defined an existing problem that needs a solution."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/11/21/straight-ticket-michigan/76132658/>

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## Teen starts voter education program for peers

*"Sometimes we grown-ups need a reminder. We must be prompted to appreciate what we have in America that others want so badly they trudge through rivers, crawl across fields, hide in trucks or beg for refugee status."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/11/21/rochelle-riley-teen-voting/76071584/>

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## Snyder's bridge to China grows

*"Speaking of Chinese investment, Gov. Rick Snyder is seeing the result of his trade missions to the Asian nation with another groundbreaking in Northville for a new manufacturing facility."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/carol-cain/2015/11/21/drummond-island-resort-auction/76064518/>

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## Mitch Albom: Respecting vets means more than clapping

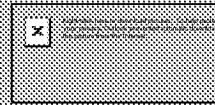
*"When a soldier goes off to fight, we say, 'We're praying for you.' When a soldier passes in uniform we gush, 'Thank you for your service.' When a soldier is brought out on a football field, we whoop and cheer loudly."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-22-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/sports/columnists/mitch-albom/2015/11/21/mitch-albom-veterans-housing/76178734/>

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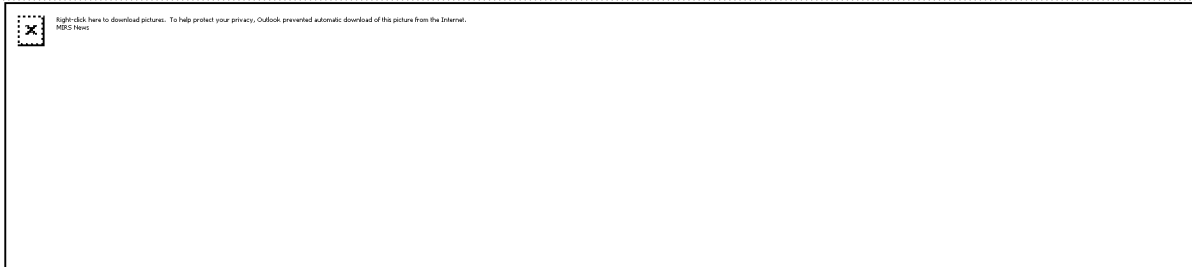
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### **N.H. GOP poll: Terrorism the top issue, Trump the leader**

*"WASHINGTON — In the wake of the Paris attacks, terrorism has become the top issue among Republican voters in New Hampshire, and Donald Trump has maintained a 2 to 1 lead over a crowded field of competitors."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/11/22/trump-new-hampshire-poll-terrorism-paris/76168562/>

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### **Prince Charles: Climate change a cause of Syria war**

*"LONDON — Britain's Prince Charles has suggested that climate change could be one of the causes of the civil war in Syria, terrorism and Europe's refugee crisis."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/11/23/prince-charles-syria-climate-change/76248500/>

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### **Forget nuke deal, Iran has election fever**

*"For months, the news out of Iran has revolved around the nuclear deal with the West and President Hassan Rouhani's efforts to back it up with reforms at home."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/11/23/iran-election-fever/76247608/>

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## Hollande and Cameron visit Paris attack site

*"French President Francois Hollande and British Prime Minister David Cameron visited the Bataclan theater in Paris on Monday, where 89 of the 130 people killed in the terror attacks in Paris lost their lives."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/11/23/hollande-cameron-paris-attacks/76247468/>

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## Chickenpox outbreak keeps 35 students out of school

*"Traverse City — More than 35 unimmunized students at two Traverse City elementary schools will be kept out of the classroom for three weeks after a chickenpox outbreak."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/23/chickenpox-outbreak-keeps-students-school/76248274/>

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## More parents shift careers to balance work, life

*"As a television news anchor, Cynthia Demos' schedule made her home life a challenge. Working nights and weekends meant she rarely put her 3-year-old son and 4 1/2-year-old daughter to bed or spent Saturdays at the park. So, three years ago, Demos began testing the waters to see if operating her own business making marketing videos would create an option for more family time."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/personal-finance/2015/11/22/parents-balance-life-work/76233020/>

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## Fiat Chrysler expands free college degree program

*"Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV is expanding a program that offers free college educations to all employees and family members of its U.S. dealerships."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/11/22/fiat-chrysler-expands-free-college-degree-program-dealership-employees-families/76224566/>

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## Mich. school districts struggle with absentee students

*"In some Michigan school districts, half or more of students are chronically absent, according to newly released*

state data."

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/education/2015/11/23/truancy-schools-michigan-pscholka-legislature/76235364/>

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## Fix for roads leads new bills signed into law by Snyder

*"LANSING — With the state Legislature on a two-week break for hunting season and Thanksgiving, there were no new bills introduced last week. But Gov. Rick Snyder signed 29 bills into law."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/21/fix-roads-leads-new-bills-signed-into-law-snyder/76008162/>

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## Federal lawyers to probe Minneapolis police shooting

*"MINNEAPOLIS — Department of Justice attorneys were scheduled to fly to Minnesota on Sunday to discuss the release of video in the shooting of Jamar Clark, whose death at the hands of police has sparked protests."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation-now/2015/11/22/minneapolis-police-death/76218148/>

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## Magic Johnson brings 'Holiday Hope' to Lansing families

*"LANSING - Kelli Wilson pulled her car up alongside a line of cheering volunteers just outside Everett High School on Sunday, unlatched her trunk and waited while they loaded food and other items in."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/2015/11/22/magic-johnson-brings-holiday-hope-lansing-families/76121828/>

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## Flint water mystery: How was decision made?

*"LANSING — Flint's fateful decision to sever its ties with the City of Detroit as its supplier of drinking water went all the way up to the Michigan governor's office, state records obtained under Michigan's Freedom of Information Act show."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/21/snyders-top-aide-talked-flint-water-supply-alternatives/76037130/>

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## UAW reaches end of winding road with Detroit automakers

*"Detroit's once-every-four-years ritual of UAW negotiations and ratification is finally over. No one involved is completely happy and that's a good sign."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/2015/11/22/uaw-reaches-end-winding-road-detroit-automakers/76115690/>

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## State's women inmates housed in offices, TV rooms

*"LANSING — Inmates are being housed in converted TV rooms and former offices at the state's only women's prison as the number of incarcerated women rises in Michigan and around the country, but state Corrections Department officials deny they have a serious overcrowding problem on their hands."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/22/states-women-inmates-housed-offices-tv-rooms/75461878/>

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## On Snyder and refugees, GOP contest, Hoekstra keeps a hand in politics

*"Not much has changed since the last time Pete Hoekstra crossed paths with the Capitol scribes."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/on\\_snyder\\_and\\_refugees\\_gop\\_con.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/on_snyder_and_refugees_gop_con.html#incart_river_index)

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## 6% of Michigan residents are foreign born, and 9 other facts about immigrants

*"As a national debate rages over immigration policy, especially in regard to those coming from Mexico and the Middle East, the issue hits home for Michigan in several respects."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/11/6\\_of\\_michigan\\_residents\\_are\\_fo.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/11/6_of_michigan_residents_are_fo.html#incart_river_home)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Column: Terrorism is common enemy, not refugees

*"The rise of terrorism as a global challenge and universal threat to all free and peace-loving people and the shared values they hold is not new. A few factors contributed to the escalation of this scourge, such as wars, sectarian divide, poverty, despair, hopelessness, etc. It appears in the midst of other ongoing problems. There are festering problems in Syria and Iraq that are breeding grounds for terrorism and are inspiring terrorism everywhere."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/23/column-hamad-refugees-terrorism-muslim/76227596/>

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## **Our Editorial: FDA right to approve 'frankenfish'**

*"The left prides itself on its allegiance to science — until it bumps against its own superstitions and political agenda. Take, for example, genetically modified salmon, which got the Obama administration's stamp of approval last week."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/23/opinion-fda-salmon-fish-food-fisheries/76227700/>

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## **Seeing danger everywhere**

*"A Halloween message signed by 13 college administrators asked Yale University students to be sensitive about the costumes they chose so as not to demean, alienate or "impact" any groups or individuals."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/23/yale-students-protest-danger/76227586/>

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## **Detroit Public Schools Bankruptcy Could Cost the State \$3.4 Billion**

*"The Detroit Public Schools' \$1.3 billion in pension obligations is the major roadblock to the school district filing for bankruptcy, according to a recent state of Michigan analysis."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21919>

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## **Sandy Baruah: Israel offers lessons in resilience, cohesion and a risk-taking culture**

*"Israel. It's a nation we hear a lot about on the nightly news, but how much do we really know? Certainly, most of us know that it's a Jewish state, a close ally of the United States, the only democracy in the region, and impacted by violence for far too long."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/lessons\\_from\\_israel\\_resilience.html](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/lessons_from_israel_resilience.html)

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## **Dan Gilmartin and Timothy McGuire: Legislature must close 'dark stores' tax loophole**

*"Michigan's local governments and schools are losing millions of dollars that otherwise would go to libraries, classrooms and police, fire and senior services through a gaping tax loophole large retailers across the state are*

*quietly exploiting to lower their local property taxes."*

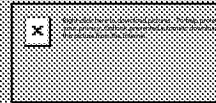
**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/dan\\_gilmartin\\_and\\_timothy\\_mcgu.html](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/dan_gilmartin_and_timothy_mcgu.html)

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### **Michigan's presidential primary ballot can include local races, proposals under new law**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan communities will have the option to include local races and proposals on the presidential primary ballot in 2016 and beyond under a new law signed Tuesday by Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigans\\_presidential\\_primary.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigans_presidential_primary.html#incart_river_home)

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### **State strikes new deal with Fiat Chrysler on MEGA credits**

*"LANSING, MI — The state's liability for a large auto tax credit is now capped after a renegotiation between the state and the Fiat Chrysler Automobiles approved by the Michigan Strategic Fund Board on Tuesday."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/state\\_strikes\\_new\\_deal\\_with\\_fi.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/state_strikes_new_deal_with_fi.html#incart_river_home)

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### **Appeals court greenlights hearing on Flint water rate ruling**

*"FLINT, MI — The Michigan Court of Appeals has turned down the city's request to delay a hearing on whether it has complied with an injunction aimed at lowering Flint's water and sewer rates."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/appeals\\_court\\_green\\_lights\\_hear.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/appeals_court_green_lights_hear.html#incart_river_home)

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## U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop endorses Jeb Bush in GOP race

*"Congressman Mike Bishop has endorsed Jeb Bush for the Republican presidential nomination, increasing the former Florida governor's support among elected officials in Michigan."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/24/mike-bishop-jeb-bush/76318290/>

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## Dingell probes why Ann Arbor VA cancels vets' surgeries

*"Rep. Debbie Dingell is seeking answers from the director of the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System following reports that surgeries for veterans were recently canceled or moved to another facility after particulate matter was observed on sterile surgical equipment."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/24/dingell-probes-ann-arbor-va-cancels-vets-surgeries/76305038/>

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## State talks to GM; Fiat Chrysler accepts \$1.7B tax cap

*"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder's administration is in talks with General Motors Co. to accept a voluntary cap on the value of its state tax credits after securing deals with two crosstown rivals so it can contain the ballooning cost to the state treasury."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/11/24/fca-tax-breaks/76305702/>

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## Who knew? Kindergarten is optional in Michigan

*"For parents having trouble deciding whether their 5-year-old is ready for kindergarten, a bill under review in the state House Education Committee would make the decision easier for them."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/24/michigan-optional-kindergarten/76325102/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Room for balance on dark stores tax issue

"

*Local governments across Michigan say they are losing millions of dollars in taxes and facing cuts in services because big box retailers such as Target and Home Depot are arguing a "dark store" theory of retail property assessment before the Michigan Tax Tribunal to cut their costs.*

"

**Source:** Escanaba Daily Press **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/587898/Room-for-balance-on-dark-stores-tax-issue.html?nav=5052>

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## **Editorial: Privacy bill could hurt mentally ill**

*"The desire to protect the privacy of mental health patients is well placed; certainly troubled individuals should not be discouraged from seeking help by fear of public exposure. But in shielding patients from prying eyes, lawmakers must be careful they aren't denying them the family support they might need.*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/24/editorial-privacy-bill-mentally/76344144/>

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## **State Pension Plans Are Unsustainable**

*"According to the Detroit Free Press, the city of Detroit must make a \$195 million balloon payment to its pension systems in 2024, which is some 71 percent higher than the amount approved in city's bankruptcy plan. New hiring, delayed pension cuts, and longer life expectancies have left the city responsible for a growing retirement-benefit liability."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21908>

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## **Press Releases**

### **Traffic shift tonight on I-75 in Monroe County; new NB lanes reopen**

*"I-75, Monroe County Starting tonight, November 24, at 8 p.m. northbound I-75 traffic will be shifted back to new northbound lanes of I-75 between Dixie Highway and I-275."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448399696\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448399696_mdof.pdf)

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## **Welcome Refugees**

*"Friend --*

*It's racist. It's xenophobic. It's just plain wrong.*

*Members of Congress are trying to bar all refugees from Syria and Iraq from entry into the United States. **That's not only unacceptable – it's un-American.***

**Source:** MI ACLU **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448397615\\_ACLU.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448397615_ACLU.pdf)

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## **I-94 BL reconstruction in Battle Creek completed**

*"November 24, 2015 -- The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is wrapping up work to realign I-94 Business Loop (BL) and reconstruct the bridge over I-94 at Exit 92 in Battle Creek, Calhoun County."*

**Source:** MI Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448397540\\_I-94.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448397540_I-94.pdf)

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## **Thankful for Conservation**

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*Wow. A lot has happened since firearm deer season began, and while you're probably preparing Thanksgiving plans, we wanted to give you a quick update on what's been going on in Michigan's conservation world. With all that's going on, we wanted to tell you what we're thankful for here at MUCC: you. Your support for the work we do makes conservation possible in Michigan. We use the slogan, "We are Conservation," because our organization is made up of people like you, and for that we are very thankful. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!*

"

**Source:** Michigan United Conservation Clubs **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448396819\\_conserv.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448396819_conserv.pdf)

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## **Volunteers needed in December for stewardship in southern Michigan**

*"Volunteers of all ages are invited to enjoy the crisp December weather while helping to restore high-quality, unique ecosystems and learning more about them during volunteer stewardship workdays at several Michigan state parks."*

**Source:** MI Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448395880\\_Stewardship.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448395880_Stewardship.pdf)

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## **Capital Region International Airport ready for holiday travelers**

*"LANSING — With U.S. airline industry forecasts calling for the busiest Thanksgiving holiday travel period*

since 2009, Capital Region International Airport (CRIA) is offering tips to ensure Fly Lansing travelers' trips go as smoothly as possible."

**Source:** Capital Regional Airport **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448394517\\_Capital\\_Regional.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448394517_Capital_Regional.pdf)

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## **Gov. Snyder signs measure establishing consolidated March election date**

"LANSING, Mich. – Local governments will be able to include candidates for local office and other questions on ballots for the March 2016 presidential primary election, under legislation signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder."

**Source:** Office of Governor Snyder **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448393724\\_Snyder\\_signs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448393724_Snyder_signs.pdf)

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## **When gathering with loved ones this Thanksgiving, discuss family health history**

"LANSING, Mich. – Thanksgiving is a traditional time when families gather to share food, conversations, and stories, which provides an important opportunity to discuss family health history. To encourage these potentially lifesaving conversations, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is recognizing Thanksgiving as National Family History Day. "

**Source:** MI Dept of Health and Human Services **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448393665\\_Family\\_health\\_history.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448393665_Family_health_history.pdf)

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## **Schuette Announces \$5.4M Settlement with Novartis**

"**LANSING**—Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced that Michigan has reached an agreement in principle to settle kickback claims against Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation ("Novartis"). The settlement will resolve allegations that Novartis provided kickbacks to certain specialty pharmacies in exchange for recommending the drug Exjade to Medicaid and Medicare patients. Under the settlement, Novartis has agreed to pay \$390 million to the United States and over forty states. Michigan will be receiving \$5,400,080.84. Exjade is an FDA-approved medication for the treatment of chronic iron overload due to blood transfusions."

**Source:** Office of Attorney General **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448393590\\_Schuette\\_announces.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448393590_Schuette_announces.pdf)

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## **FIREARMS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO BE DEBATED**

"WMU-Cooley Law School's Children's Law Society and the Student Federal Bar Association will host a debate about allowing firearms inside public schools on Wednesday, Dec. 2. During the event, "Should

*Open Carry be Allowed in Public Schools?," WMU-Cooley Law School Professor David Tarrien, who teaches courses in education law, will debate the issues with Adjunct Professor Steven Dulan, who teaches courses in gun law. "*

**Source:** Western MI University **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448393516\\_Western\\_MI.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448393516_Western_MI.pdf)

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## **Heartland Institute, CFACT Announce Energy Panel Speakers for 'Day of Examining Data' at COP-21**

*"The [Heartland Institute](#) and the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow ([CFACT](#)) are joining forces with other allied organizations to bring some of the world's most esteemed climate scientists and policy experts to Paris for the COP-21 conference."*

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448393151\\_heart.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448393151_heart.pdf)

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## **House Dem Leader Tim Greimel Lauds Chrysler's MEGA Renegotiation**

*"LANSING — House Democratic Leader **Tim Greimel** (D-Auburn Hills) applauded Fiat Chrysler's decision to renegotiate its MEGA tax incentives with the state, a move that will cap the amount the automaker can claim in tax credits through the year 2029. The scope of Michigan's MEGA tax credit program had threatened to destabilize Michigan's budget for years to come because of the uncertainty over when large corporations would claim the credits, and the size the claims would be."*

**Source:** Office of House Democratic Leader Tim Greimel **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448393097\\_dem.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448393097_dem.pdf)

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## **Thanksgiving is Top Day for Home Cooking Fires Use Extreme Caution with Turkey Fryers**

*"**November 24, 2015** - As the popularity of turkey frying increases, so does the concern about the number of fires caused by consumers deep frying turkeys, according to Acting State Fire Marshal Michael Deprez, who today discourages the use of outdoor, gas-fueled turkey fryers using hot oil, as they are simply not safe."*

**Source:** LARA **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448391790\\_Turkey\\_fryers.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448391790_Turkey_fryers.pdf)

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## **Dingell Announces \$9.9M for Cutting-Edge Energy Technology Projects in Ann Arbor**

*"**DEARBORN, MI** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today announced that three Ann Arbor energy*

projects will receive more than \$9.9 million from the Department of Energy's (DOE) Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E). The grants were awarded through the ARPA-E's OPEN 2015 program and come in advance of the COP21 U.N. Climate Negotiations in Paris next week. Accio Energy, Inc. in Ann Arbor, and two projects at the University of Michigan were selected to receive funding."

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448390914\\_dingell.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448390914_dingell.pdf)

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## **Registration open for winter Becoming an Outdoors Woman program in U.P.**

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources announced today registration is open for this winter's "Becoming an Outdoors Woman" (BOW) program, which is set for Feb. 26-28 in Marquette County."

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448390323\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448390323_dnr.pdf)

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## **Pavlov announces second committee hearing on Michigan's academically failing schools**

"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Phil Pavlov, R-St. Clair Township, announced Tuesday that the Michigan Senate Education Committee will conduct its second hearing on Michigan's academically failing schools on Thursday, Dec. 3."

**Source:** Sen. Phil Pavlov **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448390273\\_pavlov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448390273_pavlov.pdf)

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## **Unemployed Workers Can Claim Benefits Throughout Thanksgiving Holiday**

"**November 24, 2015** — Although the State of Michigan's Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) will be closed Thursday, Nov. 26 and Friday, Nov. 27 to observe the Thanksgiving holiday, unemployed workers can still contact the Agency's automated systems to report their eligibility for unemployment benefits."

**Source:** Michigan Talent Investment Agency **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448388500\\_mtia.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448388500_mtia.pdf)

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## **Expect Extra Patrols for Thanksgiving Holiday**

"**LANSING, MICH.** As motorists across Michigan prepare for a Thanksgiving holiday filled with travel, food, family and football, the Michigan State Police (MSP) is gearing up for the annual Operation C.A.R.E. (Combined Accident Reduction Effort) traffic safety initiative Nov. 25-29, 2015."

**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448388461\\_police.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448388461_police.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Fiat Chrysler Automobiles agreement strengthens state budget planning, ensures con**

*"LANSING- The Michigan Strategic Fund today approved a revised agreement with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) that caps the state's liability for previous tax credits while requiring additional investment and job creation in Michigan, Gov. Rick Snyder said."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448388420\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448388420_gov.pdf)

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## **By the Numbers: 2016 Health Insurance Marketplace rates, flu vaccinations, underinsured**

*"On November 1, 2015, Michigan's health insurance marketplace launched its third annual open enrollment period. "*

**Source:** University of Michigan **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448388383\\_mich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448388383_mich.pdf)

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## **Steve Yager of MDHHS wins lifetime achievement award for helping Michigan's children and families**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The executive director of the state agency that protects children from abuse and neglect and oversees Michigan's foster care system and adoption efforts was honored today with a lifetime achievement award."*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448388323\\_dhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448388323_dhhs.pdf)

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## **Thanksgiving is Top Day for Home Cooking Fires**

*"November 24, 2015 - As the popularity of turkey frying increases, so does the concern about the number of fires caused by consumers deep frying turkeys, according to Acting State Fire Marshal Michael Deprez, who today discourages the use of outdoor, gas-fueled turkey fryers using hot oil, as they are simply not safe."*

**Source:** Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448388273\\_lara.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448388273_lara.pdf)



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## Toys for Tots

"

*The TCRPC will be collecting donations for Toys for Tots foundation from Now to December 15.*

"

**Source:** Tri County Regional Planning Commission **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448386422\\_tri\\_county.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448386422_tri_county.pdf)

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## Sen. Rand Paul Responds to Conflict within Turkish Airspace

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**WASHINGTON, D.C.-** Sen. Paul issued the following statement upon learning that Turkish fighter jets shot down a Russian warplane near the Syria-Turkey border:

"

**Source:** Rand Paul Press Office **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448383123\\_Sen\\_Rand\\_Paul.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448383123_Sen_Rand_Paul.pdf)

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## Public outcry gives woman and her 3 year old son reprieve from civil war

*"DETROIT - A Kalamazoo woman facing a deportation to war torn Nigeria breathed a sigh of relief Monday as immigration officials decided to extend her order of supervision until May 4, 2016. The hearing in Detroit was the last chance for Rejoice Musa and Frederick, her 3 year old, American-born son. She had exhausted every other appeal to stay in the country, but this time came with the names of hundreds of people who signed a petition over the weekend and the support of Michigan Senators Peters and Stabenow."*

**Source:** Michigan United **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448383058\\_MI\\_United.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448383058_MI_United.pdf)

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## AARP Survey: Michigan Consumers Susceptible to Holiday Giving Scams

*"With the holiday giving season approaching, a new survey from the AARP Fraud Watch Network found that 66 percent of Michigan consumers failed a quiz about how to stay safe from common holiday scams, and many are regularly engaging in risky behaviors which could leave them at risk of being victimized by con artists."*

**Source:** AARP Michigan **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448379706\\_aarp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448379706_aarp.pdf)

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## **Irwin and Warren Call for Improved Adoption Laws on Michigan Adoption Day**

*"LANSING – Representative **Jeff Irwin** (D-Ann Arbor) and Senator **Rebekah Warren** (D-Ann Arbor) today called on their colleagues to pass legislation to authorize joint adoptions by two parents who are not married to each other. "*

**Source:** Office of Senator Jim Ananich **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448378485\\_Irwin\\_Warren.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448378485_Irwin_Warren.pdf)

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## **Haslett High School Teacher Receives National Milken Educator Award**

*"LANSING – Mr. Kevin Tobe, a 9-12 grade mathematics teacher at Haslett High School in the Haslett Public Schools District, received news today of a \$25,000 cash award – no strings attached - during a visit to the school from Dr. Jane Foley, Senior Vice President of the Milken Family Foundation (MFF), and State Superintendent Brian Whiston, as part of the Milken Family Foundation's National Educator Awards Program."*

**Source:** MI Dept of Education **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448378408\\_Haslett\\_High.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448378408_Haslett_High.pdf)

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## **MDOT weekend construction for 11/20-11/23/15**

*"MDOT weekend construction for 11/20-11/23/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.) MDOT roads are those beginning with I, M, or US."*

**Source:** MI Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448378341\\_Weekend\\_Construction.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448378341_Weekend_Construction.pdf)

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## **M-29 closing over Pine River on Dec 1 for bridge work**

*"M-29 will be closed to allow crews to realign the bridge over the Pine River so that both halves of the bridge meet properly in the middle. The original contractor of last spring's repair project on this bridge, Z Contractors, is performing the work. A permit has been obtained by the U.S. Coast Guard to stop marine traffic in the area for the day."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448375627\\_mdod.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448375627_mdod.pdf)

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## **Cadillac Manufacturer, Jackson County School System, Kalamazoo**

## **Greenhouse Honored for Energy Efficiency**

*"JACKSON, Mich., Nov. 24, 2015— A manufacturer from Cadillac, a Jackson County public school district and a Kalamazoo greenhouse were among business customers Consumers Energy honored recently for successfully using energy efficiency to reduce their energy use and lower bills."*

**Source:** Consumer Energy **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448375587\\_energy.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448375587_energy.pdf)

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## **Nuclear Regulatory Commission Staff Rubber-stamp Entergy Nuclear Palisades' Operations Until 2031**

*"Covert, MI and Rockville, MD—On November 23<sup>d</sup>, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, headquartered in Rockville, MD near Washington, DC, published two related approvals, representing safety regulation rollbacks regarding age-related degradation risks at Entergy Nuclear's 44-year old Palisades atomic reactor in Covert, MI, four miles south of South Haven on the Lake Michigan shore. Links to the NRC staff approvals, regarding "Appendix G" (ductile tearing risk) safety regulation rollbacks, and also the "PTS (Pressurized Thermal Shock) Amendment" (brittle fracture risk rollback), are posted at: <http://www.beyondnuclear.org/safety/>."*

**Source:** Beyond Nuclear **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448375442\\_bn.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448375442_bn.pdf)

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## **DNR offers reward in Houghton County wolf poaching case**

*"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is offering a Report All Poaching (RAP) reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the individual who shot a gray wolf in Houghton County Saturday."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448375230\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448375230_dnr.pdf)

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## **Schuetz: Michigan Harvest Gathering Will Provide more than 2 Million Meals in 2015**

*"LANSING—Ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday, Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuetz and the Food Bank Council of Michigan today announced the Michigan Harvest Gathering 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Giving Campaign has reached almost \$400,000 in donations and 300,000 pounds of food. The donations collected so far will provide 2.1 million meals for Michigan families in need."*

**Source:** Office of Attorney General **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448375132\\_Schuetz\\_MI\\_Harvest.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448375132_Schuetz_MI_Harvest.pdf)

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## **U.P. Focus: U.P. deer harvest in line with DNR forecast**

*"Michigan Department of Natural Resources wildlife biologists said today the firearm deer hunting season in the Upper Peninsula is moving ahead according to forecast, with many hunters seeing fewer deer, while others are harvesting some fantastic older bucks."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448375130\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448375130_dnr.pdf)

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## **Dingell Stands Up for Veterans, Questions Cancellation of Surgeries at Ann Arbor VA**

*"DEARBORN, MI – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today sent a letter to VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System Director Robert P. McDivitt following reports that recent surgeries for veterans were canceled or moved to another facility because particulate matter was observed on sterile surgical equipment. The VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System was investigated in 2014 for a similar issue, and the U.S. Office of Special Counsel and the VA Inspector General later issued a report verifying that changes were made at the VA to solve the problem."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448375069\\_dingell.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448375069_dingell.pdf)

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## **Meet The Judges Fifth Annual "Meet The Judges" Reception**

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*The ICBA welcomes both its members and non-members to attend its fifth annual Meet the Judges Reception. This event is scheduled to take place at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School on Thursday, January 7, 2016 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.*

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**Source:** Ingham County Bar Association **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448375055\\_Ingham\\_County\\_Bar.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448375055_Ingham_County_Bar.pdf)

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## **Rubio Campaign Releases First Early State TV Ad, "Bartender"**

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*This morning, the Marco Rubio for President campaign released its first early state television ad. The ad tells the story of Marco's father working as a bartender so his children could have opportunities that were not offered to him. Marco's life is a testament to the American Dream, and he is running for President to secure these opportunities for future generations of Americans.*

"

**Source:** Marco Rubio Campaign **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448374683\\_marcorubio.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448374683_marcorubio.pdf)

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## Happy Thanksgiving from the Citizens Research Council of Michigan

"

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

*Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on our many blessings, privately and with family and friends. It is also a time of year when many of us recommit ourselves and donate to causes that help make the world a better place.*

"

**Source:** Citizens Research Council **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448374776\\_Citizens\\_Research.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448374776_Citizens_Research.pdf)

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## AARP Survey: Michigan Consumers Susceptible to Holiday Giving Scams

*"With the holiday giving season approaching, a new survey from the [AARP Fraud Watch Network](#) found that 66 percent of Michigan consumers failed a quiz about how to stay safe from common holiday scams, and many are regularly engaging in risky behaviors which could leave them at risk of being victimized by con artists."*

**Source:** AARP **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448374688\\_Michiganders\\_AARP.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448374688_Michiganders_AARP.pdf)

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## Three Employers Receive Awards for Cutting Energy Use, Reducing Bills

*" JACKSON, Mich., Nov. 24, 2015 – A manufacturer from Cadillac, a Jackson County public school district and a Kalamazoo greenhouse were among business customers Consumers Energy honored recently for successfully using energy efficiency to reduce their energy use and lower bills."*

**Source:** Consumers Energy **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448374599\\_11-24-15\\_NR\\_EE\\_Awards.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448374599_11-24-15_NR_EE_Awards.pdf)

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## MTA welcomes new director of Member Information Services

*"Delta Charter Township, Mich.—The Michigan Townships Association (MTA) welcomes Michael Selden as its new director of Member Information Services. Selden brings eight years of experience in public administration and municipal management to the position. As director, he will supervise the development and delivery of Association member information programs and services"*

**Source:** Michigan Townships Association **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:**

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## Michigan Lottery Players Urged to Check Tickets Fantasy 5 Jackpot Winner must Claim by Monday

*"LANSING, Mich., Nov. 24, 2015 – Michigan Lottery players should check their tickets to see if they're the lucky winner of a \$50,000 Fantasy 5 prize!"*

**Source:** MI Lottery **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448374298\\_MI\\_Lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448374298_MI_Lottery.pdf)

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## Sparrow names new Vice President of Finance

*"LANSING, MI – Sparrow is pleased to announce that Sparrow System Controller Bill Howe has been named Vice President of Finance"*

**Source:** Sparrow Hospital **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448373996\\_Sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448373996_Sparrow.pdf)

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## Consumer's Mutual Insurance of Michigan Placed in Rehabilitation

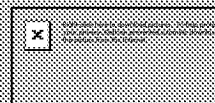
*"LANSING – The Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) today announced that Consumers Mutual Insurance of Michigan ("Consumers Mutual") has been placed in rehabilitation. Rehabilitation is a proceeding under Chapter 81 of the Michigan Insurance Code that is conducted under the supervision of the Ingham County Circuit Court."*

**Source:** MI Dept of Insurance and Financial Services **Date:** 11-25-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448373888\\_Consumers\\_Mutual.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448373888_Consumers_Mutual.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnnews.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 09, 2015 6:46 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Snyder seeking \$9.35M in state aid for Flint water crisis, and Michigan lawmakers are on board**

*"LANSING, MI — Top Michigan lawmakers appear ready and willing to send nearly \$10 million to Flint in order to address a public health crisis and help the city return to Detroit water, but it's not immediately clear where the funding will come from."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/snyder\\_requesting\\_935m\\_for\\_sta.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/snyder_requesting_935m_for_sta.html#incart_river)

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### **Michigan dog 'breed discrimination' ban would prohibit local ordinances**

*"LANSING, MI — Local communities would be prohibited from banning or otherwise regulating specific dog breeds — including pit bulls — under legislation approved Thursday by the Michigan Senate."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_breed\\_discrimination.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_breed_discrimination.html#incart_river)

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### **Michigan's Candice Miller floated as possible 'interim' House Speaker**

*"LANSING, MI — U.S. Rep. Candice Miller of Michigan, who is retiring at the end of 2016, is reportedly being floated as a possible "interim" House Speaker after Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy of California shocked his colleagues by dropping out of the race."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/candice\\_miller\\_interim\\_house\\_s.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/candice_miller_interim_house_s.html#incart_river)



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## What's the fuss over Flint water? Six takeaways from Gov. Snyder's plan

*"FLINT, MI — Gov. Rick Snyder has announced a \$16 million plan to reduce lead in the city's drinking water, and he and other key players in carrying it out made several key points to remember on Thursday, Oct. 8."*

**Source:** *Flint Journal* **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/seven\\_key\\_takeaways\\_from\\_gov\\_s.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/seven_key_takeaways_from_gov_s.html#incart_river_home)

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## Switch from Flint River to Detroit water expected to take two weeks

*"FLINT, MI — Water from Lake Huron is expected to start running through Flint's system in two weeks or less, but an expert says it will take another month for lead levels in the city to drop back to lower levels as a result."*

**Source:** *Flint Journal* **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/city\\_says\\_it\\_can\\_switch\\_from\\_f.html#incart\\_m-rpt-2](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/city_says_it_can_switch_from_f.html#incart_m-rpt-2)

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## Duggan in D.C. talking housing, refugees

*"Washington — Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan was on a two-day trip to Washington, meeting with White House, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development and State Department officials about blight removal, Syrian refugees and other issues."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/08/duggan-dc-talking-housing-refugees/73590558/>

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## House bill would cut prison time for some offenders

*"Washington — In a rare move for the bitterly partisan House, Republicans and Democrats have come together to propose major legislation that would reduce prison sentences for some nonviolent drug offenders."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/house-bill-cut-prison-time-offenders/73616900/>

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## UAW-FCA deal sets \$29 top wage for entry-level workers

*"Under a new tentative deal between the United Auto Workers and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV, entry-level workers will receive a substantial increase in their top wage."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/10/08/new-uaw-fca-contract-includes-cap-entry-level-workers/73593558/>

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## **Flint water tests suggest statewide lead issues**

*"State and local officials hope switching Flint back to Detroit's water system, announced Thursday, will solve lead contamination issues there in the short run, but the situation exposed a health issue that may be happening in other parts of the state."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/flint-water/73623958/>

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## **Feds to release 83 prisoners in Michigan**

*"WASHINGTON — Of the approximately 6,000 federal prisoners expected to be released nationwide in the next month, only a relative handful — 83 — are expected to be in Michigan."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/feds-release-83-prisoners-michigan/73577072/>

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## **Group says high fees used to conceal state records**

*"LANSING — Did a failed attempt by the Department of Treasury to redact part of an e-mail related to a Freedom of Information Act request expose a state government strategy of charging high fees to discourage requests for public information?"*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/08/group-says-high-fees-used-conceal-state-records/73580020/>

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## **Conyers, House Judiciary propose sentence reforms**

*"WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. John Conyers, D-Detroit, and other leaders of the House Judiciary Committee announced bipartisan legislation Thursday meant to reform federal sentencing guidelines for nonviolent drug offenders, reducing many mandatory minimum sentences."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/conyers-house-judiciary-propose-sentence-reforms/73594538/>

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## Former Rep. John Dingell gets pacemaker

*"WASHINGTON — Former U.S. Rep. John Dingell got a pacemaker Thursday as doctors at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit performed their second heart procedure this week on the longest-serving congressman in U.S. history."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/former-rep-john-dingell-gets-pacemaker/73602986/>

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## Treasury: 'We really goofed this up. We're fixing it.'

*"LANSING — Michigan Treasury will need another 12 weeks to sort through 67,000 taxpayer accounts that may have been erroneously flagged as delinquent, department officials told a legislative oversight panel on Thursday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/08/michigan-house-panel-grills-treasury-errant-tax-collections/73570082/>

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## UAW deal improves wages for entry-level workers

*"Entry-level workers could reach a new wage level of \$29 an hour over eight years, putting them at par in 2023 or sooner with their senior colleagues and eliminating the much-hated two-tier pay scale under a new proposed tentative agreement between the UAW and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/08/uaw-deal-improves-wages-entry-level-workers-2015/73591642/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Complaint asks IRS to investigate dark money group behind pro-Bill Schuette ads

*"LANSING, MI — A dark money organization that spent at least \$3.6 million on television ads benefiting Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette in 2010 and 2014 may have violated federal tax law by failing to disclose any donors, according to a liberal watchdog group."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/complaint\\_asks\\_irs\\_to\\_investig.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/complaint_asks_irs_to_investig.html#incart_river)

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## Electric regulation must move Michigan toward renewables, efficiency

*"Michigan's regulated electric utility market can be significantly improved. An open market should be the goal,*

*but it will require overcoming significant political and economic hurdles. In the meantime, lawmakers should enact legislation that creates incentives for utilities, consumers and entrepreneurs aligned with goals to use less energy, lower costs and transitions the state toward generation from cleaner sources and more efficient sources, including renewables."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_electric\\_regulation\\_m.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_electric_regulation_m.html#incart_river)

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## **State should pay for its own mistakes in Flint water crisis**

*"Another slap in the face."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/editorial\\_flint\\_water\\_slap\\_in.html#incart\\_m-rpt-2](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/editorial_flint_water_slap_in.html#incart_m-rpt-2)

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## **Snyder signs law to let drivers show insurance on phone**

*"Lansing — Michigan drivers pulled over by the police will be able to show proof of their auto insurance on a phone or another mobile device instead of having to provide a hard copy under legislation signed by Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/08/snyder-signs-law-let-drivers-show-insurance-phone/73570554/>

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## **Flint water crisis: An obscene failure of government**

*"There's good news: The City of Flint could soon reconnect to the Detroit Water and Sewer Department, a water source that doesn't leach lead from aging pipes into the municipal water supply."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/08/flint-water-crisis-obscene-failure-government/73578640/>

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## **Civil Asset Forfeiture Reforms Head to the Governor**

*"The Michigan state Senate unanimously passed a seven-bill package on Wednesday to require more transparency, and a higher standard of evidence before law enforcement agencies can take ownership of seized cash and property alleged to have been obtained illegally. The bills have already passed the House and with this vote are now heading to Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21795>

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## Echoing state, Detroit schools cut back on standardized tests

*"Typically during the first three weeks of class in Detroit Public Schools, students can be found plowing through a battery of standardized tests given by the district."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/echoing-state-detroit-schools-cut-back-on-standardized-tests/>

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## Giving Michigan nurses more authority to prescribe drugs and treat patients

*"More times than she can count, MaryLee Pakieser said she has wished that the rules that govern medical care in Michigan would allow her to do her job."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/giving-michigan-nurses-more-authority-to-prescribe-drugs-and-treat-patients/>

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## Press Releases

### Senate passes Billy's Law

**"LANSING, Mich.** — The Senate on Thursday approved Billy's Law to empower law enforcement to administer drug tests and obtain drug test results conducted on at-fault motorists in traffic accidents that lead to serious injury or death."

**Source:** Sen. Wayne Schmidt **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444338170\\_senate.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444338170_senate.pdf)

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### UM Students to Tackle FGM, "Honor" Violence with Film, Discussion

**"Oct. 7, 2015, Ann Arbor, Mich.** – Students at UM-Ann Arbor will host a screening and panel discussion on Oct. 15 at 6 p.m. of the groundbreaking documentary *Honor Diaries*, which breaks the silence on female genital mutilation (FGM) and other "honor" violence against girls and women in Muslim-majority societies around the world. The event will take place in the Pendleton Room of the Michigan Union, 530 S. State St."

**Source:** Young Americans for Freedom **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444338094\\_yaf.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444338094_yaf.pdf)

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### Benishek Bill to Protect Sportsmen Advances

"WASHINGTON, DC: Dr. Dan Benishek (MI-01) supported H.R. 2406, the " Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) Act, during a markup in the House Committee on Natural Resources today. This legislation, which he helped author, will work to protect and enrich our Nation's hunting and fishing heritage while also promoting wildlife and habitat conservation in a responsible manner. Now that the Committee on Natural Resources has passed the legislation, the bill is eligible for consideration on the House floor."

**Source:** Rep. Dan Benishek **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444336717\\_benishek.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444336717_benishek.pdf)

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## **Veterans Service Dogs Legislation Headed to Governor's Desk**

"LANSING – With unanimous approval from the Michigan House of Representatives and Michigan Senate, legislation authored by Senator David Knezek to protect Michigan veterans who use service dogs is on its way to Governor Snyder's desk to be signed into law. Senator Knezek's legislation is part of a bipartisan, bicameral package of legislation introduced in April 2015 that would protect Michigan veterans who use service dogs to better manage the effects of Post-Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury. Current state law does not protect veterans who use service dogs."

**Source:** Sen. David Knezek **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444331301\\_knezek.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444331301_knezek.pdf)

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## **Huizenga/Peters Legislation To Save Taxpayer Dollars, Boost Michigan Jobs Signed Into Law**

"Washington, DC – Last night, President Obama signed into law the Federal Vehicle Repair Cost Savings Act of 2015, authored by Congressman Bill Huizenga and Senator Gary Peters. This bipartisan "Made-in-Michigan" legislation saves taxpayer dollars by directing federal agencies to use remanufactured components to repair and maintain the federal vehicle fleet when using those parts would lower costs, achieve high safety standards and maintain quality as well as performance. "

**Source:** Bill Huizenga **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444331232\\_huizenga.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444331232_huizenga.pdf)

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## **Bridge work on M-28 in Gogebic County starts Monday**

"Bridge work on M-28 in Gogebic County starts Monday"

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444330469\\_MDOT.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444330469_MDOT.pdf)

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## **Greater Lansing Labor Council endorses Nathan Triplett**

*"EAST LANSING—The Greater Lansing Labor Council today announced their support of Nathan Triplett for East Lansing City Council."*

**Source:** Greater Lansing Labor Council **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444330016\\_lansing.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444330016_lansing.pdf)

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## **Statement from Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on Flint Water Announcement**

*"FLINT—Following Governor Snyder's announcement this morning, Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) issued the following statement:"*

**Source:** Sen. Jim Ananich **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444329246\\_ananich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444329246_ananich.pdf)

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## **ICYMI: ADLF Calls for Ethics Investigation into Reps. Benishek, Walberg and Benishek**

*"The following release was issued by the American Democracy Legal Fund regarding their complaint filed yesterday with the U.S. House of Representatives Office of Congressional Ethics against twenty-three Members, including Rep. Dan Benishek, Rep. Tim Walberg and Rep. Mike Bishop:"*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444329069\\_michdem.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444329069_michdem.pdf)

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## **Senators Mike Nofs and Margaret O'Brien deliver memorial statements for Rebecca Rocho**

*"LANSING, Mich. — State Sens. Mike Nofs and Margaret O'Brien delivered memorial statements on the sudden death of Rebecca Rocho, the assistant superintendent for legislation and education policy with the Calhoun Intermediate School District."*

**Source:** Michigan Senate Republicans **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444329002\\_senate.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444329002_senate.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder proclaims October as Michigan's Cybersecurity Awareness Month**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Gov. Rick Snyder has proclaimed October as Michigan's Cybersecurity Awareness Month to remind citizens, businesses and governments to protect themselves against cyber attacks."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444327991\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444327991_gov.pdf)

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## Lori A. Buiteweg Sworn in as State Bar President

*"Lori A. Buiteweg, of Ann Arbor, has been sworn in as the 81st president of the State Bar of Michigan. Michigan Supreme Court Justice Bridget Mary McCormack presided at the Oct. 8 ceremony, which took place in conjunction with the SBM Annual Meeting at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi."*

**Source:** State Bar of Michigan **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444326777\\_sbm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444326777_sbm.pdf)

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## New study says lack of strong Renewable Fuel Standard policy could put 22,000 Michigan jobs on line

*"LANSING - Jeff Sandborn, a Portland farmer and member of the board of the **National Corn Growers Association**, today highlighted a new nationwide study demonstrating the economic impact of ethanol production, noting that ethanol is tied to more than 22,000 Michigan jobs. The study was released by the **National Corn Growers Association** and **National Farmers Union** and highlights the need for a strong Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) as net farm income and other agricultural economic indicators decline to their lowest level in years."*

**Source:** Michigan Corn **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444326707\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444326707_ag.pdf)

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## Daniel D. Quick Sworn in as SBM Representative Assembly Chair

*"Daniel D. Quick, of Troy, has been sworn in as the chair of the State Bar of Michigan Representative Assembly for 2015-2016. Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert P. Young Jr. officiated at the Oct. 8 ceremony, held during the SBM Annual Meeting at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi."*

**Source:** State Bar of Michigan **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444325520\\_sbm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444325520_sbm.pdf)

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## Rep. Nesbitt bill making roads safer signed into law

*"A bill authored by state [Rep. Aric Nesbitt](#) allowing drivers to present electronic proof of automobile insurance on a smartphone or other device was signed into law this week by Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** Rep. Aric Nesbitt **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444323933\\_nesbitt.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444323933_nesbitt.pdf)

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## **Jones introduces bill banning drones at state Capitol**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Rick Jones on Wednesday introduced legislation to make it illegal to fly a drone around the Michigan Capitol building without a permit from the Michigan State Capitol Commission."*

**Source:** Sen. Rick Jones **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444323493\\_jones.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444323493_jones.pdf)

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## **Lighting work to start at M-30 roundabout, occasional closures expected Oct. 14**

*"Lighting work to start at M-30 roundabout, occasional closures expected Oct. 14"*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444323439\\_mdod.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444323439_mdod.pdf)

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## **Gov. Snyder Tells Us What We Already Know: His Emergency Manager Poisoned Flint Children**

*"LANSING – Today, Governor Rick Snyder announced that Flint would switch back to Detroit's water system after more than a year of residents being forced to drink poisoned water following the decision by Snyder's emergency manager to change the city's water source from Detroit to the Flint River in April 2014."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444322495\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444322495_gov.pdf)

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## **MDP Statement on Prohibitive FOIA Fees Being Charged by Attorney General's Office**

*"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, regarding the prohibitive fees being charged by Attorney General Bill Schuette's office to request information under Michigan's Freedom of Information Act:"*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444322450\\_mdp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444322450_mdp.pdf)

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## **Schuette Charges Detroit Man with 2008 Cold Case Rape**

*"LANSING — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today charged Alan Donnell Broadnax, 48, of Detroit, with one count of Criminal Sexual Conduct First Degree for the alleged 2008 rape of a then 18-year-old Metro-Detroit woman, which allegedly took place in Oakland County. This case involves one of the over 10,000 sexual assault kits (SAK) that were left untested for years in a Detroit Police warehouse. It is the first case the*

Attorney General's office has received as a result of the Wayne County Sexual Assault Kit Task Force."

**Source:** Attorney General Schuette **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444322346\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444322346_ag.pdf)

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## Two Michigan Ag Co-ops Make USDA's Top 100 List

**"EAST LANSING, Oct. 8, 2015** – U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Rural Development State Director for Michigan James J. Turner today highlighted the presence of two Michigan agricultural cooperatives in the USDA's annual list of the nation's top 100 agricultural cooperatives by business volume."

**Source:** USDA **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444322295\\_usda.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444322295_usda.pdf)

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## MEDICAL MARIJUANA BILLS PASSED MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*"Michigan House of Representatives passed major package of Medical Marijuana bills  
More information on attached release"*

**Source:** National Patients Rights Association **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444319663\\_nara.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444319663_nara.pdf)

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## DATA: Senators Who Voted Against Background Checks Received More Pro-Gun Contributions

**"October 8, 2015 --** This week, Senate Democrats will reportedly unveil new legislation that would block guns from being sold without background checks. The bill, sponsored by Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) and Chris Murphy (D-Conn.), would close a loophole that allows retailers to sell guns without a background check after 72 hours."

**Source:** Maplight **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444319583\\_maplight.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444319583_maplight.pdf)

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## Updated to include map - US-31 paving in Acme and East Bay wraps up early

**"October 8, 2015 --** Thanks to cooperation with contractor Team Elmer's, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) today announced that paving on US-31 from Holiday Road to Brackett Road in Acme and East Bay townships is complete."

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444319506\\_mdott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444319506_mdott.pdf)

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## US-31 paving in Acme and East Bay wraps up early

*"October 8, 2015 – Thanks to cooperation with contractor Team Elmer's, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) today announced that paving on US-31 from Holiday Road to Brackett Road in Acme and East Bay townships is complete."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444317413\\_mdott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444317413_mdott.pdf)

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## Peters Remanufacturing Bill Signed into Law by President

*"WASHINGTON, DC –President Obama has signed into law legislation introduced by U.S. Senator Gary Peters, the Federal Vehicle Repair Cost Savings Act, which requires federal agencies to encourage the use of remanufactured parts in federal vehicle repairs when doing so lowers costs, maintains quality and performance and does not compromise safety."*

**Source:** Sen. Gary Peters **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444317191\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444317191_peters.pdf)

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## New hunting regulations in Ingham, Clinton and Shiawassee counties due to CWD

*"With deer season under way, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that there are regulation changes in Ingham, Clinton and Shiawassee counties due to the confirmation of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in Ingham County. A short video has been created to outline these important changes."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444316918\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444316918_dnr.pdf)

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## National Wildlife Federation Sues Dept. of Transportation over Oil Pipeline Oversight Failures

*"ANN ARBOR, MICH. (October 8, 2015)—The National Wildlife Federation today filed a lawsuit against the U.S Department of Transportation for the agency's failure for more than 20 years to protect people, fish, wildlife, and communities from oil pipeline spills in the nation's inland waters, from the Great Lakes to the Yellowstone River."*

**Source:** National Wildlife Federation **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444315181\\_wildlife.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444315181_wildlife.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Move back to Detroit water provides best protection for public health in Flint**

*"FLINT, Mich. – Flint families and children will be better protected by reconnecting with the Great Lakes Water Authority as the source of the city's drinking water until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed, Gov. Rick Snyder said."*

**Source:** Department of Environmental Quality **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444315112\\_deg.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444315112_deg.pdf)

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## **MDOT weekend construction -MetroDetroit 10/09-10/12/15**

*"MDOT weekend construction for 10/09-10/12/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)"*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444315028\\_mdodt.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444315028_mdodt.pdf)

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## **ADLF CALLS FOR ETHICS INVESTIGATION INTO REPS. BENISHEK, WALBERG AND BISHOP**

*"The American Democracy Legal Fund has filed a complaint with the U.S. House of Representatives Office of Congressional Ethics against twenty-three Members, including Rep. Dan Benishek, Rep. Tim Walberg and Rep. Mike Bishop for violating 31 U.S.C. § 1301 and House ethics rules prohibiting official resources from being used for campaign or political purposes."*

**Source:** American Democracy Legal Fund **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444314894\\_adlf.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314894_adlf.pdf)

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## **TOPPING OFF CEREMONY PLANNED FOR NEW DEVOS LEARNING CENTER AT THE GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM**

*"The final beam for the new DeVos Learning Center at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum will be placed during a topping off ceremony on Oct. 12, 2015. The ceremony will also mark the museum's closure for several months as crews install new permanent interactive exhibits and begin renovations to the facility. The museum will reopen to the public during the summer of 2016. The 8,000 square-foot DeVos Learning will be complete in fall 2016. "*

**Source:** V2 DeVos Learning Center **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444314594\\_v2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314594_v2.pdf)

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## **Sparrow News: Sparrow Nurse earns top award from MSU College of Nursing Alumni Association**

*"Kathleen Bair, Sparrow's Director of Magnet and Nursing Excellence, has been honored with the 2015 Recent Graduate Achievement Award from the Michigan State University College of Nursing Alumni Association. Please read the attached release and contact me with any questions."*

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444314517\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314517_sparrow.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Move back to Detroit water provides best protection for public health in Flint**

*"FLINT, Mich. – Flint families and children will be better protected by reconnecting with the Great Lakes Water Authority as the source of the city's drinking water until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed, Gov. Rick Snyder said."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444314317\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314317_gov.pdf)

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## **Documents Prove Schuette's Office Advises Using FOIA Fees to Discourage Public Seeking Access to Inf**

*"LANSING — Today at 10 a.m. in Lansing, Progress Michigan will host a media roundtable to discuss documents showing that Attorney General Bill Schuette's office is advising departments to charge exorbitant fees in response to Freedom of Information Act requests in an effort to deny Michiganders' right to access public information."*

**Source:** Schuette **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444314258\\_schuette.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314258_schuette.pdf)

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## **Benishek Supports Select Committee on Planned Parenthood**

*"Washington, D.C. - The House voted today in favor of H. Res. 461 - "Establishing a Select Investigative Panel of the Committee on Energy & Commerce," a bill that would allow the Congress to examine the need for further legislation to protect the lives of the unborn in light of a series of videos which appear to show Planned Parenthood officials negotiating the price of fetal organs for sale. "*

**Source:** Rep. Benishek **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444314073\\_benishek.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314073_benishek.pdf)

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## **Sen. Colbeck Challenges Colleagues to Debate Road Funding**

*"LANSING, Mich. — State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, issued a challenge to every state elected official to engage in a public debate on how best to fix our roads. He asserts, "We do not need to increase taxes to fix our roads. If your state elected official believes that tax increases are necessary, encourage them to challenge*

*me and those who are with me in a debate. If no state elected official accepts this challenge, it is clear that no tax increases are truly needed and that we should fix the roads with existing funds."*

**Source:** Sen. Colbeck **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444314006\\_colbeck.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444314006_colbeck.pdf)

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## Peters Joins Senate Small Brew Caucus

**"WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI), a member of the Senate Small Business Committee, announced today that he has joined the bipartisan Senate Small Brew Caucus to promote the growth of small craft breweries, a growing industry in Michigan that has a significant impact on the state's economy."

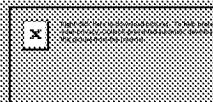
**Source:** Sen. Gary Peters **Date:** 10-09-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444313498\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444313498_peters.pdf)

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### **Ohio Gov. John Kasich talks Detroit, Donald Trump on 8th presidential campaign visit to Michigan**

*"DETROIT, MI — The Detroit skyline lit up through the windows of a black SUV taking presidential candidate and Ohio Gov. John Kasich between appointments Monday."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/ohio-gov-john-kasich-talks-det.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/ohio-gov-john-kasich-talks-det.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Michigan medical marijuana patients can't smoke in parked cars at public places, court rules**

*"LANSING, MI — Registered medical marijuana patients cannot smoke the drug in their own car while parked outside a private business that is open to the general public, the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled Wednesday."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan-medical-marijuana-pat-1.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan-medical-marijuana-pat-1.html#incart_river_index)

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### **AG Bill Schuette says email to campaign fundraiser from state account was 'mistake'**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette sent an email to a political fundraiser from his official state account, he acknowledged Wednesday, attributing the potential campaign finance violation*

to a mix-up involving at-home use of a personal iPad."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/schuetle\\_admits\\_sending\\_campaign.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/schuetle_admits_sending_campaign.html#incart_river_home)

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## Flint water customers say no change in bills, despite court order

*"FLINT, MI — A sometimes-contentious, four-hour court hearing with multiple city residents testifying about their bills ended with no ruling on the question of whether the city of Flint violated a judge's order to reduce water and sewer rates."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/flint\\_residents\\_testify\\_on\\_water.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/flint_residents_testify_on_water.html#incart_river_home)

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## Rep. Miller gives Gershwin prize to Willie Nelson

*"In Washington last week, U.S. Rep. Candice Miller joined Library of Congress Acting Librarian David Mao and other congressional leaders in presenting singer and songwriter Willie Nelson with the Gershwin Prize for Popular Song."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/25/rep-miller-gives-gershwin-prize-willie-nelson/76403066/>

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## Cruz supporters plan live Nativity scene at Capitol

*"Texas U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz has made religious liberty a cornerstone of his campaign for the Republican presidential nomination."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/25/cruz-nativity-michigan-capitol-lansing/76402392/>

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## Report: Youth overdose deaths nearly quadruple in Mich.

*"Youth overdoses almost quadrupled in Michigan from 1999-2001 to 2011-13, according to a new report from the Trust for America's Health."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/michigan/2015/11/25/youth-overdose-deaths-quadruple-michigan/76402904/>



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## Advocacy/Opinion

### What's behind state government curtain? We should demand to know

*"As roads crumble and schools face budget cuts, politicians in Lansing bought themselves a new state Senate office building that could run taxpayers as much as \$134 million. The decision to give the contract to a Lansing developer was made in a backroom by subcommittee — a prime example of how large donors are rewarded in Lansing while voters face cuts to basic services."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/whats\\_behind\\_state\\_government.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/whats_behind_state_government.html#incart_river_index)

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### Michigan should host refugee summit

*"The four year-old war in Syria has displaced more than half its population of 22 million. Nearly 13 million people have been uprooted, 8 million within the country and 5 million who have fled Syria altogether: 2 million to Turkey, and a million each to Jordan and Lebanon. Another million Syrians are trying to migrate to Europe and North America. Despite the trauma suffered in its capital, France has declared it will welcome 30,000 refugees. But here at home, our government's pledge to accept 10,000 refugees, barely 1 percent of the absorption rate to Europe, has been met with backlash by the public and politicians alike."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/25/michigan-refugee-summit-snyder-syria/76401808/>

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### Let's Make a (Special) Deal: Legislators Can't Shake the Habit

*"As 2015 draws to a close, Gov. Rick Snyder and some state lawmakers are excited about yet another sweet-sounding deal that promises the moon in return for special treatment. Switch, a Las Vegas-based technology company, says it will establish in Michigan the largest data center campus in the eastern United States — if the state is willing to provide it with sufficient tax exemptions."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21921>

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## Press Releases

### MEC briefing to address residential rate hikes, energy legislation

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*The energy bills making their way through the Legislature are complicated, ever-changing — and really important. Michigan Environmental Council Policy Director*

**James Cliff** and Energy Program Director **Sarah Mullkoff** have been at the table since before the bills began taking shape, and can help reporters sort through the latest developments.

"

**Source:** Michigan Environmental Council **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448486921\\_mec.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448486921_mec.pdf)

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## **Birth, death, deed and other county services coming to Eastpointe**

*"Eastpointe residents can access Macomb County clerk and register of deeds services in the Eastpointe City Hall at 23200 Gratiot Avenue, just North of 9 Mile Road, on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m."*

**Source:** Macomb County Clerk Carmella Sabaugh **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448486446\\_macomb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448486446_macomb.pdf)

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## **MVU case study highlights importance of mentors in online learning**

*"Lansing — A mentor can make all the difference whether you're a new employee on a job or a young person looking for guidance from a caring adult. In online learning, a good mentor can be the difference between passing and failing."*

**Source:** MVU **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448482462\\_MVU.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448482462_MVU.pdf)

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## **The Attorney General Doth Protest Too Much**

*"MICHIGAN — Progress Michigan released the following response to an email that Attorney General Bill Schuette's spokeswoman sent to members of the Lansing Press Corps upon release of the organization's FOIA request looking at Schuette's relationships with national lobbyists known to target Attorneys General around the country on behalf of their corporate clients "*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448481376\\_prq.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448481376_prq.pdf)

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## **Showcasing the DNR: Check station staff hunt for valuable deer data**

*"Most Michigan deer hunters have been in the woods as much as possible during this firearm deer hunting season."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448481230\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448481230_dnr.pdf)

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## **Baker College of Flint hosts Federal Reserve economists Feb. 3, 2016**

*"FLINT, Mich. – Two economists from the Detroit branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago will present an economic forecast for 2016, Wednesday, Feb. 3, 6-8 p.m. at the Baker College of Flint Center for Business, 1050 W. Bristol Road. The event is free and open to the public; registration is not required."*

**Source:** Baker College **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448481187\\_baker.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448481187_baker.pdf)

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## **CNN Reporter Coordinated with Clinton Aide to Hit Rand Paul**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C.- In case you missed it, recently released State Department emails show a coordinated effort between CNN Global affairs correspondent Elise Labott and Hillary Clinton aide Philippe Reines in an attempt to discredit Sen. Rand Paul during the 2013 Senate Foreign Relations Committee Benghazi hearing. In response, Rand Paul for President Chief Strategist, Doug Stafford, issued the following statement:"*

**Source:** Rand Paul **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448476735\\_paul.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448476735_paul.pdf)

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## **Dingell Urges Southeast Michigan Residents to Join in Small Business Saturday**

*"DEARBORN, MI – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today released the following statement encouraging Southeast Michigan residents to participate in Small Business Saturday, which is this Saturday, November 28."*

**Source:** Office of Congresswoman Debbie Dingell **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448476326\\_Dingell.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448476326_Dingell.pdf)

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## **Rep. Lawrence, Planned Parenthood to hold World AIDS Day event**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) will meet with Planned Parenthood Mid and South Michigan CEO Lori Carpentier and Detroit Health Center staff Monday, in advance of World AIDS Day, to call attention to the critical services Planned Parenthood provides for Michigan residents."*

**Source:** Representative Lawrence **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448475085\\_PPMSM\\_Press\\_Advisory\\_\(1\).pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448475085_PPMSM_Press_Advisory_(1).pdf)

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## **Give - or get - the gift of outdoor recreation knowledge this holiday season**

*"Looking for the perfect present for the outdoor enthusiast on your list this season – or maybe even for*

yourself? The Michigan Department of Natural Resources may have the answer."

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448474640\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448474640_dnr.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder lowers flags to honor Detroit firefighter Vincent Smith**

"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder has ordered U.S. and Michigan flags to be lowered to half-staff within the State Capitol Complex and on all state buildings on Monday, November 30 in honor of fallen firefighter, Sgt. Vincent Smith, who died Thursday, November 19."

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448474579\\_GOV.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448474579_GOV.pdf)

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## **MSC Order: Abbo v Wireless Toyz Franchise**

"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued an order denying leave to appeal in No. 149536, David Abbo v Wireless Toyz Franchise, LLC, which was argued on November 4, 2015.

For more information about the case and related briefs, click [here](#). "

**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448471362\\_supreme.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448471362_supreme.pdf)

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## **Rep. Jim Runestad November 2015 E-newsletter**

"Dear Friends, Hello and welcome to the November wrap-up edition of my e-newsletter for 2015! I hope you find this email update useful and informative. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you ever have any questions or concerns. Sincerely, Jim Runestad State Representative, 44th District"

**Source:** Rep. Jim Runestad **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448471271\\_runestad.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448471271_runestad.pdf)

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## **Release of Progress Michigan FOIA**

"We wanted to give you a heads up on a FOIA request from the anti-Schuette political attack machine known as Progress Michigan. Results of FOIA requests are public information and I wanted to both make sure you saw the result in its totality and to save you some time from having to filter the facts out after their press release comes out."

**Source:** Attorney General Schuette **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448470955\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448470955_ag.pdf)

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## Ability to Pay Amendments to Court Rules Published for Comment

*"LANSING, MI, November 25, 2015 – The Michigan Supreme Court issued an order today seeking public comment on proposed amendments to court rules that would codify existing statutory and caselaw requirements related to the issue of "Ability to Pay." The amendments would require a court to make a finding about whether a defendant is able to comply with an order to pay without "manifest hardship," would incorporate specific criteria to be considered by the court in making that finding, and would explicitly allow courts to impose alternative payment options. The suggested amendments were proposed by the Michigan State Planning Body for the Delivery of Legal Services to the Poor."*

**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448470874\\_court.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448470874_court.pdf)

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## Michigan CU's Support Small Business Saturday All Year

*"Lansing, MI (Nov. 25, 2015) Small business owners are anticipating an influx of holiday shoppers looking for unique, locally made gifts in an effort to support Small Business Saturday."*

**Source:** MI Credit Unions **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448466732\\_mcul.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448466732_mcul.pdf)

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## Stamas property tax notice flexibility bill signed

*"LANSING, Mich. — Gov. Rick Snyder on Tuesday signed legislation sponsored by Sen. Jim Stamas to revise the timeframe in which county treasurers may send delinquent property tax notices."*

**Source:** Senator Jim Stamas **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448466022\\_Jim\\_Stamas.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448466022_Jim_Stamas.pdf)

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## More than \$12 million in skilled trades training funds will help create over 3,100 jobs

*"LANSING, Mich. – More than 13,000 job-seekers and workers will receive training for in-demand technical jobs through grants totaling \$12.8 million awarded under Michigan's Skilled Trades Training Fund, Gov. Rick Snyder announced today."*

**Source:** Office of Governor Snyder **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448464608\\_12\\_Million.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448464608_12_Million.pdf)

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## Constituents Critical of Rep. Lawrence's Support of Discriminatory

## Legislation

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*Southfield, Michigan - The U.S. House of Representatives, with the support of Rep. Brenda Lawrence, passed legislation today that would make it easier for dealerships to continue the common practice of overcharging African Americans and Latinos for their car loans."*

**Source:** MI United **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448464524\\_Constitutents.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448464524_Constitutents.pdf)

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## Michigan Labor, Business and Former Senate Majority Leaders Weigh in on Michigan's Energy Future W

*"On the eve of a potential floor vote on Michigan's energy future, four seasoned veterans discuss House Bills 4298 and 4297 — legislation to secure Michigan's energy future with reliable, affordable and clean energy generated in Michigan by Michigan workers."*

**Source:** Truscott Rossman **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448464400](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448464400)

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## Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 11/24/2015

*"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 11/24/2015.*

*For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see <http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx>"*

**Source:** Court of Appeals **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448464413\\_court.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448464413_court.pdf)

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## Michigan Historical Museum to be featured Friday on Travel Channel's 'Mysteries at the Museum'

*"The Travel Channel show ["Mysteries at the Museum"](#) plans to air a segment Friday, Nov. 27, featuring the Michigan Historical Museum."*

**Source:** MI Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448461714\\_Pingree.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448461714_Pingree.pdf)

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## Audit Report Released - 071-0141-14, DTMB - Workers' Compensation

## and LTD

*"Performance audit report on the Workers' Compensation and Long Term Disability Programs for State of Michigan Employees, Office of the State Employer, Department of Technology, Management, and Budget Project number: 071-0141-14 The complete audit report and/or report summary can be viewed or downloaded in Adobe Acrobat file format from our Internet site at:*

*<http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/recently-released-audit-reports.html> Please direct any questions or comments to Kelly C. Miller, State Relations Officer [atkcmliller@audgen.michigan.gov](mailto:atkcmliller@audgen.michigan.gov)"*

**Source:** Auditor General Doug Ringler **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448460953\\_auditor.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448460953_auditor.pdf)

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## State rears and stocks muskellunge to create fishing opportunities throughout Michigan

*"The Department of Natural Resources recently stocked 27,449 muskellunge fingerlings into 17 water bodies located throughout the state, in an effort to further enhance Michigan's world-class fisheries."*

**Source:** MI Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448460501\\_muskellunge.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448460501_muskellunge.pdf)

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## Consumers Energy Approaches Halfway Point for Meter Upgrades

*"JACKSON, Mich., November 25, 2015 – As winter conditions approach that could hinder meter readers from collecting electric use data at isolated locations, Consumers Energy is eliminating the potential for bills based on estimated meter reads by continuing installations of meters that can be read remotely."*

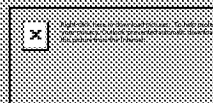
**Source:** Consumers Energy **Date:** 11-26-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1448460434\\_11-25-15\\_NR\\_Smart\\_Energy\\_Update.docx](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1448460434_11-25-15_NR_Smart_Energy_Update.docx)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 16, 2015 6:53 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Former President Bill Clinton to speak at Michigan State University in November**

*"LANSING, MI -- Former President Bill Clinton will speak at Michigan State University next month and receive the university's first Spartan Statesmanship Award for Distinguished Public Service."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/former\\_president\\_bill\\_clinton.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/former_president_bill_clinton.html#incart_river)

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### **Mandatory nursing levels would improve patient care, nurses say**

*"LANSING, MI -- Nurses and a bipartisan coalition of lawmakers gathered Thursday to announce legislation that would establish minimum nurse staffing levels and put a stop to mandatory overtime."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/mandatory\\_nursing\\_levels\\_would.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/mandatory_nursing_levels_would.html#incart_river)

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### **Challenge accepted: Michigan Senators to debate road funding, fuel taxes in public forum**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan Sen. Curtis Hertel has accepted a public challenge from Sen. Patrick Colbeck, who last week offered to debate \"any state elected official\" who believes it will be necessary to raise fuel taxes or fees to fix the state's crumbling roads."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/challenge\\_accepted\\_michigan\\_se.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/challenge_accepted_michigan_se.html#incart_river)

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## **FBI probes state-run school reform district in Detroit after internal review**

*"DETROIT, MI – The governor's office confirmed Thursday that the FBI is investigating the 15-school, state-run education reform district in Detroit, noting that it was an internal review that led to the probe."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/fbi\\_probes\\_state-run\\_school\\_re.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/fbi_probes_state-run_school_re.html#incart_river)

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## **Three takeaways from U.S. Sen. Gary Peters' Muskegon visit**

*"MUSKEGON, MI – U.S. Sen. Gary Peters stopped by the MLive Muskegon Chronicle office Thursday, Oct. 15 to field questions from editorial staff about pressing issues in Michigan, the county and abroad. "*

**Source:** Muskegon Chronicle **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2015/10/three\\_takeaways\\_from\\_us\\_sen\\_ga.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2015/10/three_takeaways_from_us_sen_ga.html#incart_river)

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## **Former Detroit high school principal agrees to plead guilty amid EAA probe**

*"DETROIT, MI – A former high school principal targeted in an FBI investigation of contracts and a possible kickback scheme at the state-run Education Achievement Authority revealed Thursday afternoon that she plans to plead guilty."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/former\\_detroit\\_high\\_school\\_pri.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/former_detroit_high_school_pri.html#incart_river)

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## **Michigan House OKs 3rd grade reading bill to hold back struggling students, boost intervention**

*"LANSING, MI — Struggling readers would receive extra and early attention in school but could be held back a year under controversial legislation approved Thursday by the Michigan House."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_house_approves_3rd_gr.html#incart_river)

[news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_house\\_approves\\_3rd\\_gr.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_house_approves_3rd_gr.html#incart_river)

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## **Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder signs spending bill with \$9.35M for Flint water crisis**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder on Thursday signed a supplemental spending bill that includes*

*\$9.35 million to address a public health crisis in Flint linked to high lead levels in drinking water."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_gov\\_rick\\_snyder\\_signs\\_9.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_gov_rick_snyder_signs_9.html#incart_river)

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## **Teacher evaluation proposal sails through Michigan House after 'huge improvements'**

*"LANSING, MI — The Michigan House on Thursday approved long-debated legislation that would change state requirements for the way school districts measure teacher effectiveness, sending the modified measure back to the Senate for additional consideration."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/teacher\\_evaluation\\_proposal\\_sails.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/teacher_evaluation_proposal_sails.html#incart_river)

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## **How Michigan helped map path to the Internet**

*"Back in the Wild West era of computing, Michigan played a crucial role in developing what became the Internet — that all-encompassing link that brings us entertainment, social engagement and a world marketplace. It was 1988, when a disorganized patchwork quilt of computer networks were struggling to communicate."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/14/internet-michigan-nsfnet-douglas-van-houweling-university-michigan-merit/73959878/>

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## **House OKs holding back third-graders behind in reading**

*"Lansing — Michigan third-graders could not advance to the fourth grade if they lag behind on state reading tests, unless they qualify for an exemption, under literacy legislation the House narrowly approved Thursday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/15/house-hold-back-third-graders-behind-reading/74023016/>

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## **EAA blasts ex-principal's 'betrayal of trust'**

*"Detroit — A spokesman for the Education Achievement Authority called a former Mumford High School principal's admission Thursday that she pocketed \$58,000 in bribes and evaded taxes a "betrayal of trust."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/15/ea-blasts-ex-principals-betrayal-trust/74019038/>

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## Michigan state employees would see raises under deals

*"LANSING — Nearly 33,000 state employees are expected to vote in the coming weeks on new contracts that would give them pay raises and freeze their health care costs and benefits."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/15/michigan-state-employees-would-see-raises-under-deals/73977944/>

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## House OKs bill to hold back struggling third graders

*"The Michigan House today approved a controversial bill that would require students to repeat the third-grade if they're not proficient readers."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/15/teacher-evaluation-michigan-house-third-grade-reading-retention/73928536/>

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## Road deal: There may still be hope

*"LANSING — After a brief flurry of blame and recriminations when discussions hit an impasse Tuesday, legislative leaders from both parties declared a "cooling-off period" in road funding talks Wednesday and expressed confidence a \$1.2-billion deal is still within reach."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/14/road-funding-talks-enter-cooling-off-phase/73935602/>

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## Bill Clinton to speak at MSU next month

*"Former President Bill Clinton will be on Michigan State University's campus next month as the first recipient of the Spartan Statesmanship Award for Distinguished Public Service."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/15/bill-clinton-speak-michigan-state-university/73990298/>

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## Senate approves, Snyder signs cash for Flint water fix

*"LANSING — Residents of Flint got another step closer to cleaner water Thursday when Gov. Rick Snyder signed a bill sending \$9.35 million to help the beleaguered city reconnect to the Detroit water and*

sewer system."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/15/senate-gives-quick-unanimous-approval-flint-water-fix/73979168/>

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## Concerns raised about ability to stop Asian carp

*"WASHINGTON — The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service again confirmed Thursday that small fish may be pulled along by barges going past electrical barriers, reigniting concerns that young Asian carp could be transported into the Great Lakes despite the barriers intended to keep them from migrating north out of Chicago waterways."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/15/concerns-raised-ability-stop-asian-carp/74002476/>

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## Legal fight could mean longer lines to renew licenses

*"GRAND RAPIDS — Michigan drivers could be forced to wait in much-longer lines at Secretary of State branch offices to renew driver's licenses because of a legal fight between the agency and the contractor who built its SOS Express website, the state warned in a court filing that asks a judge to order the contractor back to work."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/16/legal-fight-could-mean-longer-lines-renew-licenses/73994422/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### The right recipe for transforming Michigan public education

*"My friend state Rep. Tim Kelly is right: Dramatic transformation of education is necessary to make Michigan a top education state again. "*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/the\\_right\\_recipe\\_for\\_transform.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/the_right_recipe_for_transform.html#incart_river)

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## Lennox: Presidential politics hangs over Mich. gov race

*"The battle for the GOP presidential nomination is turning into a proxy war between Michigan's Republican factions in the nascent 2018 campaign to replace Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/15/lennox-presidential-politics-michigan-governor-race/74023866/>

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## **Lott: Criminals target gun-free zones**

*"Would you post a sign announcing that your home is a gun-free zone? Would you feel safer? Criminals don't obey these signs. In fact, to criminals, gun-free zones look like easy targets."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/15/lott-gun-free-zones/74023454/>

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## **Our Editorial: Doctors key in halting painkiller abuse**

*"Deaths from legal narcotics in Michigan have increased five-fold over the past 15 years, giving the fight against drug abuse a new twist. Gov. Rick Snyder is targeting the misuse of prescription medicine as part of his campaign to reform all aspects of criminal justice."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/15/editorial-doctors-painkiller-abuse/74023210/>

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## **State funding for Flint water is just a down payment**

*"Gov. Rick Snyder signed into law a measure giving more than \$9 million to the City of Flint to fix its water, which has been poisoning its residents, especially its children, for more than year."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-niley/2015/10/15/state-funding-flint-water-down-payment/73977446/>

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## **JACK SPENCER: The road to losing is paved with missed opportunities**

"

*What's worse; mismanaging information or failing to take advantage of it due to not recognizing its potential value? Voters can't be blamed for leaning one way or another regarding various issues if those who represent opposing views don't offer their best arguments."*

"

**Source:** Big Rapids Pioneer **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** <http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2015/10/15/jack-spencer-the-road-to-losing-is-paved-with-missed-opportunities/>

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## Two-Thirds of Detroit Students 'Chronically Absent'

*"Despite a new attendance policy that could see truant students and their parents actually prosecuted in court, more than two-thirds of the students enrolled in the Detroit school district are still classified as "chronically absent." This is defined by the state as missing more than 10 school days in a year."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21824>

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## Ballot Proposals, Big Labor's Bark, and PO Boxes

"

*Fall brings back familiar sights, sounds and smells of autumn in Michigan — the distinct, crisp air flavored with the aroma of burning leaves; the beauty of a fall color tour alongside Michigan's roadways; and the noise of leaf blowers showing the season who's the boss of our lawns."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21762>

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## Press Releases

### Oakland County Democratic Legislators Vote No on Harmful Third-Grade Reading Bill

*"LANSING — A bill that would mandate retention without parental consent of third graders who have trouble reading passed the Michigan House of Representatives today, with legislators from Oakland County voting no because the legislation would be harmful to children, and take away local control without providing enough resources to local districts."*

**Source:** Michigan House Democrats **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444942787\\_dem.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444942787_dem.pdf)

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### Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill authorizing funding for Flint to move back to Detroit water system

*"LANSING, Mich. — Gov. Rick Snyder has signed bipartisan legislation that will direct funding to the City of Flint's emergency water services to reconnect the city's water supply to the Great Lakes Water Authority until the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline is completed."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444942736\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444942736_gov.pdf)

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## **Detroit Democratic Caucus Votes No on Third-Grade Reading Bill**

*"LANSING — A bill meant to deal with the issue of third-grade reading was on the floor of the Michigan House of Representatives today, with legislators from the Detroit Caucus voting no due to a retention component of the legislation. Among the provisions of House Bill 4822, one of the most controversial is the mandate that would effectively hold back third-grade students who tested poorly in reading. "*

**Source:** Michigan House Democrats **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444942356\\_dem.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444942356_dem.pdf)

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## **Rep. Price's third-grade reading proficiency legislation approved by House**

*"LANSING – Landmark third-grade reading proficiency legislation to help strengthen the educational development of all Michigan children was approved by the full House today."*

**Source:** Rep. Amanda Price **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444940157\\_ap.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444940157_ap.pdf)

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## **Marco starts Fourth Quarter with \$11 million on hand**

*"Thanks to smart budgeting and fiscal discipline, Marco Rubio for President started October with more money in the bank than Jeb Bush for President and most other campaigns."*

**Source:** Marco Rubio **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444940106\\_mr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444940106_mr.pdf)

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## **Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich calls for answers in Flint water crisis**

*"LANSING, Michigan — Today the Michigan Senate unanimously approved House Bill 4102 that provides \$9.35 million to reconnect the City of Flint's water supply to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD), and that supports related testing, remediation and public health programs in the wake of the water crisis. "*

**Source:** Senator Jim Ananich **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444940064\\_ja.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444940064_ja.pdf)

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## **Senate approves Jones bill to fight Chronic Wasting Disease in Michigan deer**



**"LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Rick Jones' bill that would allow state officials to take steps to address the ongoing problem of Chronic Wasting Disease was approved unanimously on Thursday by the Michigan Senate."

**Source:** Senator Rick Jones **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444940003\\_RJ2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444940003_RJ2.pdf)

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## **DNR seeks photos for 'Ask the DNR' programs showcasing the Upper Peninsula**

*"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is seeking recent photos from the public to show during broadcasts of "Ask the DNR" – a live, hourlong call-in show produced five times a year and broadcast on WNMU-TV13 from Marquette."*

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444937823\\_dnr3.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444937823_dnr3.pdf)

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## **Mason Optimist Club Honors Attorney Gary Rogers as 2015 Volunteer of the Year**

*"Lansing, MI – The Mason Optimist Club has selected Fraser Trebilcock attorney Gary C. Rogers as its 2015 Volunteer of the Year. The honor is given in recognition of the generous and enthusiastic contributions to the overall well-being of youth in the Mason community. "*

**Source:** Fraser Trebilcock **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444937619\\_ft2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444937619_ft2.pdf)

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## **MDTC Honors Attorney Graham Crabtree as 2015 Volunteer of the Year**

*"Lansing, MI – Fraser Trebilcock attorney Graham K. Crabtree has been selected as the 2015 Michigan Defense Trial Counsel (MDTC) Volunteer of the Year. The honor is given in recognition of his generous and enthusiastic contributions to the overall goals and mission of the MDTC. "*

**Source:** Fraser Trebilcock **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444937341\\_ft.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444937341_ft.pdf)

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## **Bureau of Services for Blind Persons Achievement Honor Roll Awards to be Presented**

*"October 15, 2015 - The Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP) in the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) will present its annual Achievement Honor Roll Awards to BSBP consumers who are exemplary in achieving their goals for employment and/or independent living after vision loss; community partners recognized for their collaboration with the BSBP in increasing opportunities for people who are blind or visually impaired to achieve independence and/or employment; and employers who have shown leadership*

*in hiring people who are blind or visually impaired based on their abilities."*

**Source:** LARA **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444937215\\_lara.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444937215_lara.pdf)

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## **Specialty Crop Grant Awards Announced to Boost Michigan's Food and Agriculture Industry**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan has received \$1.9 million in federal dollars to create, enhance, or expand specialty crop agriculture development ventures across the state. The grants will further expand the marketing, research and education of these vital crops to our state's economy.*

*"*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444937172\\_mdard.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444937172_mdard.pdf)

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## **The Clock is Ticking**

*"Lansing— In just six months, nine coal-fired power plants serving more than a million people will go cold and dark in Michigan because of old age and environmental standards – helping to create a 1.3GW capacity shortfall. Today, Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future launched a "Countdown Clock" ticking down the months, hours, minutes and seconds until that happens*

*at*[http://seisa4.salsalabs.com/o/51503/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action\\_KEY=16114](http://seisa4.salsalabs.com/o/51503/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=16114)*."*

**Source:** Truscott Rossman **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444936676\\_tr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444936676_tr.pdf)

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## **Rep. Hughes hosts school bus safety news conference on Friday**

*"LANSING – Rep. Holly Hughes, R-Montague, will host a news conference on enhanced school bus safety measures at 11 a.m. Friday, Oct. 16, in the in the Ravenna Public Schools' transportation building, located at 2830 South Ravenna Road in Ravenna."*

**Source:** Rep. Holly Hughes **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444933721\\_hughes.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444933721_hughes.pdf)

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## **Workforce Development Agency Director Christine Quinn accepts U.S. Department of Labor regional admi**

*"October 15, 2015 – Michigan Workforce Development Agency Director Christine Quinn is resigning from her position to become regional administrator of the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training."*

**Source:** Michigan Talent Investment Agency **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444933673\\_tia.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444933673_tia.pdf)

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## Washington Post: Ted Cruz to report \$13.5 million cash on hand — at or near the top of the GOP field

*"HOUSTON, Texas – The Washington Post's Katie Zezima and Tom Hamburger write that Cruz may have more money than any other GOP presidential candidate in the race, spending only 14 percent on non-fundraising operations. Along with donor lists, the use of text messages and direct mail, the campaign has "built a formidable two-pronged fundraising system designed to provide funds through a long campaign," showing Cruz's ability to be competitive in the early primary states and beyond for the long haul to win the nomination. "*

**Source:** Ted Cruz **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444933610\\_cruz.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444933610_cruz.pdf)

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## Community Dispute Resolution Program Celebrates 25 Years of Service

*"LANSING, MI, October 15, 2015 – As Michiganders mark National Conflict Resolution Day, the Michigan Supreme Court is commending an initiative that has helped resolve conflicts around Michigan for a quarter century. During the month of October, the MSC's Office of Dispute Resolution is celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its Community Dispute Resolution Program (CDRP) – 18 local centers statewide that provide mediation and dispute resolution services to more than 30,000 Michigan residents each year."*

**Source:** Michigan Courts **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444933560\\_courts.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444933560_courts.pdf)

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## Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus: Women Need Equal Pay Now

*"LANSING — In the six months since the Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus has introduced a plan to make equal pay the law in Michigan, the average full-time working Michigan woman has lost about \$6,369 in wages compared to the earnings of the average full-time working man in Michigan. While the Republicans who lead the Michigan House of Representatives continue to deny these bills a hearing, Michigan women are paying the price."*

**Source:** Michigan House Democrats **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444930676\\_dem.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444930676_dem.pdf)

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## Tonight, UM Students to Tackle FGM, "Honor" Violence with Film, Discussion

*"Oct. 15, 2015, Ann Arbor, Mich. – Tonight, at UM-Ann Arbor, students will host a screening and panel discussion at 6 p.m. of the groundbreaking documentary Honor Diaries, which breaks the silence on female genital mutilation (FGM) and other "honor" violence against girls and women in Muslim-majority societies around the world. The event will take place in the Pendleton Room of the Michigan Union, 530 S. State St."*

**Source:** University of Michigan **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444930570\\_um.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444930570_um.pdf)

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## **Monday is the Deadline for Reservations to the 2015 Michigan Women's Hall of Fame Awards Dinner**

*"Lansing, MI—Ten outstanding women were chosen from over 100 nominations to be inducted into the 32<sup>nd</sup> class of the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. The induction will take place at the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame Awards Dinner & Induction Ceremony on Thursday October 29, 2015 at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center (55 S Harrison Rd, East Lansing). The ceremony begins with a reception at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m., and the awards presentation at 7 p.m. We gratefully acknowledge the support of our 2015 Platinum Sponsors for this event: Ilitch Holdings, Inc., Message Makers, and UNITE HERE. Reservations are \$150 per person and include a one-year membership or \$135 for members and can be made on our website, [www.michiganwomenshalloffame.org](http://www.michiganwomenshalloffame.org), or by calling (517) 484-1880 x203. Reservations must be made by Monday, October 19."*

**Source:** Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444930476\\_women.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444930476_women.pdf)

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## **Jones' court e-filing bill approved by Senate**

*"LANSING, Mich. — The Michigan Senate on Thursday approved legislation sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to develop and implement a statewide e-filing system to make Michigan's courts more cost efficient and easier for residents."*

**Source:** Senator Rick Jones **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444927995\\_rj.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444927995_rj.pdf)

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## **Michigan Issues Update on Regional Managed Care Health Plans**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) today announced an update to the recommended Medicaid Health Plans (MHPs) in Region 7 for Michigan's Comprehensive Health Plan contract. The MHPs were initially announced on Tuesday based on approved scoring criteria. Since that time, MDHHS has identified and corrected scoring errors that change the award recommendations in Region 7 only.*

*"*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444927257\\_dhs2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444927257_dhs2.pdf)

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## **Schuitmaker legislation would save court users time, money**

**"LANSING, Mich.** — Legislation sponsored by state Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker that would establish a statewide electronic filing system for Michigan courts advanced out of the Senate Thursday."

**Source:** Senator Tonya Schuitmaker **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444927168\\_ts.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444927168_ts.pdf)

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## Successful year so far for all three Pure Michigan Hunt winners

*"Every year, three lucky Pure Michigan Hunt winners get to live out their dreams by pursuing elk, bear, deer, turkey and ducks in Michigan's great outdoors."*

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444927133\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444927133_dnr.pdf)

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## Cruz Campaign Names Sykes and Pilgrim to Lead Faith Outreach Efforts

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**HOUSTON, Texas** — Presidential Candidate Ted Cruz today announced that he is putting in place the talent and organizational structure to further energize the overwhelming support the campaign is receiving from Americans of faith. He has named two senior staff members to lead national faith outreach: E.C. Sykes as Executive Director of the Faith and Religious Liberties Coalition, and Lindy M. "Buddy" Pilgrim as National Director of the Faith and Religious Liberties Coalition. He has also named Sarah Erdos as Director of Faith Grassroots Outreach.

"

**Source:** Ted Cruz for President **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444927093\\_tedc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444927093_tedc.pdf)

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## Progress Michigan to Schuette: Stop Offensive, Misleading Campaign Against Parole Reform

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LANSING - Today Progress Michigan released the following statement condemning Attorney General Bill Schuette's offensive and misleading campaign against House Bill 4138, a parole reform bill that seeks to reform Michigan's prison system by allowing non-violent offenders a second shot at life.

"

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444926899\\_pm2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444926899_pm2.pdf)

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## Sleep Out Helps Area Residents Warm their Homes this Winter

*"TRAVERSE CITY, Mich.-- Northern Michigan's cold winter season is just around the corner, which means hundreds of area families will face challenges making ends meet during the home heating season."*

**Source:** Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444926862\\_tc3.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444926862_tc3.pdf)

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## **Citizens for Fair Taxes Blast GOP Failure on Road Fix**

*"LANSING – Citizens for Fair Taxes blasted the Republican-controlled legislature today for their continued failure to move a plan to fix Michigan's roads and bridges and for their repeated demand that Michigan's families pay the costs while letting corporations off the hook. The failure of Republicans to move legislation that would address the state's crumbling infrastructure underscores the urgent need for the Fair Fix ballot proposal."*

**Source:** Citizens for Fair Taxes **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444926803\\_cft.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444926803_cft.pdf)

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## **African American Conservatives Unite Behind Sen. Ted Cruz for President**

*"HOUSTON, Texas – Presidential Candidate U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, today announced statewide leaders for the Cruz for President African-American coalition, including Elbert Guillory, Robin Armstrong, and Bishop Robert Smith as National Co-Chairs."*

**Source:** Ted Cruz for President **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444926772\\_tc2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444926772_tc2.pdf)

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## **I-75 north ramp to Ambassador bridge -RAMP closing Sun am for marathon race**

*"Clarification for I-75 north ramp to Ambassador Bridge -- For the Marathon Race Sunday am, the I-75 NORTH RAMP to Ambassador Bridge is closing Sunday from 3 am to 9 am only. The I-75 south and I-96 east ramps will remain open to the Ambassador Bridge for access."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444922260\\_mdod.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444922260_mdod.pdf)

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## **Peters Cosponsors Bill Increasing Veterans' Disability Benefits**

*"WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today announced that he is cosponsoring the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act, bipartisan legislation to authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to increase the amounts paid for veterans' disability compensation and other benefits by implementing the same cost-of-living adjustment that recipients of Social Security receive. Michigan is home*

to more than 650,000 veterans."

**Source:** Sen. Gary Peters **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444920861\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444920861_peters.pdf)

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## **Good Cyber Hygiene is Best Protection from Cybercriminals**

*"LANSING. Already this year, Michigan residents and businesses have lost more than \$20 million to cybercriminals, according to data from the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center. With the average loss per victim at \$4,500, it's more important than ever to practice good cyber hygiene to safeguard your personal information while online."*

**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444919543\\_police.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444919543_police.pdf)

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## **Pass presumptive parole reform to save millions without threatening public safety**

**"Oakland Press: Pass presumptive parole reform to save millions without threatening public safety"**

*By Barbara Levine, Special to Digital First Media*

*The Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) spends nearly \$2 billion annually; more than \$1.6 billion is spent directly operating prisons. If all this spending improved public safety it would be worth it. However, it does not. Taxpayers would be better served if a portion of this money was spent to create safer and healthier communities.*

*"*

**Source:** Grassroots Midwest **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444919473\\_midwet.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444919473_midwet.pdf)

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## **BRIAN DEBANO DEPARTS MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION**

*"LANSING, MI – Effective Thursday, October 15, Brian DeBano, president and CEO of the Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA), will depart the Association to pursue new professional opportunities."*

**Source:** Michigan Restaurant Association **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444919417\\_rest.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444919417_rest.pdf)

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## **Justice Viviano to introduce "Veterans Treatment Courts in Michigan: A Manual for Judges"**

*"WHAT: On Monday, Oct. 19, WMU-Cooley Law School, the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) and the Michigan Supreme Court's State Court Administrative Office will introduce a new resource for Michigan judges and members of the court interested in developing Veterans Treatment Courts (VTCs). "Veterans Treatment Courts in Michigan: A Manual for Judges" is a compilation of best practices to address the special circumstances of veterans confronted with non-violent criminal charges and is designed to serve as a blueprint for the further development of specialty courts for veterans. The Veterans Treatment Courts manual will serve as a tool for district and circuit court judges who do not operate a VTC, but wish to develop one in their jurisdiction. In 2013, the Michigan Legislature created a broad set of standards that allowed local courts to establish VTCs as alternatives for veterans accused of certain crimes. Currently, Michigan leads the nation with 22 VTCs. More information about Veterans Treatment Courts and the manual can be found at [courts.mi.gov/vetcourts](http://courts.mi.gov/vetcourts)."*

**Source:** Western Michigan University **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444919346\\_west.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444919346_west.pdf)

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## **MDOT Metro Detroit weekend construction 10/16-10/19/15**

*"MDOT Metro Detroit weekend construction 10/16-10/19/15"*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-16-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444916546\\_mdod.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444916546_mdod.pdf)

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## **Today is National Latino AIDS Awareness Day</b>**

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**In order to read the MIRS Newsletter, you must have a username and password.**

**If you need a password or username to access our reports online at:  
<http://mirsnews.com>. Please call us at (517) 482-2125 or send an email to  
[info@mirsnews.com](mailto:info@mirsnews.com)**

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 03, 2015 7:00 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Satanic Temple plans 'snaketivity' return in response to Christian nativity at Michigan Capitol**

*"LANSING, MI — The Satanic Temple of Detroit hopes to bring its controversial "snaketivity" display back to the Michigan Capitol lawn this month, calling it a response to a "live nativity" planned by supporters of Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/satanic\\_temple\\_plans\\_snaketivi.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/satanic_temple_plans_snaketivi.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Switch data center tax break bills clear committee, head to Michigan House**

*"LANSING, MI — The Michigan House Tax Policy committee on Wednesday advanced legislation that would provide large tax breaks to cloud-computing data center companies, including a Nevada-based firm that plans to open a Grand Rapids campus if the package is signed into law."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/switch\\_data\\_center\\_tax\\_break\\_b.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/switch_data_center_tax_break_b.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Americans for Prosperity spent \$23K opposing Grand Rapids school bond**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — Americans for Prosperity, the libertarian-leaning Koch brothers-funded political advocacy group, funneled \$23,271.23 into the campaign against the Grand Rapids Public Schools' \$175 million bond proposal."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/americans\\_for\\_prosperity\\_spent\\_1.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/americans_for_prosperity_spent_1.html#incart_river_index)

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## **Michigan officials should ignore gay marriage ruling, lawmakers say at religious freedom rally**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan officials should "reclaim this state's sovereignty by not recognizing or enforcing" the U.S. Supreme Court decision that gave same-sex couples the right to marry, according to a resolution set to be introduced in the state House."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_should\\_ignore\\_gay\\_mar.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_should_ignore_gay_mar.html#incart_river_index)

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## **Election bills: No-reason absentee injected into debate over straight-ticket voting ban**

*"LANSING, MI — A bill that would allow voters to cast absentee ballots at a local clerk's office without a reason was swiftly approved by the House Elections Committee on Wednesday, making it part of a broader discussion on changes to election law."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/election\\_bills\\_no-reason\\_absen.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/election_bills_no-reason_absen.html#incart_river_index)

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## **Editor's note: Dereliction of duty at DPS**

*"A lot of teachers probably mean it when they say it's all about the kids. I know they do. I've had great teachers. My brother is an inspiring public school teacher in Texas. My mom taught for a long time."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/12/02/teachers-dps-jacques/76706332/>

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## **Rep. Sandy Levin faints, recovers at U.S. Capitol**

*"Washington — U.S. Rep. Sander Levin, 84, is back at work at his office in the U.S. Capitol after he had a coughing fit and fainted at a Wednesday afternoon hearing."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/02/rep-sandy-levin-collapses-faints-us-capitol/76691664/>

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## **Snyder: Investing in relationships key to China trade**

*"Washington — Gov. Rick Snyder said investing in relationships with Chinese companies and people is a means not only for boosting business and jobs but moving toward solving more complex U.S.-Chinese issues, such as national security and intellectual property."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/02/snyder-investing-relationships-key-china-trade/76703462/>

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## **Patterson lavishes Detroit lawmakers with rare praise**

*"Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson lavished state representatives from Detroit with rare praise earlier this week for their continued opposition to Mayor Mike Duggan's auto insurance plan."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/patterson-lavishes-detroit-lawmakers-rare-praise/76706284/>

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## **Mich. leaders, activists speak out on anti-refugee bill**

*"Community leaders, elected officials and activists spoke out Wednesday in Dearborn against legislation that aims to erect hurdles for Syrian and Iraqi refugees trying to enter the United States."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/mich-leaders-activists-speak-anti-refugee-bill/76708486/>

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## **House panel OKs data center tax breaks over objections**

*"Lansing — The House Tax Policy Committee approved Wednesday three tax-break bills valued at \$20 million to \$225 million to draw a major data center to the Grand Rapids area, despite opposition from the Michigan Chamber of Commerce and a plea for more time from the governor."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/02/house-panels-oks-data-center-tax-breaks-objections/76669416/>

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## **Hackel: Macomb County can become 'destination'**

*"Clinton Township — Macomb County has a chance to become a business, entertainment and recreation destination in Metro Detroit, County Executive Mark Hackel told a crowd gathered for an*

*annual state of the county address Wednesday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/macomb-county/2015/12/02/mark-hackel-state-county/76655066/>

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## Michigan audit faults EAA for poor budget controls

*"The state-created Educational Achievement Authority suffered from a "consistent lack of controls" in information technology that resulted in poorly maintained budgets, vendors being paid without contracts and a lack of oversight in purchasing, a state audit concluded."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/education/2015/12/02/michigan-audit-faults-aaa-poor-budget-controls/76704438/>

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## Poverty up in third of Detroit area communities

*"Metro Detroit continues to stagger through its recovery from the Great Recession, even as auto sales soar to a record and the state jobless rate plummets."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/03/poverty-third-detroit-area-communities/76701670/>

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## Detroit pastor submits revised Snyder recall petition

*"LANSING — A Detroit pastor has submitted revised wording for a petition to recall Gov. Rick Snyder over the Flint water crisis, but an attorney for the governor says the new wording still fails to meet standards required under state law."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/02/rick-snyder-recall-petition/76674280/>

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## Rep. Sandy Levin briefly faints after coughing spell

*"WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Sander Levin, D-Royal Oak, fainted briefly during a meeting Wednesday and was being treated for dehydration, his office confirmed for the Free Press."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/02/rep-sandy-levin-briefly-faints-after-coughing-spell/76685580/>

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## Data center tax breaks pass House committee

*"LANSING — Tax breaks for data centers in Michigan cleared the House Tax Policy committee Wednesday, but they still face significant opposition from some in the business community, local governments and the administration of Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/02/data-center-tax-breaks-pass-house-committee/76673038/>

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## House to take up absentee, straight-party voting today

*"LANSING — The House is poised to take up legislation that will make it easier to vote by absentee ballot, but eliminate straight-party ticket voting at the same time."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/03/michigan-house-of-representatives-straight-party-voting-absentee-ballots/76690998/>

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## Swearing in public? No problem with bills' final passage

*"LANSING — Have no fear: That jazzy rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner" and the stream of expletives spewed at the supermarket will soon be fair game."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/02/f-bombs-public-no-problem-bills-final-passage/76686586/>

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## Michigan cops fume over loss of U.S. military vehicles

*"Michigan law enforcement agencies are returning donated surplus military equipment to the federal government this month — including tracked armored vehicles that metro Detroit sheriff's offices have had for more than a decade— under orders of the White House, and they are not happy about it."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/02/federal-military-surplus-return/76605640/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

## State should fix tax code to attract IT jobs

"

*The \$5 billion data center proposed for the Grand Rapids area gives Michigan another opportunity to make its tax policy competitive for attracting jobs and investment.*

"

**Source:** Escanaba Daily Press **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.dailypress.net/page/content\\_detail/id/568122/State-should-fix-tax-code-to-attract-IT-jobs.html?nav=5052](http://www.dailypress.net/page/content_detail/id/568122/State-should-fix-tax-code-to-attract-IT-jobs.html?nav=5052)

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## Editorial: Debt is crushing state's schools

*"The education financial crisis in Michigan extends well beyond Detroit Public Schools, as a new report from a major credit rating service confirms. The findings should move the talk about fixing school finances well beyond the state's largest district.*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/02/editorial-michigan-schools-financial-trouble/76706576/>

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## Teen births declining in Michigan. But hurdles in northern, rural counties

*"Hopeful data nuggets in thorny social problems are difficult to find, and yet, for some years now, a once-dire national conundrum has been slowly repairing itself. While no one can say with certainty exactly why the teen birth rate is dropping, it is undeniably headed downward from its high point 24 years ago."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/12/teen-births-declining-in-michigan-but-hurdles-in-northern-rural-counties/>

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## Press Releases

### Upton Helps Spread Holiday Cheer to our Military Men and Women Overseas

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, took time to spread some holiday cheer and write to our men and women in uniform serving overseas as part of the American Red Cross' Holiday Mail for Heroes program."*

**Source:** Rep. Fred Upton **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449094598\\_upton.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449094598_upton.pdf)

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## Colbeck speaks at Religious Liberty Rally in Lansing

**"LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, joined with other legislators, pastors, church groups and concerned citizens at the steps of the Capitol for a rally in support of religious liberty on Wednesday."

**Source:** Sen. Patrick Colbeck **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449094545\\_COLBECK.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449094545_COLBECK.pdf)

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## Heartland Institute Experts React to House Blocking President Obama's Clean Power Plan

*"Within days of President Barack Obama's speech at the COP-21 climate conference, House lawmakers voted to repeal key aspects of the administration's climate change platform, the Clean Power Plan. The regulations are intended to limit the amount of carbon emissions from new and existing power plants."*

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449094325\\_heart.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449094325_heart.pdf)

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## Schuitmaker receives '2015 Legislative Champion' award

**"LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker on Tuesday received the "2015 Legislative Champion" award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving for her work in crafting legislation that would regulate the installation of breath alcohol interlock ignition devices (BAIID) and implement new safety standards."

**Source:** Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449094279\\_schuitmaker.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449094279_schuitmaker.pdf)

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## Schuitmaker announces office hours events for December

**"LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker, R-Lawton, announced that December office hours are scheduled for the 26th Senate District."

**Source:** Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449090804\\_schuitmaker.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449090804_schuitmaker.pdf)

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## Michigan Nonprofit Association Celebrates 25th Anniversary

*"Nonprofit leaders from across the state will join MNA for a luncheon to celebrate 25 years of serving the nonprofit sector. MNA will also reveal its refreshed brand, updated logo, and new website."*

**Source:** Michigan Nonprofit Association **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449089942\\_mna.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449089942_mna.pdf)

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## SEIU LOCAL 517M STATE EMPLOYEES OVERWHELMINGLY RATIFY NEW TENTATIVE AGREEMENTS

*"The contract ratification ballots were opened, tallied and counted by the SEIU Local 517M Election Tally Committee on Wednesday, December 2, 2015. The final results showed overwhelming support for the new three-year agreements in all three bargaining units:"*

**Source:** SEIU Local 517M **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449089783\\_seiu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449089783_seiu.pdf)

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## Hazel Park awarded cleanup loan for new industrial park

*"The DEQ today announced a \$2 million loan for the city of Hazel Park to address brownfield conditions at a former landfill in the city. "*

**Source:** Department of Environmental Quality **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449086663\\_deq.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449086663_deq.pdf)

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## House panel OKs bills to expand data center industry in Michigan

*"The House Committee on Tax Policy today approved a bipartisan legislative package paving the way for the data center industry to expand in Michigan, creating more than 1,000 jobs and billions of dollars in economic investment."*

**Source:** Rep. Jeff Farrington **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449086580\\_farrington.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449086580_farrington.pdf)

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## Large Crowd Gathers at Capitol for Rally to Protect First Amendment Liberty

*"State lawmakers, clergy members, and concerned citizens gathered today at the Michigan Capitol to safeguard liberty and call for an end to the persecution of religious people."*

**Source:** Salt and Light Global **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449084625\\_global.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449084625_global.pdf)



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## Hune honors Saline veteran in lapel-pinning ceremony

*"LANSING—State Sen. Joe Hune, R-Hamburg, participated in a lapel-pinning ceremony at the state Capitol on Wednesday. "*

**Source:** Sen. Joe Hune **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449084576\\_hune.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449084576_hune.pdf)

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## Michigan Students Present Technology Showcase for State Lawmakers

*"LANSING, MI, Dec. 2, 2015 – Students from across the state this week came together to present technology demonstrations to Michigan lawmakers."*

**Source:** Resch Strategies **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449082939\\_resch.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449082939_resch.pdf)

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## Peters, Gardner Introduce Bill to Expand Access to Telehealth Services

*"WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senators Gary Peters (MI) and Cory Gardner (R-CO) today introduced the Telehealth Innovation and Improvement Act, legislation that would expand access to health care in rural areas by paving the way for Medicare to cover additional telehealth services. Currently, Medicare covers limited telehealth services, setting a poor industry standard, discouraging innovation, and restricting access to specialized services. "*

**Source:** Sen. Gary Peters **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449080330\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449080330_peters.pdf)

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## Schuetz Announces New PSA to Promote OK2SAY, School Safety Initiative

*"A.G. Schuetz releases a Public Service Announcement to promote the student safety reporting system aimed to prevent a tragedy in Michigan schools by allowing students and educators to report confidential tips by text, email, the OK2SAY website or phone call. "*

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuetz **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449079299\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449079299_ag.pdf)

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## JEB BUSH'S STATEMENT ON THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS IN

## VENEZUELA

*"Miami, FL – Governor Jeb Bush released the following statement today, regarding the upcoming elections in Venezuela."*

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449079257\\_jeb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449079257_jeb.pdf)

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## The First Education Overhaul Since 2002

*"Our nation's education system is due for a major overhaul, and we are on the verge of making it happen."*

**Source:** US Congressman Paul Ryan **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449075016\\_ryan.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449075016_ryan.pdf)

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## A Michigan Lottery Reminder: Practice Responsible Giving this Holiday Season

*"LANSING, Mich., Dec. 2, 2015 – The Michigan Lottery reminds players to practice responsible giving this holiday season when using Lottery tickets as gifts."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449072111\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449072111_lottery.pdf)

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## DNR announces 2015-16 Community Forestry Grant recipients

*"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources today announced that grants totaling \$91,070 for urban forestry projects statewide will be awarded to 12 recipients in nine counties. (A full list of recipients is given in the PDF file available below for download.)"*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449070855\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449070855_dnr.pdf)

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## House Appropriations Committee considers 'medical parole' option for medically frail prisoners

*"The Michigan House Appropriations Committee today took testimony on a legislation package that would give parole boards the authority to transition low-risk, medically frail inmates to a licensed care facility in order to complete their sentence."*

**Source:** Rep. Al Pscholka **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449070811\\_approps.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449070811_approps.pdf)

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## **FEDERAL COURT ORDERS FLINT COMMUNITY SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO STUDENT RECORDS**

*"(LANSING) - On November 23, a federal court in Detroit ordered Flint Community Schools to provide copies of school records to parents of students with disabilities and Michigan's protection and advocacy agency promptly upon request."*

**Source:** Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449070335\\_mpas.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449070335_mpas.pdf)

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## **Warren Man Wins \$25,000 a Year For Life Playing Michigan Lottery's Lucky For Life Game**

*"LANSING, Mich., Dec. 2, 2015 – A Warren man says his grandmother in heaven helped him win \$25,000 a year for life playing Lucky For Life."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449067774\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449067774_lottery.pdf)

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## **Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 12/1/2015**

*"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 12/1/2015."*

*For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see <http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx>"*

**Source:** Michigan Court of Appeals **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449065401\\_court.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449065401_court.pdf)

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## **HCAM Concerned About Legislation to Parole Medically Frail Prisoners**

*"For the past several years there has been considerable discussion regarding the release of "medically frail" prisoners. HCAM has been on record throughout these discussions opposing the parole of elderly, sick prisoners into the current long term care system. For several reasons we have advocated for a separate, dedicated nursing facility to be used."*

**Source:** Health Care Association of Michigan **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449065350\\_hcam.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449065350_hcam.pdf)

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## Consumers Energy Provides Over \$10 Million in Rebates to Michigan Schools for Energy Efficiency Upgr

*"JACKSON, Mich., Dec. 2, 2015 – Consumers Energy announced today that a Kalamazoo County elementary school is the 500th participant in its Buy Michigan energy efficiency program, joining other schools that have received over \$10 million in cost- saving rebates from the energy provider since 2009."*

**Source:** Consumer Energy **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449065253\\_energy.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449065253_energy.pdf)

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## Different Communities, Similar Problems: Education March Enters Oakland County

*"DETROIT – On Tuesday night, after trekking through the rain, parents along with community members from Detroit wrapped up day two of their 90-mile education march with a forum in Farmington Hills. Teachers, community members, and members of the faith community from Novi, Livonia, and Farmington Hills joined in the conversation at the Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington. With the closing of schools and district consolidation across communities in Oakland County including the Farmington areas, attendees discussed similarities in education issues."*

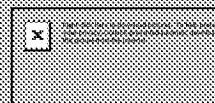
**Source:** 482Forward **Date:** 12-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449066395\\_482.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449066395_482.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 20, 2015 6:59 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **How Snyder plans to sell his \$715 million plan for Detroit schools to Michigan lawmakers**

*"DETROIT — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder will ask lawmakers to facilitate his 10-year, \$715 million plan to improve education in the state's largest city and help Detroit Public Schools crawl out from under a mountain of debt."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/how\\_snyder\\_plans\\_to\\_sell\\_his\\_7.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/how_snyder_plans_to_sell_his_7.html#incart_river)

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### **Emails show feds warned state in February of leaching lead in Flint**

*"FLINT, MI — The federal government told the state more than seven months ago that the chemistry of Flint River water was apparently causing transmission pipes to leach contaminants such as lead into city water, according to emails among environmental regulators."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/emails\\_show\\_feds\\_told\\_state\\_of.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/emails_show_feds_told_state_of.html#incart_river_home)

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### **Harbaugh talks UM-MSU game with Obama**

*"Washington — Michigan football coach Jim Harbaugh met with President Barack Obama at the White House Monday — and got condolences on a heartbreaking loss on Saturday from the First Fan, who watched the game against Michigan State."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/sports/college/university-michigan/2015/10/19/harbaugh-white-house/74211490/>

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## Mich. GOP calls on Gilbert to refund spouse's cash

*"Washington — The Michigan Republican Party wants Democratic congressional candidate and former "Little House on the Prairie" star Melissa Gilbert to refund her husband's \$5,400 campaign contribution and put it toward paying the money she owes in back taxes."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/19/melissa-gilbert/74220528/>

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## Snyder defends environmental director on Flint crisis

*"Detroit — Gov. Rick Snyder on Monday defended his environmental department director's handling of the Flint water crisis, but said he's asked for a report on how the agency didn't detect lead-leaching corrosion in the city's aging pipelines."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/19/snyder-defends-environmental-quality-director-flint-crisis/74229710/>

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## Snyder: Unpaid bills could tip DPS into financial chaos

*"Detroit — As Gov. Rick Snyder steps up his push for the Legislature to bail out the debt-ridden Detroit Public Schools, his administration is bracing for unpaid vendors to seek court orders that could trigger what he describes as a "chaotic" financial free-fall for Michigan's largest school system."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/19/detroit-education-reform/74207124/>

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## UAW members to begin voting on new FCA contract

*"As 40,000 United Auto Workers members begin voting Tuesday on the latest tentative agreement between the union and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV, hostility that fueled an overwhelmingly majority of workers to reject the first four-year deal appears to have been dialed down to a simmer."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/10/19/uaw-members-begin-voting-new-fiat-chrysler-deal/74249718/>

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## U-M's Harbaugh meets with Obama in wake of loss to MSU

*"WASHINGTON — Two days after a heartbreaking, last-second loss to Michigan State, Michigan football*

coach Jim Harbaugh got some face time with President Barack Obama at the White House today, with the commander-in-chief telling Harbaugh that he feels his pain."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/sports/college/university-michigan/wolverines/2015/10/19/jim-harbaugh-white-house-michigan/74214418/>

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## Federal appeals court hears Ambassador Bridge challenge

"WASHINGTON — A federal appellate court panel on Monday raised doubts about the Coast Guard's claim that it still cannot give the owners of Detroit's Ambassador Bridge a firm timeline for granting or denying a permit for a twin span — some nine years after its initial application was deemed complete."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/19/federal-appeals-court-hears-ambassador-bridge-challenge/74232280/>

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## State admits mistakes in Flint water switch

"FLINT — The State of Michigan has removed its top drinking water quality official and admitted it botched corrosion control in Flint water pipes, which resulted in elevated lead levels in the city's water system."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/19/michigan-official-federal-water-rules-not-followed-in-flint/74207204/>

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## Charges dropped against Wayne County jail contractor

"In the latest twist to the three-year saga of cost overruns at the Wayne County jail project in downtown Detroit, a judge on Monday dismissed two counts of willful neglect of duty filed against a Bloomfield Township construction consultant."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/19/charges-dropped-against-county-jail-contractor-wayne-county-74236676/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Lawmakers must stand up for Medicare cancer care in Michigan

"Access to cancer care in Michigan is reaching a crisis point."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/lawmakers\\_must\\_stand\\_up\\_for\\_me.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/lawmakers_must_stand_up_for_me.html#incart_river)

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## **Column: Teacher evaluation bill lacks mandates experts say are necessary to lift student achievement**

*"Four years ago, the Legislature embarked on an ambitious and worthy mission to improve teacher effectiveness in Michigan."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/teacher\\_evaluation\\_bill\\_lacks.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/teacher_evaluation_bill_lacks.html#incart_river)

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## **Column: Update young offender sentencing**

*"As legislators, we like to think of Michigan as a forward-thinking state. In many areas of state law, this is true. However, one area that is firmly rooted in outdated ideals and practices is our method of charging and sentencing youthful offenders. Currently, Michigan is one of only nine states that automatically charges and prosecutes 17-year-olds as adults."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/20/column-update-young-offender-sentencing/74253252/>

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## **Howes: Big Three's labor bill ain't what it used to be**

*"As union members prepare to vote this week on the United Auto Workers' second tentative agreement with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV, an influential new study says labor costs Detroit automakers less than it used to — a lot less."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/10/19/howes-detroit-threes-labor-bill-aint-used/74249834/>

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## **Riley: Where's an education plan for Detroit children?**

*"State Rep. Harvey Santana, whose district includes the west side, took his out-state colleague Rep. Daniela Garcia on a tour of three schools."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/10/19/riley-where-education-plan-detroit-children/74239252/>

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## **Press Releases**

### **Westbound I-69 ramp closures at Center Road for deck sealing Oct. 20-22**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will seal the decks of the ramps from southbound and northbound Center Road to westbound I-69."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445288044\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445288044_mdof.pdf)

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## **Dingell Invites Students to Celebrate Fall Holidays by “Sending Smiles to Vets”**

*"DEARBORN, MI – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) is inviting local students to participate in the “Sending Smiles to Vets” program this fall by making Halloween, Veterans Day and Thanksgiving cards for local veterans. Since the “Sending Smiles to Vets” program was launched in February, students across Southeast Michigan have pitched in to make hundreds of cards thanking veterans for their service."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445287995\\_dingell.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445287995_dingell.pdf)

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## **TC Chamber Debuts City Commission Virtual Candidate Forum**

*"TRAVERSE CITY, MI – An online candidate forum featuring candidates in the race for mayor and city commission in Traverse City is available through the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce."*

**Source:** Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445287656\\_tc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445287656_tc.pdf)

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## **Michigan awarded \$980,000 to develop certified community behavioral health clinics**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) will be awarded a \$982,373 planning grant by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to develop certified community behavioral health clinics (CCHBC) in the state. "*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445283268\\_mdhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445283268_mdhhs.pdf)

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## **MDP Response to MDEQ Director Dan Wyant's Statement on Flint Water Crisis**

*"LANSING -The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, in response to [a statement released by the Director of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality, Dan Wyant](#), regarding the DEQ's handling of Flint's water crisis. In Wyant's statement, he claims "the issue in DEQ is experience and protocol," and that DEQ "staff made a mistake," but they "will learn from' it:"*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445283217\\_mdp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445283217_mdp.pdf)

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## Michigan Faith-based Educators Gather in Detroit

*"Michigan's Faith-based educators meet in Detroit, continue focus on individual child, resulting in high student achievement."*

**Source:** Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445282431\\_manps.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445282431_manps.pdf)

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## SBM Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section Commemorates 25 Years

*"The State Bar of Michigan Paralegal/Legal Assistant Section celebrated 25 years of membership with a special event on Oct. 9 at the State Bar of Michigan Annual Meeting in Novi."*

**Source:** State Bar of Michigan **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445278361\\_sbm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445278361_sbm.pdf)

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## SBAM Small BIZ PAC Announces Endorsements for Nov. 3 Primary

*"The Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM) Small BIZ PAC has endorsed Mary Whiteford – R in the 80<sup>th</sup> House District Nov. 3 special primary election and given a Stamp of Approval to Jan Peabody – R and Gary Howell – R in the 82<sup>nd</sup> House District primary."*

**Source:** Small Business Association of Michigan **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445275619\\_sbam.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445275619_sbam.pdf)

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## ICYMI: Full, Unedited Interview: Sen. Cruz Interviews with NBC's Chuck Todd on Meet the Press

*"In Case You Missed It..."*

**Full, Unedited Interview: Sen. Cruz Interviews with NBC's Chuck Todd on Meet the Press**

*Cruz: We need leaders who will honor the promises we made to the men and women who elected us"*

**Source:** Ted Cruz **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445274535\\_cruz.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445274535_cruz.pdf)

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## JEB BUSH TO ATTEND REGENT UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE FORUM ON FRIDAY

*"Miami, FL – On Friday, Governor Jeb Bush will attend the Regent University Presidential Candidate Forum in Virginia Beach, VA. "*

**Source:** *Jeb Bush* **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445274487\\_jeb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445274487_jeb.pdf)

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## **Alternative Supplier with Fraudulent History Now Operating in Michigan**

*"Lansing— Before Texas-based Ambit Energy expanded into Michigan, it was a defendant in two class-action lawsuits alleging consumer fraud and the use of bait-and-switch tactics. Within months of its expansion into Michigan, Ambit was facing two more class action lawsuits for anti-consumer behavior."*

**Source:** *Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future* **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445274448\\_cmenf.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445274448_cmenf.pdf)

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## **Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich Statement on MDEQ Not Following Federal Drinking Water Rules**

*"LANSING — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) released the following statement after state Department of Environmental Quality officials admitted staff did not correctly apply federal standards for treating water from the Flint River:"*

**Source:** *Sen. Jim Ananich* **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445274157\\_ananich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445274157_ananich.pdf)

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## **Statement from Michigan Charter School Authorizers Regarding Gov. Rick Snyder's Detroit Education Plan**

*"Please attribute the following statement to Jared Burkhart, Executive Director, Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers regarding Gov. Rick Snyder's Detroit education plan."*

**Source:** *Michigan Charter School Authorizers* **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445271296\\_charters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445271296_charters.pdf)

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## **Detroit Caucus Members Stand United for Detroit Public Schoolchildren**

*"LANSING – Members of the House Detroit Democratic Caucus responded today to Gov. Rick Snyder's plan to fix the Detroit Public Schools, announced at a press conference this morning, by saying they are ready to work together on a solution but that it must include local control of Detroit's schools."*

**Source:** *Democratic Representatives* **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445270111\\_detroit.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445270111_detroit.pdf)

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## **AFT Michigan Statement on Governor's Plan for Detroit Schools**

*"DETROIT—On Monday, October 19, Governor Snyder presented his plan for the future of Detroit education."*

**Source:** AFT Michigan **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445270047\\_aft.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445270047_aft.pdf)

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## **Progress Michigan Action Fund Offers Special Election Bumper Stickers**

*"LANSING — Today, Progress Michigan Action Fund, the political arm of Progress Michigan, announced that it is offering bumper stickers for sale in "support" of candidates in the 80<sup>th</sup> and 82<sup>nd</sup> special elections taking place in November. The bumper stickers say, "Todd's Girlfriend, Republican for State Representative" and "Cindy's Boyfriend, Republican for State Representative" and each includes the line "Not printed with misused taxpayer funds.""*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445270002\\_progress.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445270002_progress.pdf)

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## **MAPSA Statement on Gov. Snyder's Detroit Education Proposal**

*"LANSING, Michigan (October 19, 2015) – Gov. Rick Snyder today outlined his plan to reform public education in Detroit. Below is a statement on Gov. Snyder's proposals from Dan Quisenberry, President of the Michigan Association of Public School Academies (MAPSA), the state charter school association."*

**Source:** Michigan Association of Public School Academies **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445269947\\_mapsa.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445269947_mapsa.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Academic, financial challenges in Detroit's public schools require a new approach**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today discussed a legislative package focused on reversing longstanding problems faced by public schools in Detroit and giving families more quality educational options."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445266590\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445266590_gov.pdf)

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## **Melissa Gilbert should refund husband's \$5,400 donation to pay taxes**

*"LANSING, Mich., October 19, 2015 – Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel called on Melissa Gilbert to refund her husband's \$5,400 campaign contribution and use that money to pay for her \$470,000 in back taxes. Gilbert's tax problems started with a \$127,752 lien to the State of California in 2005. In February 2015, the IRS placed a \$360,551 tax lien for income taxes owed in previous years. "*

**Source:** Michigan Republican Party **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445266047\\_repub.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445266047_repub.pdf)

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## **MDHHS urges residents to protect against carbon monoxide poisoning as winter nears**

*"LANSING, Mich. – With winter months approaching, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is reminding everyone to be safe from the danger of carbon monoxide poisoning during the cold weather and heating season. To bring awareness to the issue, Governor Snyder has proclaimed this week, October 19 – 24, as Carbon Monoxide Safety and Awareness Week in Michigan."*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445265262\\_mdhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445265262_mdhhs.pdf)

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## **AS PRESIDENT, I'LL END CRONY CAPITALISM**

*"As president of the United States, I will use all the powers of my office to disrupt the political culture of a dysfunctional Washington, D.C. We need to clean house and it must start by eliminating the crony capitalism that is pervasive throughout the federal government."*

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445264258\\_jeb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445264258_jeb.pdf)

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## **Sparrow to celebrate Delta Dental Foundation donating 50,000 oral health kits**

*"What: The Delta Dental Foundation, in partnership with the Sparrow Foundation, is funding an initiative to provide customized oral health kits to every Patient admitted to Sparrow Hospital. About 50,000 pre-packaged kits were funded by a \$175,000 grant. Each kit includes a high-quality soft-bristle toothbrush, mouthwash, toothpaste with sodium bicarbonate, alcohol-free antiseptic mouthwash, and a suction toothbrush for Patients who can't spit or swallow. A reception will celebrate this shared commitment to a project that will reduce hospital stays, lower costs, and improve Patient health by helping to reduce cases of hospital-acquired pneumonia (HAP), the second most common infection that originates in a hospital."*

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445264216\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445264216_sparrow.pdf)

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## **Threat of avian influenza returns with wild bird migration**

*"LANSING – This past spring poultry farmers across the United States were affected by a highly pathogenic avian influenza virus, which has been documented as the largest domestic animal health disaster in U.S. history."*

**Source:** Department of Agriculture **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445264164\\_mda.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445264164_mda.pdf)

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## Capital Region transportation needs explored at forum in East Lansing

*"How do you get from place to place in the Lansing area? How do your parents get around? If you're unable to drive in five or ten years, how will you travel to work, shopping, medical appointments, and recreational opportunities?"*

**Source:** AARP Michigan **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445264112\\_aarp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445264112_aarp.pdf)

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## DEQ Director Dan Wyant issues statement about Flint drinking water

***"DEQ Director Dan Wyant today made the following statement as he announced DEQ Chief Deputy Jim Sygo will immediately assume the role of interim chief of the department's Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance:"***

**Source:** Department of Environmental Quality **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445264056\\_deq.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445264056_deq.pdf)

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## JEB BUSH TO VISIT NEVADA ON WEDNESDAY

***"Miami, FL – This Wednesday, Governor Jeb Bush will visit Nevada. In the morning, he will roll out his Western Land and Resource Management Plan at a policy roundtable in Reno, NV. Later that day, Governor Bush will participate in the LIBRE Initiative's policy forum series, "The LIBRE Forum: Unlimited Opportunities in a Free Society" in Las Vegas, NV."***

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445264011\\_bush.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445264011_bush.pdf)

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## Senator Stabenow Applauds Investment to Help Michigan Farmers With Disabilities

***"WASHINGTON D.C. – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, today applauded the announcement of \$189,000 for Michigan State University and Easter Seals Michigan to continue to help Michigan farmers with disabilities overcome the obstacles they face. This funding for Michigan's AgrAbility program, which comes from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, will help develop and implement adaptive strategies and equipment so farmers with disabilities can continue to work in agriculture."***

**Source:** Sen. Debbie Stabenow **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445263934\\_stabenow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445263934_stabenow.pdf)

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## Michigan's top environmental and outdoor educators honored

*"The Michigan Alliance for Environmental and Outdoor Education recently honored several Michigan educators for their work in bringing science and nature to students in the classroom and to the public through other creative outlets. The honorees were recognized at the alliance's annual conference in Sault Ste. Marie Saturday, Oct. 10."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445263834\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445263834_dnr.pdf)



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## PHP appeals committee recommendation on Medicaid Health Plan

*"LANSING, MI – Physicians Health Plan (PHP) has announced it is appealing the recommendation of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Joint Evaluation Committee to discontinue the PHP Medicaid Health Plan in Region 7 (Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties). If the appeal is successful, the Lansing-based health insurer, which has offered Medicaid Managed Care coverage to the mid-Michigan region since 1998, will continue to be an option for Medicaid-eligible individuals and families."*

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445263776\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445263776_sparrow.pdf)

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## Cruz Wins North Carolina Statewide Tea Party Caucus

*"Houston, TX – In unprecedented fashion, Senator Ted Cruz won the North Carolina Tea Party Constitutional Caucus, receiving just over 50 percent of the vote from conservative activists across the state. Dr. Ben Carson took second place, while no other candidate received more than 4 percent. "*

**Source:** Ted Cruz **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445263687\\_cruz.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445263687_cruz.pdf)

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## Its Your Choice - a follower or a Leader standing against the liberal on slot

*"The Choice is Yours - It has been an absolute honor and pleasure to be your Representative! The Choice is simply between someone who will protect the progressive leadership as they expand taxes/spending/crony capitalism versus someone who will fight every day against the progressive spending/taxing! It is your choice! Peabody/ Howell are the big lobbyist establishment favorites – you can see it by the # of the big glossy flyers being sent to cause you to support them – they know that these candidates will vote lock step w/ the Lansing crony political class against you – which means more taxes/more spending/ and of course more crony capitalism for politically connected corporations! If you want someone who will not flip over and sell your vote and who will not vote for a spending or tax increase then I need your support!"*



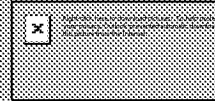
**Source:** Todd Courser **Date:** 10-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445263635\\_courser.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445263635_courser.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
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### **Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill in honor of teen killed in crash to increase motorcycle, bicycle education**

*"SANILAC COUNTY, MI – Tuesday would have been Nathan Bower's 25<sup>th</sup> birthday."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/10/gov\\_rick\\_snyder\\_signs\\_bill\\_in.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/10/gov_rick_snyder_signs_bill_in.html#incart_river)

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### **Gary Peters, Mark Totten talk guns and world peace at MLive Ballot Bash in Royal Oak**

*"ROYAL OAK, MI – MLive's final ballot bash concluded in Royal Oak on Tuesday, but not before two democratic candidates talked world peace and gun ownership."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/10/royal_oak_ballot_bash_includes.html#incart_river)

[news/index.ssf/2014/10/royal\\_oak\\_ballot\\_bash\\_includes.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/10/royal_oak_ballot_bash_includes.html#incart_river)

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### **No show or on the go – site questions Hune**

*"So, is state Sen. Joe Hune "no-show Joe" or "always-show Joe?"*

**Source:** Livingston County Daily Press & Argus **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.livingstondaily.com/story/news/politics/elections/livingston-county/2014/10/14/senate-hune-pollesch/17272865/>

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## **U.S. response to Ebola will be focus of subcommittee hearing with Rep. Fred Upton**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – A House Energy and Commerce Committee's subcommittee will hold a hearing at noon Thursday on the U.S. public health response to the Ebola outbreak."*

**Source:** Kalamazoo Gazette **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/10/us\\_response\\_to\\_ebola\\_will\\_be\\_f.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/10/us_response_to_ebola_will_be_f.html#incart_river)

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## **Kalamazoo Gazette hosting forum tonight for local state House candidates**

*"KALAMAZOO, MI — The Kalamazoo Gazette is hosting a forum for Kalamazoo County state House candidates tonight to give voters another chance to get a feel for the candidates ahead of the Nov. 4 general election."*

**Source:** Kalamazoo Gazette **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/10/kalamazoo\\_gazette\\_hosting\\_foru.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2014/10/kalamazoo_gazette_hosting_foru.html#incart_river)

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## **Dems court women's vote in Grand Rapids, call Republican contraception policy 'craziness'**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – At the same time Gov. Rick Snyder was in town for a "Women Strengthening Michigan" forum this afternoon, Lisa Brown railed against Republican "attacks" on women during a press conference at the YWCA downtown."*

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/10/dems_court_womens_vote_in_gran.html#incart_river)

[rapids/index.ssf/2014/10/dems\\_court\\_womens\\_vote\\_in\\_gran.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/10/dems_court_womens_vote_in_gran.html#incart_river)

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## **Championing women's work in Michigan 'part of the job,' Gov. Rick Snyder says**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — Michigan's economic strides in recent years couldn't have happened without the innovations led by women, Gov. Rick Snyder said Tuesday."*

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/10/championing_womens_work_in_mic.html#incart_river)

[rapids/index.ssf/2014/10/championing\\_womens\\_work\\_in\\_mic.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/10/championing_womens_work_in_mic.html#incart_river)

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## **GM's decision to stop using Flint River water will cost Flint \$400,000 per**

**year**

*"FLINT, MI – General Motors' decision to stop using Flint River water at its engine plant will cost the city an estimated \$400,000 annually."*

**Source:** *Flint Journal* **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/10/gms\\_decision\\_to\\_stop\\_using\\_fli.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/10/gms_decision_to_stop_using_fli.html#incart_river)

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## **Detroit, bankruptcy creditor to present deal Thursday**

*"Detroit — Attorneys for the city say they hope to present on Thursday a settlement in U.S. Bankruptcy Court with Detroit's largest remaining holdout creditor."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2014/10/14/detroit-bankruptcy-trial-fgic/17241573/>

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## **Female Dems hit GOP on women's issues**

*"— Two of Michigan's top elected Democrats are touring Michigan Tuesday highlighting women's issues and harshly criticizing high-profile Republican candidates."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/10/14/gop-democrats-women-issues/17256583/>

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## **State commission will monitor rape kit testing**

*"Detroit — A state commission will oversee a speedier rape kit testing process under legislation signed into law Tuesday."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/metro-detroit/2014/10/14/commission-monitor-rape-kit-testing/17274123/>

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## **GOP, Democrats hot on trail of Michigan absentee voters**

*"Lansing — The Michigan Republican and Democratic parties are vigorously courting absentee voters this fall as the Nov. 4 election could be decided by which party gets more partisan loyalists to cast ballots."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2014/10/14/michigan-absentee-voters/17285229/>

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## Deal at hand with last big creditor in Detroit bankruptcy

*"Detroit and its last major opposition creditor could have a deal in place by Thursday, lawyers for the city and the holdout bondholder said in court Tuesday morning."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-bankruptcy/2014/10/14/deal-hand-last-big-creditor-detroit-bankruptcy/17240727/>

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## Gov. Snyder signs laws to go after drugged driving

*"LANSING – Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder has signed laws to target drivers under the influence of drugs after two young men were killed in a head-on collision by a repeat drugged driver."*

**Source:** Associated Press **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2014/10/14/michigan-drugged-driving-law/17267243/>

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## Congressman Dan Kildee hosts coffee hour event Oct. 17 in Bay County

*"BANGOR TOWNSHIP, MI — U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee, D-Flint Township, hosts a coffee hour event from 9-10:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 17, at Midland Manor, 4640 Fox Pointe Drive in Bay County's Bangor Township."*

**Source:** Bay City Times **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2014/10/congressman\\_dan\\_kildee\\_hosts\\_c\\_2.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2014/10/congressman_dan_kildee_hosts_c_2.html#incart_river)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Tim Skubick: Could poor results for Terri Lynn Land drag down Gov. Snyder?

*"Democrats Mark Schauer and Gary Peters have been best buds on the campaign trail, showing no aversion to appearing together in their bids for governor and the U.S. Senate."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/10/tim\\_skubick\\_could\\_poor\\_results.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2014/10/tim_skubick_could_poor_results.html#incart_river)

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## **Energy is key to Michigan's future**

*"Hydraulic fracturing, the process of blasting rock with high-pressure water to extract natural gas from shale formations deep beneath the earth's surface, has stirred controversy throughout the country. The debate over the safety and environmental risks of "fracking," as it's commonly called, has reached Michigan as well."*

**Source:** Escanaba Daily Press **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** <http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/552917/Energy-is-key-to-Michigan-s-future.html?nav=5052>

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## **Editor's Note: Poll gives debate to Snyder**

*"Who wins a candidate debate is one of the most spun questions in politics. For example, after Sunday night's town hall face-off between Gov. Rick Snyder and challenger Mark Schauer, the Democrat's surrogate, Sen. Debbie Stabenow, declared her man had scored a "knockout." But what did voters think?"*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2014/10/15/editor-note-poll-debate-snyder/17268581/>

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## **On Michigan taxes, the truth is a stubborn thing**

*"There's an old aphorism about courtroom battles: If the law is on your side, argue the law. If the facts are on your side, argue the facts. If neither is on your side, pound the table."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/10/15/snyder-tax-reform-small-business/17268713/>

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## **Schauer, Peters the choice for working families**

*"With less than three weeks until Election Day, every candidate for public office is your best friend. Vote for me instead of that other scoundrel, they say, and I'll deliver maximum benefits at minimal cost to taxpayers."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2014/10/15/afl-cio-peters-schauer/17268695/>

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## Dark money a part of Rick Snyder's legacy as governor

*"It was a refreshing moment of candor when Gov. Rick Snyder recently told a Grand Rapids audience that his NERD Fund (New Energy to Reinvent and Diversify) was "a mistake we made early on." The governor said that he had learned something from the experience and he is proud of his administration's record when it comes to transparency."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2014/10/14/gov-rick-snyder-dark-money/17219099/>

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## Why Snyder can't tell the truth about same-sex marriage

*"Michigan's constitutional ban on same-sex marriage is toast — and no one knows that better than Rick Snyder, who is both a lawyer and a cold-blooded realist when it comes to reckoning his political options."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2014/10/15/gay-marriage-michigan-rick-snyder/17271571/>

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## School Districts Manipulate Headlee Tax Limits for More Money

*"By law, Michigan school districts are allowed to impose a maximum of 18 mills for operating expenses. So when current school millage authorizations are due to expire, how is it that some districts can ask for more?"*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20589>

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## During the 'Lost Decade,' Michigan Shed More Jobs Than U.S. as a Whole

*"When the Great Recession hit the U.S. in December of 2007, state economies buckled."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/20582>

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## Press Releases

### League of Michigan Bicyclists (LMB) celebrates adoption of Nathan Bower Act

**"Lansing** (October 14, 2014) – This morning Governor Snyder signed the Nathan Bower Act (HB 5438) into law. The new law adds information about bicycle and motorcycle awareness to Michigan driver's education curriculum, and emphasizes the importance of motorists being aware of their surroundings while driving."

**Source:** League of Michigan Bicyclists **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413317297\\_bicycle.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413317297_bicycle.pdf)

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## **Congresswoman Miller endorses Senator Green re-election**

*"MAYVILLE—Calling him a hardworking conservative helping lead Michigan's comeback, Congresswoman Candice Miller today announced her endorsement of state Senator Mike Green, R – Mayville. "*

**Source:** Sen. Mike Green Re-election Campaign **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413317088\\_MillerGreen.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413317088_MillerGreen.pdf)

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## **Upcoming lane closures on M-43/Grand River Ave in East Lansing**

*"LANE CLOSURE ALERT: M-43/Grand River Avenue (Ingham County)"*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413315332\\_43laneMDOT.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413315332_43laneMDOT.pdf)

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## **Schuetz Commends Gov. Snyder's Signature on Bills Strengthening Sexual Assault Victims' Rights**

*"LANSING, Mich. - Attorney General Bill Schuetz today praised Governor Snyder for signing into law vital crime victim rights' legislation that strengthens the rights of sexual assault survivors. The bipartisan package of Senate Bills 998, 1004, 1021, and 1036 sponsored by Senators Rick Jones and Bert Johnson, improves the state's system for sexual assault kit testing."*

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuetz **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413315238\\_schuetz.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413315238_schuetz.pdf)

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## **Pat Somerville Named to LCV's "Dirty Dozen in the States"**

*"ANN ARBOR — The Michigan League of Conservation Voters (MLCV) and the national League of Conservation Voters (LCV) announced today that Pat Somerville has been named to LCV's "Dirty Dozen in the States." Modeled after LCV's trademark federal "Dirty Dozen," the state version highlights 12 of the most anti-environment state-level candidates from around the country who state LCVs are working to defeat."*

**Source:** Michigan League Of Conservation Voters **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413315156\\_lcv1.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413315156_lcv1.pdf)

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## **NextGen Climate Michigan Presents: Stone Age Challenge**

*"KALAMAZOO, Mich. — Today, NextGen Climate Michigan announced that they will be hosting a*



screening of Citizen Koch and a new NextGen Climate "Stone Age Challenge" television ad at Western Michigan University on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

"

**Source:** NextGen **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413312270\\_nexgen.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413312270_nexgen.pdf)

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## Senator Kelly Ayotte to Rally Voters for Terri Lynn Land

*"On Wednesday, October 15, U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte (NH) will join Republican Nominee for U.S. Senate Terri Lynn Land to rally voters and denounce the anti-mom rhetoric being thrown by the Left."*

**Source:** Terri Lynn Land For U.S. Senate **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413312176\\_Land2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413312176_Land2.pdf)

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## Women across Michigan say 'Enough is Enough' to GOP Anti-Women Agenda

*"LANSING - Women from across Michigan are joining together today to say 'Enough is Enough' when it comes to Republican policies and actions that offend and economically hurt women and their families."*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413312049\\_DemParty.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413312049_DemParty.pdf)

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## Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill to further improve sexual assault kit testing

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation encouraging faster and more organized sexual assault kit testing. "*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder's Office of Communications **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413311954\\_Snyder2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413311954_Snyder2.pdf)

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## Michigan Employers to Save \$277 Million in Workers' Comp Costs

*"LANSING — Michigan manufacturers will see huge gains in competitiveness as the Michigan Workers' Compensation Agency (WCA) announced Tuesday that the state's workers' compensation pure premium rate will drop for a third year in a row. Michigan is the only state in the nation with such an improvement in workers' compensation costs and the cumulative effect is a 27.7 percent reduction over the period of 2011 to 2015."*

**Source:** Michigan Manufacturers Association **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413310364\\_MMA.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413310364_MMA.pdf)

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## **Agriculturally Speaking ... Optimism Abounds**

*"Fall has clearly arrived. Apple harvest is in full swing, the trees are changing colors and corn harvest is right around the corner."*

**Source:** Jamie Clover Adams, MDA **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413310069\\_agoptimism.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413310069_agoptimism.pdf)

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## **Dr. Benishek Highlights the Impact of Tourism in Northern Michigan**

*"Traverse City, MI: Today Dr. Dan Benishek (MI-01) participated in a roundtable focused on the "Economic Impact of Travel and Tourism in Northern Michigan" with Brad Van Dommelen, President and CEO, Traverse City Tourism and other local business leaders. "*

**Source:** U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413309266\\_benishek.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413309266_benishek.pdf)

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## **CLOSURE ALERT: M-52 in Chelsea, Washtenaw County**

*"Starting Thursday, Oct. 16, at 8 a.m., M-52 will be closed at the railroad tracks, north of Middle Street, in Chelsea. MDOT and Amtrak will reconstruct the M-52 crossing improving safety and the rideability at that location. "*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413309117\\_MDOTclosure.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413309117_MDOTclosure.pdf)

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## **Total closure: M-50 and I-96, Kent County, October 17-20**

*"M-50 (Alden Nash Avenue) will close over I-96 to slide the new bridge into place 8 p.m. this Friday through 5 a.m. the following Monday. "*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413308895\\_MDOTBridge.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413308895_MDOTBridge.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder signs bills emphasizing importance of safety while sharing Michigan's roads**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation focused on keeping drivers safe on Michigan roads. Under the legislation, law enforcement will have additional tools to combat drugged driving, and*

*sharing the road with alternate vehicles will be emphasized during drivers training."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder's Office of Communications **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413308120\\_snyderbill.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413308120_snyderbill.pdf)

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## **Governor signs landmark drugged driving measures to better protect state motorists**

*"Gov. Rick Snyder today signed into law landmark legislation to help keep drugged drivers off Michigan streets by ensuring immediate jail time for repeat offenders and better communication between law enforcement agencies."*

**Source:** Sen. Pavlov/Rep. Lauwers **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413307875\\_druggeddrive.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413307875_druggeddrive.pdf)

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## **MLTA welcomes West as V.P. of Travel MI**

*"Steve Yencich, president and CEO of the Michigan Lodging and Tourism Association, today issued the following statement regarding the selection of David West as vice president of Travel Michigan:"*

**Source:** MI Lodging And Tourism **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413303818\\_lodging.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413303818_lodging.pdf)

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## **Progress Michigan Releases Hundreds of Pages of MI Dept. of Education Emails**

*"LANSING — Today, Progress Michigan released hundreds of emails between Gov. Rick Snyder's chief of staff Dennis Muchmore and State Superintendent Mike Flanagan. The release is part of a larger effort to hold the executive office accountable by making the inner workings of government visible to the public."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413303709\\_PROGRESS.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413303709_PROGRESS.pdf)

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**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413303708\\_PROGRESS.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413303708_PROGRESS.pdf)

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## **OAKLAND COUNTY CIRCUIT JUDGE JAMES ALEXANDER ELECTED CHAIR OF THE STATE BAR JUDICIAL COUNCIL**

*"Oakland County, MI (October 14, 2014) – Oakland County Circuit Judge James Alexander has been elected Chair of the State Bar Judicial Council for the 2014-2015 bar year. The Judicial Council consists of representatives of the three Judicial Associations: District Judges Association; Probate Judges Association; and the Michigan Judges Association, which represents Circuit and Court of Appeals Judges."*

**Source:** Oakland County Circuit Court **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413303403\\_OaklandCourt.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413303403_OaklandCourt.pdf)

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## **Snyder makes appointment to Wayne County Airport Authority**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Ron Hall Jr., of West Bloomfield, to the Wayne County Airport Authority."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder's Office of Communications **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413303221\\_snyderappts.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413303221_snyderappts.pdf)

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## **"Well, I'm a mom" Terri Lynn Land Fires Back**

*"(GRAND RAPIDS, MI) October 14, 2014 – Former Florida Governor Bush rallied voters across Michigan with Terri Lynn Land yesterday while she fired back at Gary Peters and his allies for criticizing her for talking about how being a mom informs her decision making. "*

**Source:** Terri Lynn Land For U.S. Senate **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413303124\\_Land1.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413303124_Land1.pdf)

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## **DNR honors longtime hunter education instructors for volunteer service**

*"For nearly 70 years, Michigan has conducted hunter education classes, teaching new hunters firearms safety and the regulations behind having a safe and successful hunt. This year, the Department of Natural Resources has honored those longtime instructors who have been with the program more than 40 years with special recognition at a series of Natural Resources Commission meetings, including the Oct. 9 meeting in Cadillac."*

**Source:** MI Dept. of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413302225\\_DNRhuntered.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413302225_DNRhuntered.pdf)

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## **Seasonal lake sturgeon release put more than 5,700 fish into Michigan**

## waters

*"The Department of Natural Resources and several partners released nearly 6,000 juvenile lake sturgeon into various public waters across the state this summer and fall in an effort to rehabilitate this culturally significant fish species."*

**Source:** MI Dept. of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413299679\\_DNRSturgeon.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413299679_DNRSturgeon.pdf)

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## Jerry Cannon will Protect Medicare and Social Security

*"Kalkaska MI – Former Sheriff and Major General and congressional candidate, Jerry Cannon, released a new TV ad, "Promises" that exposes Congressman Benishek's betrayal to Northern Michigan seniors by supporting a Budget, which raises Medicare costs on Michigan Seniors while cutting taxes for the ultra-wealthy. Benishek has also supported privatizing Social Security."*

**Source:** Jerry Cannon For U.S. Representative - CD 1 **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413296883\\_Cannon1.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413296883_Cannon1.pdf)

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## Senators Introduce Bills to Help Stop 'Debtors Prisons'

*"LANSING - State Senators Jim Ananich (D-Flint), Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba) and Bert Johnson (D-Detroit) recently introduced a bipartisan package of bills (SB 1113-1115) that seek to uphold the longstanding constitutional ban on debtors prisons – where people who cannot afford to pay their court debts are jailed as a result."*

**Source:** Senate Democrats **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413296794\\_SenateDems.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413296794_SenateDems.pdf)

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## Michigan's Work Comp Rate Decreases 28% Since 2011

*"October 14, 2014 – The Michigan Department of Licensing & Regulatory Affairs (LARA) today announced the pure premium advisory rate for workers' compensation insurance will drop by an average of 6.5 percent in 2015 and will decrease 6.3 percent annually from 2011-15. The pure premium rate will decrease 27.7 percent since 2011, saving Michigan employers an estimated \$277 million.<sup>[1]</sup>"*

**Source:** LARA **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413301562\\_LARAWC.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413301562_LARAWC.pdf)

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## Call It a Comeback: Schauer on Defense and Apologizing

*"After his "No Show" performance at the Town Hall on Sunday night, Mark Schauer spent Monday on the defensive:"*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder Re-election Campaign **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413295592\\_Snyder1.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413295592_Snyder1.pdf)

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## **Reinventing Mi Retirement Offers Free Financial Workshops, Advice**

*"LANSING –Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) and its Reinventing Mi Retirement partners will be at nine locations across the state on Monday, October 20, 2014 offering free workshops and personal financial checkups to consumers. DIFS is hosting events in Detroit, Troy, Alpena, Escanaba, Grand Rapids, St. Joseph, Kalamazoo, Three Rivers, and West Branch. Presenters will be delivering workshops such as: "*

**Source:** DIFS **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413294688\\_retirement.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413294688_retirement.pdf)

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## **New Totten Ad Asks What Bill Schuette Has Been Doing Instead of Protecting You**

*"SOUTHFIELD – In a new ad that hits airwaves today, Mark Totten's campaign highlights the record of his opponent Bill Schuette. The ad, named "One Thing", focuses on Bill Schuette's pursuit of ideologically extreme crusades. It details several areas where Schuette's political priorities have come before Michigan families."*

**Source:** Totten For Attorney General **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413294595\\_totten.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413294595_totten.pdf)

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## **Peters' New TV Ad Outlines His Fight for Michigan Jobs & Strong Middle Class**

*"SOUTHFIELD, MI – U.S. Senate Candidate Gary Peters today unveiled a new TV ad that outlines his proven track record fighting for Michigan jobs and helping to strengthen Michigan middle class. Peters recently helped successfully stop an unfair Chinese tariff on American autos.  
"*

**Source:** Peters For U.S. Senate **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413293965\\_Peters2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413293965_Peters2.pdf)

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## **LARA Adds Three New License Types to the MyLicense Online Application System**

**"October 14, 2014 - Applicants for an initial Architect, Professional Engineer, or Professional Surveyor license now have the option to apply online and pay by credit card. They may access the online system at [www.michigan.gov/mylicense](http://www.michigan.gov/mylicense). The three new license types were added to the MyLicense online application system by the Licensing Division in the Corporations, Securities and Commercial Licensing Bureau in the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)."**

**Source:** LARA **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413293299\\_lara1.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413293299_lara1.pdf)

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## **Celebration Weekend of Activities at the Museum to Follow Michigan Women's Hall of Fame Induction**

*"Lansing, MI—The Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame, 213 W. Malcolm X Street, Lansing, announces a **special three-day weekend of events to celebrate the 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary and class of inductees of the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame**. Activities included in this free weekend of events are storytelling, caricature artists, meeting contemporary inductees of the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame and much more."*

**Source:** Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413293198\\_halloffame.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413293198_halloffame.pdf)

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## **What They're Saying: Land's SOS "Bargain of the Century" For Major Contributor**

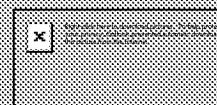
*"SOUTHFIELD, MI – The ~~first~~ "Forgotten Record" chapter of Republican Terri Lynn Land's failed Secretary of State record covers Land's backroom deal that gave Meijer, a major contributor, immunity from criminal prosecution after they admitted to illegally influencing a local election in Acme Township. The New Republic recently ~~reported~~ on Land's suspect deal with Meijer for trying to "secretly to overthrow the government" in Acme Township."*

**Source:** Peters For U.S. Senate **Date:** 10-15-2014 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1413292747\\_Peters1.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1413292747_Peters1.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 23, 2015 6:52 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Fuel taxes, registration fees and tax relief: 14 things to know about new House GOP roads plan**

*"LANSING, MI - With bipartisan road funding negotiations stuck in neutral, Michigan House Republicans on Wednesday night introduced and quickly approved a new \$1.2 billion plan, responding to external pressures with a shot across the bow."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/fuel\\_taxes\\_registration\\_fees\\_a.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/fuel_taxes_registration_fees_a.html#incart_river)

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### **Michigan congressman asks FBI chief how refugees are vetted**

*"DETROIT, MI -- U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, asked FBI Director James Comey during a House Judiciary Committee oversight hearing Thursday about the process of vetting incoming refugees from the Middle East."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_congressman\\_asks\\_fbi.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_congressman_asks_fbi.html#incart_river)

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### **Freedom Caucus' Amash backs Ryan for speaker**

*"Washington — U.S. Rep. Justin Amash of Cascade Township said he is among the Republican conservative hard-liners who have decided to back Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan's bid to become the next speaker of the House."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/22/freedom-caucus-amash-backs-ryan-speaker/74367918/>

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## **Jeb Bush attends Oakland County fundraiser**

*"Lansing — Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush was back in Michigan on Thursday for an evening fundraiser in Oakland County for his presidential campaign — his fourth visit to the state this year."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/22/jeb-bush-oakland-county-fundraiser/74401554/>

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## **Kilpatrick likely to appeal to U.S. Supreme Court**

*"Former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick likely will appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn his public corruption conviction and 28-year prison sentence, his lawyer said Thursday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/22/kilpatrick-loses-another-appeal-bid/74389488/>

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## **New Michigan roads plan strains budget, but 'doable'**

*"Lansing — The latest legislative plan for fixing Michigan's crumbling roadways would divert \$806 million from the state's \$10 billion general fund plus untold hundreds of millions in future income tax reductions when fully implemented by 2021."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/22/new-michigan-roads-plan-strains-budget-doable/74415404/>

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## **UAW to push for richer deal at GM**

*"The United Auto Workers will push for a richer deal with General Motors Co. than it did at Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV, where members overwhelmingly supported a sweetened, four-year contract in a second round of voting this week."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/general-motors/2015/10/22/uaw-gm/74407652/>

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## **Michigan State Police using cell snooping devices**

*"For nearly a decade, the Michigan State Police has had secretive cellphone tracking devices that were bought to fight terrorism but instead are used to solve everyday crimes, internal documents show."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/22/stingray/74438668/>

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## **Tiny NW Michigan town sends nearly all to college**

*"Baldwin — Unlike many of his peers before him, David Simmons is determined to go to college."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/22/baldwin-promise-college-scholarship-program/74438244/>

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## **Everything we know about the House roads package**

*"LANSING State lawmakers have been trying for years to reach an agreement to raise an extra \$1.2 billion a year to fix and maintain Michigan's crumbling roads and bridges, and the latest development is a package of bills Republicans in the state House passed Wednesday with almost no Democratic support."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/22/everything-we-know-house-roads-package/74389832/>

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## **Kwame Kilpatrick to appeal to U.S. Supreme Court**

*"The defiant ex-Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick isn't giving up his fight for freedom, as he is now heading to the U.S. Supreme Court, hoping the nation's highest court overturns his public corruption conviction that sent him to prison for 28 years."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/22/ex-detroit-mayor-kwame-kilpatrick-loses-appeal-again/74386772/>

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## **Michigan poised for big shift in how it pays for roads**

*"LANSING — Michigan would make a major shift in the way it pays to fix and maintain roads — away from user fees in favor of increased reliance on general fund dollars — if the Legislature gives final approval to either of the plans being considered by lawmakers and Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/22/michigan-poised-big-shift-how-pays->

## Agencies reject discrimination claims by MDOT official

*"LANSING – State and federal civil rights agencies have rejected complaints from a top official in the Michigan Department of Transportation that department Director Kirk Steudle discriminated against her because of her age and gender."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/22/agencies-reject-discrimination-claims-mdot-official/74379796/>

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## FBI director: Planes over Dearborn not for mass spying

*"At a congressional hearing on Thursday, FBI Director James Comey addressed the controversial spy planes that flew over Dearborn earlier this year."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/10/22/dearborn-spy-plans-fbi-james-comey/74431132/>

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## Michigan loses shot at \$45 million for charter schools

*"The U.S. Department of Education has rejected a \$45-million grant request from Michigan to boost and expand charter schools, largely because the state lacks oversight of the authorizers who approve and oversee them."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/23/michigan-loses-shot-at-charter-grant/73997230/>

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## Gov. Snyder says \$1.2B House road funding plan is positive, but needs 'extensive analysis'

*"The Michigan House Republicans introduced and approved a \$1.2 billion road funding plan Wednesday night despite little support from their Democratic counterparts, but before taxpayers see hikes in gas taxes and fees, the bill still has to make it past the Senate and Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** Ann Arbor News **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/gov\\_snyder\\_says\\_houses\\_12b\\_road.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/gov_snyder_says_houses_12b_road.html#incart_river_home)

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## Gov. Rick Snyder shares story of identity theft during U-M cyber security conference

*"It's been nearly 10 years, but Michigan's multimillionaire governor Rick Snyder was on the receiving end of phone calls and letters from debt collectors who demanded he pay the bills that were racked up in his name."*

**Source:** Ann Arbor News **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/gov\\_rick\\_snyder\\_shares\\_story\\_o.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/gov_rick_snyder_shares_story_o.html#incart_river_home)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Shields: Make a rational investment in higher education

*"As college students in Michigan begin making their way to their chosen institution, they are filled with anticipation and high hopes for a successful year. They are also filled with high hopes that their institutional choice is the right one. It is a high-stakes choice, in that one year of college can cost as much as a new automobile."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/06/27/shields-rational-investment-higher-education/32426155/>

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### Our Editorial: Keep momentum on roads solution

*"The House late Wednesday passed a \$1.2 billion road bill package that is far from perfect, but it's also far from a done deal. The bills now go to the Senate, where there is an opportunity to make them better."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/22/editorial-momentum-roads-solution/74431758/>

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### Dear House GOP: Try harder

*"Try again."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/22/dear-house-gop-try-harder/74389552/>

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### How Effective Will Law Cutting Welfare for Truancy Be?

*"A new law that kicks in next June threatens to cut off cash welfare payments to low-income families whose children routinely skip school with no valid excuse. At first glance, this looks like a potentially effective get-tough policy, especially in communities where nearly half the students are labeled "chronically absent" by the state."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21837>

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## **The Case for Energy Competition**

*"Opponents of electricity choice make two common arguments against injecting more competition in the energy industry: it will lead to higher prices and it will decrease investment in new energy generation. Fortunately, data are available to assess each of these claims, and a recent report by the Compete Coalition, a group of hundreds of electricity stakeholders, does just that."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21836>

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## **In one tech-heavy cyber school, a low-tech strategy spurs learning**

*"From her desk in Okemos, third-grade teacher Kim Roberts welcomes students with a smile and a wave, and describes a book they're going to read together in class."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/in-one-tech-heavy-cyber-school-a-low-tech-strategy-spurs-learning/>

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## **Three years later, jury still out on Michigan's cyber school expansion**

*"From his Lansing office, Gov. Rick Snyder read aloud a book about a goldfish and its fishbowl neighbors. As he finished each page, he turned the book around to face his computer screen and smiled."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/two-years-later-jury-still-out-on-michigans-cyber-school-expansion/>

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## **Building a path to better, higher-paying Michigan jobs**

*"Jon DeWys spent four years on a local school board and has a daughter who's a senior in high school thinking about different career tracks. He also is president and CEO of DeWys Manufacturing near Grand Rapids, a firm that has sometimes come up empty-handed while trying to hire skilled workers."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/building-a-path-to-better-higher-paying-michigan-jobs/>

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## Press Releases

### Rep. Cole approves real solution to Michigan road-funding crisis

*"State Rep. Triston Cole, R-Mancelona, voted to approve the House Republican road funding package today, including an amendment he offered that ensures every dollar in the \$600 million reserve fund be directly contributed to fixing Michigan's roads and bridges."*

**Source:** Rep. Triston Cole **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445547516\\_COLE.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445547516_COLE.pdf)

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### Bishop on NDAA Veto: President Put Political Games Ahead of Responsible Governing

*"WASHINGTON – In response to President Obama's veto of the FY16 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) today, Congressman Mike Bishop issued the following statement:"*

**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445546644\\_bishop.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445546644_bishop.pdf)

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### Rep. Cole's bill to reform civil asset forfeiture signed into law by Gov.

*"LANSING, MI – Gov. Snyder signed five bills into law on Tuesday as he approved a bipartisan bill package to reform civil asset forfeiture laws. State Rep. Triston Cole of Mancelona, left, authored House Bill 4503 now Public Act No. 150 of 2015, which will safeguard oversight of civil forfeiture by ensuring that forfeiture funds are properly used and that state department agencies do not pursue an improper source of revenue. The approval of this landmark legislation will provide much need transparency to the forfeiture process and serves as a good starting point going forward with the new forfeiture-reporting act."*

**Source:** Rep. Triston Cole **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445546284\\_cole.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445546284_cole.pdf)

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### Upton on POTUS Veto of Bipartisan NDAA: "It's Unacceptable"

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, released the following statement after President Obama vetoed the 2016 Fiscal Year National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)."*

**Source:** Rep. Fred Upton **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445546219\\_upton.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445546219_upton.pdf)

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## Kowall celebrates Apple Crunch Day

*"LANSING, Mich. — State Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall and his colleagues on Thursday stand at the Senate rostrum with Crimson Crisp Michigan apples as part of Michigan's third annual Apple Crunch Day."*

**Source:** Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445546163\\_kowall.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445546163_kowall.pdf)

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## Michigan students set baseline for new state assessment

*"LANSING – Michigan students have set the course for success when they took the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP) this past spring, establishing a new baseline for performance, with statewide results available in the days ahead, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) announced today."*

**Source:** Department of Education **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445546044\\_mde.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445546044_mde.pdf)

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## LOCAL ATTORNEYS TO STAR IN VETERANS PROJECT

*"Peppermint Creek Theatre Company is proud to be in its 13th Season. Its Passion Statement is "to produce contemporary theatre that addresses vital issues in our society, raises awareness, and encourages dialog while entertaining." Peppermint Creek has stayed true to its purpose for all these years."*

**Source:** Ingham County Bar Foundation **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445544226\\_ingham.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445544226_ingham.pdf)

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## Citizens Groups Back EPA Probe of Flint Drinking Water Crisis

*"In a letter to the administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency today, the Ecology Center and Sierra Club today asked the EPA for a formal investigation into how the EPA and a state agency charged with drinking water safety handled Flint's drinking water crisis. "*

**Source:** Michigan Sierra Club **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445544178\\_sierra.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445544178_sierra.pdf)

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## Judge Economy Earns National Honors



*"Recently, the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI) honored Ingham County Probate Judge R. George Economy at the 2015 Angels in Adoption™ ceremony held October 6-7, 2015 in Washington, D.C. Judge Economy was nominated for this award by U.S. Senator Gary Peters for his outstanding advocacy of adoption. For over 29 years, Judge Economy has been a probate judge and during that time has presided over more than 6,000 adoptions. Locally, Judge Economy is well recognized for his actions on adoption highlighted annually during the Christmas season. His actions and timing of the Court's actions has highlighted the need for and success that can be achieved by adoptions."*

**Source:** Ingham County Bar Foundation **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445544126\\_ingham.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445544126_ingham.pdf)

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## **DEQ seeking input on water quality monitoring locations**

*"As part of its ongoing effort to improve surface water quality, the DEQ is seeking input on where to focus monitoring efforts."*

**Source:** Department of Environmental Quality **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445541747\\_deq.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445541747_deq.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder makes judicial appoints to Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court, Probate Court; Allen Par**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Adel Harb to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit Court, Wayne County, and Lawrence Paolucci to the Wayne County Probate Court."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445541698\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445541698_gov.pdf)

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## **September Unemployment Rates Decline Seasonally in All of Michigan's Regional Labor Markets**

*"Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in September fell seasonally in all of the state's 17 major labor market areas, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment was mixed over the month in the various areas while labor force levels decreased seasonally in the majority of regions."*

**Source:** Department of Technology, Management and Budget **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445541229\\_dtlmb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445541229_dtlmb.pdf)

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## **Rep. Runestad testifies about need for organizational charts**

*"State Rep. Jim Runestad today testified before the House Committee on Oversight and Ethics, urging*

lawmakers to support his bill requiring all government departments to post easy-to-follow organizational charts so citizens can easily contact public servants."

**Source:** Rep. Jim Runestad **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445540645\\_runestad.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445540645_runestad.pdf)

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## **USDA Awards Nearly \$2.3 Billion in Loans for 77 Rural Electric Infrastructure Projects**

"WASHINGTON, Oct. 22, 2015 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced nearly \$2.3 billion in loans to build and improve rural electric infrastructure in 31 states."

**Source:** Michigan USDA **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445540146\\_usda.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445540146_usda.pdf)

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## **Upton Statement on Congressman Paul Ryan**

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, released the following statement after Congressman Paul Ryan met with members of the Tuesday Group, a caucus of the House Republican Conference. Upton is a founding member and the group focuses on crafting constructive solutions for challenges facing the American people."

**Source:** Rep. Fred Upton **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445539584\\_upton.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445539584_upton.pdf)

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## **2nd Annual "State of the Youth" Symposium**

"**Detroit** - Council Member Mary Sheffield has assembled an impressive line-up of **Grammy-nominated and critically-acclaimed national recording artists, radio personalities and political/civic leaders** to address students at Martin Luther King High School located in the heart of District 5. The Panel will come together for the **2nd Annual "State of the Youth" Symposium** to have an open and honest discussion about the challenges Black youth face today. The Symposium will take place in **Martin Luther King High School's Auditorium on Friday, October 23, 2015 from 10 A.M. - 12:00 P.M..**"

**Source:** Detroit City Council **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445537030\\_detroit.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445537030_detroit.pdf)

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## **Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority gets inspection report, elects new officers**

"**October 22, 2015** – Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority (SSMBA) board members held their first meeting

today in the board room of the new International Bridge administration building on the toll plaza."

**Source:** Sault Ste. Marie Bridge Authority **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445536533\\_bridge.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445536533_bridge.pdf)

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## **Democratic Legislators Demand Action on Common-Sense Gun Safety Legislation**

"LANSING — Bills that take aim at the ongoing problem of gun violence in Michigan were the subject of a press conference held today in Lansing. State Representatives **Jim Townsend** (D-Royal Oak), **Robert Wittenberg** (D-Oak Park), **Stephanie Chang** (D-Detroit) and **Jeff Irwin** (D-Ann Arbor) outlined their common-sense gun safety measures and called for action on their legislation."

**Source:** Michigan House Democrats **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445534570\\_dem.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445534570_dem.pdf)

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## **Latest House roads plan lacks specifics on budget cuts, is concerning for townships**

"The following statement should be attributed to Larry Merrill, executive director of the Michigan Townships Association."

**Source:** Michigan Townships Association **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445534471\\_mta.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445534471_mta.pdf)

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## **Nearly 1 million children benefit from state's child support system**

"LANSING, Mich. — Michigan children benefit the most when financial support is given by both parents, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is emphasizing during Child Support Month."

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445534282\\_mdhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445534282_mdhhs.pdf)

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## **Advanced energy businesses to legislature: Protect clean energy standards to reduce electricity cost**

"LANSING—More than 60 advanced energy businesses today sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader **Arlan Meekof (R-West Olive)** and House Speaker **Kevin Cotter (R-Mt. Pleasant)**, calling for protection and expansion of Michigan's clean energy standards to reduce costs for ratepayers, encourage innovation and spark investment."

**Source:** *Byrum and Fisk* **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445534242\\_fisk.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445534242_fisk.pdf)

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## **Manufacturers Approve House Anti-Steel Dumping Resolution**

*"LANSING — The Michigan Manufacturers Association applauds the initiative of the Michigan House of Representatives for passing House Resolution 87, sponsored by Representative John Kivela (D-Marquette), urging the President and the U.S. Congress to take action to halt the illegal dumping of foreign steel into the U.S. market. H.R. 87 was adopted by the Michigan House on Thursday, 10/22/15."*

**Source:** *Michigan Manufacturers Association* **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445533864\\_michmanu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445533864_michmanu.pdf)

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## **Statement: New roads plan hurts low earners, budget and future**

*"LANSING — The Michigan League for Public Policy issued the following statement on the new road funding plan passed by the Michigan House last night:"*

**Source:** *Michigan League for Public Policy* **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445528058\\_mlpp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445528058_mlpp.pdf)

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## **Michigan Natural Resources Commission travels to eastern Upper Peninsula**

*"The Michigan Natural Resources Commission took a whirlwind two-day trip to the eastern Upper Peninsula earlier this month for tours and meetings in Cedarville."*

**Source:** *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445528006\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445528006_dnr.pdf)

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## **Senate OKs Jones legislation to allow tax donations to American Red Cross**

*"LANSING, Mich. — The Michigan Senate on Thursday approved measures sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to allow residents to make voluntary donations on their state tax returns to help support the American Red Cross in Michigan."*

**Source:** *Sen. Rick Jones* **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445527643\\_jones.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445527643_jones.pdf)

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## Citizens for Fair Taxes Blast House GOP Roads Bill

*"LANSING – Today the Citizens for Fair Taxes blasted Lansing Republicans for once again advancing a bill that targets middle class and working families with higher taxes and fees, while letting corporations off the hook. The Republican roads bill calls for an increase in the gas tax, higher vehicle registration fees, and a \$600 million cut to the state's general fund, impacting public safety, healthcare, and other priorities—all while giving corporations yet another free pass on paying their fair share."*

**Source:** Citizens for Fair Taxes **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445527310\\_fairtaxes.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445527310_fairtaxes.pdf)

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## Schuitmaker bills aiming to reduce drunk driving offenses, protect motorists pass Senate

*"LANSING, Mich. — The state Senate on Thursday passed a package of bills sponsored by Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker that aims to reduce drunk driving offenses."*

**Source:** Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445527260\\_schuitmaker.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445527260_schuitmaker.pdf)

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## Sens. Gretchen Whitmer, Curtis Hertel endorse Nathan Triplett

*"EAST LANSING— Former Senate Democratic Leader **Gretchen Whitmer** and State Senator **Curtis Hertel** today announced their support for Nathan Triplett for reelection to East Lansing City Council."*

**Source:** Byrum and Fisk **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445524833\\_fisk.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445524833_fisk.pdf)

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## Governor's 2015 Forest Products Summit set for Oct. 28 in East Lansing

*"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources announced today that the Governor's 2015 Forest Products Summit will take place Wednesday, Oct. 28, at the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center in East Lansing. "*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445524765\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445524765_dnr.pdf)

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## DEQ receives federal funds to support land addition to Petoskey State Park

*"The DEQ's Office of the Great Lakes recently received a \$205,000 federal grant to fund the purchase of 6.3 acres of land adjacent to Petoskey State Park in Emmet County. "*

**Source:** Department of Environmental Quality **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445524717\\_deq.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445524717_deq.pdf)

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## **MDOT weekend construction Metro Detroit 10/23/15-10/26/15**

**"MDOT weekend construction for 10/23-10/26/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)"**

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445522974\\_mdod.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445522974_mdod.pdf)

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## **North Central Region Center for Rural Development director named**

*"EAST LANSING, Mich. – Mark Skidmore has been named director of the North Central Region Center for Rural Development effective January 1, 2016. He is currently a Michigan State University Extension public policy specialist and a professor in the MSU departments of Economics and Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics."*

**Source:** Michigan State ANR **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445522919\\_anr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445522919_anr.pdf)

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## **It's time to cut the ribbon for #M231, opens to traffic Friday, Oct. 30**

*"Ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the completion of the new M-231 route in the heart of Ottawa County. M-231 connects the townships of Crockery and Robinson with the sixth-longest bridge in the state of Michigan, and just the fourth crossing of the Grand River in the county."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445521099\\_mdod.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445521099_mdod.pdf)

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## **Sparrow PHP chair receives prestigious Michigan Congressional Black Caucus Delegation award**

*"LANSING, MI – Sparrow Physicians Health Plan Board Chair James Butler III (U.S. Army –Retired) has received the prestigious Courage and Valor Award for Distinguished Military Service from the Michigan Congressional Black Caucus Delegation for service to his country during the Vietnam War."*

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445519131\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445519131_sparrow.pdf)

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## Back To The Future? Nope, Blast From the Past

*"MICHIGAN — Progress Michigan responded to yet another late-night House session where this time — rather than dealing with cheating legislators — the House GOP was trying to cheat Michigan voters out of a decent roads plan."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445518542\\_progress.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445518542_progress.pdf)

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## Road Plan Fails to Ensure that Everyone Pays Their Fair Share for Public Investment

*"LANSING – Today, Michigan House representatives passed a road-funding plan that includes diverting income tax revenue from the state budget general fund to transportation. The plan does not specify what areas of the budget will be cut in order to fund fixes to Michigan's transportation infrastructure."*

**Source:** Engage Michigan **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445518436\\_engage.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445518436_engage.pdf)

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## Audit Report Released: MDHHS - Follow-up on Youth Transitioning from Foster Care to Self-Sufficiency

*"Follow-up report on the performance audit of Youth Transitioning From Foster Care to Self-Sufficiency, Department of Human Services Project number: 431-0279-11F"*

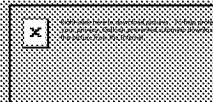
**Source:** Auditor General **Date:** 10-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1445518382\\_auditor.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1445518382_auditor.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnnews.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 06, 2015 10:26 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **No-reason absentee voting bill pushed in Michigan House**

*"Lansing — Republicans' push to eliminate Michigan's straight-party voting option may improve the odds of voters being allowed to cast an absentee ballot for any reason."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/12/06/reason-absentee-voting-bill-pushed-michigan-house/76869150/>

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### **Feds can't access phone records in Calif. terror case**

*"Washington — The U.S. government's ability to review and analyze five years' worth of telephone records for the married couple blamed in the deadly shootings in California lapsed just four days earlier when the National Security Agency's controversial mass surveillance program was formally shut down."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/12/06/feds-access-nsa-phone-records-california-terror-case/76863954/>

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### **Loan forgiveness sought for Flint to replace lead pipes**

*"The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is in talks with Flint officials about financing forgivable loans to replace lead-leaching water pipes while U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee is pursuing federal forgiveness for the city's nearly \$21 million in past loans for drinking water infrastructure improvements."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/06/can-forgiveness-sought-flint-replace-lead-pipes/76845170/>

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## **Election law front and center in newly introduced bills**

*"LANSING — A Grand Blanc Republican wants to make it harder for people to vote by absentee ballot and has introduced legislation toward that end."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/05/election-law-front-and-center-newly-introduced-bills/76802348/>

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## **London police treat subway stabbing as terrorism**

*"LONDON — Police here say they are treating a stabbing attack at a subway station as a terrorist incident."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/12/06/london-subway-stabbings-terror/76877268/>

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## **Aunt: San Bernardino suspect 'became more devout'**

*"Tashfeen Malik, the female suspect in the San Bernardino massacre in California, started to dress more conservatively and became more devout in the last few years, according to a report."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/12/06/san-bernardino-shooting/76879058/>

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## **President Obama to address the nation on San Bernardino shooting**

*"The White House says President Obama will address the nation from the Oval Office at 8 p.m. Eastern Time on Sunday about the steps the government is taking to keep people safe after the attack this past week in California."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/12/05/president-obama-address-nation-san-bernadino-shooting/76855608/>

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## **Macomb County Treasurer Ted Wahby dies**

*"Longtime Macomb County Treasurer Ted Wahby, who was well-known after spending more than 30 years*

*in politics and public service in the county, has died."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/macomb/2015/12/06/macomb-county-treasurer-ted-wahby-dies/76868502/>

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## **Morgan Freeman unhurt after plane's forced landing**

*"Academy Award-winning actor Morgan Freeman was aboard a plane that had to make an emergency landing in Mississippi after blowing a tire, but nobody was hurt in the incident"*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/life/people/2015/12/06/morgan-freeman-plane-landing/76876838/>

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## **We are cowards when it comes to gun control**

*"Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold shot 37 people at Columbine High School."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/12/05/we-cowards-when-comes-gun-control/76731416/>

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## **Oil spill, high waves: A Great Lakes disaster scenario**

*"Imagine an oil slick quickly growing through the Straits of Mackinac from a rupture of the 62-year-old, twin pipelines known as Line 5 traversing the bottom of where Lakes Michigan and Huron connect."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/05/enbridge-pipeline-straits-mackinac-oil-spill-waves/76728434/>

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## **Michigan website aims to reduce cyber attacks on small businesses**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — Cyber attacks can be child's play."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/12/state\\_rolls\\_out\\_website\\_to\\_edu.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/12/state_rolls_out_website_to_edu.html#incart_river_home)

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## **U-M engineering enrollment hits record, spurred by growth of high-paying jobs**

*"Three of the five most in-demand jobs for recent college graduates are in the field of engineering. That's been the trend for the better part of a decade since the economy's recovery from the 2008 depression."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/u-ms\\_college\\_of\\_engineering.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/u-ms_college_of_engineering.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Michigan paramedics wear bullet-proof vests to emergency calls**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- Tedd Van Solkema and other paramedics frequently walk into crime scenes where tensions are high and anything can happen, even with a heavy police presence."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/some\\_west\\_michigan\\_paramedics.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/some_west_michigan_paramedics.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Howard Meyerson: Captain, fishing guide provides lifelong learning experiences**

*"Wayne Andersen was attempting to lead a hooked steelhead when Captain Chuck Scribner offered him some gentle pointers."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2015/12/howard\\_meyerson\\_captain\\_fishin.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2015/12/howard_meyerson_captain_fishin.html#incart_river_index)

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## **Rick Haglund: Prosperity in Michigan relies on advanced education jobs**

*""Middle-skills" jobs — those requiring education and training beyond high school, but less than a four-year degree — are said to be in high demand by employers."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/rick\\_haglund\\_prosperity\\_in\\_mic.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/rick_haglund_prosperity_in_mic.html#incart_river_index)

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

### **Finley: Gun laws won't stop terror**

*"More gun control laws won't stop terrorism."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/12/06/finley-opinion-gun-laws-san-bernardino-terror/76645650/>

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## Searching for a common target in the war on terrorism

*"ISIS and rival groups competing for the hearts and minds of would-be jihadists have had only limited success in killing American civilians. But they've been depressingly effective at stampeding U.S. lawmakers into self-defeating policies and rhetoric that betray this country's values and strengthen Islamic State's apocalyptic narrative."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/12/05/visa-waiver-program/76742038/>

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## All the risk, none of the rewards for Michigan cities

*"Lincoln Park's financial emergency, declared in 2014, inspired some serious rewrites of employee contracts and outsourcing of some city services. Retirees had their health coverage yanked."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/stephen-henderson/2015/12/05/michigan-cities-financial-troubles/76859904/>

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## Mitch Albom: Gun laws need to change

*"What made a young couple walk into a health facility and start shooting people? It wasn't our gun laws. It wasn't the easy ability to purchase a weapon in this country."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/sports/columnists/mitch-albom/2015/12/05/mitch-albom-gun-control-san-bernardino/76846868/>

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## Home-life balance may be biggest challenge for governors

*"Oh my, the anti-politician boo-birds will have a field day with this, because anytime something positive is said about our public servants, they tear it to shreds based on the notion that all of them are evil."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/home-life\\_balance\\_may\\_be\\_bigge.html](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/home-life_balance_may_be_bigge.html)

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## Amendment to Balance the Federal Budget May Die in GOP House Committee

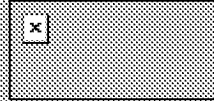
*"Barring the unforeseen, the state House will not vote this year on legislation to place Michigan in an interstate compact petitioning for a federal balanced budget amendment."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21941>

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**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **First batch of Clinton emails since Benghazi testimony to be released**

*"WASHINGTON — The State Department is due Friday to release the first round of emails from Hillary Clinton's private server since she testified last week in a marathon hearing before the House Benghazi panel."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/30/hillary-clinton-emails-state-benghazi/74807608/>

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### **As criticism mounts over missed votes, Marco Rubio shows no sign of resigning**

*"WASHINGTON — He says he's frustrated with the job, and he hardly bothers to show up to vote."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/29/criticism-mounts-over-missed-votes-marco-rubio-shows-no-sign-resigning/74814770/>

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### **Senate approves two-year budget deal that prevents default on debt**

*"WASHINGTON — The Senate passed a two-year budget deal early Friday that would prevent the U.S. government from defaulting on its debts next week and help avert a potential government shutdown in December."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2015/10/30/senate-votes->

## **Bing questions rising blight costs under Duggan**

*"Former Detroit Mayor Dave Bing on Thursday questioned the reasons behind huge increases in the cost of blight removal under his successor, Mike Duggan, and defended his administration's record of demolishing nearly 9,000 houses."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/29/bing-questions-rising-blight-costs-duggan-detroit/74829634/>

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## **Demolition of Pontiac Silverdome to begin in spring '16**

*"Detroit Lions running back Billy Sims galloped for huge gains and high-stepped in the end zone, Elvis split his jumpsuit pants before more than 60,000 on New Year's Eve 1975 and WrestleMania in 1987 hit its apex before a frenzied crowd of 93,173 — then the largest recorded attendance for a live indoor sporting event in North America. Months later, Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/10/29/demolition-pontiac-silverdome/74834576/>

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## **Power line workers are hot commodity in Michigan**

*"A shortage of power line workers, largely due to baby boomer retirements and hiring slowdowns during the Great Recession, has utility companies and contractors scrambling for workers."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/michigan/2015/10/29/michigan-power-line-workers/74845772/>

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## **Pot legalization group stops collecting signatures**

*"Lansing — A group seeking to put recreational marijuana legalization on the November 2016 ballot abruptly stopped collecting signatures at the end of September, prompting a competing pro-pot group to speculate the other campaign is faltering."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/29/pot-legalization-efforts-michigan/74838104/>

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## **Mike Ilitch School of Business could nab key approval**



*"Images of the planned Mike Ilitch School of Business for Wayne State University, a \$40 million donation, show it on a tree-lined Woodward Avenue and next to the new \$532 million home of the Detroit Red Wings."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/10/29/wayne-state-ilitch-school-business-red-wings/74799678/>

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## **Whitmer/Richardville 2018? Former Senate GOP leader open to bipartisan gubernatorial run**

*"LANSING, MI — Former Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville and former Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer were on the opposite side of many a political battle at the Michigan Capitol, but could they join forces to return?"*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/whitmerrichardville_2018_forme.html#incart_river_home)

[news/index.ssf/2015/10/whitmerrichardville\\_2018\\_forme.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/whitmerrichardville_2018_forme.html#incart_river_home)

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## **For Michiganders, 'Obamacare' health exchange plans will be more expensive this year**

*"LANSING, MI — Health insurance on the federally-run health exchange will be more expensive for Michiganders this year, but the state's increase is still below the national average."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/for_michiganders_obamacare_he.html#incart_river)

[news/index.ssf/2015/10/for\\_michiganders\\_obamacare\\_he.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/for_michiganders_obamacare_he.html#incart_river)

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## **Michigan State Police forward Todd Courser text message investigation to prosecutor for review**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan State Police have concluded an investigation into extortion claims by former state Rep. Todd Courser and forwarded findings to the Lapeer County Prosecutor for review and possible charges."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_state_police_forward.html#incart_river)

[news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_state\\_police\\_forward.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_state_police_forward.html#incart_river)

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## **Michigan offers hotline for veterans to call for help**

*"Michigan veterans in need of help for just about anything can call a special hotline staffed by fellow veterans and get assistance."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_offers\\_number\\_for\\_vet.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_offers_number_for_vet.html#incart_river)

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## DNR says future 'not awesome' for Lake Michigan Chinook salmon fishery

*"BEULAH, MI — The table chart posted on the office window at the Platte River State Fish Hatchery visitor center in Benzie County tells a tale of two salmon runs."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/chinook\\_salmon\\_lake\\_michigan.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/chinook_salmon_lake_michigan.html#incart_river_home)

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## Jeb Bush looks to steady campaign after dismal debate

*"PORTSMOUTH, N.H. — Jeb Bush emerged from the third Republican debate as a candidate in crisis, with supporters struggling to understand why he keeps underperforming and advisers promising a turnaround before it's too late."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/us-world/index.ssf/2015/10/jeb\\_bush\\_looks\\_to\\_steady\\_campa.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/news/us-world/index.ssf/2015/10/jeb_bush_looks_to_steady_campa.html#incart_story_package)

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## Why Michigan education officials aren't freaking out over dismal scores on new M-STEP test

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan students scored poorly on the state's new standardized test, but Department of Education officials are happy with the assessment."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/why\\_michigan\\_education\\_officials.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/why_michigan_education_officials.html#incart_river_home)

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## Michigan DNR to handle some national forest timber sales

*"LANSING, MI — A unique pilot program between the state and federal government will allow Michigan to handle some timber sales on national forest land."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_good\\_neighbor\\_author.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_good_neighbor_author.html#incart_river_home)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Government messed up in Flint water crisis, what next?

"We know what happened in Flint."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kauffer/2015/10/29/flint-water-crisis-government/74736590/>

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## How You Can Win in Court Against the Government But Still Lose

*"Imagine that your family or business suffers a loss due to some error or misdeed by a state agency. You go to the risk and expense of suing the agency, win the case, and the judge orders the state to pay not just the damages, but also the legal costs and fees you incurred."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21860>

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## Letter: Benghazi Committee accomplishes nothing

*"The GOP always complains about government waste. A prime example is the Benghazi Committee. This group has squandered \$4.5 million but achieved nothing. Nothing was proven, nothing was learned and nothing was done except waste 11 hours for nothing. The hearing lasted so long that even Shakespeare wrote about it. He called it "Much Ado About Nothing.""*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/29/letter-benghazi-committee-accomplishes-nothing/74836054/>

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## Jacques: Reformer fired for suggesting radical change

*"Greg Harris, the state director of StudentsFirst in Ohio, decided to weigh in on the Detroit school reform debate. And now he's the former state director."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/10/30/ingrid-jacques-education-reformer-fired/74835966/>

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## Our editorial: Anybody but Courser, Gamrat

*"Voters have a chance to put an exclamation point on the end of the political careers of Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat. They should send a very loud message Tuesday to these tone-deaf former lawmakers that there is no room for them in a state Legislature they so thoroughly embarrassed."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/29/editorial-courser-gamrat-re-election/74834416/>

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## **Susan J. Demas: GOP roads plan could kill Snyder's signature 2011 tax reform**

*"If there's one thing we know about our CPA governor, he's a fiscal nerd."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/rick\\_snyder\\_michigan\\_roads\\_tax.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/rick_snyder_michigan_roads_tax.html#incart_story_package)

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## **Press Releases**

### **Update: Nighttime I-75 closures for bridge work moved to Nov. 4-6**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will set bridge beams on eastbound US-10 over I-75. Project map: <http://bit.ly/1PGkNnH>"*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446152629\\_mdod.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446152629_mdod.pdf)

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## **Sen. Colbeck welcomes Pastor Scott Sessler to state Capitol to lead invocation**

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, welcomed Pastor Scott Sessler to the Senate on Wednesday to lead the invocation before Senate session. Pastor Sessler (right) is the pastor at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia."*

**Source:** Sen. Patrick Colbeck **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446152059\\_colbeck.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446152059_colbeck.pdf)

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## **State Police Encourage Michiganders to make Winter Emergency Preparedness a Priority; Winter Hazards**

*"**LANSING** – With winter weather rapidly approaching, the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) is encouraging Michiganders to make winter emergency preparedness a priority. "*

**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446150494\\_police.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446150494_police.pdf)

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## **Progress Michigan: Time to Fact-Check Bill Schuette's Parole Reform Fearmongering**

*"**LANSING** — All month, Attorney General Bill Schuette has used his Twitter account to attack parole reform*

efforts in the legislature. However, on Wednesday, one of his fear-mongering tweets alleged that "Thousands of sex offenders not in compliance with the registry, some since 2004. Presumptive Parole wants more out." "

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446148576\\_progmnich.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446148576_progmnich.pdf)

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## **Dingell Statement on TIGER Grant Announcement**

**"WASHINGTON, DC** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement today after the U.S. Department of Transportation announced recipients of the seventh round of Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grants."

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446147464\\_dingell.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446147464_dingell.pdf)

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## **Peters, Stabenow Call for Extension of Perkins Student Loan Program**

**"WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow today joined a bipartisan group of Senators in sending a letter urging Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Minority Leader Harry Reid to take up and pass a one-year, no-cost extension of the Perkins Loan Program, which expired on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Perkins Loan Program provides low-interest loans to help students with exceptional financial need pay for their education. The U.S. House of Representatives passed a one-year extension on September 28<sup>th</sup>, but the Senate has yet to take action to extend the program."

**Source:** Sen. Gary Peters and Sen. Debbie Stabenow **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446145305\\_peters.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446145305_peters.pdf)

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## **Michigan a leader among 8 Midwestern states to receive federal grant for truck parking tracking syst**

**"October 29, 2015 --** Michigan expects to receive \$3 million from a \$25 million federal Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant awarded to the Mid America Association of State Transportation Officials (MAASTO)."

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446141650\\_mdof.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446141650_mdof.pdf)

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## **Schuetz Charges Southeast Michigan Official for Embezzling Property Tax Payments to Pay for Persona**

**"LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuetz and the Michigan State Police today announced embezzlement charges against Augusta Township Deputy Treasurer Brendan Humeniak, 21, of Willis.

*Humeniak is charged with three counts of Embezzlement by a Public Official, Agent, or Servant, over \$50, a felony punishable by up to 10 years in prison."*

**Source:** Attorney General Schuette **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446141600\\_ag.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446141600_ag.pdf)

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## **Huizenga: Paul Ryan Is The Speaker We Need In The House**

*"Washington, D.C. – Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) released the following statement after voting in support of Paul Ryan becoming the next Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives."*

**Source:** Rep. Bill Huizenga **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446139923\\_huizenga.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446139923_huizenga.pdf)

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## **Senate approves Zorn resolution urging safe, permanent nuclear spent fuel storage**

*"LANSING, Mich. — The Michigan Senate on Thursday approved Sen. Dale Zorn's resolution calling for the completion of federal facilities for safe storage of spent nuclear fuel."*

**Source:** Sen. Dale Zorn **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446139619\\_zorn.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446139619_zorn.pdf)

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## **Rep. Trott Statement on Paul Ryan's Election as Speaker of the House**

*"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today released the following statement after Rep. Paul Ryan was elected the Speaker of the House of Representatives:"*

**Source:** Rep. Dave Trott **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446135315\\_trott.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446135315_trott.pdf)

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## **Bipartisan Promise Zone expansion passes Senate**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Goeff Hansen, R-Hart, and Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich, D-Flint, on Thursday praised the Senate's swift approval of legislation to expand and improve Michigan's Promise Zone program. The initiative, based off the extremely successful Kalamazoo Promise, allows local communities to pool resources and utilize tax increment financing to help all students afford a college education."*

**Source:** Michigan Senate **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446134646\\_senate.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446134646_senate.pdf)

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## **New research indicates bipartisan initiatives are the way to electoral success**

*"New research published in PS: Political Science and Politics shows that partisan actions hurts the election prospects of parties, while initiating bipartisan actions helps them to get ahead."*

**Source:** American Political Science Association **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446134586\\_apsa.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446134586_apsa.pdf)

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## **Upton Statement on Election of Paul D. Ryan as Speaker of the House**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today released the following statement following the election of Congressman Paul D. Ryan, R-Wisconsin, to the position of Speaker of the House of Representatives."*

**Source:** Rep. Fred Upton **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446133212\\_upton.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446133212_upton.pdf)

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## **Cruz Campaign Tops 77,000 Volunteers**

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**HOUSTON, Texas** – Today, the Cruz for President campaign announced 77,190 volunteers have signed on to help Ted Cruz become the next President of the United States. Volunteers have signed up in all 50 states and five territories, including 5,927 in the first four primary and caucus states.

"

**Source:** Ted Cruz **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446133009\\_cruz.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446133009_cruz.pdf)

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## **Rep. Bishop: Speaker Ryan is the right leader to get Congress on track**

*"WASHINGTON – In response to Speaker Paul Ryan's successful bid for Speaker today, Congressman Mike Bishop (MI-08) issued the following statement: "*

**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446132916\\_bishop.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446132916_bishop.pdf)

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## **M-231 opens to traffic tomorrow, weather permitting**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), in partnership with Ottawa County and the townships of Robinson and Crockery, will open the new M-231 route to traffic this Friday, weather permitting. Crews are applying the necessary finishing touches, which includes weather-sensitive pavement marking. "*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446132568\\_mdct.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446132568_mdct.pdf)

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## **"Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court" A free seminar presented by the Oakland County Probate Co**

*"Oakland County, MI (10/29/2015) – On Friday, November 13, 2015, the Citizens Alliance for the Oakland County Probate and Circuit Courts will conduct a free seminar entitled "Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court" at the Royal Oak Senior Center in Royal Oak from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This program is designed to enlighten and educate senior citizens and their families so that they may make informed decisions regarding their estate planning and understand the probate process. The Royal Oak Senior Center is located at 3500 Marais in Royal Oak."*

**Source:** Oakland County Michigan **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446132149\\_oakland.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446132149_oakland.pdf)

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## **Michigan Hospitals Selected for New Baby-Friendly Maternity Care Improvement Program**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Breastfeeding plays an important role in infant and maternal health, which is why the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is pleased to announce that four Michigan hospitals have been selected to join the EMPOWER Initiative to enhance their maternity care practices and work toward achieving Baby-Friendly USA® designation. "*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446131214\\_mdhhs.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446131214_mdhhs.pdf)

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## **Bipartisan Promise Zone Expansion Passes Senate**

*"LANSING, Michigan — Sen. Goeff Hansen (R–Hart) and Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) on Thursday praised the Senate's swift approval of legislation to expand and improve Michigan's Promise Zone program. The initiative, based off the extremely successful Kalamazoo Promise, allows local communities to pool resources and utilize tax increment financing to help all students afford a college education."*

**Source:** Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446130901\\_ananich.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446130901_ananich.pdf)

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## **Scare Off Frightful Fire Hazards this Halloween**



**"October 29, 2015 - Keep Halloween scary and safe this year by taking simple precautions to lower fire risk and avoid burn-related injuries. Have fun in flame-resistant costumes, trick-or-treat with flashlights or glow sticks, and use extreme caution if using candles to ensure a spooktacular good time."**

**Source:** Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446128271\\_lara.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446128271_lara.pdf)

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## **Michigan Education Savings Program ranked among nation's best**

*"LANSING – The Michigan Education Savings Program (MESP) was again a top performer in Morningstar Inc.'s annual ratings of 529 college-savings plans, retaining its "Silver" rating for the fourth consecutive year."*

**Source:** Michigan Education Savings Program **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446128153\\_mesp.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446128153_mesp.pdf)

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## **Michigan DNR Director, Keith Creagh Receives Tuebor Award**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Forest Products Council (MFPC) announced yesterday at the Governor's Second Forest Products Summit that Michigan Department of Natural Resources Director, Keith Creagh received the annual **Tuebor Award** from the MFPC's board of directors."*

**Source:** Michigan Forest Products Council **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446126289\\_mfpc.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446126289_mfpc.pdf)

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## **Red Cross introduces online health history for blood donors**

*"LANSING, Mich. (Oct. 26, 2015) — American Red Cross blood and platelet donors can now help save lives in less time by using the new Red Cross RapidPass online health history system."*

**Source:** American Red Cross **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446125582\\_redcross.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446125582_redcross.pdf)

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## **MDOT weekend construction Metro Detroit 10/30-11/2/15**

*"MDOT weekend construction for 10/30-11/02/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)"*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446125525\\_mdod.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446125525_mdod.pdf)

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## **Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services Offers Tips to**

## Michigan Consumers When Shopp

*"(LANSING) Many Michigan consumers across the state will begin the process of shopping for health coverage when the Health Insurance Marketplace (Marketplace) opens this Sunday, November 1, 2015. The Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) is offering Michigan consumers tips on shopping for health coverage for the 2016 plan year."*

**Source:** Department of Insurance and Financial Services **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446125486\\_difs.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446125486_difs.pdf)

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## MDOT says "Fall Back" means be alert for pedestrians and bicyclists

*"October 29, 2015 -- The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) reminds motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians that the return to standard time, which takes effect at 2 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 1, means it will get dark one hour earlier. It is important to watch out for pedestrians and bicyclists on the drive home, as they will be much less noticeable after the time change goes into effect. Research from the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute confirms that pedestrians are more at risk of serious injury from a motor vehicle crash in the weeks following a return to standard time. The most dangerous time is the first hour of darkness."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446125410\\_mdod.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446125410_mdod.pdf)

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## Statement on the third Republican presidential debate

*"LANSING, Mich., Oct. 28, 2015 -- Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel on Wednesday released the following statement regarding the third Republican Presidential Primary debate:"*

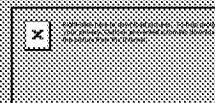
**Source:** Michigan Republican Party **Date:** 10-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1446125307\\_repub.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1446125307_repub.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 29, 2015 6:31 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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## **Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, legislative leaders name top accomplishments of 2015**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan's continued economic recovery was the top accomplishment for the state in 2015, according to Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_gov\\_rick\\_snyder\\_legis.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_gov_rick_snyder_legis.html#incart_river_index)

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## **Michigan criminal justice reforms, shelved in 2015, are on the radar for first half of next year**

*"LANSING, MI — Gov. Rick Snyder listed criminal justice reform as one of four things he wanted to accomplish in 2015, but with session officially over he's eyeing the first half of 2016 for progress."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_criminal\\_justice\\_refo.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_criminal_justice_refo.html#incart_river_index)

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## **State Rep. Gary Glenn named 'freshman lawmaker of the year' by news service**

*"SAGINAW, MI — Almost a full year into his first term in the Michigan House of Representative, Midland-area lawmaker Gary Glenn has been named the Michigan Legislature's "freshman of the year" for 2015."*

**Source:** Saginaw News **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/12/rep\\_gary\\_glenn\\_named\\_freshman.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/12/rep_gary_glenn_named_freshman.html#incart_river_index)

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## Wayne County families sue over 'illegal' foreclosures

*"Eighteen families on Monday sued the Wayne County Treasurer's office and several Metro Detroit cities in U.S. District Court, arguing their properties were illegally foreclosed on and sold to developers."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/12/28/foreclosure-lawsuit/77973374/>

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## Obama signs into law Upton's bill banning microbeads

*"President Barack Obama signed into law Monday a bill championed by southwest Michigan Congressman Fred Upton to phase out the production and sale of tiny bits of plastic called microbeads."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/28/obama-signs-law-uptons-bill-banning-microbeads/77990762/>

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## Snyder plan to fix Detroit schools slow to gain steam

*"Lansing — Detroit needs more than a revitalized downtown with new office workers to spur its rebirth following the largest public bankruptcy in U.S. history. It needs to upgrade a public school system that's considered the worst of its size in the nation. Michigan Gov. 's Republican governor Rick Snyder is proposing another pricey state bailout and a sweeping reorganization that could lead to closing independent, publicly funded charter schools, where an increasing number of city students are enrolled. The posture is at odds with Republicans' unflinching commitment to the school-choice movement, and the plan's implementation will require convincing bailout-fatigued lawmakers to send \$715 million more to Detroit."*

**Source:** Associated Press **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/education/2015/12/28/snyder-plan-fix-detroit-schools-slow-gain-steam/77997530/>

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## Auditor general findings set off Flint water debate

*"Findings compiled by Michigan's Office of the Auditor General have set off another debate about who is to blame for Flint's 18-month-long water crisis."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/28/michigan-auditor-general-flint-water-debate/77982594/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### 'Prejudiced' Trump can't win, senior Michigan pol says

*"This guy has forgotten more politics than Donald Trump has ever learned, and when asked what he thought of the Trump juggernaut, his response was swift and to the point: "Not much."*

"

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/prejudiced\\_trump\\_cant\\_win\\_seni.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/prejudiced_trump_cant_win_seni.html#incart_river_index)

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### Bieda: Bills would leave voters in dark

*"Lawmakers in Lansing recently worked late into the night to pass a series of controversial bills, one of which grew from 12 to 53 pages in the span of an hour. Republicans barred Democrats' staff from the Senate floor to make it harder for us to review the amended legislation, and immediately forced a vote. It's ironic that they eliminated straight-ticket voting on the pretext of helping voters make educated decisions, and yet failed to allow educated voting in their own chambers."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/28/bieda-bills-campaign-funding-straight-ticket/77998198/>

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## Press Releases

### Sparrow prepares to welcome New Year's baby

*"Each year, Sparrow welcomes the first baby of the New Year with an infant car seat, a teddy bear, and other gifts. Sparrow Marketing plans to alert local media shortly after the birth of the 2016 New Year's Baby with details on the delivery, followed by more in-depth information later in the day."*

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451331903\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451331903_sparrow.pdf)

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### Huizenga to Hold Live Facebook Town Hall Monday Afternoon

*"Washington, D.C. – Tomorrow, Congressman Bill Huizenga will hold a live Facebook Town Hall with West Michigan residents. The town hall will begin Monday afternoon at approximately 2:15 PM and run until 3:00 PM. West Michigan residents can join the conversation by visiting Congressman Huizenga's Facebook Page at [Facebook.com/RepHuizenga](https://www.facebook.com/RepHuizenga). There, constituents will be able to ask Rep. Huizenga their question. Residents who have already "liked" Congressman Huizenga on Facebook should receive a notification when the event begins."*

**Source:** Rep. Bill Huizenga **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451331812\\_huizenga.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451331812_huizenga.pdf)

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## Windstorm Restoration Wrapping Up; Preparation Underway For Expected Ice Storm

*"JACKSON, Mich., December 27, 2015 –Mother Nature is ending 2015 on a blustery note, with an ice storm and high winds expected Monday, less than a week after a Christmas Eve windstorm cut power to more than 188,000 Consumers Energy customers."*

**Source:** Consumer Energy **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451331726\\_energy.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451331726_energy.pdf)

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## State Police: Prepare For Hazardous Winter Storm

*"LANSING. The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) encourages citizens and visitors to prepare for a hazardous winter storm expected to affect most of the Lower Peninsula from noon Monday, Dec. 28, and into Tuesday, Dec. 29. "*

**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451331604\\_police.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451331604_police.pdf)

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## #MiShoeYear - a movement for more movement

*"Fitness resolutions come and go each year, but spending quality time with friends and family is no fad – and taking that family time out for a walk can make it a powerful fitness pledge."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451331391\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451331391_dnr.pdf)

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## All Secretary of State offices in the Lower Peninsula closed today due to expected winter storm

*"LANSING, Mich. – All Secretary of State branches in the Lower Peninsula will be closed the afternoon of Dec. 28 as part of a state of Michigan government closure due to expected severe weather."*

**Source:** Secretary of State Ruth Johnson **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451330704\\_sosrain.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451330704_sosrain.pdf)

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## Rep. Cole ranked among top conservative lawmakers in 2015

*"State Rep. Triston Cole, R-Mancelona, is one of the top three lawmakers in Michigan according to the Mackinac*

Center for Public Policy 2015 rankings."

**Source:** Rep. Triston Cole **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451330551\\_cole.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451330551_cole.pdf)

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## Review Confirms State Made Decision to Use Flint River, Failed to Ensure Corrosion Control

"LANSING, Mich. — Senate Democratic Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) and State Representative Sheldon Neeley (D–Flint) responded today to an independent review that confirmed that Michigan’s Department of Environmental Quality failed to ensure proper corrosion control was used to treat Flint River water and that the State was responsible for the decision to use the river as the City of Flint’s primary drinking water source."

**Source:** Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich's Office **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451326785\\_flintananich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451326785_flintananich.pdf)

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## Gov. Rick Snyder: State Emergency Operations Center ready to assist communities in need

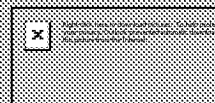
"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today activated the State Emergency Operations Center due to the hazardous winter storm expected to affect the entire state of Michigan from Monday, Dec. 28, through Tuesday, Dec. 29."

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder's Office **Date:** 12-29-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451325068\\_Snyder1.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451325068_Snyder1.pdf)

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**Sent:** Tuesday, January 13, 2015 6:37 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **State Representative-elect Edward 'Ned' Canfield prepares to serve Tuscola, Huron counties**

*"SEBEWAING, MI — A new state lawmaker representing Huron and Tuscola counties is preparing to officially take office in the Michigan House of Representatives this week."*

**Source:** Saginaw News **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/01/state\\_representative-elect\\_ned.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/01/state_representative-elect_ned.html#incart_river)

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### **Michigan tea party freshmen Todd Courser, Cindy Gamrat unveil 'contract for liberty'**

*"LANSING, MI — State Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat — Michigan tea party leaders who won election in November — late last week released what they're calling "the contract for liberty.""*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/michigan_tea_party_freshmen_co.html#incart_river)

[news/index.ssf/2015/01/michigan\\_tea\\_party\\_freshmen\\_co.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/michigan_tea_party_freshmen_co.html#incart_river)

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### **Michigan could lose \$16 million per year under federal aviation tax 'clarification'**

*"LANSING, MI — The Federal Aviation Administration has determined that taxes on aviation fuel must be used for aviation-related purposes, which amounts to a \$16 million hit for Michigan's budget."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/michigan_could_lose_16_million.html#incart_river)

[news/index.ssf/2015/01/michigan\\_could\\_lose\\_16\\_million.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/michigan_could_lose_16_million.html#incart_river)

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## Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder signs road funding bills as committees form for ballot fight

*"LANSING, MI — An upcoming statewide ballot proposal is shaping up to be a battle between a group claiming to represent "Michigan Citizens for Better Roads and Schools" and another that says it wants to "Protect Michigan Taxpayers.""*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/michigan\\_gov\\_rick\\_snyder\\_signs\\_2.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/michigan_gov_rick_snyder_signs_2.html#incart_river)

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## Snyder says latest Agema post 'absolutely inappropriate,' renews call for civility

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder on Monday called a recent Facebook post by Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema "absolutely inappropriate" but again stopped short of saying whether he should resign."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/snyder\\_says\\_latest\\_agema\\_faceb.html#incart\\_2box](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/snyder_says_latest_agema_faceb.html#incart_2box)

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## New Michigan department director looking to accelerate efficiency, improve customer service

*"LANSING, MI — He's been a part of the state's chief regulatory body for more than a decade, but Gov. Rick Snyder last month appointed Mike Zimmer director of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/new\\_michigan\\_department\\_direct.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/01/new_michigan_department_direct.html#incart_river)

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## Flint council members say they had no warning Darnell Earley would reportedly be named emergency manager for Detroit Schools

*"FLINT, MI — Some Flint City Council members, including the council president, say they had no notice that the city's state-appointed emergency manager, Darnell Earley, would be named the new emergency manager for Detroit Public Schools."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/01/darnell\\_earley\\_to\\_serve\\_as\\_eme.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/01/darnell_earley_to_serve_as_eme.html#incart_river)

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## Bishop makes 'honest' House mistake

*"Newly seated U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop got a little awestruck last week when Republican leaders handed him the gavel to preside over the U.S. House of Representatives for the first time."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/12/bishop-makes-honest-house-mistake/21632379/>

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## Laws stir debate on progress against sex trade

*"Lansing — A package of tough new laws Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette expects to make a major dent in human trafficking and sexual coercion will take effect this week, but some supporters worry the moves don't do enough."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/11/laws-stir-debate-progress-sex-trade/21616877/>

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## Michigan justices to weigh right-to-work law

*"Lansing — Michigan's two-year-old right-to-work law will face the scrutiny of the Michigan Supreme Court during oral arguments Tuesday over a union lawsuit challenging whether the law applies to state workers."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/13/michigan-justices-weigh-right-work-law/21675717/>

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## High Court doesn't act on Mich. same-sex marriage case

*"Ferndale — The nation's highest court did not take action Monday on a lawsuit by two Hazel Park women seeking to lift the state's gay marriage ban. The court also did not review similar cases in Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois and Tennessee."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/12/gay-marriage-case-scotus/21624339/>

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## Groups form for, against sales tax increase for roads

*"Lansing — Two competing ballot campaign committees have been created for the May 5 statewide vote on hiking the sales tax that would help increase funding for roads and public education."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/12/road-signing/21648763/>

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## Automakers push the limits

*"Buoyed by growing sales, automakers introduced vehicles approaching technological extremes at the North American International Auto Show on Monday, from 600-horsepower muscle cars to the electric Bolt that Chevrolet says will travel 200 miles on a single charge."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/detroit-auto-show/2015/01/12/automakers-push-limits/21671225/>

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## Flint emergency manager to lead DPS

*"The emergency manager of Flint will be the next state-appointed leader of the Detroit Public Schools."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/01/12/flint-emergency-manager-lead-detroit-schools/21669633/>

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## Beatty dodges Detroit, IRS; Kilpatrick launches appeal

*"Detroit — Christine Beatty hasn't made a restitution payment in a year and recently was hit with a \$26,000 federal tax bill, new financial problems that are emerging as her former lover Kwame Kilpatrick launches a bid for freedom Tuesday in the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/01/13/beatty-dodges-detroit-bill-taxman/21675539/>

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## Injured Snyder cancels trip to economic forum in Switzerland

*"LANSING — Gov. Rick Snyder's torn Achilles tendon has forced him to cancel a trip to Switzerland next week for an economic forum."*

**Source:** Associated Press **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/01/12/rick-snyder-achilles-tendon-switzerland-economic-forum/21648097/>

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## Retiring auditor general OK to stay out of limelight

*"Legislative Auditor General Willie Mayo said the work of his office goes largely unseen, and he's OK with that."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/01/12/willie-mayo-retires-auditor-wayne-county-jail/21675523/>

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## Snyder signs road bills tied to May vote

*"LANSING – Gov. Rick Snyder signed a 10-bill package Monday that's tied to a May ballot initiative for a sales tax hike to boost road and school funding, but conceded he has work to do to sell the plan to voters."*

"

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/12/michigan-sales-tax-hike-roads-schools/21628463/>

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## Snyder signs bill that could erase criminal record

*"LANSING – People convicted of a nonviolent felony or two misdemeanors will have the chance to get some of their crimes expunged under a bill signed Monday by Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/01/12/snyder-signs-nine-bills-criminal-justice-issues/21641143/>

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## 6th Circuit to hear Kwame Kilpatrick's appeal today

*"Former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick's lawyer will have 20 minutes today to convince three judges in Cincinnati to overturn a public corruption conviction that sent his client to prison for 28 years."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/01/12/kilpatrick-appeal-cincinnati/21675409/>

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## Flint's emergency manager expected to lead Detroit Schools

*"Gov. Rick Snyder plans to appoint Flint's emergency manager as the next leader of Detroit Public Schools, according to sources familiar with the situation."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/01/12/flint-emergency-manager-become-next-dps-manager/21674437/>

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## **Ann Arbor Democrats call for review of local law enforcement standards**

*"In the aftermath of a fatal shooting of a 40-year-old woman by Ann Arbor police, and in light of other recent incidents on the national stage, the Ann Arbor Democratic Party is taking a stance on local law enforcement standards and practices."*

**Source:** Ann Arbor News **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/01/ann\\_arbor\\_democrats\\_call\\_for\\_e.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/01/ann_arbor_democrats_call_for_e.html#incart_river)

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

### **Tim Skubick: Peter Lund runs into Romney roadblock in bid for GOP chair**

*"On paper, Peter Lund for state GOP chair looked so darn good."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/01/tim\\_skubick\\_peter\\_lund\\_running.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/01/tim_skubick_peter_lund_running.html#incart_river)

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## **Editor's Note: MEA still fighting right to work**

*"Change is hard. But it seems to be especially burdensome for the Michigan Education Association, which has tried to minimize right-to-work's impact since it became state law in 2012. It went into effect in March 2013."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/01/13/editor-note-mea-right-work/21654705/>

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## **Miller: Keystone approval is a no-brainer**

*"Last week, the U.S. House of Representatives approved — for the 10th time in the last six years — legislation authorizing construction of a transnational pipeline linking Canada's western oil fields with U.S. refineries."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/01/13/miller-keystone-pipeline/21654745/>

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## Turning to families to improve children's future

*"What would you think about the idea that for the next five years, most discussion of public policy should be aimed predominantly at non-governmental issues?"*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/01/turning-to-families-to-improve-childrens-future/>

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## Sources: Flint's outgoing EM to head Detroit Public Schools

*"Gov. Rick Snyder will tap someone who is leading one city from deficit to local control to be the next leader for the Detroit Public Schools."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/01/sources-flints-outgoing-em-to-head-detroit-public-schools/>

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## JACK SPENCER: 'Big oil' involvement in climate change debate is urban myth

"

*Elvis Presley celebrated his 80th birthday on Jan. 8. Although his present location is undisclosed, sources suspect he lives near Roswell, New Mexico where aliens from outer space crashed long ago and still stop over for lunch when they visit our solar system. Everybody knows that – right?"*

**Source:** Big Rapids Pioneer **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:** <http://news.pioneergroup.com/bigrapidsnews/2015/01/12/jack-spencer-big-oil-involvement-climate-change-debate-urban-myth/>

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## Press Releases

### Gov. Snyder signs road funding legislation

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation that will restore Michigan's crumbling roads and bridges, in part by ensuring taxes paid by consumers at the gas pump are dedicated to that purpose. "*

**Source:** Gov Newsroom **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421096548\\_gov2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421096548_gov2.pdf)



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## Whitmer Calls Signing of EITC Legislation a Victory for Working Families in Michigan

*"Lansing – At a ceremony today in which Governor Snyder signed Senate Bill 847, legislation sponsored by Gretchen Whitmer to fully restore Michigan's Earned Income Tax Credit, the former Senate Democratic Leader called it a critically important piece of the larger road funding debate and a victory for Michigan's working families."*

**Source:** Robert McCann **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421096505\\_whitmer.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421096505_whitmer.pdf)

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## DNR Eliminating Cormorant Control Program?

*"Lansing-- Michigan United Conservation Clubs is concerned that the Department of Natural Resources may eliminate its cormorant control program. With anticipated general funding cuts, sources have told MUCC that current DNR plans may zero out the balance for the program which protects Great Lakes sportfish from depletion by large flocks of double-crested cormorants. "*

**Source:** Michigan United Conservation Club **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421096441\\_mucc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421096441_mucc.pdf)

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## State Rep. Robert Kosowski Named Caucus Whip

*"LANSING – State Representative **Robert Kosowski** (D-Westland) is pleased to announce his appointment to Democratic Whip. Democratic Leader **Tim Greimel** (D-Auburn Hills) appointed Representative **Kosowski** to this leadership position late last week. "*

**Source:** Representative Robert Kosowski **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421096330\\_Kosowski\\_Named\\_Whip.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421096330_Kosowski_Named_Whip.pdf)

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## State Rep. Robert Kosowski Names Caucus's Assistant Whips

*"LANSING – State Representative and House Democratic Whip **Robert Kosowski** (D-Westland) is pleased to announce his appointees to assistant whip. They are third-term Rep. **George T. Darany** (D-Dearborn), second-term Rep. **John Kivela** (D-Marquette) and first-term Reps. **Erika Geiss** (D-Taylor), **Frank Liberati** (D-Allen Park) and **Sheldon Neeley** (D-Flint)."*

**Source:** Representative Robert Kosowski **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421096240\\_Kosowski-PR-AssistantWhips-1-9-15-\(2\).pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421096240_Kosowski-PR-AssistantWhips-1-9-15-(2).pdf)

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## **Rep. Candice Miller and 10th District Grassroots Endorse Ronna for Chair**

*"This week our newly expanded House Republican Majority will be back at work taking decisive action against President Obama's un-Constitutional actions on immigration. There is no doubt in my mind that we will continue to have to fight the President tooth and nail for these last two years of his Presidency as we fight to defend our Constitution and the rule of law."*

**Source:** Ronna Romney McDaniel **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421096150\\_miller.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421096150_miller.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder lowers flags to honor former Rep. Michael C. Murphy**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today ordered U.S. flags within the state Capitol complex and on all state buildings to be lowered to half-staff on Wednesday, Jan. 14, in honor of former state Rep. Michael C. Murphy, who died on Sunday, Dec. 28 in Washington, D.C."*

**Source:** Gov Newsroom **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421096052\\_flags.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421096052_flags.pdf)

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## **DIFS Takes Action Against Southfield Area Insurance Group**

*"LANSING – The Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) has ordered Ray Coleman, Midwest Insurance Group, and RPM Insurance Group (RPM) to cease and desist from selling, soliciting or negotiating insurance policies. They are located at 17340 W. Twelve Mile Rd., Ste. 103, Southfield, MI 48076."*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Insurance and Financial Services **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421087133\\_difs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421087133_difs.pdf)

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## **The evolution of the U.S. aircraft carrier with Vice Admiral David Architzel**

*"The former program executive officer for Aircraft Carriers and commander of Naval Air Systems Command of United States Navy, retired Vice Admiral David Architzel, will speak about the evolution of the U.S. aircraft carrier during a presentation hosted by the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation. Architzel will speak at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum on Jan. 15 at 7 p.m."*

**Source:** Seyferth PR **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421087011\\_naval.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421087011_naval.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder signs bills to boost public safety through DNA**

## collection at time of arrest

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today signed legislation allowing DNA samples to be collected at the time of arrest for all felonies."*

**Source:** Gov Newsroom **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421086934\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421086934_gov.pdf)

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## Ananich Announces Knezek to Lead Senate Democrats' Finance Efforts

*"LANSING – Senate Democratic Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) announced today that State Senator David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) will serve as the next Caucus Finance Chair."*

**Source:** Michigan Senate Democrats **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421086678\\_ananich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421086678_ananich.pdf)

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## Schuette Charges Former Michigan Priest in 1980s Sexual Abuse Cases

*"LANSING – Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced his Criminal Division has charged James Francis Rapp, 74, currently incarcerated in another state, with multiple felonies for his alleged sexual assault of several Michigan boys in the 1980s. Rapp served as a priest, teacher, maintenance supervisor, and wrestling coach at Jackson Lumen Christi (JLC) High School in Jackson, Michigan from September 1980 through February 1986. "*

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421086829\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421086829_ag.pdf)

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## Michigan Tea Party 'Powwow': Bigotry on Parade

*"MICHIGAN — "The problem is, the only [Muslims] in Dearborn or anywhere else in America that have a voice are the ones who want to destroy this country and they want Sharia to be the law of the land," said Lt. General William "Jerry" Boykin to a gathering of the Michigan Tea Party on Saturday in Mount Pleasant."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421086712\\_powwow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421086712_powwow.pdf)

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## Peters Tours Big Three Auto Exhibits at NAIAS

*"DETROIT, MI – U.S. Senator Gary Peters today toured the 2015 North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) at Cobo Hall in Detroit, where he saw firsthand the continued resurgence of the American auto industry. Peters visited the exhibits of General Motors, Chrysler and Ford at the press*

preview."

**Source:** U.S. Senator Gary Peters **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421086246\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421086246_peters.pdf)

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## **Huizenga Nominates 17 West Michigan Students To U.S. Service Academies**

*"Washington, DC – Today, Congressman Huizenga announced the 2<sup>nd</sup> District nominees to the U.S. Service Academies for the 2015-2016 academic year. This year, 17 students from across West Michigan received nominations from Congressman Huizenga for placement at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY, the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD, the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO, and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, NY."*

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421086208\\_huizenga.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421086208_huizenga.pdf)

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## **Washtenaw's LGBT Community Awaits Court Decision**

*"The Washtenaw-area Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community, while disappointed not to have any news yet, continues to wait anxiously for the U.S. Supreme Court to decide whether to hear the marriage equality cases that have been appealed to it."*

**Source:** Washtenaw County LGBT Community **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421086162\\_lgbt.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421086162_lgbt.pdf)

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## **Jeffrey Bankowski Named Chief Internal Auditor for the State of Michigan**

*"LANSING, Mich. — State Budget Director John Roberts today announced the selection of Jeffrey S. Bankowski to lead the Office of Internal Audit Services (OIAS) housed within the State Budget Office. Bankowski has more than 20 years of financial and audit management experience. He fills the position recently vacated by Doug Ringler, who is now the Auditor General. "*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Technology, Management & Budget **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421086065\\_sbo.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421086065_sbo.pdf)

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## **Secretary of State offices to close for Martin Luther King Jr. holiday**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Secretary of State Ruth Johnson reminds residents that all branch offices and the Office of the Great Seal will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, Jan. 19."*

**Source:** Michigan Secretary of State **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421086006\\_sos.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421086006_sos.pdf)

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## **STATEMENT: No Plans Yet from Supreme Court of the United States to Hear a Marriage Equality Case**

*"MICHIGAN – The Supreme Court of the United States has not yet announced any intention to hear a case which would challenge Michigan's ban on same-sex marriage. While the Supreme Court did pass on the marriage equality case from Louisiana, they have not yet made any announcements about the four cases from the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals. The Court will be meeting to discuss possible cases again this Friday, January 16 and again on Friday, January 23."*

**Source:** Equality Michigan **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421085951\\_em.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421085951_em.pdf)

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## **One Court of Justice Website Users Up 44% in 2014**

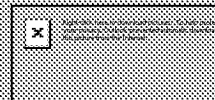
*"LANSING, MI, January 12, 2015 – The Michigan Supreme Court announced today that the number of users of its award-winning One Court of Justice website ([www.courts.mi.gov](http://www.courts.mi.gov)) increased by 44 percent in 2014, according to Google Analytics. In addition, the number of sessions in 2014 increased by 24 percent and pageviews increased by 14.5 percent over 2013."*

**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 01-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1421085771\\_courts.mi.gov\\_News-Events\\_press\\_releases\\_Documents\\_One\\_Court\\_of\\_Justice\\_website\\_news\\_release\\_1-12-15.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1421085771_courts.mi.gov_News-Events_press_releases_Documents_One_Court_of_Justice_website_news_release_1-12-15.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirnews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 10, 2015 6:57 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder: Trump comments 'don't represent the spirit of America'**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, a Republican who preaches relentless positive action, spoke out Wednesday against recent comments by GOP presidential candidate Donald Trump."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_gov\\_rick\\_snyder\\_trump.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_gov_rick_snyder_trump.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Michigan Senate bets on bill to regulate charity poker 'millionaire parties' in state law**

*"LANSING, MI — The so-called 'millionaire parties' hosted by local charities would be regulated in statute under a bill the Senate passed Wednesday."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_senate\\_bets\\_on\\_bill\\_t.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_senate_bets_on_bill_t.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Federal fix or a \$2B tax increase? Full Senate could vote on Medicaid match fee next week**

*"LANSING, MI — The Senate Appropriations Committee on Wednesday advanced a bill that would extend the life of the Health Insurance Claims Assessment, a fee levied on health insurers and others to help Michigan match federal Medicaid dollars."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/federal\\_fix\\_or\\_a\\_2b\\_tax\\_increa.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/federal_fix_or_a_2b_tax_increa.html#incart_river_index)

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## **Republican Marco Rubio promises private sector support in Waterford Township stop**

*"WATERFORD TWP, MI – Almost 200 people packed a Waterford Township airport hanger to show support for Republican presidential hopeful Sen. Marco Rubio."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/florida\\_sen\\_marco\\_rubio\\_campai.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/florida_sen_marco_rubio_campai.html#incart_river_index)

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## **Straight-ticket voting ban, absentee voting bills approved by Michigan House**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan's Republican-led House moved late Wednesday to approve bills that would eliminate straight-ticket voting and allow no-reason absentee voting after an in-person ballot request."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/straight-ticket\\_voting\\_ban\\_abs.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/straight-ticket_voting_ban_abs.html#incart_river_index)

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## **Charter schools need better transparency, accountability, study says**

*"The growth of for-profit management companies operating charter school has led to "scandalous" financial practices that steer money away from students and into the pockets of private business, according to a study released Thursday."*

**Source:** Kalamazoo Gazette **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/12/better\\_transparency\\_accountabi.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/12/better_transparency_accountabi.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Trump wants his initial on Michigan GOP primary ballot**

*"Republican presidential frontrunner Donald Trump petitioned Michigan election officials last month to add his middle initial to his name on March 8 Republican presidential primary ballot."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/10/trump-wants-initial-michigan-gop-primary-ballot/77074932/>

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## **House panel OKs moving Oakland executive election**

*"A House committee approved legislation Wednesday that is riling some Democrats because it would mean*



*moving the election for the Oakland County executive from the presidential election cycle to gubernatorial election years."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/09/house-panel-oks-moving-oakland-executive-election/77042202/>

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## **Carson hits Trump's Muslim immigrant ban as faith bias**

*"Ypsilanti — Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson said Wednesday that GOP frontrunner Donald Trump's call for blocking all Muslims from entering the country would be unconstitutional discrimination."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/09/carson-muslim-trump-faith-bias/77061640/>

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## **Ex-Wayne County exec charged in retirement system fraud**

*"A former airport executive is facing charges for allegedly defrauding the underfunded Wayne County retirement system, prosecutors said."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/12/10/ex-wayne-county-exec-charged-retirement-system-fraud/77080476/>

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## **Rubio hits Obama's policies, vows defeat of ISIS**

*"Waterford — Republican presidential hopeful Marco Rubio attacked the president's foreign and domestic policies Wednesday but sought to reassure Americans that his leadership would root out terrorism and make the country more prosperous."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/09/rubio/77040640/>

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## **Carson tries to regain momentum with health care plan**

*"Ypsilanti — Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson proposed Wednesday gradually raising the Medicare eligibility age to 70 and giving each American a tax-free health savings account at birth to pay for life-long medical expenses."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/09/carson-tries-regain-momentum-health-care-talk/77040514/>

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## Report: FCA faces \$70 million fine from NHTSA

*"The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is reportedly planning to fine Fiat Chrysler Automobiles \$70 million for under-reporting vehicle crashes, deaths and injuries tied to its cars and trucks as early as Thursday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/12/09/fiat-chrysler-national-highway-safety-administration-nhtsa-fine/77069226/>

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## Michigan House votes to eliminate straight-party voting

*"LANSING — For the second week in a row, controversial changes to election laws have dominated the debate in Lansing, and on Wednesday, the House voted to eliminate straight ticket voting, despite impassioned pleas from Democrats that it was meant to disenfranchise voters."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/09/oakland-county-executive-bill-change-lansing/77031492/>

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## Shouting, reflection mark first year free of bankruptcy

*"Detroit marks one year of freedom today from the nation's largest bankruptcy, but overflowing passions at an event Wednesday night to discuss the state of the city showed some residents remain angered and disappointed by the outcome."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-reborn/2015/12/10/detroit-bankruptcy-anniversary/77052694/>

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## 5 takeaways from Ben Carson's visit to Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti

"

*Republican presidential hopeful Dr. Ben Carson returned to his home state of Michigan on Wednesday, Dec. 9, as part of his "We The People" campaign across the Midwest."*

**Source:** Ann Arbor News **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.wnlg.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/5\\_takeaways\\_from\\_dr\\_ben\\_carson.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.wnlg.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/5_takeaways_from_dr_ben_carson.html#incart_river_home)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Community College leader: 3 steps to economic security

*"There simply is no better predictor of individual economic security than a post-secondary credential that has*

value in the labor market and with Michigan's growing knowledge economy, it's absolutely necessary."

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/09/community-college-leader-steps-economic-security/77078002/>

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## **Trott: ISIS policy 'anemic,' refugee effort uncertain**

*"Families in Southeast Michigan are rightly concerned about the threat terrorism poses to our national security and America's freedom. The recent attacks in Paris and the continued rise of Islamic extremist groups like ISIS have illustrated the terrible violence they are capable of inflicting. All Americans must recognize that if these terrorists can bring their deadly attacks to Paris, our nation also stands at risk."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/09/trott-security-vetting-syria-islamic-state/77078132/>

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## **Bill to ban abortion procedure risks women's health**

*"As a physician specializing in obstetrics and gynecology, I feel grateful for meaningful work and for the opportunity to make a positive difference in women's lives."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/09/starr-column-michigan-abortion-ban/77078258/>

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## **Editorial: Metro Detroit among nation's growth leaders**

*"If we're starting to feel good about the economic revival of Metro Detroit, it's for good reason. Things are improving in the region, and the numbers prove it."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/09/editorial-metro-detroit-among-nations-growth-leaders/77078018/>

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## **Jacques: 'Emergency manager' style takeover of DFT?**

*"Steve Conn must be seething."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/12/09/jacques-emergency-manager-style-takeover-dft/77077952/>

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## For state's GOP reps, gun rights trump war on terrorism

*"President Barack Obama argues, not unreasonably, that it's insane to sell assault weapons to people whose suspected terrorist ties preclude them from boarding a commercial airline flight."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/12/10/guns-no-fly-list/76936174/>

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## Far from Flint, lead remains an irreversible scourge

*"Across Michigan, in cities large and small, lead poisoning continues to plague children, limiting them in school and on the playground."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/12/far-from-flint-lead-remains-an-irreversible-scurge/>

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## Sink or swim: Higher education is key to Michigan's future

*"It's the kind of study that conjures visions of a Michigan flush with opportunity one day soon. And, if its findings are accurate, it's a study that warns that doing nothing could ensure Michigan's decline as a place to live and work."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/12/sink-or-swim-higher-education-is-key-to-michigans-future/>

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## Press Releases

### Video of Dem Floor Leader Singh's Point of Order

*"House Republicans have said Democratic Floor Leader Singh did not ask a question. Please take a look at the video where you can clearly see he stated "Clearly one-fifth of the members supported a record roll call vote. So I am using this point of order to ask you to recognize one fifth of the members that are here and grant this record roll call vote as the state constitution demands?""*

**Source:** Michigan House Democrats **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449720454\\_singh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449720454_singh.pdf)

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### Rep. Martin Howrylak - SB 13 no vote explanation

*"I voted "no" on SB 13 because an appropriation was included in the bill."*

**Source:** Rep. Martin Howrylak **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449717125\\_howrylak.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449717125_howrylak.pdf)

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## House Dems Denounce Removal of Straight-Ticket Voting Option

*"LANSING — The House Democratic Caucus voted today against a bill that would ban the straight-ticket voting option in Michigan. Senate Bill 13, which was voted out of committee and passed in the Senate on the same day last month, has been particularly controversial, as a version of the bill was twice passed in Michigan, and both times been repealed through voter referendum. In order to prevent the same check from being applicable to this bill, House Republicans attached two appropriations totaling \$6 million to the bill, making it referendum-proof."*

**Source:** Michigan House Democrats **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449716320\\_DEMS.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449716320_DEMS.pdf)

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## US-10/I-75 interchange project nears completion

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will begin to move eastbound US-10 traffic to the newly constructed eastbound bridge on Thursday, Dec. 10. Crews will also begin work to open ramps to and from eastbound US-10."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449712051\\_MDOT.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449712051_MDOT.pdf)

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## Traffic Advisory Saginaw County

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will complete bridge inspections on the Veterans Memorial Parkway Bridge over I-675, Thursday, Dec. 10. This work will require lane closures on I-675 under the bridge, and ramp closures from Veterans Memorial Parkway to I-675."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449711982\\_MDOT.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449711982_MDOT.pdf)

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## Michigan Legislative Black Caucus Denounces Voter Suppression Legislation

*"LANSING - The Michigan Legislative Black Caucus (MLBC) voted today to categorically oppose Senate Bills 13 and 639, and House Bill 4724, all of which are designed to suppress the African American vote in next year's state-wide contests."*

**Source:** Michigan Legislative Black Caucus **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449705497\\_mlbc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449705497_mlbc.pdf)

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## Trott Authors Legislation to Rebuke Obama Administration's Recall of Needed

## Armored Vehicles Used By

"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today authored legislation to disapprove of President Barack Obama's executive order to recall armored defense vehicles used by law enforcement in communities in Southeast Michigan."

**Source:** Rep. Dave Trott **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449703426\\_trott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449703426_trott.pdf)

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## Legislative Black Caucus Pens Open Letter to Sen. Knollenberg

"LANSING- Dear Sen. Marty Knollenberg:"

**Source:** Michigan Legislative Black Caucus **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449703327\\_mich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449703327_mich.pdf)

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## Heartland Institute Follows Paris COP-21 Success with Climate Conference in Germany

"The Heartland Institute will follow up its successful trip to Paris for the United Nations' COP-21 – at which some of the world's leading climate scientists and policy experts made international news with the "Day of Examining the Data" – with its Eleventh International Conference on Climate Change (CCCC-11). The event is cosponsored with the European Institute for Climate and Energy (EIKE), marking the second time Heartland and EIKE have partnered to host an ICC." "

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449700260\\_heartland.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449700260_heartland.pdf)

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## Michigan Democrats Call on Bishop, Walberg, and Casperson to Denounce Donald Trump's Hateful "Bigotry"

"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party has called on Mike Bishop, Tim Walberg, and Tom Casperson to denounce recent comments by Donald Trump calling for the United States to ban Muslims from entering the country. "

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449699682\\_mdp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449699682_mdp.pdf)

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## Activists, Faith Leaders Hold Candle Light Vigil to Speak Out Against Gun Violence

"LANSING — Leaders in the faith community joined gun violence prevention activists from around the state on the steps of the Capitol this evening to hold a candle light vigil to speak out against gun violence. The message of the speakers highlighted that Michiganders and Americans must unite, reflect and act to prevent gun violence in our

communities and to prevent gun proliferation legislation from advancing in the legislature."

**Source:** Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449698986\\_gun.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449698986_gun.pdf)

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## **Green's 'moveable bridge' legislation passes Senate**

**"LANSING, Mich.** — Legislation introduced by state Sen. Mike Green, R-Mayville, that would assist communities was voted out of the Senate on Wednesday with bipartisan support and will now go before the House of Representatives for consideration."

**Source:** Sen. Mike Green **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449698603\\_green\\_4.54.20\\_PM.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449698603_green_4.54.20_PM.pdf)

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## **Stamas, Pettalia introduce bills for partnership of Alpena Regional Medical Center and MidMichigan H**

**"LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Jim Stamas and Rep. Peter Pettalia have introduced legislation to pave the way for a partnership of Alpena Regional Medical Center (ARMC) and MidMichigan Health."

**Source:** Sen. Jim Stamas **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449697829\\_stamas.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449697829_stamas.pdf)

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## **Kowall awards lapel pin to Vietnam veteran Bruce Kurth**

**"LANSING, Mich.** — State Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall welcomed Vietnam veteran Bruce Kurth and wife Karen and their family to his Capitol office on Wednesday. Kurth, who served two tours in Vietnam from 1968 to 1970 as part of the Navy Seabees, received a Vietnam veteran lapel pin from Kowall."

**Source:** Sen. Mike Kowall **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449697697\\_kowall.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449697697_kowall.pdf)

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## **Green Photo Advisory: St. Paul Lutheran student art on display in Lansing office**

**"LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Mike Green, R-Mayville, has announced that an impressive art collection from students of St. Paul Lutheran School in Millington is on display in his Lansing office. The art was submitted by teacher Amy Baldwin."

**Source:** Sen. Mike Green **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449695655\\_green.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449695655_green.pdf)

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## Board of State Canvassers to meet Dec. 14

*"The Board of State Canvassers will meet at 1:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 14 in room 426 of the state Capitol in Lansing."*

**Source:** Secretary of State Ruth Johnson **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449695579\\_sos.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449695579_sos.pdf)

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## Muskegon County Commissioner Terry Sabo to Announce Candidacy for State House on Saturday

*"**Muskegon, Mich.** — Terry J. Sabo, Chairman of the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners and a nearly 25 year veteran of the Muskegon Heights Police and Fire Departments, will announce his candidacy for State Representative of Michigan's 92nd State House District to supporters at the Michael E. Kobza Hall of Justice on Saturday at noon. Terry will be joined by family, and friends including: former State Representative the Hon. Doug Bennett, Muskegon County Clerk Nancy Waters, Muskegon County Prosecutor D.J. Hilson, and Muskegon County Treasurer Tony Moulatsiotis. Members of the media are invited to attend."*

**Source:** Muskegon County Commissioner Terry J. Sabo **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449693678\\_sabo.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449693678_sabo.pdf)

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## Jones introduces zoo animal breeding bill

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Rick Jones has introduced legislation to allow five Michigan zoos to breed large carnivores for the protection of the species."*

**Source:** Sen. Rick Jones **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449693332\\_jones.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449693332_jones.pdf)

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## Sen. Hertel and Rep. Hoadley Issue Resolution to Memorialize Victims of Gun Violence

*"**LANSING, Mich.** - State Senator Curtis Hertel, Jr. (D-Meridian Twp.) and State Representative Jon Hoadley (D-Kalamazoo) have introduced a resolution that would mark Dec. 9 through Dec. 16, 2015, as a week to remember those killed or injured by gun violence."*

**Source:** Sen. Jim Ananich **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449693295\\_ananich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449693295_ananich.pdf)

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## **MDP Response to Rubio Fundraising in Michigan Today**

*"Marco Rubio is fundraising in Michigan today. Marco Rubio opposed the auto industry rescue that saved 1.5 million jobs, many of them in Michigan, and made the American auto industry competitive again for the first time in decades. Had Marco Rubio and the Republicans running for president had their way, GM and Chrysler's doors would be closed, and the American auto industry would likely no longer exist."*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449692254\\_mdp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449692254_mdp.pdf)

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## **Upton in The Detroit News: 'We can't arrest our way out of the opioid epidemic'**

*"Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph took to the pages of The Detroit News this week to highlight the work the Energy and Commerce Committee is doing to address the growing opioid abuse epidemic. During the past year, the committee has held a number of hearings with experts, stakeholders, law enforcement, individuals in recovery, and family members of opioid abuse victims in order to identify problems with how opioid addiction is treated and ways we can help those in need."*

**Source:** Rep. Fred Upton **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449692164\\_upton.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449692164_upton.pdf)

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## **TIME CHANGE TO NOON: Christmas Party & Congresswoman Lawrence Holiday Open Houses**

*"The 14th District Democrats are convening in December for our holiday gathering. This takes the place of our regular monthly meeting for December."*

**Source:** Michigan Republican Party **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449690633\\_repub.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449690633_repub.pdf)

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## **Challenging Times for Law Enforcement and the Public Alike**

*"These are challenging and anxiety-provoking times. For law enforcement, this has been especially true. Recently, there have been a number of videos showing police misconduct. As a law enforcement executive, I believe when there is wrongdoing it should be disclosed and rectified. This helps build trust and enhance confidence in police agencies. Law enforcement executives across the country agree with this strategy."*

**Source:** Oakland County Sheriff Michael J. Bouchard **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449689082\\_oak.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449689082_oak.pdf)

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## **New MIOSHA Injury and Illness Reporting Requirements in Effect**

*"December 9, 2015 – Employers in the state of Michigan are now required to report any work-related amputation,*

loss of an eye, or in-patient hospitalization of any employee to the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) within 24 hours of the incident."

**Source:** Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449688706\\_lara.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449688706_lara.pdf)

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## **Pipeline Secrecy Bill is back!**

**"After fading away several months ago—thanks to serious pushback from members like you—this terrible bill is back.** In the name of national security, this bill would deny citizens and watchdogs alike from accessing key safety data on oil and gas pipelines right here in Michigan.

The pipeline secrecy bill is **set for discussion and a possible vote as soon as tomorrow.**"

**Source:** Michigan League of Conservation Voters **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449687639\\_mlcw.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449687639_mlcw.pdf)

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## **Detroit casino revenues and wagering taxes reported for November 2015**

**"Detroit -** The three Detroit casinos' aggregate revenue was 1.8 percent higher in November compared with the same month last year. Through Nov. 30, the casinos' aggregate revenue was 3 percent higher than during the first 11 months of 2014."

**Source:** Michigan Gaming Control Board **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449687787\\_mgcb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449687787_mgcb.pdf)

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## **Senate approves Jones bill to keep sex offenders away from schools**

**"LANSING, Mich. —** The Michigan Senate on Wednesday approved legislation sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to restore a law prohibiting sex offenders from working or living within 1,000 feet of a school."

**Source:** Sen. Rick Jones **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449687129\\_jones.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449687129_jones.pdf)

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## **Michigan House to U.S. Senate: repeal COOL regulations**

**"The Michigan House of Representatives this week approved a resolution urging the U.S. Senate to concur with the U.S. House of Representatives and repeal country-of-origin labeling (COOL) regulations."**

**Source:** Rep. Jason Sheppard **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449686925\\_sheppard.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686925_sheppard.pdf)

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## Secretary of State's "get-in-line-online" service hits major milestone

*"LANSING, Mich. – Secretary of State Ruth Johnson today announced that the innovative MI-TIME Line service has hit a major milestone, with 2 million people using it since its launch less than two years ago."*

**Source:** Secretary of State Ruth Johnson **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449686871\\_SOS.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686871_SOS.pdf)

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## DEQ, Schuette reach settlement with company for sewage discharges

*"The DEQ and Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today announced the state's settlement of civil litigation with the owners of a housing community in Flat Rock. "*

**Source:** Department of Environmental Quality **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449686381\\_deq.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686381_deq.pdf)

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## Senate GOP Votes to Enshrine Corporate Monetary Influence into Law

*"LANSING — Progress Michigan released the following statement regarding the Senate Republicans voting to enshrine Citizens United into Michigan law by passing SB638."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449686133\\_mich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686133_mich.pdf)

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## Main Street bridge in Niles reopens Thursday

*"December 9, 2015 -- The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) expects to reopen the M-139 (Main Street) bridge over the St. Joseph River in downtown Niles, Berrien County, around 5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449686083\\_niles.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686083_niles.pdf)

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## Paul Mitchell, Detroit Free Press guest writer

*"In recent months there has been an uproar over a proposed low-level nuclear waste facility being developed along the shores of Lake Huron in Canada."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449684743\\_Mitchell.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449684743_Mitchell.pdf)

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## **Governor signs Zorn's firefighter certification bill**

*"LANSING, Mich. - Sen. Dale Zorn and area fire chiefs joined Gov. Rick Snyder on Wednesday for a formal bill signing of Zorn's legislation to provide firefighter certification reciprocity with states that have the same requirements as Michigan."*

**Source:** Office of Senator Dale Zorn **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449686325\\_zorn.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686325_zorn.pdf)

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## **Legal Experts on Immigration Weigh in on Recent Political Discussions**

*"As immigration issues have become the forefront of discussions by various political candidates and by the nation as a whole, Western Michigan University Cooley Law School Professors from the law school's Michigan and Tampa Bay campuses, who are experts in Constitutional Law, Immigration Law, and Homeland Security Law are available to speak with members of the media. "*

**Source:** Western MI University **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449686216\\_legal.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449686216_legal.pdf)

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## **BREAKING: Cyber Squadron Awarded to Michigan Air National Guard in Battle Creek**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, Senator Debbie Stabenow, D-Michigan, and Senator Gary Peters, D-Michigan, today celebrated the announcement that the Michigan Air National Guard's 110<sup>th</sup> Attack Wing, stationed in Battle Creek, will be host of a new Cyber Operation Squadron distinction."*

**Source:** Office of Congressman Upton **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449682608\\_upton\\_cyber.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449682608_upton_cyber.pdf)

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## **Gov. Snyder: Dept. of Defense chooses Battle Creek Air Nat. Guard Base-Cyber Operations Squadron**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Battle Creek Air National Guard base is one of four locations in the United States chosen for a new Cyber Operations Squadron to help detect and protect against cybersecurity threats, Gov. Rick Snyder said today."*

**Source:** Office of Governor Snyder **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449682407\\_snyder\\_cyber.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449682407_snyder_cyber.pdf)

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## **Vigil for End to Gun Violence on the Capitol Steps**

*"LANSING — In the wake of gun violence in Michigan and throughout the country, the Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence will be holding a candle light vigil on the steps of the Capitol Building in Lansing today at 5*

*p.m. The vigil will also commemorate the third anniversary of the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary school, as well as the 90,000 Americans who have been victims of gun violence since December 2012."*

**Source:** MI Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449681253\\_mich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449681253_mich.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Dept. of Defense chooses Battle Creek Air National Guard Base for new Cyber Operat**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Battle Creek Air National Guard base is one of four locations in the United States chosen for a new Cyber Operations Squadron to help detect and protect against cybersecurity threats, Gov. Rick Snyder said today.*

"

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449681022\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449681022_gov.pdf)

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## **Peters Education Measures to Be Signed into Law**

*"WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today applauded Senate passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), bipartisan legislation to reform the No Child Left Behind law and reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The bill, which passed the U.S. House of Representatives last week and will be signed into law by the President, includes a bipartisan amendment Peters introduced with Senator Cory Gardner (R-CO) supporting dual and concurrent enrollment in schools. Two additional measures Peters championed are also included in the bill – one to support funding for financial literacy programming and one to strengthen efforts to better identify dual status youth. Dual status youth are young people who come into contact with both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems."*

**Source:** Sen. Gary Peters **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449680545\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449680545_peters.pdf)

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## **Peters Pipeline Safety Provisions Move Forward in the Senate**

*"WASHINGTON, DC – The Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee today approved bipartisan legislation U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) introduced with his Commerce Committee colleagues to reauthorize the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) through 2019, and improve pipeline safety and oversight. The legislation, known as the Securing America's Future Energy: Protecting Our Infrastructure of Pipelines and Enhancing Safety (SAFE PIPES) Act, included several pipeline safety provisions from the Pipeline Improvement and Preventing Spills (PIPS) Act that Peters introduced in September, along with Senator Debbie Stabenow."*

**Source:** Sen. Gary Peters **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449678804\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449678804_peters.pdf)

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## Michigan Data Center Alliance opposes rushed policy that picks winners and losers

*"LANSING – Yan Ness, spokesman for the **Michigan Data Center Alliance**, released the following statement today following a decision by the House Tax Policy Committee to rush through personal property tax reform targeted at one business, with no guarantee of a level playing field for existing businesses:"*

**Source:** Michigan Data Center Alliance **Date:** 12-10-2015 **Link:** <

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirnews.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 11, 2015 6:50 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Sen. Mike Green bill to fund drawbridge operations passes state Senate**

*"BAY CITY, MI — A bill that would help some Michigan communities fund the operational costs associated with movable bridges was approved by the state Senate this week."*

**Source:** Bay City Times **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/12/bill\\_to\\_provide\\_state\\_funding.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/12/bill_to_provide_state_funding.html#incart_river_index)

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### **One year after exiting bankruptcy, Detroit 'modestly outpacing' projections**

*"DETROIT, MI — A year ago today, the governor, the mayor and the emergency manager gathered at Detroit Police headquarters to announce that the city's ordeal in bankruptcy court was over."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/12/one\\_year\\_after\\_exiting\\_bankrup.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/12/one_year_after_exiting_bankrup.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Utility-backed group urges support on energy bill that doesn't exist**

*"LANSING, MI — Turn on a radio or television set and listen a minute — hear those ads urging you to support the "Nofs-Nesbitt energy bill" or "Nofs-Nesbitt energy plan?" That's close to impossible, since the bill doesn't exist."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/utility-backed\\_group\\_urges\\_sup.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/utility-backed_group_urges_sup.html#incart_river_index)

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## Why school leaders say energy bill will take \$15M out of classrooms a year

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – Grand Rapids Public Schools and districts across Michigan say a proposed rewrite of the state's energy law that eliminates the ability to choose electricity providers will take money from classrooms and further strain already tight budgets."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/why\\_public\\_school\\_leaders\\_say\\_1.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/why_public_school_leaders_say_1.html#incart_river_index)

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## Michigan marijuana legalization group extending petition drive, challenging 180-day policy

*"LANSING, MI — A group seeking to put a marijuana legalization proposal on Michigan's 2016 ballot plans to blow by an initial 180-day window for collecting signatures and continue its petition drive into the New Year."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_marijuana\\_legalizatio\\_7.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_marijuana_legalizatio_7.html#incart_river_index)

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## Black students struggling more in Michigan than other states, according to report

*"LANSING, MI — African-American students are further behind their peers in Michigan than in most other states, according to a new report from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/black\\_students\\_struggling\\_more.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/black_students_struggling_more.html#incart_river_index)

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## 'It's do or die' as Michigan competes for data centers

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – West Michigan could lose its best chance to land a new industry – data storage centers – if the state legislature and Gov. Rick Snyder fumble legislation that would create tax incentives to locate here, said Birgit Klohs, president and CEO of The Right Place Inc."*

"

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/12/its\\_do\\_or\\_die\\_for\\_michigan\\_to.html#incart\\_2box\\_news\\_grand-rapids](http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/12/its_do_or_die_for_michigan_to.html#incart_2box_news_grand-rapids)

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## Flint taking step to ensure safe water after problems

*"Flint — Flint says phosphates are being added to drinking water in an effort to help deal with problems with lead caused by the city's earlier use of Flint River water."*

**Source:** Associated Press **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/10/flint-taking-step-ensure-safe-water-problems/77084910/>

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## Report: Mich. near bottom in black student achievement

*"In a national study of African-American student achievement released Thursday, Michigan results are grim, with scores near the bottom in several crucial areas."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/10/black-student-achievement-michigan/77083696/>

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## Grand jury indicts ex=EAA principal, 2 others

*"A federal grand jury in Detroit has indicted a former Educational Achievement Authority principal and an after-school tutoring vendor on multiple charges, including conspiracy and bribery."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/12/10/detroit-schools-eaa-indictment/77093012/>

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## Snyder puts former state GOP chair on Oakland U. board

*"Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder has appointed the former chairman of the Michigan Republican Party to serve on the Oakland University Board of Trustees."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/oakland/2015/12/10/bobby-schostak-appointed-oakland-university-board/77111454/>

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## Michigan's black students lag behind the nation

*"Michigan ranks as among the worst states in the nation for the performance of African American students, according to a report out today from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/10/michigans-black-students-academic-performance/77099294/>

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## Former Flint mayor wants feds to probe lead in water

*"LANSING — Former Flint Mayor James Sharp Jr., who had his own experience with contaminated water while stationed as a U.S. Marine at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, is calling for federal investigations into the Flint water controversy and a more comprehensive outreach effort to contact and test those who may have drank water containing unsafe levels of lead."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/10/former-flint-mayor-wants-feds-probe-lead-water/77088024/>

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## GOP members of Congress from Michigan reject Trump plan

*"WASHINGTON — All but two of the nine Republican members of Michigan's congressional delegation told the Free Press by Thursday afternoon that they reject presidential candidate Donald Trump's proposal that Muslims be barred from entering the U.S. in the wake of terrorist attacks in Paris and California."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/10/gop-members-congress-michigan-reject-trump-plan/77113226/>

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## Ex-star principal tells of her downfall in EAA scandal

*"The first time Kenyetta (K.C.) Wilbourn Snapp broke the law, she had been in a new job for less than a week."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/12/10/eea-kc-wilbourn-scandal-federal-investigation/76742980/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Mackinac Center: Skip industry breaks, lower all taxes

*"There is a rush on by lawmakers to push through special legislation that would grant tax (or perhaps other) advantages to Switch, a data storage company, for a project in west Michigan. If the incentive bill is passed, it could see the company moving into the old Steelcase Pyramid Building. As I write, lawmakers are squabbling about the size of the fiscal Christmas gift they intend to present and whether it should be extended to other companies in the same industry."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/10/switch-tax-breaks-cuts-development/77131794/>

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## Szymanski: Juvenile court best answer for 17-year-olds

*"Throughout my career, I have worked to elevate juvenile justice issues to a level where the state policies that govern how youth in trouble with the law are handled can be thoroughly examined, and amended as necessary. One policy reform that I have consistently advocated for is ensuring that youth who commit a crime are treated differently than adult offenders. That's why I support the proposed legislation to raise the age of juvenile jurisdiction from 17 to 18."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/10/michigan-juvenile-offenders-adult-jails/77131860/>

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## Civil Rights commissioners: Stand up to hate

*"In Michigan, more than 300 years of settlement and progress have taught us some things. As people around the world are reeling from terrorist attacks, it is important that we state these truths and underscore our commitment to protecting the civil rights of all people."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/10/civil-rights-commissioners-stand-hate/77131906/>

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## Editorial: Facts should inform gun debate

*"The terrorist attack in San Bernardino last week has prompted calls for more gun control. But before the nation can have a meaningful conversation about changing gun laws, it must get the facts straight."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/10/editorial-facts-inform-gun-debate/77131714/>

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## Detroit school 'sickouts' measure system's dysfunction

*"If there's any measure of just how bad things are in Detroit Public Schools, it's surely a series of "sickouts" — a coordinated mass absence under the guise of sick leave — which forced seven schools to close Thursday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/12/10/detroit-school-sickouts/77097736/>

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## Press Releases

### President Signs Every Student Succeeds Act into Law

**"WASHINGTON** – Congressman Mike Bishop - a member of the House Education and the Workforce's Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education Subcommittee - issued the following statement in response to President Obama signing the Every Student Succeeds Act into law."

**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449784845\\_bishop.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449784845_bishop.pdf)

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### Gun Violence Survivors, Michigan Moms and Community Leaders to Join Together for Orange Walk and Int

**"LANSING, Mich.**—In the wake of the mass shooting in San Bernardino and heightened attention on the need for our nation's leaders to act to end gun violence, the Michigan chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, part of Everytown for Gun Safety, will join together this weekend in Ann Arbor, Midland and Grand Rapids for Orange Walks and an Interfaith Vigil to #EndGunViolence to commemorate the three year mark of the Sandy Hook tragedy and to honor all survivors and victims of gun violence. During the walks and vigil, participants will share photos and post on social media using the hashtag #EndGunViolence. "

**Source:** Moms Demand Action **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449783660\\_mda.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449783660_mda.pdf)

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### Urgent: Senate Bill 639 to disenfranchise Michigan voters

"Some in the Michigan legislature want to make it harder for you to vote."

**Source:** ACLU of Michigan **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449783484\\_aciu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449783484_aciu.pdf)

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### Heartland Institute Education Experts React to Release of Illinois PARCC Tests

"Illinois 2014–15 education test scores released Wednesday show only one-third of students are prepared for college and career. These are the first scores released under the Common Core-aligned Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) tests."

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449782423\\_heartland.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449782423_heartland.pdf)

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### New Report Reveals Alternatives to Line 5 at the Straits, Press Conference

## Monday 12-14

### **"Experts to State Advisory Board: Viable Alternatives to Straits Pipelines Must Be Pursued to Avoid Oil Spill Disaster in Great Lakes"**

**Source:** For Love of Water **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449782075\\_flow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449782075_flow.pdf)

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### **Early impressions show deer harvest up in Lower Peninsula, down in U.P.**

*"Each year, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources generates preliminary estimates of the firearm deer harvest shortly after the season closes. The 2015 firearm deer season wrapped up Nov. 30, with indications of mixed results throughout the state."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449781941\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449781941_dnr.pdf)

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### **Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments**

*"Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments"*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449781879\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449781879_gov.pdf)

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### **Elm seed bug found in Michigan**

*"**LANSING** – The Elm seed bug has made its way into Michigan. The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development confirmed it has been discovered in Oakland County. The elm seed bug (*Arocatus melanocephalus* (Fabricius)) is a small, non-native home-invading pest native to south-central Europe. It uses its needle-like mouthparts to penetrate seeds and extract their nutrients. It feeds primarily on elm, but it has been reported from other tree species. In 2012, it was detected in Idaho, the first record of this insect in North America."*

**Source:** Department of Agriculture and Rural Development **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449781801\\_dard.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449781801_dard.pdf)

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### **Senate approves O'Brien's CARE Act**

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — The Senate on Thursday approved the CARE Act to help prepare and support in-home caregivers when providing assistance for loved ones after they leave the hospital."*

**Source:** Sen. Margaret O'Brien **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449781035\\_obrien.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449781035_obrien.pdf)

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## **Erick Kind named to lead MDOT Grand Region**

*"December 10, 2015 – The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has named Erick Kind as Grand Region engineer. Kind will succeed Roger Safford, who is retiring Dec. 31 after 28 years at MDOT."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449778853\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449778853_mdof.pdf)

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## **Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks and join Blue Cross Blue Shield**

*"Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks and join Blue Cross Blue Shield in announcing that the health and wellness Building Healthy Communities program will be expanded to 100 additional Michigan schools. He will be joined by Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director Nick Lyon."*

**Source:** Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449778211\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449778211_gov.pdf)

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## **AGC of Michigan and MIOSHA Share a Cup of Coffee Over Worker Safety**

*"December 10, 2015 – The Associated General Contractors of Michigan, a full service construction trade association, partnered with the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) today in Lansing to discuss workplace safety and health and allow employers and employees to learn about MIOSHA services."*

**Source:** Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449778031\\_lara.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449778031_lara.pdf)

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## **Colbeck to hold December office hours in Livonia**

*"State Sen. Patrick Colbeck and District Manager Penny Crider will conduct monthly office hours for December in Livonia on Friday, Dec. 18. The office hours are at the Civic Park Senior Center and will be open to the public."*

**Source:** Sen. Patrick Colbeck **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449777372\\_colbeck.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449777372_colbeck.pdf)

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## **Sportsmen's Alliance Appoints Heusinkveld as Interim President and CEO**

*"Effective Dec. 1, the Sportsmen's Alliance board of directors appointed Evan Heusinkveld as acting*

President and CEO of Sportsmen's Alliance. "

**Source:** Sportsmen's Alliance **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449776534\\_sport.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449776534_sport.pdf)

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## Legislators Speak Out Against Barriers for African-American Voters

"LANSING — State Representatives **Sheldon Neeley** (D-Flint) and **Brian Banks** (D-Detroit) and state Senator **Coleman Young II** (D-Detroit) are urging fellow legislators in the Senate to vote against Senate Bills 13 and 639 and House Bill 4724, which are biased against urban populations that are comprised largely of African-American voters. SB 13 and HB 4724 were passed by the House late last night by slim margins. SB 639 is still in committee in the Senate."

**Source:** Michigan House Democrats **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449773476\\_mhd.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449773476_mhd.pdf)

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## Why Does Congressman Tim Walberg Love Big Oil Subsidies, Hate Renewable Fuels Jobs in Michigan?

"A number of Republican Presidential candidates have been put on the defensive in recent days over their hypocritical opposition to the Renewable Fuel Standard at the same time they support billions of dollars in wasteful subsidies for the oil industry. But they're not the only ones who want to pick winners (Big Oil CEOs) and losers (consumers, Michigan jobs, rural economies, our national security and the environment)."

**Source:** Americans United For Change **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449773270\\_auc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449773270_auc.pdf)

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## House Committee on Oversight and Ethics Employs Backdoor Measure to Sustain a Plan to Limit Transpar

"LANSING - The Michigan League of Conservation Voters stood opposed to legislation that would exempt pipeline safety information from the Michigan Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) as it was moved out of the House Oversight and Ethics Committee today. Without enough votes to pass the legislation, the Committee voted to refer it to the House Natural Resources Committee. "

**Source:** Michigan League of Conservation Voters **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449771390\\_mclv.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449771390_mclv.pdf)

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## Nofs co-sponsors large carnivore breeding bill

"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Mike Nofs, R-Battle Creek, co-sponsored legislation Thursday that would allow for five Michigan zoos to breed large carnivores in order to protect the species."

**Source:** Sen. Mike Nofs **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449771339\\_nofs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449771339_nofs.pdf)

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## **Senate approves Jones bill to protect charitable gaming**

**"LANSING, Mich.** — The Michigan Senate on Wednesday approved legislation sponsored by Sen. Rick Jones to allow charity poker rooms to continue to operate in Michigan. "

**Source:** Sen. Rick Jones **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449771289\\_jones.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449771289_jones.pdf)

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## **Enough is Enough: Fire Union Bullies Hurting Detroit Kids**

**"DETROIT, MI, December 10, 2015** –The Michigan Freedom Fund today renewed its call on Detroit Public Schools and policymakers in Lansing to pursue every option to stand up to union bullies in the District, after teachers again walked out of their classrooms today to flex their union muscles, leaving Detroit students at 7 schools without their teachers and on the street."

**Source:** Michigan Freedom Fund **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449771253\\_mff.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449771253_mff.pdf)

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## **Bill to improve recycling rate reporting moves forward**

*"The members of the Michigan Waste & Recycling Association (MWRA) would like to thank the Michigan Senate for moving recycling forward with their approval of Senate Bill 507 today. In particular, the association appreciates the efforts of sponsor Senator Mike Green to advocate for the legislation."*

**Source:** Michigan Waste Recycling Association **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449766981\\_mwra.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449766981_mwra.pdf)

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## **CLOSURE OF COURT - DECEMBER 11, 2015**

*"The 55th Judicial District Court will be closed to the public on Friday, December 11, 2015."*

**Source:** 55th Judicial District Court **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449766308\\_court.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449766308_court.pdf)

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## **2015 America's Health Rankings Annual Report Finds Michigan Ranks 35th Among All U.S. States in Over**



*"DETROIT (Dec. 10, 2015) – In the country's annual health checkup, Michigan ranks 35 this year when compared with other states – according to United Health Foundation's America's Health Rankings® Annual Report."*

**Source:** United Health Foundation **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449766224\\_uhf.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449766224_uhf.pdf)

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## **Michigan CARE Act passes Senate**

*"[LANSING, MI] Legislation supporting the state's family caregivers – an unpaid silent army about 2 million strong who help make it possible for older Michiganders to live independently at home – won overwhelming passage in the state Senate today."*

**Source:** AARP Michigan **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449766144\\_aarp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449766144_aarp.pdf)

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## **Michigan still lags significantly behind nation in per-pupil funding**

*"LANSING — Momentum to increase education funding must continue to better serve Michigan's students and workforce, according to a report released today by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a nonpartisan policy research organization based in Washington, D.C."*

**Source:** Michigan League for Public Policy **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449761666\\_mipp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449761666_mipp.pdf)

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## **New Website Sends Coal to Lansing Politicians Who Made Voting Harder in Michigan**

*"LANSING – Today the Michigan AFL-CIO launched a new website to hold lawmakers accountable for passing legislation last night that will make voting harder in Michigan."*

**Source:** Michigan AFL-CIO **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449760984\\_afcio.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449760984_afcio.pdf)

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## **MCUA Update Heads to Senate After Moving Easily Through House**

*"The Michigan House of Representatives on Wednesday passed a six-bill package that will modernize the Michigan Credit Union Act (MCUA) for the first time since 2003."*

**Source:** Michigan Credit Union Association **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449757748\\_mcuaf.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449757748_mcuaf.pdf)

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## MRP Chairman Statement on Theresa Abed running for the 71st House District

*"LANSING, Mich., Dec. 10, 2015 – Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel on Wednesday released the following statement in response to Theresa Abed announcing she will be running for the 71st Michigan House District again."*

**Source:** Michigan Republican Party **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449756556\\_mrp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449756556_mrp.pdf)

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## MDOT weekend construction 12/11-12/14/15

*"MDOT weekend construction for 12/11-12/14/15 for roads beginning with I, M, or US. (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)"*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449756511\\_mdod.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449756511_mdod.pdf)

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## Schuetz: Chesapeake Settlement Notifications Mailed to Northern Michigan Residents

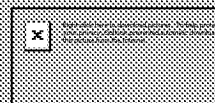
*"LANSING – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuetz today announced that his Corporate Oversight Division is in the process of mailing claim forms to approximately 700 Northern Michigan residents who were affected by a racketeering and bid-rigging scheme involving Chesapeake Energy Corporation that caused lease prices on their land to plummet and defrauded hundreds of Michigan residents in 2010."*

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuetz **Date:** 12-11-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449756455\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449756455_ag.pdf)

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**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Sen. Elizabeth Warren still hasn't endorsed, but how much does it matter?**

*"WASHINGTON -- Sen. Elizabeth Warren's endorsement in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination would be considered a trophy for whichever candidate she picks."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/11/sen-elizabeth-warren-still-hasnt-endorsed-but-how-much-does-matter/77147392/>

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### **PUMPED DRY THE GLOBAL CRISIS OF VANISHING GROUNDWATER**

*"Much of the planet relies on groundwater. And in places around the world -- from the United States to Asia, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America -- so much water is pumped from the ground that aquifers are being rapidly depleted and wells are going dry."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/pages/interactives/groundwater/>

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### **Saudi women vote for the first time**

*"RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Thousands of Saudi women headed to polling stations across the kingdom on Saturday, both as voters and candidates for the first time in a landmark election."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/12/12/saudi-women-vote-first-time/77199684/>

## Climate deal within reach; 'powerful' document drafted in Paris

*"PARIS — Delegates from nearly 200 countries on Saturday were evaluating the latest — and what organizers hope is the last — draft of what is set to become the world's first-ever global climate agreement."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/12/12/climate-deal-paris/77200018/>

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## Responding to petition, White House says Obama won't declare Muslim holiday

*"WASHINGTON — President Obama supports the right of Muslim Americans to celebrate religious holidays, the White House said Friday. He just can't give them the day off."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/11/responding-petition-white-house-says-obama-wont-declare-muslim-holiday/77194448/>

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## U.S. is hitting Islamic State 'harder than ever,' Obama says

*"WASHINGTON — President Obama said Saturday that U.S. air strikes are hitting the Islamic State "harder than ever" amid a stepped-up U.S. campaign in Iraq and Syria."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/12/us-hitting-islamic-state-harder-than-ever-obama-says/77191360/>

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## State park seeks to stop vandalism at rebuilt structure

*"Muskegon — Officials at Muskegon State Park in western Michigan are searching for ways stop a longtime problem with vandalism at one of its buildings."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/11/state-park-seeks-stop-vandalism-rebuilt-structure/77138724/>

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## Trump's Muslim ban finds supporters in Michigan

*"Presidential candidate Donald Trump has faced withering condemnation since calling for banning Muslims from entering the United States — yet his popularity among Republican voters remains strong."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/11/trump-message-wins-michigan-voters/77179216/>

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## MDOT seeks input on 5-year road plan

*"Drivers on Interstate 96 will have another headache to deal with next year if the Michigan Department of Transportation moves ahead with its list of road projects."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/michigan/2015/12/11/mdot-plan-input-michigan-department-transportation/77179166/>

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## Spring-like weather could break record in Metro Detroit

*"Metro Detroit has a chance to match or beat record-high temperatures this weekend, but that won't melt way Ferndale's chances for a successful ice festival Saturday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/michigan/2015/12/11/metro-detroit-warm-weather/77139540/>

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## Election law reforms bode big changes for 2016

*"LANSING — It's Nov. 8, 2016, and voters will be making their way to polling precincts to cast ballots for everything from president to U.S. and state representatives to township board members."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/11/election-law-changes-bode-big-changes-2016/77173518/>

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## 93-pound Petoskey stone confiscated by Michigan DNR

*"COPEMISH, Mich. — State wildlife officials have confiscated a 93-pound Petoskey boulder from a man who pulled it out of Lake Michigan."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/11/93-pound-petoskey-stone-confiscated-michigan-dnr/77136330/>

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## Dow: We'll stay committed to Michigan in DuPont merger

*"Questions swirled about possible layoffs in Michigan after Midland-based Dow Chemical said today it would combine with its rival DuPont in a \$130-billion deal and subsequently spin off tax-free into three*

independent, publicly traded companies."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2015/12/11/dow-dupont-combine-merger-equals/77138072/>

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## Search concealed pistol licenses by county

"During the last five years, the number of active concealed pistol licenses (CPL) in Michigan has nearly doubled, from 253,466 in 2010 to 497,016 as of Dec. 1."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/raw-data/2015/12/11/search-concealed-pistol-licenses-county/77143380/>

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## Report: Port Huron teacher dropped, kicked student

"A Port Huron early childhood special education teacher allegedly dropped, then kicked a child in the head and neck area twice in late October, leading to her removal from the classroom and eventual criminal charges, according to police reports."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/11/port-huron-teacher-discipline-kicking-kids/77175190/>

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## Secret Santas strike again, shower strangers with cash

"You can get cynical pretty easily during this holiday season. Stress. Terrible news all over the place. Money."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/12/11/secret-santas-strike-again-shower-strangers-cash/77170318/>

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## 'People may get angry' with long lines under straight-ticket voting ban

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – More than 155,000 people in Kent County cast straight-ticket votes in the November 2012 presidential election."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/lines\\_will\\_be\\_longer\\_people\\_ma.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/lines_will_be_longer_people_ma.html#incart_story_package)

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## 117 schools joining statewide health and wellness program

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – There are 117 Michigan schools that will receive tools and resources to improve student health while creating a healthier school environment, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley and Blue Cross Blue Shield announced Friday, Dec. 11."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/117\\_schools\\_joining\\_statewide.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/117_schools_joining_statewide.html#incart_story_package)

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## DTE to raise electric rates by more than \$8 per month next week

"LANSING, MI — DTE Electric Company will increase its electric rates by an average of \$8.22 per month under an order approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission on Friday."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/dte\\_will\\_raise\\_electric\\_rates.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/dte_will_raise_electric_rates.html#incart_river_home)

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## Botulism concerns prompt recall of Michigan-made food products

"LANSING, MI – Consumers who have purchased products from an Onaway food producer are being advised to throw the items away due to concerns of botulism."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/12/botulism\\_concerns\\_prompt\\_recall.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/12/botulism_concerns_prompt_recall.html#incart_river_home)

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## Chronic wasting disease found in fourth Michigan deer

"CLINTON COUNTY, MI – A fourth Michigan deer has tested positive for chronic wasting disease, a deadly neurological disease found in the state's free-ranging deer population for the first time this year."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/12/chronic\\_wasting\\_disease\\_found.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/12/chronic_wasting_disease_found.html#incart_river_home)

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## Ken Braun: Bipartisan election reforms pass without bipartisan cooperation

"An attempt at genuine compromise was advanced this week by the Republicans running the state House of Representatives. A proposal that would allow no-reason absentee voting, generally an idea supported by Democrats, was passed in tandem with a GOP idea to have Michigan join the majority of states that have abolished the archaic straight-ticket option."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/ken\\_braun\\_michigan\\_house\\_passes.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/ken_braun_michigan_house_passes.html#incart_river_home)



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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Some college, no degree, lots of debt: A burden for students, schools and communities

*"The recent report of the Michigan Postsecondary Credential Attainment Workgroup on college access and completion in Michigan delivers good news about what has been happening in the field. Programs that can help students apply to college, apply for financial aid, enroll and succeed in college are making a difference, and more high schools should adapt them."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/12/some-college-no-degree-lots-of-debt-a-drag-on-students-schools-and-communities/>

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### Legislature Hoping for Improbable Federal Rescue of Medicaid Expansion

*"The Obamacare Medicaid expansion approved by the Michigan Legislature in 2013 may be on the verge of extinction, causing trouble for legislators. "*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21988>

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### Snyder can do the right thing on LGBT rights and endorse Fair Michigan

*"Gov. Snyder and reasonable Republicans have an historic opportunity before them. And I believe they will do the right thing."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/lgbt\\_rights\\_rick\\_snyder\\_republ.html#incart\\_most\\_shared-lansing](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/lgbt_rights_rick_snyder_republ.html#incart_most_shared-lansing)

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## Press Releases

### Heartland Institute Experts React to New York Common Core Task Force Report

*"The New York Common Core Task Force released its report reviewing the Common Core State Standards. The task force recommended Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) maintain "key instructional shifts set forth in the Common Core Standards" while revising parts that do not fit the needs of New York schools, educators, and other stakeholders."*

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449869222\\_heart.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449869222_heart.pdf)

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## Following New Reports, Dingell & Walberg Question Patient Safety at Ann Arbor VA

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Following reports that surgeries have resumed at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, Representatives Debbie Dingell (MI-12) and Tim Walberg (MI-07) are seeking assurances that the surgeries are not being conducted in unsafe conditions. In November, Dingell wrote to Director Robert P. McDivitt following reports that surgeries for veterans had been canceled or moved to another facility because particulate matter was observed on sterile surgical equipment. This week, Dingell's office was notified by concerned constituents that surgeries have resumed despite the continued presence of particulate matter on the equipment. "*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell and Rep. Tim Walberg **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449868535\\_dingell.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449868535_dingell.pdf)

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## Consumers Warned to Not Consume Lock Stock & Barrel Ranch Products Due to Potential Health Risk

*"Lansing – The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development is warning consumers that may have purchased any of the products listed below, produced by Lock Stock and Barrel Ranch of Onaway, Michigan, to dispose of all products immediately because they were manufactured without using the required controls for the safe production of processed foods. This potential problem was discovered by MDARD Inspectors with the Food & Dairy Division during the course of a routine food safety inspection. Products under recall include the following:"*

**Source:** Department of Agriculture and Rural Development **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449868239\\_energy.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449868239_energy.pdf)

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## MDHHS releases latest round of Flint blood lead level data

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services today issued its newest summary report on lead testing in Flint. According to preliminary data, 39 of 1,836 adults and children tested had elevated blood lead levels since Oct. 1."*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449867697\\_dhhs.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449867697_dhhs.pdf)

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## Huizenga To Welcome New Citizens In Grand Haven On Monday

*"Washington, DC – On Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, Congressman Huizenga will participate in a naturalization ceremony to welcome 62 applicants taking the oath of citizenship at the Loutit Library in Grand Haven. These 62, soon to be American citizens, come from 30 different countries across the globe. Monday's celebration follows a naturalization ceremony that took place on Friday afternoon in which 60 people from*

34 different countries became American citizens. The ceremony on Monday will begin at 1:00 PM and will be held in "Room A" on the upper floor of the library.

"

**Source:** Rep. Bill Huizenga **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449867854\\_huizenga.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449867854_huizenga.pdf)

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## **Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice: Detroit's legislators must take action to rein in rise**

"DETROIT—**Guy O. Williams**, President and CEO of **Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice**, issued the following statement regarding DTE Energy's 11.3 percent residential rate increase, announced today."

**Source:** Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449867812\\_byrum.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449867812_byrum.pdf)

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## **MPA convention featuring Bill Frakes**

"Join us Thursday, Jan. 28, at the Amway Grand Plaza to hear Pulitzer-Prize winning photographer Bill Frakes during MPA's Annual Convention. In the Student Track, he will discuss today's photography trends for both digital and print. In the Audience Development Track, Frakes demonstrates how to multi-purpose material across a number of viewing platforms."

**Source:** Michigan Press Association **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449867598\\_mpa.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449867598_mpa.pdf)

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## **Don't Let a Holiday Mishap Ruin Your Seasonal Spirit**

"(LANSING) The holiday season should be a time to focus on friends and family, not worry about whether your insurance coverage is sufficient. As you prepare to celebrate the season, the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) recommends you review your insurance policies to avoid potential holiday nightmares."

**Source:** Department of Insurance and Financial Services **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449866971\\_difs.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449866971_difs.pdf)

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## **MRP video features 8th Congressional District residents addressing Gilbert's tax issues**

"**LANSING, Mich., Dec. 11, 2015** – The Michigan Republican Party on Friday released a video where residents of the 8th Congressional District talk about taxes and accountability. Melissa Gilbert, a candidate

for Congress from the 8th District, owes \$470,000 in back taxes to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)."

**Source:** Michigan Republican Party **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449865923\\_mrp.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449865923_mrp.pdf)

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## **Snyder Media Advisory for Sat. Dec. 12, Sun. Dec. 13 & Mon. Dec. 14**

"Snyder Media Advisory for Sat. Dec. 12, Sun. Dec. 13 & Mon. Dec. 14"

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449865348\\_gov.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449865348_gov.pdf)

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## **Horn announces December office hours in St. Charles**

"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Ken Horn, R-Frankenmuth, announced that December office hours are scheduled for the 32nd Senate District."

**Source:** Sen. Ken Horn **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449865032\\_horn.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449865032_horn.pdf)

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## **POTUS signs ESSA; Detroit Top Ten for Choice; EMU and CMU at Senate Ed; State Board 10 in 10; Chart**

"TW&N: POTUS signs ESSA; Detroit Top Ten for Choice; EMU and CMU at Senate Ed; State Board 10 in 10; Charter Choir at White House; and more"

**Source:** Great Lakes Education Project **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449863140\\_glep.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449863140_glep.pdf)

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## **Michigan medical marijuana businesses bust myths as regulatory proposals enter home stretch in Legis**

"**LANSING** — The **Michigan Cannabis Development Association** today debunked a series of myths and misinformation on medical marijuana proposals as the Michigan Legislature appears poised to take a final vote on bills to establish a strong, responsible regulatory framework. The legislation currently being debated in the Senate are House Bills 4209, 4210 and 4827, which passed the House with overwhelming support in October."

**Source:** Michigan Cannabis Development Association **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449862751\\_mdda.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449862751_mdda.pdf)

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## Heartland Institute Experts Comment on the University of WI System's Support of Free Speech Rights

*"The University of Wisconsin-System Board of Regents on Friday approved a resolution reaffirming freedom of speech rights on its campuses throughout the state. The resolution comes after University of Wisconsin-Madison Chancellor Rebecca Blank wrote a blog post in November devaluing free speech rights in response to protests on the campus of the University of Missouri-Columbia."*

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449862703\\_heartland.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449862703_heartland.pdf)

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## Calls Needed for Land and Water Conservation Fund

*"We've been asking you to call your Congressman or Congresswoman to renew the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund for the past few weeks. This weekend, it is more critical than ever. We expect a decision, one way or the other, to be made in the next week and we want to make sure the decision is to renew this critical public land and water access program, not gut it!"*

**Source:** Michigan United Conservation Clubs **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449861381\\_conserv.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449861381_conserv.pdf)

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## Dingell: Customs Bill is "Christmas Tree" of the Holiday Season

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today voted against H.R. 644, a customs enforcement bill, which includes a number of political provisions that restrict negotiations on emissions standards and immigration and weaken existing law to deter human trafficking. Dingell spoke in opposition to the bill prior to the vote. Video is available [here](#)."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449860534\\_dingell.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449860534_dingell.pdf)

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## Rep. Trott: "Currency Manipulation Protections a Win for Southeast Michigan"

*"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today voted in support of [legislation](#) designed to enforce American trade laws, remove barriers to legitimate trade, and help small businesses grow and create jobs. Rep. Trott was instrumental in securing stronger currency manipulation protections in the legislation to help protect Michigan businesses and America's automotive industry."*

**Source:** Rep. Dave Trott **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449860486\\_trott.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449860486_trott.pdf)

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## Bishop Applauds House Effort to Fight Currency Manipulation

**"WASHINGTON** – Following House passage of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (H.R. 644) by a vote of 256-158, **Congressman Mike Bishop** (MI-08) issued the following statement:"

**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449859125\\_bishop.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449859125_bishop.pdf)

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## MSC Dispositive Order: People of MI v Stephanie White

*"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued a dispositive order in No. 150661, People of Michigan v Stephanie White, which was argued on October 21, 2015.*

*For more information about the case and related briefs, click [here](#). "*

**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449858431\\_Michigan\\_Information\\_&\\_Research\\_Service\\_inc.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449858431_Michigan_Information_&_Research_Service_inc.pdf)

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## Benishek Protects Michigan Miners

*"WASHINGTON - Today the House passed H.R. 644, the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015. This trade agreement is the result of months of negotiation between the House and Senate. The bipartisan, bicameral legislation authorizes funds for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and puts in place effective tools to strengthen trade enforcement at the border and facilitate the efficient movement of legitimate trade and travel."*

**Source:** Rep. Dan Benishek **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449858340\\_benishek.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449858340_benishek.pdf)

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## MDOT seeks public comment on draft 2016-2020 transportation program

**"December 11, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is seeking public comment on its draft 2016-2020 Five-Year Transportation Program. The draft document includes information about MDOT's funding picture and a list of specific transportation projects planned for the next five years in each of MDOT's seven regions. You can view the location, description and proposed construction year for upcoming projects on an interactive map available online at [www.michigan.gov/mdot5yearplan](http://www.michigan.gov/mdot5yearplan)."

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449858072\\_mdit.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449858072_mdit.pdf)

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## **Students Demand Charter Authorizers Halt Activity Without Local Oversight**

*"LANSING – Students from Grand Valley State University, Central Michigan University, the University of Michigan, and Eastern Michigan University gathered in front of the Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers (MCCSA) office to highlight their demands for community input and community control in Detroit's public schools (including Detroit Public Schools, Education Achievement Authority, and charters). The students called for a halt of opening and closing of schools in Detroit."*

**Source:** 482Forward and Students in Solidarity **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449858033\\_482.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449858033_482.pdf)

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## **Deer harvested in Clinton County confirmed to have chronic wasting disease**

*"As of Thursday, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources reports a total of 3,695 deer in Michigan this year have been tested for chronic wasting disease (CWD). Four deer have been confirmed positive for the disease, with the fourth positive just recently found."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449854776\\_dnr.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449854776_dnr.pdf)

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## **Open letter to Michigan US. Congress contingent Regarding Every Child Succeeds Act (ESSA)**

*"Dear Michigan Congressmen: I was recently emailed a letter from my congressman proudly announcing his vote in favor of renewing ESEA, (now ESSA). Others may have received a similar email."*

**Source:** Republican Women's Federation of Michigan **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449850246\\_rwfm.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449850246_rwfm.pdf)

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## **Holiday Drive Ends This Tuesday!**

*"TCRPC's Holiday Drive is wrapping up this upcoming Tuesday, December 15th! "*

**Source:** Tri-County Regional Planning Commission **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449849092\\_trcpc.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449849092_trcpc.pdf)

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## **"Duck" Has Good Luck at Lefty and Romo's in Muskegon**

*"LANSING, Mich., Dec. 11, 2015 – A trip to his favorite sports bar turned into big money for a Muskegon County man who won a Club Keno The Jack prize from the Michigan Lottery."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449848797\\_lottery.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449848797_lottery.pdf)

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## **Lifts for marine traffic at Portage Lake Lift Bridge to end for season on Dec. 15**

*"December 11, 2015 – The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is reminding the public that, due to ongoing maintenance work on the Portage Lake Lift Bridge, the bridge will not be operable for marine lifts after Dec. 15."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449845493\\_mdodot.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449845493_mdodot.pdf)

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## **Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 12/10/2015**

*"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 12/10/2015."*

*For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see <http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx>"*

**Source:** Michigan Court of Appeals **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449845180\\_court.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449845180_court.pdf)

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## **Michigan Lottery Gives Players a Chance to 'Unwrap a Win' This Holiday Season**

*"LANSING, Mich., Dec. 11, 2015 – Michigan Lottery players have a chance to win \$10,000 and other prizes this holiday season by entering the "Unwrap a Win" giveaway."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449844553\\_msl.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449844553_msl.pdf)

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## **Obama Signs ESEA Reauthorization and The Case for Affirmative Action**

*"President Obama signs into law the Every Student Succeeds Act."*

**Source:** Education Reform Now **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449843361\\_ern.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449843361_ern.pdf)



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## **Audit Report Released - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System - GASB 68**

*"Report on internal control over financial reporting for the Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System's Schedules of Employer Allocations and Schedule of Collective Pension Amounts for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2014 Project number: 071-0164-15 The complete audit report and/or report summary can be viewed or downloaded in Adobe Acrobat file format from our Internet site at: <http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/recently-released-audit-reports.html> Please direct any questions or comments to Kelly C. Miller, State Relations Officer [atkcmliller@audgen.michigan.gov](mailto:atkcmliller@audgen.michigan.gov)"*

**Source:** Auditor General Doug Ringler **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449843284\\_auditor.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449843284_auditor.pdf)

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## **Students to Demand Halt of Charter Authorizing Without Accountability**

*"LANSING – Recognizing the plight that students and parents face with the lack of accountability in charter schools in Detroit, college students from across the state will gather on Friday afternoon to call for a halt of opening and closing of schools in Detroit. The students, along with the Students in Solidarity group, will hold a press conference at the Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers (MCCSA) office to demand the Authorizing Council create a policy that will limit the activity of authorizers. The group points to the fact that there are 12 charter school authorizers disproportionately operating in the city of Detroit, with no oversight from residents in the city. This has left many neighborhoods in the city with no schools at all. The students will be standing in solidarity with the 482Forward fasters and marchers as they continue their protest of the lack of accountability within charter and EAA schools in Detroit."*

**Source:** 482Forward **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449843220\\_482.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449843220_482.pdf)

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## **Michigan Legislature Takes Big Step to Protect Kids with Food Allergies**

*"LANSING—Moms of kids with life threatening food allergies today applauded the Michigan state House of Representatives and state Senate for sending new legislation to Governor Rick Snyder's desk that would protect children and adults who suffer sudden, severe allergic reactions. The bill was approved today by a vote of 38-0 in the state Senate and was previously approved 103-0 in the state House."*

**Source:** Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Connection Team **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449843183\\_food.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449843183_food.pdf)

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## **Pavlov comments on new Every Student Succeeds Act**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Phil Pavlov, R-St. Clair Township, chairman of the Senate Education Committee,*

*issued the following statement Thursday after the president signed the Every Student Succeeds Act."*

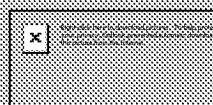
**Source:** Sen. Phil Pavlov **Date:** 12-12-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1449843102\\_pavlov.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1449843102_pavlov.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 07, 2015 6:27 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Gary Glenn apologizes for 'agenda alert' about Midland newspaper's gay editor**

*"MIDLAND, MI -- State Rep. Gary Glenn, R-Larkin Township, has responded to the outcry over recent posts on social media with a public apology."*

**Source:** Saginaw News **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/04/gary\\_glenn\\_apologizes\\_for\\_agenda\\_alert.html#incart\\_m-rpt-2](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/04/gary_glenn_apologizes_for_agenda_alert.html#incart_m-rpt-2)

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### **Great Lakes shippers showing signs of life after another tough winter**

*"SAULT STE. MARIE, MI -- Shipping on the Great Lakes has groaned back to life after another rough winter, but lingering ice is still hampering traffic in some areas."*

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2015/04/great\\_lakes\\_shippers\\_showing\\_signs\\_of\\_life.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2015/04/great_lakes_shippers_showing_signs_of_life.html#incart_river)

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### **Flint councilman equates water troubles to 'genocide' by governor**

*"FLINT, MI -- A city councilman says Gov. Rick Snyder and Flint emergency manager Jerry Ambrose are attempting to carry out a genocide on Flint residents with "contaminated, unhealthy water.""*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/04/flint\\_councilman\\_claims\\_genocide.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/04/flint_councilman_claims_genocide.html#incart_river)

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## **Peters to give commencement address at Alma College**

*"U.S. Sen. Gary Peters this month will deliver the commencement address to the graduating class at Alma College, his alma mater, the school said Monday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/06/peters-give-commencement-address-alma-college/25353405/>

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## **Monday is last day to register for May 5 vote**

*"Monday is the deadline for Michigan residents 18 years or older to register to vote in the May 5 special statewide election."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/06/michigan-voter-registration-deadline/25369053/>

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## **Rep. Dingell named senior whip to House Democrats**

*"Washington — Democratic leaders in the U.S. House have appointed Rep. Debbie Dingell to a team responsible for counting votes and persuading members to side with positions of the party caucus."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/06/debbie-dingell-senior-whip-us-house/25368527/>

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## **Blue Cross incentives save \$50M in health care costs**

*"A Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan program that rewards hospitals for keeping patients healthier lowered health care costs by \$50 million in 2013, according to the state's largest health insurer."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/04/06/blue-cross-incentives/25382361/>

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## **Canada to sell 4.6% stake in GM to Goldman Sachs & Co.**

*"The Canadian federal government said Monday it will sell its 73.4 million shares of General Motors Co. stock to Goldman, Sachs & Co., ending nearly six years of government ownership into the Detroit*

automaker."

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/general-motors/2015/04/06/canada-sell-stake-gm-goldman-sachs-co/25384301/>

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## Michigan: Limit dredging to help protect sturgeon

*"SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP — The state wants to limit the times of year when dredging is allowed in part of southwestern Michigan to protect lake sturgeon, officials announced Monday."*

**Source:** Associated Press **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/06/michigan-dredging-sturgeon/25365459/>

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## Judge: Parts of state's sex offender law unconstitutional

*"Michigan's Sex Offender Registry law is so vague that parts of it are unconstitutional, including the requirement that offenders stay at least 1,000 feet from schools, a federal judge has ruled."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/04/06/michigan-sex-offender-registry-judge-robert-cleland-state-police-governor-snyder/25385625/>

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## 7 Michigan colleges get extra federal financial scrutiny

*"Seven Michigan colleges and universities are among about 500 nationwide undergoing extra scrutiny from the federal Department of Education of their financial practices."*

**Source:** Battle Creek Enquirer **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** <http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/story/news/local/2015/04/06/michigan-colleges-get-extra-federal-financial-scrutiny/25394223/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Michigan's film incentive program should end once and for all

*"The state House recently voted to end Michigan's film incentive program. The bill now heads to the Senate where it is facing some resistance."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/04/michigans\\_film\\_incentive\\_shoul.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/04/michigans_film_incentive_shoul.html#incart_river)

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## Editorial: Clarify medical marijuana

*"Bills to legalize marijuana dispensaries and products that serve the state's medical marijuana patients have been lingering in the Legislature. They should be a priority for lawmakers this year."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/04/07/edit-hash-pot-policy/25372249/>

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## Climate change deniers are selling — and we're buying

*"Saturday night, I wanted to see a Michigan-made horror film I missed at the Free Press Film Festival. My companion favored "Merchants of Doubt," a documentary about climate change deniers. Dinner ran long, and the question was settled: Off to "Merchants of Doubt."*

"

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/04/07/climate-change/25374417/>

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## Could a public boarding school model work in Detroit?

*"So here we go again."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/04/could-a-public-boarding-school-model-work-in-detroit/>

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## Let's rebuild Michigan through its greatest asset: the Great Lakes

*"So begins a beautiful, inspiring and true story about the Michigan Blue Economy."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/04/lets-rebuild-michigan-through-its-greatest-asset-the-great-lakes/>

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## Press Releases

### MDE Helping Schools Prepare for M-STEP

"LANSING – Preliminary testing of the online assessment system, and technology readiness monitoring of school districts by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) are helping assure that the new M-STEP statewide assessment system will operate smoothly when the eight-week testing window opens April 13.

"

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Education **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428353104\\_mi\\_dept.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428353104_mi_dept.pdf)

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## Crash barrier installation to affect ramps on M-10 (Lodge Freeway) and I-75 service drive in Wayne C

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### **Crash barrier installation to affect ramps on M-10 (Lodge Freeway) and I-75 service drive in Wayne County**

**COUNTY:** Wayne **HIGHWAY:** Northbound M-10 ramp to westbound M-8 Northbound I-75 ramp to westbound M-102 (8 Mile Road) **CLOSEST CITIES:** Highland Park and Detroit **START DATE:** Wednesday, April 8, 2015 **ESTIMATED END DATE:** Late Spring 2015 **PROJECT DETAILS:** The Michigan Department of Transportation is investing nearly \$200,000 to install crash attenuators, which are a type of cushion barriers, in two locations. The barriers are used to protect drivers and reduce damage to vehicles involved in a crash. The current barriers have reached the end of their service life and need to be replaced. The new type of barriers will reduce the need for frequent maintenance and replacement. The first barrier installation will be on the northbound M-10 (Lodge Freeway) ramp to westbound M-8 (Davison Avenue), which will require closing the ramp for approximately three weeks.

The second barrier installation will be on the northbound I-75 service drive to westbound M-102 (8 Mile Road) and is expected to begin in late April or early May. **TRAFFIC IMPACT:** Beginning Tuesday, April 7, the northbound M-10 (Lodge Freeway) ramp to westbound M-8 (Davison Avenue) will be closed. The posted detour includes northbound M-10 (Lodge Freeway) to eastbound M-8 (Davison Avenue), then the turnaround east of M-1 (Woodward Avenue) and back to westbound M-8.

During work on the northbound I-75 service drive to westbound M-102 (8 Mile Road), traffic will be detoured via the northbound I-75 service drive to eastbound M-102 (8 Mile Road), then left onto the westbound M-102 (8 Mile Road).

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428353045\\_cb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428353045_cb.pdf)

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## Spring asset management conference set for April 30 in Grand Rapids

"**April 6, 2015** -- The Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) will sponsor the 2015 TAMC Spring Conference on Thursday, April 30, at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Grand Rapids Airport, in Grand Rapids. The conference will once again provide a forum for state and local officials to examine the relationship between asset management, pavement management, and road funding."

**Source:** TAMC **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

## **Time to Celebrate: Michigan Lottery's KENO! Game Turns 25**

*"LANSING, Mich., April 6, 2015 – It's time to roll out the cake and fill the balloons as the Michigan Lottery's KENO! game celebrates 25 years of fun and prizes for players!"*

**Source:** MI Lottery **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428347124\\_msl.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428347124_msl.pdf)

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## **Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Misses Major Deadline to Cut Air Pollution**

*"LANSING – Officials from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) have missed the April 6 deadline to submit a plan to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that reduces sulfur dioxide emissions in Wayne County, where pollution is above levels safe for human health. The DTE Trenton Channel and River Rouge coal plants are responsible for 80 percent of all sulfur dioxide emissions in the county."*

**Source:** Michigan Department of Environmental Quality **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428347066\\_mi\\_dept.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428347066_mi_dept.pdf)

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## **Rep. Dave Trott to Hold Town Hall Meeting in White Lake on April 9th**

*"WHITE LAKE, MI: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) will be holding a public town hall meeting at the White Lake Township Hall in White Lake on Thursday, April 9th from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM."*

**Source:** Rep. Dave Trott **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428346998\\_davelr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428346998_davelr.pdf)

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## **I-75 bridge repair begins over 12 Mile Road in Oakland County**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is repairing the I-75 overpass at 12 Mile Road in Madison Heights, which was damaged last fall when it was hit by a truck. The damage from the hit has kept the westbound 12 Mile Road entrance ramp to southbound I-75 closed.*

*"*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428346928\\_mdott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428346928_mdott.pdf)

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## Lakeport Nurse Practitioner Summarily Suspended

**"For Immediate Release** - The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) has immediately suspended the license to practice as a registered nurse and specialty certification to practice as a nurse practitioner of Robin Michelle Cash-Larsen, R.N., C.N.P., based on her conviction in the 31<sup>st</sup> Circuit Court, St. Clair County, Michigan."

**Source:** LARA **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428346844\\_lara.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428346844_lara.pdf)

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## MAJ Endorses Proposal 1

"LANSING — Last week, the Michigan Association for Justice Executive Board voted to support Proposal 1, a sales tax and road funding measure set to appear on the May 5th ballot. The Michigan Association for Justice (MAJ) has been calling for a solution to Michigan's crumbling roads since March 2013 when they launched [fixyourride.org](http://fixyourride.org). The website provides information on how drivers can receive compensation from state and local governments for damage done to their cars by potholes. "

**Source:** Michigan Association of Justice **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428340969\\_maj.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428340969_maj.pdf)

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## Schuetz Charges Macomb County Man with Multiple Felonies for Child Pornography

"LANSING — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuetz today announced that his Criminal Division has filed criminal charges against Anthony Modrzejewski, 39, of St. Clair Shores, for allegedly possessing and distributing child pornography as well as videotaping an unclothed person. Schuetz charged Modrzejewski with ten counts of possessing child sexually abusive material, a felony punishable by up to four years in prison and/or a \$10,000 fine; and, ten counts of distributing or promoting child sexually abusive material, a felony punishable by up to seven years in prison and/or a \$50,000 fine; and, one count of Using a Computer to Commit a Crime, a felony punishable by up to seven years in prison and/or a \$5,000 fine; and, one count of Videotaping an Unclothed Person, a felony punishable by up to five years in prison and/or a \$5,000 fine. Charges resulted from a Michigan Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) investigation.

"

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuetz **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428340917\\_schu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428340917_schu.pdf)

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## Dingell Named Senior Whip by House Democratic Leadership

"Washington, DC — As House Leadership finalized the Whip team for the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) was appointed to serve as a Senior Whip by Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer (MD-05)."

**Source:** Congresswoman Dingell **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

## **M-231 archeology earns Governor's Award for Historic Preservation**

*"April 6, 2015 -- Archeological discoveries associated with the M-231 project in Ottawa County have earned the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) a Governor's Award for Historic Preservation. The award will be presented at a public ceremony in the Michigan State Capitol rotunda at 9 a.m. on May 6.*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428337451\\_mdott2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428337451_mdott2.pdf)

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## **US-24 pavement repair in Oakland County**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is investing approximately \$1.6 million to perform concrete pavement repairs on:"*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428337326\\_mdott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428337326_mdott.pdf)

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## **Made In Michigan: A Bipartisan Plan To Create Jobs, Reform Government, and Save Taxpayer Dollars**

*"A joint op-ed from Senator Peters and Congressman Huizenga, published by the [Grand Rapids Press](#), which demonstrates one way Democrats and Republicans can work together to eliminate wasteful spending and promote job creation.*

"

**Source:** U.S. Senator Gary Peters **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428337279\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428337279_peters.pdf)

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## **Michigan Historical Center launches new membership program**

*"The Michigan Historical Center recently introduced a new membership program, administered by the Michigan History Foundation. Membership levels start at \$45 for an annual individual membership that includes an annual pass and two single guest passes, a 10-percent discount at Michigan Historical Center stores and on [www.michiganology.com](http://www.michiganology.com), a quarterly newsletter and Time Traveler benefits at participating museums."*

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428337187\\_mhc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428337187_mhc.pdf)

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## DIFS Office to Move to Mason Building Downtown

*"LANSING – The Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) will start moving from the Ottawa Building to the Mason Building on Allegan Street in downtown Lansing, Friday, May 8, 2015 and will finish June 1, 2015. The move will take place over three weekends in May.*

"

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Insurance and Financial Services **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428337041\\_difs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428337041_difs.pdf)

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## Mega Millions Ticket Worth \$5 Million Sold in Farmington Hills

*"LANSING, Mich., April 6, 2015 – A Michigan Lottery player became a multi-millionaire Friday night after winning \$5 million in the Mega Millions game."*

**Source:** MI Lottery **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428332490\\_milott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428332490_milott.pdf)

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## Oakland County Sheriff's Office Recognizes 195th Anniversary

*"April 2, 2015 (Oakland County, MI) - The Oakland County Sheriff's Office (OCSO) is proud to recognize its 195th Anniversary protecting and serving the residents and businesses of Oakland County. Since 1820, when the first Sheriff of Oakland County was sworn in, the agency has grown significantly."*

**Source:** Oakland County Sheriff's Office **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428330575\\_oaklan\\_cty.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428330575_oaklan_cty.pdf)

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## Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc Announces Candidacy for Westland City Clerk Position

*"WESTLAND - Richard LeBlanc, a Wayne County Commissioner from Westland, announced today he will be a candidate for the position of Westland City Clerk. LeBlanc filed the required forms with the City Clerk's office, making him the first official candidate for the position. Current City Clerk, Eileen DeHart-Schoof, has confirmed publicly she will not be a candidate for re-election and has endorsed LeBlanc to succeed her."*

**Source:** Wayne County Commissioner **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428330505\\_waynecity.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428330505_waynecity.pdf)

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## **Application deadline for the 2015 Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship is May 31**

"

*Lansing, MI - Since 2000, the Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund (MYLSF) has awarded more than \$360,000 in scholarships and educational awards to outstanding youth who have exhibited at the premier livestock events in the state of Michigan. "*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Agriculture & Rural Development **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428330404\\_applica.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428330404_applica.pdf)

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## **Adopt-A-Highway's 25th year in Michigan begins with first litter pickup April 11**

*"April 6, 2015 -- The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Adopt-A-Highway (AAH) program will begin its 25th year when volunteers head out to pick up litter from April 11 to 19.*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428330349\\_adopta.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428330349_adopta.pdf)

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## **CORRECTION: US-41/M-28 work in Marquette to begin April 20**

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***CORRECTION: US-41/M-28 work in Marquette  
to begin April 20***

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428329147\\_correction.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428329147_correction.pdf)

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## **Oakland County Educator Wins Excellence in Education Award from the Michigan Lottery**

*"LANSING, Mich., April 6, 2015 – An Oakland County educator known for using competitions and real-life challenges to inspire her students and for encouraging females to enter the engineering design field has been honored with an Excellence in Education award from the Michigan Lottery.*

"

**Source:** MI Lottery **Date:** 04-07-2015 **Link:**

## **US-41/M-28 work in Marquette to begin April 20**

"

***US-41/M-28 work in Marquette to begin April 20***

"

**Source: MDOT Date: 04-07-2015 Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428329072\\_mdoutus41.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428329072_mdoutus41.pdf)

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## **Seven Ways to Enjoy Spring at Consumers Energy River Hydros**

*"JACKSON, Mich., April 6, 2015 – Consumers Energy's hydroelectric properties offer year-round recreational opportunities in some of Michigan's most scenic areas along the Muskegon, Au Sable, Kalamazoo, and Manistee rivers."*

**Source: Consumers Energy Date: 04-07-2015 Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428329030\\_consener.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428329030_consener.pdf)

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## **MDOT lifts more weight restrictions in Lower Peninsula**

*"April 6, 2015 -- Effective today, April 6, weight restrictions have been lifted on all state trunkline highways from the southern Michigan border north to and including I-96 from US-31 in Muskegon to I-69 in Lansing, then I-69 from Lansing to the Blue Water Bridge in Port Huron. State routes typically carry M, I, or US designations."*

**Source: MDOT Date: 04-07-2015 Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428328958\\_mdoutip.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428328958_mdoutip.pdf)

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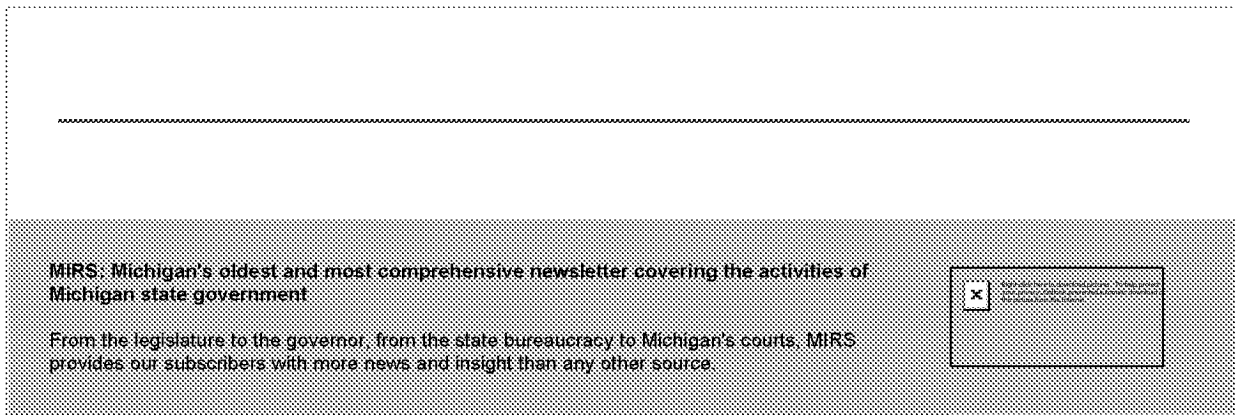
## **M-24 (Lapeer Rd) construction resumes**

"

***M-24 (Lapeer Road) reconstruction resumes April 13***

"

**Source: MDOT Date: 04-07-2015 Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1428328865\\_mdout.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1428328865_mdout.pdf)



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### **Michigan Political Points: 'Tis the season for majority rule on election rules**

*"LANSING, MI — As 2015 nears an end, Republican majorities in the Michigan Legislature are pushing a series of proposals to change election rules ahead of 2016."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_political\\_points\\_tis.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_political_points_tis.html#incart_river_home)

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### **State of Michigan surplus sale brings long lines, empty warehouse**

*"LANSING, MI — The state of Michigan surplus sale supplied many customers with large savings, smiling faces and still money in their pockets."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/state\\_of\\_michigan\\_surplus\\_sale.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/state_of_michigan_surplus_sale.html#incart_river_home)

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### **'Too big to care': Deteriorating bank-owned homes costing taxpayers millions annually**

*"The vacant, foreclosed home that once stood at 210 S. Mansfield St. in Ypsilanti Township seemed to defy physics in not collapsing on itself."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/too\\_big\\_to\\_care\\_deteriorating.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/too_big_to_care_deteriorating.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Grand Rapids' marijuana decriminalization stands after high court nixes hearing**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI -- The city's 2012 amendment to decriminalize possession of small amounts of marijuana has cleared a final legal challenge."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/grand\\_rapids\\_marijuana\\_decrimi\\_8.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/grand_rapids_marijuana_decrimi_8.html#incart_river_home)

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## **In Flint and beyond, lead remains irreversible scourge among Michigan's children**

*"Across Michigan, in cities large and small, lead poisoning continues to plague children, limiting them in school and on the playground."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/health/index.ssf/2015/12/far\\_from\\_flint\\_lead\\_remains\\_an.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/health/index.ssf/2015/12/far_from_flint_lead_remains_an.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Endangered or not? Scientists, lawmakers renew gray wolf debate**

*"In 1999, as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was preparing regulatory language that would remove gray wolves in the Great Lakes region from the federal endangered species list, Wisconsin wolf biologist Adrian Wydeven figured the transition process from federal protection to state population management would be smooth."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/12/great\\_lakes\\_wolves\\_delisting\\_d.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/12/great_lakes_wolves_delisting_d.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Whistleblowers shine light on lack of transparency and accountability in Lansing**

*"Nowhere is transparency more important than in government, where elected decision-makers must be held to the highest standard of accountability. Unfortunately, that standard has gone missing from the halls of Michigan's Capitol. "*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/whistleblowers\\_shine\\_light\\_on.html#incart\\_most\\_shared-ann-arbor](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/whistleblowers_shine_light_on.html#incart_most_shared-ann-arbor)

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## Obama says world has 'met the moment' with climate pact

*"Washington — President Barack Obama on Saturday hailed the newly passed international climate agreement that he said "offers the best chance we have to save the one planet we have.""*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/12/obama-says-world-met-moment-climate-pact/77230324/>

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## Community defends itself against hate at Dearborn rally

*"Dearborn — Imad Hamad came not to condemn Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, but to thank him for "unveiling the mask" that hid the hatred fellow Americans are capable of."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/12/12/community-defends-hate-dearborn-rally/77227016/>

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## Michael Finney is fighting Michigan poverty with jobs

*"With Census numbers showing more people in Michigan slipping deeper into poverty and with increased crime and unemployment as a result, Michael Finney left his job in state government to help."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/carol-cain/2015/12/13/community-ventures-jobs-michael-finney/77143328/>

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## Exclusive Detroit poll: 69% say city headed in right direction

*"A year after Detroit exited its historic bankruptcy and set out on an uncertain but hopeful path, residents say life in the Motor City has improved and a solid majority believe the city is moving in the right direction."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-reborn/2015/12/13/poll-detroit-hope-rises-worries-linger/77095754/>

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## Donald Trump hits Ted Cruz, Saudi prince

*"Republican presidential front-runner Donald Trump is making it clear he doesn't take kindly to any criticism — not from his rivals, nor from Saudi princes."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2015/12/12/donald-trump-hits-ted-cruz-saudi-prince/77205622/>

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## On ISIL, rhetoric is biggest divide between Obama, GOP candidates

*"The rhetoric of Republican presidential candidates blasting President Obama's approach to combating Islamic State terrorism suggests a huge policy divide"*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/13/republicans-islamic-state-obama-2016/77057846/>

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## What the global climate accord means for you

*"With more than 190 nations adopting an accord in Paris to fight global warming Saturday, Americans need not brace for a raft of new onerous regulations, laws and restrictions imposed as a result, experts say."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/cars/2015/12/12/climate-change-painless-us/77222700/>

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## Iowa Poll: Cruz soars past Trump into lead among GOP

*"DES MOINES, Iowa — Seven weeks from the caucuses, Ted Cruz is crushing it in Iowa."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/12/iowa-poll-cruz-soars-past-trump-lead-among-gop/77218292/>

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## Search for San Bernardino shooters' hard drive concludes in California lake

*"LOS ANGELES (AP) — An underwater search for a computer hard drive and anything else linked to the husband-and-wife shooters who killed 14 in the California attacks concluded on Saturday."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2015/12/13/san-bernardino-shooters-hard-drive-evidence-lake/77242060/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

## Editorial: Limit militarization of police

*"The image has become all too familiar: military-grade tanks driving through American neighborhoods as they respond to emergency situations.*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/12/editorial-limit-militarization-police/77215916/>

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## Finley: Big GOP bucks won't go to Trump

*"It's the second Sunday in December and Donald Trump hasn't gone away. The Republican money is starting to plan what it will do if he never does."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/12/12/finley-trump-donors-gop/77215902/>

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## Attitudes changing for the better in Detroit

*"Things are changing in Detroit."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-reborn/2015/12/13/50-detroiters-editorial-changing/77167052/>

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## Ex-star principal tells of her downfall in EAA scandal

*"The first time Kenyetta (K.C.) Wilbourn Snapp broke the law, she had been in a new job for less than a week."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-nley/2015/12/10/eea-ko-wilbourn-scandal-federal-investigation/76742980/>

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## Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder: Donald Trump does not speak for me

*"Just as terrorists who betray cherished values in the name of Islam do not speak for the 1.6 billion Muslims in the world, Donald Trump does not speak for me, the state of Michigan, nor the entire Republican Party."*

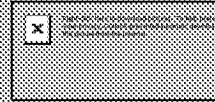
**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/12/12/snyder-trump-speak/77181932/>

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 15, 2015 6:59 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Cruz supporters stage live nativity at Michigan Capitol, others plan gay pride 'Festivus' pole**

*"LANSING, MI — "One unplanned pregnancy changed the world," according to supporters of Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz, who staged a live nativity and sang Christmas carols outside of the Michigan Capitol on Saturday and Sunday night."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/cruz\\_supporters\\_stage\\_live\\_nat.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/cruz_supporters_stage_live_nat.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Long-shot Dem seeks ballot access in Michigan primary, Donald J. Trump adds middle initial**

*"LANSING, MI — Rocky De La Fuente, a long-shot Democrat running for president, is trying to make Michigan's primary ballot the old fashioned way. "*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/long-shot\\_democrat\\_donald\\_trum.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/long-shot_democrat_donald_trum.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Donald Trump to campaign in Michigan next week**

*"LANSING, MI — Republican presidential candidate Donald J. Trump will return to Michigan next week for a rally in Grand Rapids."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.mlive.com/lansing->

[news/index.ssf/2015/12/donald-trump-to-campaign-in-mi.html#incart=river-index](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/donald-trump-to-campaign-in-mi.html#incart=river-index)

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## **Mayor Karen Weaver declares water crisis state of emergency in Flint**

*"FLINT, MI – Mayor Karen Weaver has declared a state of emergency in Flint, saying the city needs federal help to deal with its lead in water crisis."*

**Source:** *Flint Journal* **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/mayor-karen-weaver-declares-st.html#incart=river-home>

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## **Election board rejects recall petition against Snyder**

*"State canvassers rejected recall petitions against Gov. Rick Snyder and Sen. Wayne Schmidt on Monday — Snyder because of Flint water problems and Schmidt for his Nov. 3 votes on a road funding package."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/14/snyder-petition-rejected-canvassers-schmidt/77302992/>

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## **Donald Trump returns to Michigan for rally next week**

*"Republican presidential frontrunner Donald Trump will return to Michigan next week to hold a campaign rally in Grand Rapids."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/14/donald-trump-michigan-rally-grand-rapids/77316220/>

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## **Dems wield auto bailouts as issue against GOP hopefuls**

*"Seven years after a Republican president initiated taxpayer-funded rescues of General Motors and Chrysler, Michigan Democrats still see the issue as a political trump card they can use in 2016 against Republican presidential hopefuls who opposed the bailouts."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/14/dems-wield-auto-bailouts-issue-gop-hopefuls/77332878/>

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## **Gov. Snyder 'open' to ending EAA school reform**

*"Gov. Rick Snyder said Monday he's "open" to disbanding his controversial Education Achievement Authority*

*if it's part of a deal with the Legislature to overhaul public education governance in Detroit."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/14/snyder-end-eea-education-achievement-authority/77306098/>

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## Trump's call to ban Muslims creating an uproar

*"Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has created an uproar across not just the country, but the world."*

**Source:** Dearborn Press and Guide **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/12/14/news/doc566af49ff2d3b603447926.txt>

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## Vaccines, auto insurance rates among introduced bills

*"LANSING — The state Department of Health and Human Services would be prohibited from imposing more stringent rules on vaccinations than is already allowed under state law under a bill that was introduced last week."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/12/vaccines-auto-insurance-rates-among-introduced-bills/77101676/>

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## Donald Trump returning to Michigan for campaign stop

*"Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump will return to Michigan next week with a visit to Grand Rapids on Dec. 21."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/14/donald-trump-returning-michigan-campaign-stop/77314288/>

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## Report: Straits of Mackinac oil pipeline not necessary

*"Continuing to move up to 23 million gallons of crude oil per day through 62-year-old, underwater pipelines in the Straits of Mackinac is too risky and not necessary, an environmental group said Monday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/12/14/straits-mackinac-oil-pipeline-line5/77174364/>

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## Hillary Clinton campaign forms Mich. Leadership Council

*"Hillary Clinton is launching a Michigan Leadership Council to help win the state's March 8 primary -- a group that includes more than 140 elected officials, such as current and former Detroit leaders like Mayor Mike Duggan."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/15/hillary-clinton-detroit-michigan-2016-2016-campaign/77320120/>

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## Pressure builds for a new school plan for Detroit kids

*"State Sen. Bert Johnson said Monday that he would co-sponsor legislation to create a new school district for Detroit children and put an elected school board in charge of retiring the old district's debt."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochele-niley/2015/12/14/detroit-schools-governor-legislature-new-plan/77325502/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### As Legislature considers medical marijuana proposals, facts must overcome fiction, myths

*"The Michigan Legislature is poised to provide much-needed clarity to our state's medical marijuana law. By approving a framework of strong regulations that hold people accountable, policymakers can end seven years of confusion that has harmed patients, local communities and responsible businesses eager to follow the rules."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/as\\_legislature\\_considers\\_medic.html#ncart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/as_legislature_considers_medic.html#ncart_river_index)

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## Editorial: Slow down on tax hike

*"Lawmakers are rushing to extend a bill that levies a tax on Michigan businesses that promises to grow exponentially over the next few years. There is no need for such haste."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/14/health-insurance-claims-assessment-tax-michigan/77255680/>

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## Howes' Dow-DuPont tie-up fans familiar anxiety in MI



*"The last time Michigan got sold a "Merger of Equals" it didn't work out so well."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/12/14/howes-dow-duPont-tie-fans-familiar-anxiety-mi/77332000/>

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## **Is the State to Blame For Detroit Public Schools' Financial Woes?**

*"The Democratic-controlled State Board of Education recently released a statement that appears to blame Michigan's state government for the Detroit school district's crippling debt. The board wrote, "Detroit Public Schools has been under state control for nearly 15 years, and currently is experiencing its fourth Emergency Manager.""*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21993>

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## **"We're Number 10' in School Choice**

*"The "fix Detroit schools" discussion ought to begin and end with what best serves students and their families, rather than what serves school administrators, unions or any other interest group. A new report from a respected education reform group describes one feature that should be at the forefront of this conversation."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21992>

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## **The forest-loving Farm Bill at 25**

*"Many people have seen a two-person crosscut saw in action. For those who haven't, it's the lumberjacks' long hand saw, with large teeth along its edge and hardwood handles at both ends."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/12/the-forest-loving-farm-bill-at-25/>

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## **Press Releases**

### **National Voting Rights Groups Oppose SB 639**

*"MICHIGAN – Today, a dozen prominent national voting rights groups sent a letter to Governor Rick Snyder opposing Senate Bill 639 and calling on him to veto the legislation in the event that it reaches his desk. The following quote can be attributed to the organizations listed below:"*

**Source:** Engage Michigan **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450127461\\_mich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450127461_mich.pdf)

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## Rep. Banks Unveils Auto Insurance Reform Bills to Lower Rates

*"LANSING – State Representative and Detroit Caucus Chairman Brian Banks (D-Detroit) today announced that he has introduced two bills to reform auto insurance by lowering rates for urban and rural drivers while still keeping the current no-fault system in place. The two bill package would give Michigan residents in areas with the highest auto insurance rates affordable policies while maintaining their benefits and protections for accident victims, a new fraud authority, and a tax credit for participating insurance companies. House Bills 5134 and 5135 were introduced recently with bipartisan support."*

**Source:** Rep. Brian Banks **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450127105\\_banks.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450127105_banks.pdf)

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## MDHHS Releases 2016 Fluoridation Equipment Grant RFP

*"LANSING, Mich. – Fluoridation of a community water system is one of the most cost effective and efficient ways to reduce dental disease in a population. For 70 years, research on this topic has proven community water fluoridation to be safe and effective in improving the oral health of our communities. "*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450124275\\_dhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450124275_dhhs.pdf)

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## Michigan NOW Ready to End Discrimination

*"Lansing—The Michigan National Organization of Women (NOW) today announced its commitment to and support for Fair Michigan – the constitutional ballot committee formed to pass a Constitutional amendment that will ensure equality for all Michiganders, no matter their gender, gender identity or sexual orientation."*

**Source:** Fair Michigan **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450124222\\_mich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450124222_mich.pdf)

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## Global Climate Pact Hailed by MI Groups

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan climate advocates hailed the global agreement reached Saturday by leaders of nearly 200 nations to address climate change, and urged Michigan leaders to move forward with strong clean energy policies."*

**Source:** Michigan Climate Action Network **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450120529\\_mcan.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450120529_mcan.pdf)

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## Library of Michigan Expands Hours and Services Beginning January 9, 2016

*"LANSING – The Library of Michigan will expand its hours and services to better serve Michigan citizens and state government."*

**Source:** Department of Education **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450118649\\_mde.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450118649_mde.pdf)

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## Newly Proposed No-Fault Reforms Worthy of Strong Consideration

*"LANSING – State Representative and House Insurance Committee Minority Chairman Brian Banks (D-Detroit) today announced the introduction of two bills that would lower rates for Michigan drivers while maintaining the life-saving personal injury benefits provided by the current no-fault system."*

**Source:** Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450117365\\_cpan.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450117365_cpan.pdf)

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## Schmidt announces upcoming December coffee hours

*"LANSING, Mich. — State Sen. Wayne Schmidt announced he will hold coffee hours in the 37th District this month."*

**Source:** Sen. Wayne Schmidt **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450116556\\_schmidt.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450116556_schmidt.pdf)

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## Poll: Detroit continues its comeback

*"Governor Snyder is not someone who spends too much time focusing on polls. Many of you remember when he was in the "margin of error" back in 2009. However, polling is used to measure public opinion and how it changes over time on important policy issues."*

**Source:** Relentless Positive Action PAC **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450115890\\_rpapac.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450115890_rpapac.pdf)

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## Hune named 'Most Conservative' member of Legislature, perfect voting attendance

*"LANSING, Mich. — State Sen. Joe Hune, R-Hamburg, was named the most conservative member of the Michigan Legislature by Inside Michigan Politics with a 100 percent conservative voting record. He is also the only member of the Legislature to have a perfect voting attendance."*

**Source:** Sen. Joe Hune **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450115826\\_hune.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450115826_hune.pdf)

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## New Ad: Learn from Mistakes

**"WASHINGTON, D.C.** - Rand Paul for President today released a new

advertisement highlighting the need for a conservative realist foreign policy in which our nation's leaders learn from mistakes we have made in the past, and secure our borders. This advertisement contrasts Senator Paul's views on national security with that of fellow senators and Republican Presidential candidates Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio.

"

**Source: Rand Paul Date: 12-15-2015 Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450112830\\_rand.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450112830_rand.pdf)

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## Horn Hometown Tours: Kluck Nursery

**"LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Ken Horn recently wrapped up his Hometown Tours for the year at Kluck Nursery and Christmas tree farm in Thomas Township."

**Source: Sen. Ken Horn Date: 12-15-2015 Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450110280\\_horn.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450110280_horn.pdf)

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## MICHIGAN NOW SUPPORTS FAIR MICHIGAN

"Michigan National Organization of Women (NOW) has a long history of working for women's rights in our state, and we are excited to announce that we are strengthening our work for equality as a partner in the Fair Michigan Coalition that will work to pass a constitutional amendment to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation. Why a constitutional amendment? We need it. Women should be treated as full citizens and should have access to all of the protections guaranteed in our state constitution. A constitutional amendment is a clear statement that the people of Michigan believe that the women in our state deserve full equality. It is a stronger guarantee of rights than simply passing a law that can be easily repealed or amended."

**Source: National Organization for Women Date: 12-15-2015 Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450109033\\_nofw.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450109033_nofw.pdf)

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## Sportsmen's Alliance Files Brief in Great Lakes Wolf Case

"On Dec. 8, the Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation and our partners filed its brief before the U.S. Court of Appeals in the long-running Western Great Lakes wolf lawsuit. The case, brought by Humane Society of the United States and their anti-hunting allies, sought to reinstate federal Endangered Species Act protections for gray wolves in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. The Alliance and our partners are fighting to ensure wolves are delisted and returned to state management."

**Source:** Sportsmen's Alliance **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450108970\\_mich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450108970_mich.pdf)

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## **Straits Oil Pipelines Not Needed to Meet Michigan, Midwest Demand, New Report Finds**

*"TRAVERSE CITY, MI -- Decommissioning the twin pipelines in the Mackinac Straits to prevent a catastrophic oil spill would not disrupt Michigan's or the Midwest's crude oil and propane supply, contrary to assertions by the pipelines' owner, according to a Great Lakes law and policy group that released a set of expert reports today."*

**Source:** For Love of Water **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450106635\\_flow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450106635_flow.pdf)

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## **Michigan Data Center Alliance throws support behind job creation guarantees, accountability**

*"LANSING – Leaders of the **Michigan Data Center Alliance** today renewed their call for fairness and equity in any tax reform bills passed by the state legislature, and urged that all data companies receiving tax breaks or special treatment be required to guarantee – and be held accountable for – job creation in Michigan."*

**Source:** Michigan Data Center Alliance **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450107666\\_data.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450107666_data.pdf)

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## **Secretary of State offices to close for Christmas and New Year's holidays**

*"LANSING, Mich. - Secretary of State Ruth Johnson reminds residents that all branch offices and the Office of the Great Seal will be closed in observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays."*

**Source:** Secretary of State Ruth Johnson **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450104011\\_sos.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450104011_sos.pdf)

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## **All children deserve the gift of a home for the holidays**

*"As you gather with family and friends this holiday season, all of us at the ACLU of Michigan hope you'll take a moment to remember 13,000 Michigan children in the state's care who want nothing more than to be placed in a loving home."*

**Source:** Michigan ACLU **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450103258\\_aclu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450103258_aclu.pdf)

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## Gun Violence Survivors, Michigan Moms and Community Leaders to Join Together for Orange Walk and Int

*"LANSING, Mich.—In the wake of the mass shooting in San Bernardino and heightened attention on the need for our nation's leaders to act to end gun violence, the Michigan chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, part of Everytown for Gun Safety, will join together this weekend in Ann Arbor, Midland and Grand Rapids for Orange Walks and an Interfaith Vigil to #EndGunViolence to commemorate the three year mark of the Sandy Hook tragedy and to honor all survivors and victims of gun violence. During the walks and vigil, participants will share photos and post on social media using the hashtag #EndGunViolence. "*

**Source:** Moms Demand Action **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450102578\\_mdm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102578_mdm.pdf)

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## Rand Paul for President Issues Debate Statement

*"WASHINGTON, D.C.- Prior to CNN's Republican Presidential debate announcement, Rand Paul for President has had discussions with the RNC and CNN in which the campaign indicated that Rand Paul should be on the main stage on Tuesday. Our campaign asserts that fairness in dealing with polling variances, which previously allowed for amended rules for Carly Fiorina for CNN's August Republican Presidential debate, would indicate Rand Paul should be on the main stage during Tuesday's debate. "*

**Source:** Rand Paul **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450102530\\_paul.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102530_paul.pdf)

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## DNR Fisheries Division recognizes partners for critical work

*"The Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Division recently presented five Outstanding Partnership Awards to recognize individuals and organizations outside the division or the department that have shown dedication and enthusiasm in helping to provide recreational fisheries and/or protection of Michigan's fishery resources."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450102468\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102468_dnr.pdf)

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## Experts to State Advisory Board: Viable Alternatives to Straits Pipelines Must Be Pursued to Avoid O

*" Lansing press conference and telepresser. A team of Great Lakes advocates and scientists will release a set of illustrated reports concluding that the twin Line 5 oil pipelines in the Mackinac Straits are not vital to Michigan's energy infrastructure and security. The risk to the Great Lakes posed by these 62-year-old pipelines can be eliminated by utilizing existing infrastructure around the Great Lakes rather than Line 5 through the Straits. Natural gas liquids and propane could still flow across the Upper Peninsula and through the Straits unaffected. The team will deliver the reports to Gov. Snyder's Pipeline Safety Advisory Board to assist in the state's study of Line 5's risks and alternatives to prevent a catastrophic oil spill in the Straits of*

Mackinac."

**Source:** For Love of Water **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450103001\\_water.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450103001_water.pdf)

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## **Consumers Energy Named a 'Customer Champion' Among Nation's Electric, Natural Gas Providers**

*"JACKSON, Mich., Dec. 14, 2015 – An independent national survey has ranked Consumers Energy fifth in the nation among providers of electricity and natural gas and a "Customer Champion" for strengthening its bond with residential customers."*

**Source:** Consumer Energy **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450103353\\_energy.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450103353_energy.pdf)

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## **State Police to Add Six Canine Teams**

*"During Media Day, reporters are invited to get an in-depth look into the MSP Canine Unit to learn more about how canine teams train. Attendees will be able to get photo and video of tracking and detection demonstrations, as well as speak with canine handlers and the commander of the Canine Unit. The media is also invited to attend the Canine School graduation ceremony at 2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 18 at the MSP Training Academy. Six new canine teams will graduate. Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue will address the graduates."*

**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450102312\\_police.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102312_police.pdf)

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## **MDOT looking for northern Michigan Road Watchers**

*"December 14, 2014 – Though winter is curiously absent so far, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is bringing back its "Road Watchers" program in the northern Lower Peninsula for when the snow returns."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450102265\\_mdod.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102265_mdod.pdf)

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## **The whole world is watching**

*"Should we really have to tell political leaders not to fuel ongoing hatred and bigotry?"*

**Source:** Michigan ACLU **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450102185\\_aclu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102185_aclu.pdf)

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## CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE CWD TSE PRION REPORT DECEMBER 14, 2015

*"CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE CWD, SCRAPIE, BSE, TSE PRION REPORT UNITED STATES DECEMBER 2015"*

**Source:** Date: 12-15-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450102140\\_cwd.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450102140_cwd.pdf)

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## JEB BUSH: A WELFARE PLAN FOR GETTING AMERICANS BACK TO WORK

*"My fundamental belief is that every American has the God-given ability to achieve earned success and rise up the income ladder, as long as there is an environment that gives them the opportunity to do so. The problem is that for too long, a dysfunctional Washington has imposed rules and regulations that create additional barriers for people. "*

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450101990\\_bush.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450101990_bush.pdf)

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## Straight-Ticket Voting and Last 2015 Coffee Hour

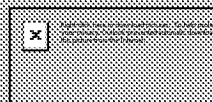
*"This week, I was incredibly disappointed in the decision of our legislative majority to put political posturing over the good of the people of our state when they voted to eliminate straight-ticket voting. I firmly believe that the Michigan Legislature should be working to making voting easier for people, not more cumbersome. Straight-ticket voting has been a practice in Michigan for over a century, and it is a right that tens of thousands of Democrats and Republicans choose to use every election. The current option to cast straight-ticket ballot makes voting easier, less time consuming, and as a result, encourages greater participation in elections."*

**Source:** Rep. Sam Singh **Date:** 12-15-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450101940\\_singh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450101940_singh.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnnews.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 14, 2015 9:03 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Detroit school board: State should pay Pugh settlement**

*"The Detroit Public Schools board passed a resolution Thursday asking the state to pay a \$350,000 settlement reached with a former student who filed a sexual harassment lawsuit against the district and former City Council president Charles Pugh."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/11/13/detroit-school-board-state-pay-pugh-settlement/75692342/>

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### **Efforts to deal with blight in U.P. get boost**

*"Marquette — Efforts to deal with blighted buildings in Michigan's Upper Peninsula are getting a boost."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/13/efforts-deal-blight-get-boost/75696346/>

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### **FAA: Plane hit by laser while flying near Metro airport**

*"Romulus — The Federal Aviation Administration says a plane heading to Detroit Metropolitan Airport was illuminated by a laser while flying about 3,000 feet off the ground."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/13/faa-plane-hit-laser-flying-near-metro-airport/75703526/>

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## Trump questions Carson's faith, temper

*"Fort Dodge, Iowa — Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump didn't let up his blistering criticism of rival Ben Carson, issuing a new online video ad Friday that calls him a "violent criminal" or "pathological liar.""*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/11/13/donald-trump-attacks-ben-carson/75725350/>

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## Let the tradition begin: Deer hunters heed call

*"Pies are being baked. Chili is getting its final dashes of salt and pepper. Warm-weather layers have been pulled from closets and bags following a long year's nap. Rifles are being sighted-in."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/sports/2015/11/13/conditions-promising-deer-hunting-season/75742832/>

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## Old laws collide with digital reality in sexting cases

*"Canon City, Colo — . — Educators in a small Colorado town say they had no choice but to alert police when they discovered that many high-schoolers were using a cellphone app to collect and hide hundreds of naked photos of themselves."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/13/sexting-teens/75753468/>

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## Police believe all Paris attackers are dead

*"Paris — A series of attacks targeting young concert-goers, soccer fans and Parisians enjoying a Friday night out at popular nightspots killed at least 120 people in the deadliest violence to strike France since World War II. President Francois Hollande condemned it as terrorism and pledged that France would stand firm against its foes."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/world/2015/11/13/paris-shooting-explosion/75727850/>

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## Amtrak serving up extra trains for Thanksgiving week

*"Additional trains are being served up for Amtrak riders this Thanksgiving holiday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/13/amtrak-serving-up-extra-trains-thanksgiving-week/75704730/>

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## **MSU using \$18 million to fight hunger in Africa**

*"EAST LANSING — Michigan State University plans to use more than \$18 million in grants to support efforts to fight hunger in Africa."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/14/msu-18-million-fight-hunger-africa/75771504/>

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## **After Flint water crisis, families file lawsuit**

*"Families in Flint have filed a federal lawsuit in the wake of the city's water crisis, accusing an array of state and local officials of intentional negligence causing serious harm to at least four families' homes and bodies."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/13/after-flint-water-crisis-families-file-lawsuit/75744376/>

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## **Terror strikes Paris, scores killed**

*"At least 120 people were killed in a series of terror attacks in Paris on November 13 according to a provisional total, a source close to the investigation said"*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** [http://www.freep.com/picture-](http://www.freep.com/picture-gallery/news/2015/11/13/terror-strikes-paris-scores-killed/75748002/)

[gallery/news/2015/11/13/terror-strikes-paris-scores-killed/75748002/](http://www.freep.com/picture-gallery/news/2015/11/13/terror-strikes-paris-scores-killed/75748002/)

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## **Francois Hollande: Paris attacks were ISIL 'act of war'**

*"PARIS — The Islamic State group on Saturday claimed responsibility for a series of terror attacks described by French President Francois Hollande as "an act of war" that killed 127 people."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** [http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/11/14/terror-](http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/11/14/terror-attack-paris/75760842/)

[attack-paris/75760842/](http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/11/14/terror-attack-paris/75760842/)

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## Clinton has support of half the Democratic National Convention voters

*"WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton has locked up public support from half the Democratic Party insiders who get to cast ballots at the party's national convention."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/us-world/index.ssf/2015/11/clinton\\_has\\_support\\_of\\_half\\_th.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/news/us-world/index.ssf/2015/11/clinton_has_support_of_half_th.html#incart_river_index)

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## Snyder vows to veto bill allowing concealed guns in Michigan schools: 'It should be a local option'

*"LANSING, MI — Gov. Rick Snyder said Friday that he would veto controversial legislation that would allow concealed guns in Michigan schools and other restricted areas."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/snyder\\_vows\\_to\\_veto\\_bill\\_allow.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/snyder_vows_to_veto_bill_allow.html#incart_story_package)

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## Board rejects petition seeking to recall Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder

*"LANSING, MI — The Michigan Board of State Canvassers on Friday rejected a petition seeking to recall Gov. Rick Snyder, ruling that the petition was neither timely nor factual."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/board\\_rejects\\_petition\\_to\\_reca.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/board_rejects_petition_to_reca.html#incart_river_index)

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## Lake Erie phenomenon: Seiche causes 7-foot water rise at Buffalo

*"MICHIGAN — The storm that caused spectacular waves on Lake Michigan and some minor lakeshore flooding also sent Lake Erie's water listing like a boat."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/lake\\_erie\\_phenomenon\\_seiche\\_ca.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/11/lake_erie_phenomenon_seiche_ca.html#incart_river_home)

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## Bag a deer on the road with your car? Here's what to do

*"GENESEE COUNTY, MI — While deer hunters know exactly what they'll do if they bag their game, there are a few questions that arise as deer move out of the wild and onto the roads."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/what\\_to\\_do\\_if\\_you\\_hit\\_a\\_deer\\_w.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/what_to_do_if_you_hit_a_deer_w.html#incart_river_home)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Hamilton: Congress should kick bad budget habits

*"You can understand why President Barack Obama and congressional leaders on both sides of the aisle sought to cast their recent budget deal in the best possible light. They avoided a potentially catastrophic national default. They reduced the possibility of a government shutdown. And they raised the debt ceiling until March 2017, taking that bargaining chip off the table until the next president is in the White House."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/13/congress-bad-budget-habits/75755774/>

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### Republicans show they can take lead on climate change

*"Conventional wisdom is that only Democrats, environmentalists and scientists are concerned about climate change. But as a citizen volunteer with Citizens' Climate Lobby, I encounter people from all parts of the political spectrum who are ready for positive action to address our climate challenge."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/13/republicans-lead-climate-change/75755640/>

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### Path to avoiding unwanted end-of-life medical treatment

*"My mom paid a painful price for not completing an advance directive about her preferences for end-of-life medical care. She was an intelligent and organized woman who had everything in her and my dad's life planned out and written down. She even drafted her own obituary. Ironically, she never discussed her end-of-life care goals with my father or her physician son (me), preferring to talk about more pleasant subjects."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/13/grube-end-life-treatment/75755598/>

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### State ranks last in ethics laws? Voters should something about that

*"Michigan ranked last in the U.S. in a national study of state ethics and transparency laws. The study, released Monday, cites weak public record laws and the state's lack of laws requiring personal financial disclosures by lawmakers and top state officials."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/11/13/state-ranks-last-ethics-laws-voters-something/75757040/>

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## When the Free Press met Dr. Ben Carson ... in 1988

*"Long, long ago — decades before Ben Carson embarked on his unlikely presidential campaign (but well after the pyramids he attributes to the biblical prophet Joseph began springing up west of the Nile River), a Detroit Free Press reporter named Antoinette Martin wrote a long profile of the Detroit-born neurosurgeon, who had recently achieved international acclaim after separating two twin brothers conjoined at the head."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/11/11/free-press-ben-carson/75595474/>

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## Database: Which languages are spoken in your community?

*"Nine percent of Michigan residents ages five and older speak a language other than English at home, according to Census data released this month. At least 126 different languages are spoken in homes across metro Detroit; statewide that number is at least 157. Nationwide, the latest Census data tallied even more, about 350, languages spoken in U.S. homes among 21% of the population."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/raw-data/2015/11/14/database-which-languages-spoken-your-community/75657226/>

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## Ben Carson and Donald Trump: Clash of the narcissists!

*"Donald Trump had a public meltdown in Iowa the other night. That was hardly unusual, except that this particular meltdown seemed more genuinely spontaneous, and thus more revealing, than the orchestrated rants that have been the meat and potatoes of Trump's outrage-a-day campaign."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/11/14/trump-carson-rant/75700046/>

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## Worker Bullied as UAW Publicizes His Opt-out

*"Another Michigan union has used its newsletter to post the names of employees who have chosen to exercise their right to not have to financially support a union as a condition of employment. Workers say the union is bullying them and creating a hostile work environment."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21893>

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## Traverse City Homeless 'Bill of Rights' Could Turn Public Facilities into

## Impromptu Shelters

"The city committee in Traverse City recently passed a resolution that among other things could make it harder for libraries and other public facilities to enforce rules banning vagrants from using their facility as a place to hang out. "A Resolution Recognizing the Rights of Homeless Persons," as the document is titled, is the product of an arm of city government called the Human Rights Commission."

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21880>

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## More needs to be done for Michigan sex-trafficking victims

"Shared Hope International, a nonprofit that monitors and advocates for sex-trafficking legislation at the state level, has been grading states for the last four years – and Michigan received an "F" from 2011 to 2014. Gov. Rick Snyder, Attorney General Bill Schuette and the state legislature should be commended, however, for taking a number of steps to tackle this global problem at a local level, including the formation of the Michigan Human Trafficking Commission."

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/11/more-needs-to-be-done-for-michigan-sex-trafficking-victims/>

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## Susan J. Demas: What Snyder gets wrong about welders and higher education

"I've interviewed Gov. Rick Snyder a number of times, but one moment has always struck me."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/rick\\_snyder\\_philosophy\\_marco\\_r.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/rick_snyder_philosophy_marco_r.html#incart_river_index)

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## Michigan consumers deserve 'patient-centered' care

"When Michigan residents access health care services, they should ask for and expect to be part of a "patient centered medical home" through a primary care provider. After less than five years using the new model, primary care practices report significant improvements in the biggest health care challenges facing Michigan's population — obesity, diabetes, hypertension and other issues that affect our aging residents in large numbers and lead to chronic hospital and emergency room visits and huge costs for those who pay the bills."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan\\_consumers\\_deserve\\_pat.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/michigan_consumers_deserve_pat.html#incart_story_package)

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## Ken Braun: What we don't know about health care really is hurting us

"American government at the federal and state level spent \$4,160 per person on health care during 2012, according to an analysis of OECD and World Health Organization data compiled by Manhattan Institute senior



fellow Avik Roy for Transcending Obamacare, a report published last year. "

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/ken\\_braun\\_what\\_we\\_dont\\_know\\_ab.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/ken_braun_what_we_dont_know_ab.html#incart_river_home)

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## Press Releases

### Michigan Issues Final Recommendations on Regional Managed Care Health Plans

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services today announced the final recommendations for the Medicaid Health Plans (MHPs). The recommendations are a result of the Department of Technology, Management and Budget's independent review process."

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447451401\\_dhhs.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447451401_dhhs.pdf)

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### Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Joan Brophy, of Lincoln Park, to the city of Ecorse Receivership Transition Advisory Board."

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447450994\\_gov.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447450994_gov.pdf)

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### Amtrak adding trains for Midwest Thanksgiving holiday travel

"CHICAGO – In anticipation of the busiest travel week of the year, America's Railroad® is prepared to accommodate the surge of holiday travelers with extra trains and additional capacity on several routes in the Midwest. Amtrak will also operate every available passenger rail car in its fleet. Tickets sell out quickly so passengers are encouraged to plan ahead and book tickets early for best availability and pricing."

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447449023\\_mdod.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447449023_mdod.pdf)

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### Education Connection Newsletter

"In the October 22, 2015 weekly Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Communications email, the announcement was made regarding MDE's release of a series of four (4) grants intended to increase student achievement in early literacy. "

**Source:** Michigan Department of Education **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447446640\\_edu.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447446640_edu.pdf)

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## Conservation officers remind hunters to follow off-road vehicle laws

*"With firearm deer hunting season approaching, conservation officers at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources remind hunters heading afield using an off-road vehicle (ORV) to follow ORV land-use regulations."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447444648\\_dnr.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447444648_dnr.pdf)

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## Peters, Dingell Announce Legislation Promoting Vehicle Innovation at Leggett and Platt Commercial Ve

*"WASHINGTON, DC – Today U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) and U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) visited Leggett and Platt Commercial Vehicle Products in Taylor to announce new legislation, the Vehicle Innovation Act that will be introduced in the House of Representatives next week. The bill will promote investments in research and development of clean vehicle technologies to create more fuel-efficient vehicles, reduce our nation's dependence on foreign oil and support American auto manufacturers and suppliers. Peters and Dingell were joined by Ross Haith, President of Leggett and Platt Commercial Vehicle Products; Steve Carey, Executive Director of NTEA—the Association for the Work Truck Industry; and Dave Andrea, Senior Vice President and Chief Economist of the Original Equipment Suppliers Association, a division of the Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell and Sen. Gary Peters **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447444600\\_peters.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447444600_peters.pdf)

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## Michigan DNR Suspects Fourth Deer with CWD

*"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources suspects that a fourth free-ranging white-tailed deer may have Chronic Wasting Disease in Michigan. The news comes just days before the start of the state's annual firearm deer season. "*

**Source:** MI United Conservation Clubs **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447442683\\_MUCC.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447442683_MUCC.pdf)

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## Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Weber to 96th District Court in Marquette County

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Karl Weber, of Marquette, to the 96<sup>th</sup> District Court in Marquette County."*

**Source:** Office of Governor Snyder **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447441404\\_Snyder\\_appoints.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447441404_Snyder_appoints.pdf)

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## Emmons to address benefit for survivors of human trafficking

**"LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Judy Emmons will be the keynote speaker at an event on Saturday to benefit survivors of human trafficking and recognize individuals for their efforts in stopping trafficking in Michigan."

**Source:** Office of Senator Judy Emmons **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447439540\\_Emmons.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447439540_Emmons.pdf)

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## MSC Dispositive Orders: Landin v Healthsource Saginaw; People v Wooten; and Cullum v Lopatin

*"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued dispositive orders in three cases that were argued this month:"*

**Source:** MI Supreme Court **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447437258\\_MSC.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447437258_MSC.pdf)

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## Education Savings Accounts focus of joint legislative hearing

*"Jason Bedrick, Education Policy Analyst at the Cato Institute for Education Freedom, spent the day in Lansing yesterday discussing the role of Education Savings Accounts (ESAs) in terms of expanding school choice in recent years."*

**Source:** Great Lakes Education Project **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447436916\\_CATO\\_in\\_town.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447436916_CATO_in_town.pdf)

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## DNR Suspects 4th CWD Deer in Michigan

*"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources suspects that a fourth free-ranging white-tailed deer may have Chronic Wasting Disease in Michigan. The news comes just days before the start of the state's annual firearm deer season. "*

**Source:** Michigan United Conservation Clubs **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447432659\\_mucc.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447432659_mucc.pdf)

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## Green announces November office hours in Bay County

**"LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Mike Green has announced that November office hours have been scheduled for Bay County."

**Source:** Sen. Mike Green **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447432792\\_green.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447432792_green.pdf)

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## **Lane and ramp closures Sat night 11/14 on WB I-96 at US-23 in Brighton**

*"I-96 at US-23, Livingston County This weekend, there will be lane and ramp closures on westbound I-96 at US-23 for restriping. Once the work is complete, there will be two lanes on the westbound I-96 collector-distributor (CD) lane, from the split with I-96 to the exit ramp to northbound US-23. "*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447432754\\_mdod.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447432754_mdod.pdf)

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## **Hunters in affected areas encouraged to have deer checked for CWD**

*"Michigan hunters are proving valuable allies in the fight against chronic wasting disease, a fatal neurological disease that has been found in free-ranging white-tailed deer in the state."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447432684\\_dnr.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447432684_dnr.pdf)

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## **Be an ethical hunter - buy a license before you go out and don't loan kill tags**

*"Conservation officers with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources urge deer hunters to engage in an ethical hunt: Buy a license before going out and don't loan kill tags."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447432604\\_dnr.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447432604_dnr.pdf)

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## **Upton Applauds Perrigo Shareholder Decision**

*"Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today issued the following statement on news Perrigo Co. shareholders have rejected the hostile takeover by Mylan NV:"*

**Source:** Rep. Fred Upton **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447427413\\_upton.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447427413_upton.pdf)

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## **Michigan Tribal State Federal Judicial Forum to Meet in Sault Ste. Marie November 16-17**

*"LANSING, MI, November 13, 2015 - The Michigan Tribal State Federal Judicial Forum will convene*

November 16-17—during national Native American Heritage Month—in Sault Ste. Marie to further its work in the area of Indian child welfare and domestic violence crimes."

**Source:** Michigan Courts **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447424755\\_courts.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447424755_courts.pdf)

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## **Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 11/12/2015**

*"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 11/12/2015.*

*For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see <http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx>"*

**Source:** Michigan Court of Appeals **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447423980\\_court.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447423980_court.pdf)

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## **Dems Unveil First Wave of Digital Ads Blasting GOP's 'Reckless and Irresponsible' Roads Plan**

*"LANSING – Today Michigan Democrats unveiled new online ads to hold Republicans accountable for their 'reckless and irresponsible' roads plan. The ads highlight the GOP birthday tax, cuts to schools, police, and fire, along with other measures that hurt working families, but do nothing to address Michigan's immediate roads crisis."*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447423604\\_mdp.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447423604_mdp.pdf)

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## **Sparrow Infusion Center offers groundbreaking new treatment for multiple sclerosis**

*"LANSING, MI – A mid-Michigan woman is among the first in the state to undergo a groundbreaking new treatment for multiple sclerosis at Sparrow Hospital, one of only two locations in Michigan offering the new drug therapy."*

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 11-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447423535\\_sparrow.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447423535_sparrow.pdf)

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## **Baker College's online computer science program ranked in nation's top 20**

*"FLINT, Mich. – Baker College is named as offering one of the nation's top 20 best online bachelor's computer science programs by TheBestSchools.org, an independent organization that provides information and resources about colleges and careers."*

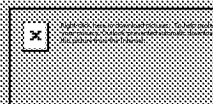
**Source: Baker College Date: 11-14-2015 Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447423478\\_baker.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447423478_baker.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirnews.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 10, 2015 10:26 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Schuetzte calls complaint about campaign ads 'pathetic'**

*"East Lansing — Attorney General Bill Schuetzte said Friday a watchdog group's complaint about his political supporters not disclosing the source of \$3.6 million in TV ads is a "hollow, pathetic" attempt to smear him ahead of a future election."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/09/schuetzte-calls-complaint-campaign-ads-pathetic/73672862/>

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### **No health care co-op in new FCA deal**

*"In presenting a new tentative contract described as "one of the richest ever negotiated" by United Auto Workers leaders, union President Dennis Williams sounded confident Friday that negotiators have an agreement that will be ratified this time by its 40,000 members at Fiat Chrysler Automobiles."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/10/09/new-uaw-fca-deal-increased-wages-different-bonuses/73658864/>

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### **Group says high fees used to conceal state records**

*"LANSING — Did a failed attempt by the Department of Treasury to redact part of an e-mail related to a Freedom of Information Act request expose a state government strategy of charging high fees to discourage requests for public information?"*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/08/group-says-high-fees-used-conceal-state-records/73580020/>

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## **Analysis: Republicans desperately search for a leader**

*"WASHINGTON — The Republican Party is in chaos, desperately in search of a leader."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/09/republicans-congress-analysis-walker-boehner-mccarthy-trump-speaker/73671652/>

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## **Roaming Michigan black bear returns to Indiana**

*"INDIANAPOLIS — A black bear that roamed into Indiana from southwestern Michigan this summer and eventually returned home is back in the Hoosier State, raiding bird feeders and trash cans as it fattens up for winter hibernation, a wildlife biologist said Friday."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/09/black-bear-indiana-michigan/73675558/>

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## **Michigan lawmakers propose registry for child abusers**

*"Wyatt Rewoldt will celebrate his third birthday Monday."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/macomb/2015/10/09/child-abuse-registry-michigan-wyatts-law/73652222/>

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## **Michigan bridge to be renamed for fallen U.S. Navy SEAL**

*"Epoufette, Mich. — Relatives and friends of a U.S. Navy SEAL killed in Afghanistan are expected to attend the dedication of a Michigan bridge renamed after him."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/10/michigan-bridge-renamed-fallen-us-navy-seal/73723098/>

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## **Wanted: 1,500 Rosies for record-setting riveter pic**

*"With dark blue work clothes, a polka-dotted head scarf and the slogan 'We can do it!', Rosie the Riveter*



became an American icon during World War II, representing thousands of women who went to work in manufacturing plants while men were away in the military."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/life/2015/10/09/wanted1500-rosies-record-setting-riveter-pic/73590924/>

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## Anti-Islam rallies across USA making Muslims wary

"Organizers are planning about 20 anti-Muslim rallies this weekend across the USA, putting officials at many mosques on high alert and prompting many community leaders to urge Muslims to take precautions in case demonstrations turn violent."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation-now/2015/10/09/anti-islam-rallies-across-usa-making-muslims-wary/73672674/>

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## 80 Detroit IRS jobs slated for relocation to Memphis could be saved

"DETROIT, MI -- Mayor Mike Duggan and U.S. Sen. Gary Peters may have saved 80 Detroit-based IRS jobs."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/80\\_detroit\\_irs\\_jobs\\_slated\\_for.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/80_detroit_irs_jobs_slated_for.html#incart_river)

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## Judge spikes pipeline lawsuit against U.S. Forest Service, Enbridge

"OSCODA COUNTY, MI — A federal judge has dismissed a lawsuit that alleged the federal government improperly renewed a permit for a controversial Enbridge Inc. oil pipeline segment crossing the Huron-Manistee National Forest."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/10/enbridge\\_sierra\\_club\\_lawsuit.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/10/enbridge_sierra_club_lawsuit.html#incart_river_home)

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## First warning of rising lead levels in Flint water came 9 months ago

"FLINT, MI — The first warning that lead was becoming a problem in Flint water was barely noticeable -- not the wail of an alarm."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/first\\_warning\\_of\\_rising\\_lead\\_1.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/first_warning_of_rising_lead_1.html#incart_story_package)

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## **Flint water crisis doesn't change KWA pipeline plan to finish in June or July**

*"GENESEE COUNTY, MI – Flint is dealing with a water crisis, but there are no plans to speed up work on the Karegnondi Water Authority pipeline to Flint."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/kwa\\_crews\\_still\\_working\\_to\\_bri.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/kwa_crews_still_working_to_bri.html#incart_story_package)

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## **AG Schuette: No comment on state's liability for emergency manager decisions**

*"FLINT, MI – Attorney General Bill Schuette isn't weighing in on the state's liability for former emergency managers who ran Flint while overseeing the decision to use Flint River water here."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/ag\\_schuette\\_has\\_no\\_comment\\_on.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/ag_schuette_has_no_comment_on.html#incart_river_home)

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## **U.S. Sen. Gary Peters to visit Bay City to talk tourism, tout waterfront bill**

*"BAY CITY, MI — U.S. Sen. Gary Peters is expected to visit Bay City for the first time since taking office, and local leaders have a list of big ideas they hope he takes back to Washington."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/10/us_sen_gary_peters_to_visit_ba.html#incart_story_package)

[city/index.ssf/2015/10/us\\_sen\\_gary\\_peters\\_to\\_visit\\_ba.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/10/us_sen_gary_peters_to_visit_ba.html#incart_story_package)

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## **Michigan AG Bill Schuette on marijuana legalization: Let the voters decide**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, who led the campaign against a successful medical marijuana ballot proposal in 2008, thinks voters should decide whether to legalize recreational use."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_ag_bill_schuette_on_m.html#incart_river)

[news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_ag\\_bill\\_schuette\\_on\\_m.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_ag_bill_schuette_on_m.html#incart_river)

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## **Michigan AG Bill Schuette alleges anti-police sentiment, elitism in presumptive parole legislation**

*"LANSING, MI — Attorney General Bill Schuette sees shades of anti-police sentiment in presumptive parole legislation that passed the House last week, he told a panel of reporters on WKAR's "Off The Record" this morning."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_ag_bill_schuette_alle.html#incart_river)

[news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_ag\\_bill\\_schuette\\_alle.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_ag_bill_schuette_alle.html#incart_river)

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## Ken Braun: Soaking the rich doesn't need to be so difficult

*"U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont, the self-avowed socialist running for the Democratic presidential nomination, believes there should be a 90 percent top federal income tax bracket. On the Republican side, regardless of the year, presidential candidates are always talking tax reform. There's an ironic similarity in these messages."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/ken\\_braun\\_soaking\\_the\\_rich\\_doe.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/ken_braun_soaking_the_rich_doe.html#incart_river_home)

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## Michigan Political Points: Sponsor sees 'green' on medical marijuana dispensary bill

*"LANSING, MI — "Look at all that green," state Rep. Mike Callton said as the House voted on his bill to allow for highly-regulated medical marijuana storefront dispensaries."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_political_points_spon.html#incart_river_home)

[news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_political\\_points\\_spon.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_political_points_spon.html#incart_river_home)

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## Protesters urge Ann Arbor officials to call off 'deer massacre'

*"'Stop the shoot! Save the deer!'" That was the message chanted by protesters outside Ann Arbor's city hall Friday night in opposition to the city's plan to hire sharpshooters to kill 100 deer this winter."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/protesters_urge_ann_arbor_offi.html#incart_m-rpt-2)

[arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/protesters\\_urge\\_ann\\_arbor\\_offi.html#incart\\_m-rpt-2](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/protesters_urge_ann_arbor_offi.html#incart_m-rpt-2)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Editor's note: Putin filling voids Obama left

*"Desperate people turn to strong leaders. So it's not surprising that Iraqi Shiite lawmakers and militia leaders are begging Russia's Vladimir Putin to launch airstrikes on Islamic State encampments in their country."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/08/editor-](http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/08/editor-note-putin-filling-voids-obama-left/73617172/)  
[note-putin-filling-voids-obama-left/73617172/](http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/08/editor-note-putin-filling-voids-obama-left/73617172/)

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## TPP unfair to American workers, companies

*"Proponents of the 12-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement assert it will open new markets for U.S. goods and services, and help the American worker. We conclude the opposite: It's a bad deal for America and should be rejected by Congress."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/09/pp-unfair-american-workers-companies/73685946/>

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## **Page: Faith matters more than facts in Trump's budget**

*"Donald Trump would not tell reporters whose advice he received in creating his recently unveiled tax plan, but I hear a familiar voice in its three-and-a-half pages. It sounds like Jeb Bush."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/clarence-page/2015/10/09/page-trump-budget/73686136/>

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## **In teaching versus testing, teaching must win**

*"In the continuing debate over teaching versus testing, new State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Brian Whiston, and the Michigan Department of Education recently came down firmly on the side of teaching."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/10/09/teaching-versus-testing-teaching-must-win/73528336/>

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## **Accountability needed in Flint water crisis**

*"Gov. Rick Snyder announced plans Thursday to reconnect Flint to the Detroit's water system, two weeks after a researcher in the area revealed that more children in Flint have elevated levels of lead in their blood."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/10/09/feedback-flint-water/73677984/>

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## **A proud Mike Ilitch says he is just a part of the community**

*"A cheerful Mike Ilitch, patriarch of the Little Caesars and two Detroit sports teams, watched his son celebrated Friday by a community that he and his wife, Marian, helped build."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/10/09/proud-mike-ilitch-says-he-is-just-a-part-of-the-community/73680980/>

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## **Guest commentary To raise student accomplishment, raise student**

## expectations

*"You don't become a Top 10 hitter in the major leagues batting against Little League pitchers."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/to-raise-student-accomplishment-raise-student-expectations/>

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## There is No Teacher Shortage

*"Over the past year there has been a steady stream of claims of a looming "teacher shortage" coming from voices in the public school establishment that Michigan. Generally these are associated with false claims of lower state funding and falling teacher pay rates."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21816>

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## D.C. Schools Spending Highest in U.S., But Firm Claims It's 'Inadequate'

*"Per student spending by public schools in the District of Columbia outstrips that of all 50 states. According to the [National Center for Education Statistics](#), as of 2012, D.C. was annually spending a total of \$25,038 per pupil."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21817>

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## Susan J. Demas: GOP gay marriage fight cost Michigan much more than \$2M

*"Congratulations, Michigan taxpayers. You've now spent over \$2 million so that Republican Attorney General Bill Schuette could have the courage of his convictions in fighting gay marriage."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_gay\\_marriage\\_snyder.html](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_gay_marriage_snyder.html)

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## Press Releases

### Dingell Congratulates University of Michigan Research Scientist Named "White House Transportation Ch

*"DETROIT, MI – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today congratulated University of Michigan Research Scientist Dr. James Sayer for being named a "White House Transportation Champion of Change" for his exemplary leadership and innovation in transportation. Dr. Sayer was selected for the award by the White House and the U.S. Department of Transportation. He has been instrumental in leading and developing the university's vision for introducing connected and automated vehicle technologies, and continues to lead*

*the design, development and implementation of Mcity, a facility that will allow the automotive community to test cutting-edge technologies."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444423807\\_dingell.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444423807_dingell.pdf)

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## **Rep. Moss' statement on the city of Southfield buying the Northland Center Property**

*"Northland Center will always have a prominent role in history of the city of Southfield and the metro-Detroit region. Despite its thriving peak decades ago, the property unfortunately struggled to remain a viable shopping center resulting in its closure. Now that the city of Southfield has acquired the property, the redevelopment of Northland presents a tremendous opportunity of economic growth for the city and surrounding communities."*

**Source:** Rep. Jeremy Moss **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444422266\\_moss.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444422266_moss.pdf)

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## **UPDATED: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Rep. Lawrence proposes new gun violence task force in wake of today'**

*"UPDATED: Please note changes in lead and second to last paragraph to note the second college campus shooting to occur today. WASHINGTON, D.C. – In the wake of two more deadly college campus shootings Friday, Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) has proposed the formation of the Congressional Black Caucus Task Force to End Gun Violence. Members who have said they would join in the task force include, but are not limited to, Reps. Donna F. Edwards (MD-04), Sheila Jackson Lee (TX-18), Robin Kelly (D-02), and Donald Payne, Jr. (NJ-10). The task force is being proposed in response to the ongoing epidemic of mass shootings and firearms-related deaths in America."*

**Source:** Rep. Brenda Lawrence **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444422240\\_lawrence.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444422240_lawrence.pdf)

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## **Rep Lawrence proposes task force in wake of gun violence epidemic**

*"The CBC currently has 18 task forces, however none are focused on gun violence and gun-related deaths in America. Rep. Lawrence has been joined by several CBC Members, including Reps. Donna F. Edwards, Sheila Jackson Lee, Robin Kelly, and Donald Payne, Jr. in taking decisive action amid this ongoing national epidemic."*

**Source:** Rep. Brenda Lawrence **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444421239\\_lawrence.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444421239_lawrence.pdf)

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## Fraser Trebilcock Receives 'Your Honor' Award for Website Redesign

*"Lansing, MI – Fraser Trebilcock is proud to announce that our marketing team took home the top honor for the redesign of our law firm's website, during the Legal Marketing Association Midwest Chapter's annual awards ceremony last week in Chicago."*

**Source:** Fraser Law Firm **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444421122\\_treb.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444421122_treb.pdf)

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## Representative Stephanie Chang on piles of 'coke breeze' along the Detroit River

*"I am asking the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to investigate piles of 'coke breeze,' a byproduct from the manufacturing of blast furnace coke, at the Waterfront Petroleum Terminal Co. property on West Jefferson. It is my understanding that 'coke breeze' is made up of finer particles than petroleum coke (pet coke). I am concerned and would like to know if 'coke breeze' could be more likely to travel in the air and if it could harm people if ingested into their lungs. What are the potential health impacts if 'coke breeze' is ingested? I hope that MDEQ will agree to investigate this and take the appropriate actions if it is discovered that 'coke breeze' is a health hazard."*

**Source:** Rep. Stephanie Chang **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444420938\\_chang.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444420938_chang.pdf)

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## ICYMI: Rep. Bishop and Judiciary Committee Members Discuss New Sentencing Reform Legislation

*"Washington — A bipartisan bill in Congress would reduce mandatory minimum sentences for prior drug felons and certain firearm offenders — the first in a series of criminal justice reform bills expected in the several weeks, two key lawmakers said Thursday."*

**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444418727\\_bishop.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444418727_bishop.pdf)

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## Upton: "This is a win for our economy"

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today joined the majority of his House colleagues in advancing legislation, H.R. 702 — To Adapt to Changing Crude Oil Market Conditions, that would lift the 40-year-old ban on crude oil exports. According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, lifting this ban would generate \$1.4 billion in profits to the federal government during the next 10 years from oil and gas leases. Additionally, data from the Government Accountability Office, projects that ending the ban would lower gasoline prices by 1.5 to 13 cents per gallon. It is also expected to support up to 964,000 additional U.S. jobs."*

**Source:** Rep. Fred Upton **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444418628\\_upton.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444418628_upton.pdf)

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## New fishing regulations adopted at Thursday's NRC meeting

*"The Michigan Natural Resources Commission Thursday approved several fishing regulations at its meeting in Cedarville. Many of these regulations immediately went into effect. They will remain in effect for the 2016 fishing season (which begins April 1)."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444418550\\_dnr.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444418550_dnr.pdf)

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## New walleye, yellow perch regulation changes coming to Saginaw Bay

*"The Michigan Natural Resources Commission Thursday approved changes to walleye and yellow perch recreational fishing regulations in Saginaw Bay. The new regulations went into effect immediately."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444416489\\_dnr.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444416489_dnr.pdf)

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## Dingell to Hold Information Session for Yemeni Nationals Applying for Temporary Protected Status

*"DETROIT, MI – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) will hold an information session on **Wednesday, October 14 from 3-5 p.m.** to help Yemeni nationals who wish to apply for temporary protected status (TPS) through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Staff members from USCIS and Dingell's office will be on hand to provide information about the application process and eligibility requirements, as well as a list of accredited organizations qualified to complete the forms."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444415848](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444415848)

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## DEIDRA WILSON APPOINTED VICE PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS FOR McLAREN HEALTH CARE

*"FLINT, Mich. – Deidra A. Wilson, MPH, has been named vice president of government relations for McLaren Health Care Corporation. She officially began the position on Sept. 21, 2015 and is based in Lansing."*

**Source:** McLaren Health Care Corporation **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444413224\\_mclaren.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444413224_mclaren.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments**

*"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Michael Deprez, of Sterling Heights, as acting state fire marshal, after accepting the resignation of current fire marshal Richard Miller."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444412044\\_gov.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444412044_gov.pdf)

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## **ICYMI: Cruz in CNN Op-Ed: To Counter Putin in Syria, We Must Shake Free of the Failed Policies of th**

*"HOUSTON, Texas – Presidential candidate Ted Cruz today penned an op-ed for CNN regarding how the U.S should approach Russia President Vladimir Putin's involvement in Syria as he seeks to re-establish Russia's influence."*

**Source:** Ted Cruz **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444411580\\_cruz.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444411580_cruz.pdf)

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## **Michigan LCV: Lead-Contaminated Drinking Water is Shameful Example of State "Leadership"**

*"FLINT—Lisa Wozniak, Executive Director for the Michigan League of Conservation Voters (LCV), released the following statement on the Flint water crisis:"*

**Source:** Michigan League of Conservation Voters **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444411249\\_mlcv.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444411249_mlcv.pdf)

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## **Bill Huizenga, The Congressman Who Broke the McCarthy News on Twitter**

*"It's been a historic week in Washington and Congressman Huizenga has played a unique role in it. I encourage you to [read this piece from Roll Call](#) detailing how yesterday's stunning news unfolded from inside the U.S. Capitol, courtesy of West Michigan's own Bill Huizenga."*

**Source:** Bill Patrick **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444410999\\_huizenga.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444410999_huizenga.pdf)

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## **Fraser Trebilcock Welcomes Attorney Paul V. McCord to the Firm**

*"Lansing, MI – Fraser Trebilcock is pleased to announce that Paul V. McCord has joined the firm as a Shareholder. McCord focuses his practice in the area of federal and state tax litigation, while also counseling individuals and privately held businesses on a broad range of tax, corporate and real estate transactions."*

**Source:** Fraser Trebilcock Law Firm **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

## **GEORGE P. BUSH TO VISIT IOWA TOMORROW**

*"Miami, FL – Tomorrow, Governor Bush's son, George P. Bush, will visit Iowa. In the morning, he will attend a tailgate hosted by the University of Iowa College Republicans in Iowa City, IA. Later that afternoon, he will attend the Johnson County Republican Fall BBQ in Tiffin, IA."*

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444410339\\_jeb.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444410339_jeb.pdf)

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## **Dr. John Lott to testify on Green's pistol-free zone reform**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Mike Green announced Friday that famed economist, political commentator and gun rights advocate, Dr. John Lott, will be testifying in support of [Senate Bill 442](#), Green's legislation creating a general exemption for concealed pistol licenses (CPL) holders in pistol-free zones (PFZ)."*

**Source:** Sen. Mike Green **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444410275\\_green.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444410275_green.pdf)

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## **LARA Summarily Suspends a Family Child Care Home Certificate of Registration in Ingham County**

*"For Immediate Release - The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS), issued an order of summary suspension and notice of intent to revoke the certificate of registration of an Ingham County family child care home provider, September Darden, License #DF330364861, 1211 Whyte, Lansing, Michigan 48906. This action resulted from a recent investigation of a complaint of the family child care home."*

**Source:** Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444410206\\_lara.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444410206_lara.pdf)

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## **Upcoming closures - I-96 and I-94**

*"On Sunday, October 11, there will be a single lane closure on eastbound I-94 over Jackson Avenue (Exit 172) between 7 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. for bridge scoping. "*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444406692\\_mdota.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444406692_mdota.pdf)

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## **LARA Summarily Suspends the Family Child Care Home Certificate of Anita**

## **Tillman**

**"For Immediate Release -** The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS), issued an order of summary suspension and notice of intent to revoke the child care certificate of registration of Kalamazoo County family child care home provider, Anita Tillman, Registration #DF390322223, at 3081 Crystal Lane, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. This action resulted from a recent investigation of a complaint of the family child care home."

**Source:** Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444405184\\_lara.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444405184_lara.pdf)

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## **Gamrat Pushes for Freedom of Information Act to Apply to the Legislature**

"On Wednesday, September 29th, while live in studio on the Juke Van Os Show, WHTC Holland, Gamrat announced that if re-elected as State Representative she will commit to entering a bill that would make the legislature subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). "

**Source:** Cindy Gamrat **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444404866\\_gamrat.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404866_gamrat.pdf)

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## **Michigan Chemistry Council Calls for Congressional Action to Keep Critical Rail Shipments Moving**

"LANSING, MI, October 9, 2015 – The Michigan Chemistry Council (MCC) today urged Congressional action to keep critical rail shipments moving, and thanked U.S. Representatives Fred Upton, Candice Miller, Bill Huizenga, and Dan Benishek for sponsoring legislation to address this important issue."

**Source:** Michigan Chemistry Council **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444404788\\_mcc.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404788_mcc.pdf)

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## **Kowall sponsors Capitol event honoring Vietnam era veterans**

"**LANSING, Mich.** — Michigan Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall on Thursday sponsored an event on the Capitol lawn honoring veterans of the Vietnam War era."

**Source:** Sen. Mike Kowall **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444404695\\_kowall.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404695_kowall.pdf)

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## **M-134 becoming first new Pure Michigan Byway**

"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) invites the public to the announcement of M-134's designation as a Pure Michigan Byway."

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444404636\\_mdor.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404636_mdor.pdf)

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## **Upcoming closure this weekend - I-496 at US-127 near Trowbridge**

*"On Sunday, October 11, starting at 7 a.m. westbound I-496, at the split from northbound US-127, will be closed, along with the ramp from Trowbridge Road to westbound I-496. The closure will be in place until 5 p.m. on Sunday and is needed for bridge work. "*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444404587\\_mdor.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404587_mdor.pdf)

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## **Lottery to hunt Pierce Road Unit of Sharonville State Game Area during firearm season**

*"As part of its Michigan Operation Freedom Outdoors initiative, the Department of Natural Resources has designated a 600-acre unit of the Sharonville State Game Area as a restricted-access hunt area in order to provide special hunt opportunities. This unit, now referred to as the Pierce Road Unit, consists of the state game area lands south of Sharon Valley Road in Jackson County, in Section 36 of T03S – R02E. "*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444404546\\_dnr.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404546_dnr.pdf)

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## **Statement on Governor Snyder's Long-Awaited Response to Flint's Water Crisis**

*"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, in response to Governor Rick Snyder finally taking steps to address the city of Flint's water crisis: "*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444404474\\_mdp.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404474_mdp.pdf)

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## **Casperson welcomes Vietnam veterans to Capitol event**

*"LANSING, Mich. — State Sen. Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba, (far right) is pictured with, from left, state Rep. Scott Dianda; Breitung Township Supervisor Denny Olsen and his wife, Carmel; Dianda's father, Jim Spehar; and Jim Matonich at the "Michigan Says Thanks" event honoring veterans of the Vietnam War era at the Capitol on Thursday."*

**Source:** Sen. Tom Casperson **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**  
[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444404418\\_casperson.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404418_casperson.pdf)

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## **Lt. Gov. Brian Calley touts Michigan business opportunities to Indian companies, tours GM Indian ope**

*"LANSING, Mich – Lt. Gov. Brian Calley is highlighting the strong opportunities available for Indian companies to invest and partner in our state during his week-long trade mission to India, emphasizing Michigan's role as the automotive manufacturing and technology capital of the world."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444404367\\_gov.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404367_gov.pdf)

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## **Jackson County awarded brownfield loan to help construction of new runway**

*"The DEQ today announced a \$1 million loan for Jackson County to address brownfield conditions at the Jackson County Airport – Reynolds Field."*

**Source:** Department of Environmental Quality **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444404317\\_deq.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404317_deq.pdf)

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## **Divorce and Child Custody Issues for Same-Sex Couples**

*"HOUSTON, TX (October 9, 2015) - On June 24 of this year, the Supreme Court ruled that the Constitution guarantees a right to same-sex marriage. This was a long-sought victory for gay rights activists and there were celebrations across the country. However, one unforeseen bi-product of gay marriage rights is now coming to the forefront: divorce and custody battles in same-sex couples."*

**Source:** KHA Law Firm **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444404270\\_kha.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444404270_kha.pdf)

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## **Senator Stabenow Applauds Investment in Mid-Michigan Beginning Farmers Projects**

*"WASHINGTON D.C. – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, today announced \$1,254,412 for three Lansing-based projects to help train and support beginning farmers. This funding for Michigan State University and the Greater Lansing Food Bank, which comes through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, was authorized by Senator Stabenow's 2014 Farm Bill. These projects will benefit hundreds of farmers and help boost Michigan's economy."*

**Source:** Sen. Debbie Stabenow **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444400066\\_stabenow.pdf](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444400066_stabenow.pdf)

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## New Poll: Cindy Gamrat Running Second in Special Election for 80th District

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*According to a new poll released today by Grassroots Midwest, Inside Michigan Politics, and Target Insyght, former nurse and financial consulting firm co-founder Mary Whiteford has a commanding early lead in the special election in Michigan's 80th House District to fill the vacant seat of ex-Rep. Cindy Gamrat (R-Plainwell). Whiteford holds the support of 31 percent of likely Republican primary voters. Gamrat is in second with 14 percent. Allegan County Commissioner and GOP operative Jim Storey is just behind Gamrat with 13 percent.*

"

**Source:** *Inside Michigan Politics* **Date:** 10-10-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444400001\\_na](http://www.mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444400001_na)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirnews.com>  
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### **New contracts approved: State employees to get 1% raise, 1.5% lump sum payment**

*"LANSING, MI — State employees will get a 1 percent raise and a 1.5 percent lump sum payment under new contracts approved by the Michigan Civil Service Commission on Wednesday."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/new\\_contracts\\_approved\\_state\\_e.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/new_contracts_approved_state_e.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Ypsilanti City Council Member Anne Brown announces run for state House**

*"As 54th district State House Rep. David Rutledge is term limited next year, Ypsilanti City Council Member Anne Brown is planning a run for the seat."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/business/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/ypsilanti\\_city\\_council\\_member\\_2.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/business/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/ypsilanti_city_council_member_2.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Michigan Senators, locked in chamber, pass bill to eliminate straight-ticket voting**

*"LANSING, MI —A bill to eliminate straight-ticket voting in Michigan passed the Senate Wednesday night with high drama and without a companion bill that would have expanded absentee voting options."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** <http://www.mlive.com/lansing->

[news/index.ssf/2015/12/senators\\_locked\\_in\\_chamber\\_pas.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://news/index.ssf/2015/12/senators_locked_in_chamber_pas.html#incart_river_index)

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## Michigan Legislature caps 2015 with flurry of election bill action

*"LANSING, MI – The Michigan House and Senate acted in concert Wednesday night to send bills eliminating straight-ticket voting and amending corporate political action committee rules to Gov. Rick Snyder's desk."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_legislature\\_caps\\_off.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_legislature_caps_off.html#incart_river_index)

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## Michigan bills would ease vaccination waiver process, undermine new health rules

*"LANSING, MI — A state policy requiring parents to sit down with a local health worker before obtaining a vaccination waiver for their kids is "bureaucracy gone a bit too far," according to the chairman of the Michigan House Health Policy Committee."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_lawmakers\\_want\\_to\\_eas.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_lawmakers_want_to_eas.html#incart_river_index)

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## Michigan State Police raid Dearborn city clerk office

*"Michigan State Police raided the office of Dearborn City Clerk Kathleen Buda on Wednesday as part of an embezzlement investigation, officials confirm."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/12/16/state-police-raid-dearborn-clerk-embezzler/77429252/>

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## New law exempts young adults if they report drug abuse

*"Lansing — People under 21 who call for help during life-threatening emergencies as the result of abusing prescription drugs will be exempt from drug-related charges under a bill signed into law Wednesday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/16/snyder-oks-immunity-reporting-drug-overdoses/77420572/>

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## Spending bill aids Great Lakes cleanup, MSU facility

*"Washington — The congressional year-end spending bill includes \$300 million in federal funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and \$100 million to continue building a facility for nuclear science at Michigan State University, officials said Wednesday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/16/spending-bill-aids-great-lakes-cleanup-msu-facility/77462050/>

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## Car dealer aims for modern first in Mich. Dem primary

*"The owner of a Cadillac car dealership in suburban San Diego could become the first person in modern history to submit enough signatures to qualify for a spot on Michigan's presidential primary ballot."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/16/car-dealer-aims-modern-first-mich-dem-primary/77462170/>

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## Mich. lawmakers vote to end straight-party voting

*"Lansing — The Michigan Legislature on Wednesday sent Gov. Rick Snyder a bill ending straight-party voting and included a \$5 million appropriation that would shield the legislation from a possible voter referendum to overturn it."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/16/mich-senate-votes-end-straight-party-voting/77458548/>

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## Great Lakes program would get \$300M under compromise

*"TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — A wide-ranging Great Lakes cleanup program would escape President Barack Obama's proposal to cut its funding under a compromise federal spending plan, members of Congress said Wednesday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/16/great-lakes-cleanup-restoration/77444630/>

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## Congress set to give Detroit demolitions a huge boost

*"WASHINGTON — A massive federal spending bill expected to be passed this week includes a provision allowing the U.S. Treasury to transfer billions of dollars into a fund which has already sent or promised \$130 million to Detroit to tear down thousands of blighted buildings and is expected to provide at least*

tens of millions more."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/12/16/visa-restrictions-built-into-bid-spending-bill/77429476/>

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## Michigan Senate, House OK end to straight ticket voting

*"LANSING — After a day and night full of negotiations, the Legislature voted, mostly along party lines Wednesday to eliminate straight-party voting and removed a tie bar that would have allowed for no-reason absentee voting."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/16/lansing-ready-eliminate-straight-party-ticket-voting/77411352/>

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## Ann Arbor teachers union concerned about new evaluation system

*"Ann Arbor Public Schools is implementing a new teacher evaluation system this year following new legislation the Michigan Legislature passed this fall."*

**Source:** Ann Arbor News **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/ann\\_arbor\\_teachers\\_unhappy\\_wit.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/ann_arbor_teachers_unhappy_wit.html#incart_river_home)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Senate absentee-voting bill takes away more than it gives

*"While much of the rest of the country has brought voting into the 21st century, Michigan has kept its badly outdated election laws. It is one of a minority of states that offers a limited number of options for hard-working Americans to register to vote and cast a ballot before Election Day. A Michigan voter cannot vote before Election Day without a valid excuse, must register nearly a month before the election without exception and cannot register online as voters in more than half the country now can."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/senate\\_absentee-voting\\_bill\\_ta.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/senate_absentee-voting_bill_ta.html#incart_river_index)

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### Reading bill focuses on advancing students to proficiency

*"House Bill 4822, which I sponsored and which passed the House in October, was the subject of a recent op-ed. The writer, psychologist Michael Ryan, is a longtime advocate for children and I commend him for his passion and contributions to improving literacy. However, a number of mischaracterizations and omissions warrant a response."*

**Source: M-Live Date: 12-17-2015 Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/reading\\_bill\\_focuses\\_on\\_advanc.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/reading_bill_focuses_on_advanc.html#incart_river_index)

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## **McNeilly: Gun rights under attack**

*"It's date night and you and your spouse are walking home after a relaxing evening when you suddenly hear the sound of breaking glass. You spin and see three masked men breaking into a car just down the street."*

**Source: Detroit News Date: 12-17-2015 Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/17/mcneilly-gun-rights-attack/77441610/>

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## **Durant: Give Michigan schools more freedom to innovate**

*"We have a public school crisis in Detroit and in Michigan. It is about outcomes, money and the need for new schools."*

"

**Source: Detroit News Date: 12-17-2015 Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/16/michigan-schools-freedom-innovate/77464790/>

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## **Time, dollars needed for juvenile justice**

*"Re: The Detroit News' Dec. 7 editorial, 'Raise juvenile age in Michigan': I agree that Michigan's juvenile justice system is in disrepair. But the solution the News is pushing, and which is under consideration in Lansing, misses the mark."*

**Source: Detroit News Date: 12-17-2015 Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/16/juvenile-justice-offenders-mental-health/77464882/>

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## **Editorial: Deal to cap GM should be public**

*"General Motors Co. will invest \$1 billion in Michigan by 2030, part of a new deal the company reached with the state to reconfigure and cap the automakers' tax credits under a program that gives companies credits for keeping jobs and other investments in the state."*

"

**Source: Detroit News Date: 12-17-2015 Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/16/gm-general-motors-deal-tax-credits/77464810/>

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## When did state know kids in Flint were lead poisoned?

*"When did the State of Michigan first learn that kids in Flint had been poisoned by lead in the city's drinking water?"*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/12/17/flint-water-lead/77365380/>

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## Teachers in 'Worst Urban District' Twice as Likely to be Rated 'Highly Effective'

*"According to the 2015 National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) report released in October, the Detroit Public Schools system was rated the worst-performing urban district in the country for the fourth time since 2009."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21896>

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## GOP Helping Big Spending Public School Lobby

*"Michigan's public school establishment is nothing if not persistent when it comes to devising new ways to extract more tax dollars. Two hearty perennials in this area are school "sinking fund" taxes and using local "recreational authority" taxes for school amenities. Both have been advanced in previous legislatures, only to be halted by happenstance or when Republican leaders on either side of the Capitol realized they were on the verge of authorizing property tax hikes for more things."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21883>

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## When it comes to talent, Michigan needs more of everything

*"When it comes to building a brighter future for Michigan, no factor is more important than providing our state's residents the education and training they need to be successful. Children and adults become poised for success when they have the knowledge and skills they need to grow, thrive and contribute to Michigan's overall prosperity."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/12/when-it-comes-to-talent-michigan-needs-more-of-everything/>

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## Press Releases

## **Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons statement on Senate Bill 13**

*"State Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto), chair of the House Elections Committee issued the following statement this evening, following on the passage of Senate Bill 13:"*

**Source:** Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450322909\\_LYONS.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450322909_LYONS.pdf)

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## **MDP Statement on Michigan Senate Republican Passage of Straight-Ticket Voting Ban**

*"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement tonight, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, in response to Michigan Senate Republicans passage of legislation banning straight-ticket voting, while removing the tie-bar bill that would have allowed for more absentee voting:"*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450319554\\_dem.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450319554_dem.pdf)

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## **Senate Votes Straight Ticket to Eliminate Straight Ticket Voting**

*"LANSING — Progress Michigan released the following statement regarding the Michigan GOP's attempt to rig elections in their favor by repealing the straight ticket option on voting ballots. The move comes after a tie-barred bill that was a watered-down version of a no-reason absentee voting bill was removed. "*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450319129\\_mich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450319129_mich.pdf)

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## **Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich Issues Statement on Republicans Eliminating Straight-Ticket Voting**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) released the following statement in regards to the Senate eliminating straight-ticket voting:"*

**Source:** Sen. Jim Ananich **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450319089\\_ananich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450319089_ananich.pdf)

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## **Michigan AFL-CIO blasts Senate GOP for eliminating straight-party voting**

*"LANSING – Michigan AFL-CIO President Ron Bieber issued the following statement tonight in response to the Michigan Senate's vote to eliminate straight-party voting in Michigan."*

**Source:** Michigan AFL-CIO **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450318154\\_aflcio.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450318154_aflcio.pdf)

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## **House Democrats penalize caucus members for voting their district**

*"In case you missed it, MIRS News today reported that state Reps. Leslie Love and Erika Geiss had their leadership positions taken away over their vote in favor of a bill supported by their districts. This heavy-handed tactic shows that House Democratic leadership cares more about the interests of ambulance chasers than what's best for the residents they represent."*

**Source:** Michigan Republican Party **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450310320\\_mrp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450310320_mrp.pdf)

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## **Kline, Bishop Applaud Senate Action to Extend Perkins Loan Program**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Education and the Workforce Committee Chairman John Kline (R-MN) and Rep. Mike Bishop (R-MI) issued the following statements today after the Senate passed legislation extending for two years the Federal Perkins Loan Program, which expired this fall."*

**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450308990\\_bisho.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450308990_bisho.pdf)

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## **Rep. Lawrence, Rep. Cicilline, et al introduce Assault Weapons Ban of 2015**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) today joined U.S. David N. Cicilline (D-RI) and other gun violence prevention advocates to introduce the Assault Weapons Ban of 2015 and prohibit the sale, transfer, production, and importation of new military-style weapons and high-capacity magazines."*

**Source:** Rep. Brenda Lawrence **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450305956\\_lawrence.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450305956_lawrence.pdf)

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## **Close Offshore Corporate Tax Loopholes, Fund Public Education**

*"MICHIGAN — On Thursday at 1 p.m., Americans for Tax Fairness will be joined by education leaders from the American Federation of Teachers and the Michigan Education Association to call for an end to loopholes that allow corporations to hide their profits overseas to avoid paying their fair share in taxes."*

**Source:** Americans for Tax Fairness **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450303247\\_amer.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450303247_amer.pdf)

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## **Dingell Urges FDA to Finalize E-Cigarette Rule after Roadblock Averted in Government Funding Bill**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today thanked negotiators for preventing a poison-pill policy rider from being included in the fiscal year 2016 government funding bill that would have exempted electronic cigarettes from regulation by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). In August, following numerous reports of injuries caused by defective electronic cigarettes, Dingell wrote a letter to FDA Acting Commissioner Dr. Stephen Ostroff urging him to finalize a proposed rule to regulate the products as soon as possible. Dingell's constituent, Sgt. Jason Diekman of Wyandotte, was among those injured this summer when an exploding electronic cigarette badly burned his arms and abdomen."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450302556\\_dingell.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450302556_dingell.pdf)

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## **Horn to hold December office hours in St. Charles**

*"LANSING, Mich. — State Sen. Ken Horn, R-Frankenmuth, reminded residents that December office hours have been scheduled for the 32nd Senate District."*

**Source:** Sen. Ken Horn **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450301171\\_horn.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450301171_horn.pdf)

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## **Peters, Stabenow Applaud Extension of Perkins Student Loan Program**

*"WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow today applauded Senate passage of the Federal Perkins Loan Extension Act of 2015, a bipartisan, two-year extension of the Perkins Loan Program, which provides low-interest loans to help students with exceptional financial need pay for their education. Peters and Stabenow previously sent a letter in October urging Senate leadership to pass an extension of the Perkins Loan Program after it expired on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The U.S. House of Representatives passed a one-year extension in September."*

**Source:** Sen. Gary Peters and Sen. Debbie Stabenow **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450300517\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450300517_peters.pdf)

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## **MDHHS releases revised Statewide Transition Plan for Home and Community-Based Services**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services provides home and Community-Based Services to individuals in the Medicaid program. These services help Michigan citizens with disabilities or other health issues to live at home or in the community. Michigan offers many of these services through waivers, which were approved by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)."*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450299760\\_dhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450299760_dhhs.pdf)

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## Schuitmaker Blue Alert legislation signed into law

**"Lansing, Mich.** — Gov. Rick Snyder has signed into law legislation that will protect the public and law enforcement after an attack on an officer. Public Act 167 of 2015, sponsored by state Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker, will create the Blue Alert system in Michigan."

**Source:** Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450296979\\_schuitmaker.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450296979_schuitmaker.pdf)

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## Metro Detroit AFL-CIO Endorses Janee' Ayers for City Council

**"DETROIT** — The Metro Detroit AFL-CIO has unanimously endorsed Councilmember Janee' Ayers for the August 2016 primary election and the November 2016 general election to fill the remainder of her current term. Ayers was appointed to fill the At-Large council seat vacated by Saunteel Jenkins by her peers on the Detroit City Council."

**Source:** Metro Detroit AFL-CIO **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450297571\\_aflcio.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450297571_aflcio.pdf)

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## Senator Johnson Introduces Water Affordability Act

**"LANSING, Mich.** - Senator Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park) today introduced legislation that would create an income-based water affordability program to help provide Michigan's most vulnerable residents with water bill assistance. "

**Source:** Sen. Jim Ananich **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450297064\\_ananich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450297064_ananich.pdf)

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## Schuetz Announces Guilty Plea for Petoskey Attorney Charged with Embezzlement from Senior

**"LANSING** — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuetz today announced Petoskey lawyer Michael Aho Kennedy, 67, has pleaded guilty to one count of Embezzlement of over \$100,000 from a Vulnerable Adult, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease and was his elderly client."

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuetz **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450294957\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450294957_ag.pdf)

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## Grand Ledge student gets a 'selfie' with Gov. Snyder after bill signing



## ceremony

*"Gov. Rick Snyder ordinarily does not participate in "selfie" pictures, but Evan Dean managed to get one with the state's leader following a bill signing ceremony this morning at the Romney Building in Lansing"*

**Source:** Rep. Holly Hughes **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450294237\\_hughes.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450294237_hughes.pdf)

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## Greimel: What's Worse than Sexual Harassment and Bribery Allegations? Putting District over Party Bo

*"LANSING, MI, December 16, 2015 –The Michigan Freedom Fund today called on House Minority Leader Tim Greimel to take sexual harassment and bribery allegations seriously after reports he stripped two members of staff and caucus positions for casting votes he disagreed with, despite months spent refusing to punish a member accused of sexual harassment and another under federal investigation for her role in a pension board bribery scandal."*

**Source:** Michigan Freedom Fund **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450293566\\_mich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450293566_mich.pdf)

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## Peters, Stabenow Applaud Facility for Rare Isotope Beam Funding in Government Spending Bill

*"WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow applauded the year-end government spending bill released today includes \$100 million in federal funding to continue constructing the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) at Michigan State University. The appropriations bill, the Fiscal Year 2016 Omnibus Appropriations Act funds the government through September 30, 2016, and Peters and Stabenow worked with their Senate colleagues to ensure this funding would be included in the final legislation."*

**Source:** Sen. Gary Peters and Sen. Debbie Stabenow **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450293166\\_peteres.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450293166_peteres.pdf)

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## Huizenga: Today's Announcement By The FOMC Is Long Overdue

*"Washington, D.C. – Today, Monetary Policy & Trade Subcommittee Chairman Bill Huizenga released the following statement after the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) announced its decision to raise interest rates by a quarter of a percentage point:*

"

**Source:** Rep. Bill Huizenga **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450293113\\_huizenga.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450293113_huizenga.pdf)

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## Yanez Resolution Tells Congress to Oppose TPP

*"LANSING — State Representative **Henry Yanez** (D-Sterling Heights) introduced a House resolution today calling on the United States Congress to oppose the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement. The TPP would govern trade between the U.S. and 11 other nations, including Japan and Mexico but excluding China."*

**Source:** Rep. Henry Yanez **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450293063\\_yanez.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450293063_yanez.pdf)

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## Michigan's November Unemployment Rate Edges Up

*"Lansing – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in November inched up slightly over the month by one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.1 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). The state's workforce rose in November by 21,000 as total employment advanced by 15,000, while the number of unemployed increased by 6,000."*

**Source:** Department of Technology, Management and Budget **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450291767\\_dtmb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450291767_dtmb.pdf)

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## Nominations Solicited for the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame

*"Lansing, MI – What women in your community are worthy of recognition on the state level? Nominations are being accepted for the 2016 class of the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. The Hall commemorates women of this state who have distinguished themselves in one or more fields of endeavor including, but not limited to, abolition, agriculture, architecture, art, athletics, aviation, business, chemistry, children's rights, civil rights, community service, conflict resolution/peace movement, dietetics, economics, education, entertainment, environment, folk life, government, history, human resources, journalism, labor, law, law enforcement, medicine/healthcare, military, music, Native American rights, philanthropy, politics, religion, science, social work/mission work, suffrage, television/radio, women's rights, and writing."*

**Source:** Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450291677\\_mwhc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450291677_mwhc.pdf)

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## Double lane closure this weekend on SB I-75 in Monroe County

*"I-75, Monroe County This weekend there will be a lane closure on southbound I-75 between South Otter Creek Road (Exit 9) and Luna Pier Road (Exit 6) for concrete pavement patching in the center lane. There will be a single lane closure starting at 2 p.m. on Friday, December 18. Then a double lane closure starting at 9 p.m. on Friday until 9 p.m. on Sunday, December 20. Motorists are advised to plan*

extra time when traveling through the area this weekend watch for traffic back-ups. "

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450291615\\_mdot.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450291615_mdot.pdf)

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## House Fiscal Agency - Depletion of the Autism Coverage Fund

*"Prepared by Paul Holland, Senior Fiscal Analyst, December 15, 2015. This memo provides a brief explanation of the Autism Coverage Reimbursement Program (ACRP) and the Autism Coverage Fund (ACF), a description of the appropriations to and from the ACF, and an accounting of the number of claims submitted by carriers and amounts of reimbursements paid from the ACF."*

**Source:** House Fiscal Agency **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450291267\\_hfa1.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450291267_hfa1.pdf)

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## Colbeck introduces resolution calling for temporary halt on Syrian refugees to Michigan

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, introduced a resolution calling on Gov. Rick Snyder to continue his opposition to the resettlement of Syrian refugees in Michigan until the state is sufficiently assured that the federal government is properly vetting the refugees against any terrorists infiltrating the U.S. through the resettlement program."*

**Source:** Sen. Patrick Colbeck **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450291043\\_colbeck.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450291043_colbeck.pdf)

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## Heartland Education Experts React to Appointment of Mike Morath as Commissioner of the TX Ed Agency

*"On Monday, Gov. Greg Abbott (R-TX) appointed Mike Morath as commissioner of the Texas Education Agency (TEA). Morath has served as a trustee of the Dallas Independent School District (DISD) since 2011."*

**Source:** Heartland Institute **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450289099\\_heartland.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450289099_heartland.pdf)

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## Governor signs Hansen bill expanding 'Good Samaritan' law

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Gov. Rick Snyder (seated) on Wednesday signed Senate Bill 427, now Public Act 209 of 2015, sponsored by Sen. Geoff Hansen, R-Hart, (second from right). Joining Hansen at the bill signing were (from left) Tom Schmiedeknecht, president of Pro-Med, and Damon Obiden, director of operations of Kent County EMS, Inc. PA 209 adds licensed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers to the existing list of health professionals granted immunity when off duty and providing care to*

an individual."

**Source:** Sen. Goeff Hansen **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450289050\\_hansen.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450289050_hansen.pdf)

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## **New Zorn, Pavlov legislation protects our natural resources**

**"LANSING, Mich.** — Protecting Michigan's natural resources, hunting heritage and wild game just got easier under legislation sponsored by state Sens. Dale Zorn and Phil Pavlov and signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder."

**Source:** Sen. Dale Zorn and Sen. Phil Pavlov **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450288998\\_zorn.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450288998_zorn.pdf)

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## **Jones bill to fight Chronic Wasting Disease headed to the governor**

**"LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Rick Jones' bill that would allow state officials to take steps to address the ongoing problem of Chronic Wasting Disease has been sent to Gov. Rick Snyder to be signed into law."

**Source:** Sen. Rick Jones **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450288941\\_jones.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450288941_jones.pdf)

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## **DNR awards more than \$1.3 million in Recreation Passport grant funding**

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources today announced that 33 communities across the state will share \$1,348,700 in Recreation Passport grants. Funding for this program is derived from sales of the Recreation Passport, the \$11 annual pass that grants residents vehicle entry at state parks and recreation areas throughout Michigan. "

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450288897\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450288897_dnr.pdf)

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## **Rep. Hughes bill helps school districts address substitute shortage**

"LANSING – Legislation sponsored by Rep. Holly Hughes, R-Montague, became law this morning when Gov. Rick Snyder signed House Bill 4059 during a bill signing ceremony."

**Source:** Rep. Holly Hughes **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450288648\\_hughes.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450288648_hughes.pdf)

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## **Senator Gregory Issues Resolution to Oppose Trans-Pacific Partnership,**

## Refocus on Americans' Needs

*"LANSING, Mich. — Senator Vincent Gregory (D–Southfield) today introduced a resolution urging the U.S. Senate to oppose the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)."*

**Source:** Sen. Vincent Gregory **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450288798\\_gregory.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450288798_gregory.pdf)

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## Legislation introduced to reform Michigan aquaculture

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Darwin Booher introduced legislation on Wednesday that would help encourage the expansion of aquaculture in Michigan to help meet the rising demand for seafood."*

**Source:** Sen. Darwin Booher **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450285650\\_booher.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450285650_booher.pdf)

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## Gov. Snyder signs 'Good Samaritan' prescription drug legislation

*"Gov. Rick Snyder today signed into law legislation which would exempt individuals under 21 from prescription drug-related charges in the event they are reporting a life-threatening emergency connected to abuse of these substances."*

**Source:** Rep. Al Pscholka **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450283238\\_pscholka.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450283238_pscholka.pdf)

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## 2016 Omnibus Spending Bill Protects the National Housing Trust Fund

*"WASHINGTON, DC – The National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) is pleased with the treatment of low income housing programs in the proposed FY 2016 Omnibus Appropriations bill that Congressional leaders released this morning. While funding levels remain wholly inadequate to meet the housing needs of low income Americans, the bill is a significant improvement over the HUD appropriations bills passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate Appropriations Committee earlier this year under the constraints of sequestration. Increased funding was made possible by the lifting of the sequester caps in the "Balanced Budget Act" passed in October."*

**Source:** National Low Income Housing Coalition **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450281435\\_nlihc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450281435_nlihc.pdf)

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## Creative Many CEO Re-Elected to National Arts Advisory Council

*"DETROIT/WASHINGTON - Members of Americans for the Arts, the leading organization for advancing the arts and arts education in America, have re-elected Jennifer Goulet, president and CEO of Creative Many Michigan, as a member of their advisory council for the Private Sector Council. Goulet will advise*

Americans for the Arts' staff on developing programs and services that will build a deeper connection to the field and the network membership."

**Source:** Americans for the Arts' Advisory Council **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450281388\\_art.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450281388_art.pdf)

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## **Consumers less satisfied with health insurance if their PCP not in network**

"CHRT's latest survey report examines how factors influencing health plan selection, both on and off the marketplace, were related to consumer satisfaction with insurance coverage."

**Source:** Center for Healthcare Research and Transformation **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450281115\\_chrt.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450281115_chrt.pdf)

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## **Retired teachers can return to the classroom under Hughes bill signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder**

"LANSING, Mich. – Teachers who have retired from the profession can return to work without sacrificing pension and health care benefits if they are teaching in a critical shortage area, under legislation signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder."

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 12-17-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450280694\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450280694_gov.pdf)

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## **Michigan EIBC Praises Bipartisan Congressional Deal to Extend Solar and Wind Tax Credits**

"LANSING – The Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council (Michigan EIBC), praised the congressional deal reached early this morning to extend the solar investment tax credit (ITC) and wind production tax credit (PTC) for another

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 19, 2015 6:45 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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## **Oakland County Executive orders staff to end support of Pontiac Syrian housing project**

*"Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson has stepped into the Syrian refugee debate by urging Pontiac Mayor Deirdre Waterman to discontinue her support of housing Syrian refugees in Pontiac."*

**Source:** Oakland Press **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.theoaklandpress.com/general-news/20151118/oakland-county-executive-orders-staff-to-end-support-of-pontiac-syrian-housing-project>

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## **Patterson to Pontiac: Stop 'ill-conceived' Syrian refugee development**

*"Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, who's been accused of racial and cultural insensitivity in the past, is blasting a Pontiac development being planned for Syrian refugees."*

"

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/11/patterson\\_to\\_pontiac\\_stop\\_ill-.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/11/patterson_to_pontiac_stop_ill-.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Bill Clinton encourages public service, talks ISIS at Michigan State University**

*"EAST LANSING, MI — Former President Bill Clinton addressed a crowd of 760 at Michigan State University on Wednesday evening, saying in today's world everybody should think about what good they*



can do for the world as a private citizen, especially in the face of threats such as ISIS."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/bill\\_clinton\\_encourages\\_public.html](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/bill_clinton_encourages_public.html)

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## **Refund Flint \$2 million for cost of Detroit water, Kildee tells Gov. Snyder**

*"FLINT, MI — The state of Michigan should repair damage to Flint's water lines, create a fund for ongoing assistance here, and reimburse the city for the \$2 million it's spending to temporarily reconnect to the Detroit water system, U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee says."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/kildee\\_asks\\_gov\\_snyder\\_for\\_pay.html#incart\\_m-rpt-2](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/kildee_asks_gov_snyder_for_pay.html#incart_m-rpt-2)

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## **Flint lead problems raised at national water hearing**

*"WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee was among a group from Michigan testifying Wednesday before an advisory panel looking at changes to the nation's regulations on lead in drinking water, saying the current rule — as applied by state and federal agencies — failed the people of Flint after high levels of lead were detected this year."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/18/flint-lead-problems-raised-national-water-hearing/75990848/>

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## **Bill banning microbeads moves forward in U.S. House**

*"WASHINGTON — A U.S. House committee on Wednesday unanimously approved legislation that would phase out the use of microbeads, synthetic particles used in cosmetics and personal-care products that are considered an environmental hazard to the Great Lakes and other waterways they are flushed into."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/18/microbead-bill-congress/75993094/>

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## **Anti-fracking group falls short in signatures for ballot**

*"A group looking to get a ban on hydraulic fracturing on the 2016 ballot has fallen well short in gathering the necessary signatures to put the issue before voters."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/18/anti-fracking-group-falls-short-signatures-ballot/76018126/>

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## Scientists to feds: Great Lakes wolves not endangered

*"Gray wolf populations in Michigan and other Great Lakes states have recovered to the point they no longer should be considered an endangered species. That message came Wednesday not from hunting groups, but from 26 scientists — many having advocated for the wolves' protection in years past."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/18/scientists-great-lakes-wolves-endangered/76015486/>

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## Bill Clinton honored at MSU amid protesters' chants

*"Student protesters attempted to block the entrance to the Kellogg Center's Big Ten Room, where former President Bill Clinton was scheduled to speak Wednesday evening."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/18/bill-clinton-michigan-state-university-spartan-statesmanship-award/76028714/>

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## UAW VP Settles launches final sales pitch for Ford deal

*"UAW Vice President Jimmy Settles, battling laryngitis and a rising tide of opposition to the UAW-Ford deal, gave an urgent, sales pitch Wednesday about the economic and job benefits in the tentative agreement."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/ford/2015/11/18/uaw-vp-settles-launches-final-sales-pitch-ford-deal/76014678/>

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## Flint officials, experts hit lead contamination law

*"Arlington, Va. — Flint area officials and others joined a water quality expert Wednesday in railing against the federal law that they say put city residents at risk of drinking lead-contaminated water during the past year and a half."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/18/flint-water/75987558/>

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## House bill would limit some calorie labels

*"Washington — Supermarkets and pizza chains would get some relief from government calorie labeling rules under legislation approved by a House committee Wednesday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/11/18/house-bill-limit-calorie-labels/76017592/>

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## **Democrats attack Rep. Bishop on union wage votes**

*"The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee is running drive-time radio ads this week linking U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop's votes on prevailing wage bill provisions with campaign donations from the powerful DeVos family of Grand Rapids."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/18/democrats-attack-rep-bishop-union-wage-votes/76018066/>

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## **Skillman leader: Don't expect foundation rescue of DPS**

*"One of the leaders of a coalition wanting to overhaul Detroit Public Schools said Wednesday that lawmakers should not expect the philanthropic community to pitch into a fund to bail out the debt-ridden district."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/18/skillman-leader-expect-foundation-rescue-dps/76031940/>

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## **Bill Clinton talks about work post-presidency at MSU**

*"East Lansing — Former President Bill Clinton urged an audience of dignitaries and Michigan State University students to find ways to engage in public service during a Wednesday evening speech that touched on current events such as the terrorist killings in Paris."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/18/bill-clinton-speak-receive-award-michigan-state/75978380/>

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## **Bush group buys \$1.8M in TV ads for Michigan primary**

*"Lansing — A group supporting Jeb Bush's presidential campaign has booked \$1.78 million in broadcast television ads for the three weeks leading up to Michigan's March 8 primary, underscoring the former Florida governor's vow to campaign heavily for the state's Republican delegates."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/11/18/jeb-bush-pac/76009458/>

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## **Patterson to Pontiac: Don't take Syrian refugees**

*"Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson warned Pontiac's mayor Wednesday that a city project to house Syrian refugees could allow Islamic State infiltrators to slip into the community."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/11/18/brooks-patterson-pontiac-syrian-refugees/76017962/>

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## **Ford vote shows disconnect between UAW leaders, workers**

*"A tentative deal between Ford Motor Co. and the United Auto Workers that stands on the brink of rejection continues a pattern of contentiousness in the contract talks between the rank-and-file and their elected union leaders."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/ford/2015/11/18/uaw-ford-local/75991308/>

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## **Rep. Darany speaks out against state leaders denying entrance to Syrian refugees**

*"Rep. George T. Darany (D-Dearborn) said while authorities must continue rigorous screening and security checks for refugees, flat-out denying entrance to Syrian refugees goes against so much of what the country was founded on."*

**Source:** Dearborn Press and Guide **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/11/18/news/doc564cdf731e3b4880626394.txt>

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

### **To prevent Great Lakes oil spills, map the risks and strengthen rules**

*"An oil spill on the Great Lakes would be disastrous — and unfortunately, Michigan families know firsthand the devastating consequences a pipeline break can have on our state."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/to\\_prevent\\_great\\_lakes\\_oil\\_spi\\_1.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/11/to_prevent_great_lakes_oil_spi_1.html#incart_river_index)

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## Facts about refugee resettlement should ease fears

*"One of the worst things about terrorism is it works. Last week's deadly terrorist attacks in Paris did exactly what its perpetrators intended: killed innocent Parisians, surely, but caused people across the globe to worry that they'd be next, to fear sudden death or torment at the hands of anonymous, implacable attackers."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/11/18/refugee-paris-syria/76003252/>

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## McNeilly: Lawmakers need workplace oversight

*"Anyone who's ever worked a job with a company email account knows the way it works. If an employee uses email at the office, the IT department — and the boss — has access to those emails, too."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/11/18/mcneilly-lawmakers-need-workplace-oversight/76032204/>

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## Editor's Note: Mississippi outsmarts Michigan

*"Democrats in Mississippi recently tried to boost school funding in that state through a ballot initiative. They thought they'd be better off angling for more money for schools in the courts than through the legislative process."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/11/18/jacques-mississippi-outsmarts-michigan/76032272/>

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## Editorial: Pause on refugees can't be permanent

*"Gov. Rick Snyder took the only course he could in suspending his initiative to settle refugees from Syria and elsewhere in Michigan. In light of the recent terrorists attacks in Paris, the governor was prudent to ask the federal government for a review of the screening procedures."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/11/18/editorial-refugees-pause/76032298/>

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## Money Rolling Into Lansing from State License Plate Tax

*"The amount of vehicle registration (license plate) tax the state collects from Michigan motorists each year*

is up 24 percent since 1990, even after factoring in inflation."

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21906>

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## **Do Not Assume Economic Development Spending is Effective**

*"In The Detroit News, business columnist Dan Howes cites a real estate developer in arguing for more spending on state economic development."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21898>

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## **Press Releases**

### **2015 Phil Hart Award Winners**

*"We are pleased to announce the award winners for the 55th Annual Phil Hart Dinner. We hope you will join us this Sunday, November 22nd as we celebrate the legacy of Phil Hart and also the hard work and dedication of these Democrats!"*

**Source:** Oakland County Democratic Party **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447887371\\_ocdp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447887371_ocdp.pdf)

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### **Haadsma Forms Campaign Committee for HD 62 House Race**

*"BATTLE CREEK — Jim Haadsma announced today that he has filed the necessary paperwork to form a campaign committee for a run in the state House of Representatives in House District 62. Haadsma's friend and fellow Democrat Andy Helmboldt narrowly lost the seat in the 2014 election."*

**Source:** Jim Haadsma **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447885125\\_headsma.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447885125_headsma.pdf)

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### **USDA Funding Expands Broadband Access to Nearly Six Million Rural Residents, Workers and Businesses**

*"WASHINGTON, Nov. 18, 2015 – USDA Rural Utilities Service Administrator Brandon McBride today announced that nearly six million Americans who live and work in rural areas now have access to new or improved high-speed Internet service, thanks to USDA funding provided in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act."*

**Source:** Michigan USDA **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447881750\\_miusda.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447881750_miusda.pdf)

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## **Lewiston Woman Wins \$240,206 Fantasy 5 Jackpot**

*"LANSING, Mich., Nov. 18, 2015 – Work will never be the same for a lucky woman from Lewiston who won a \$240,206 jackpot playing the Michigan Lottery's Fantasy 5 game."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447881624\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447881624_lottery.pdf)

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## **LARA Summarily Suspends a Family Child Care Home Certificate of Registration in Shiawassee County**

*"For Immediate Release - The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS), issued an order of summary suspension and notice of intent to revoke the certificate of registration of a Shiawassee County family child care home provider, Alysse Crum, License #DF780361975, 13334 Jennifer Drive, Perry, Michigan 48872. This action resulted from a recent investigation of a complaint of the family child care home."*

**Source:** Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447881553\\_lara.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447881553_lara.pdf)

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## **Michigan Chemistry Council Commends Rep. Upton's Leadership on Federal Microbeads Legislation**

*"LANSING, MI, November 18, 2015 – The Michigan Chemistry Council (MCC) thanked Rep. Fred Upton (R- St. Joseph) for his leadership on the "Microbead-Free Waters Act of 2015" (HR 1321). This legislation would create a uniform federal standard for the phase out of solid plastic microbeads in exfoliating personal care products."*

**Source:** Michigan Chemistry Council **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447881288\\_chem.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447881288_chem.pdf)

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## **Complete a snowmobile safety class before the snow flies**

*"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources encourages snowmobilers to earn their snowmobile safety course certifications before winter arrives. All operators are encouraged to complete a snowmobile safety course, although only youth ages 12-16 must have a certification prior to operating a snowmobile without direct supervision of an adult and when crossing a highway or street."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447880342\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447880342_dnr.pdf)

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## **Wolf Scientists Support Delisting Wolves in Great Lakes**

*"Wolf populations in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan have successfully recovered and should be taken off the Endangered Species list, according to a letter sent today to U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe from 26 U.S. and Canadian wolf and wildlife experts."*

**Source:** National Wildlife Federation **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447880428\\_nwf.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447880428_nwf.pdf)

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## **Lt. Gov. Brian Calley signs executive order fostering career opportunities for Michiganders with dis**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Lt. Gov. Brian Calley today signed an executive order that will lead to increased job opportunities for Michiganders with disabilities. "*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447875809\\_ltgov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447875809_ltgov.pdf)

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## **Dingell Applauds New Connected Vehicles Research Partnership between University of Michigan & Depart**

*"WASHINGTON, DC – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) today joined with the University of Michigan and U.S. Department of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Office to announce a new research project that will study connected vehicles and whether they can help people drive more efficiently. The \$2.7 million investment from the Department of Energy will couple the expertise of the University of Michigan with the Department of Energy's Argonne and Idaho National Laboratories."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447875719\\_dingell.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447875719_dingell.pdf)

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## **MDHHS Releases Asian/Pacific Islander Behavioral Risk Factor Survey**

*"LANSING, Mich. – From 2000 to 2010, Asians were the fastest growing racial group in Michigan. As part of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services continued focus on reducing health disparities and increasing knowledge about the health of racial and ethnic minorities, the department conducted a stand-alone, Asian/Pacific Islander Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (APIBRFS) among the Asian/Pacific Islander population in the state."*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447875676\\_dhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447875676_dhhs.pdf)



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## Bishop, Judiciary Colleagues Pass Sentencing Reform Act in Committee

**"WASHINGTON** – During a House Judiciary Committee markup today, Congressman Mike Bishop (MI-08) and his colleagues passed the Sentencing Reform Act of 2015 ([H.R. 3713](#)), a bill that would reduce certain mandatory minimums for drug offenses and allow judges overseeing non-violent drug cases to have greater discretion in determining appropriate sentences. It also contains important limitations on retroactivity to ensure serious violent criminals serve their full sentences in federal prison."

**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447875636\\_bishop.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447875636_bishop.pdf)

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## Schuetz Announces Conviction of Oakland County Insurance Broker on Racketeering Charges

**"LANSING** – Attorney General Bill Schuetz today announced the sentencing of Oakland County insurance broker, John Flaherty, 70, of Troy. He was sentenced by Judge Daniel P. O'Brien, in Oakland Circuit Court, to serve 14 months to 20 years imprisonment and ordered to pay \$1.3 million restitution to his victims following a conviction on one count of Conducting a Criminal Enterprise (Racketeering)."

**Source:** Attorney General Schuetz **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447875595\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447875595_ag.pdf)

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## Clean Fuels Michigan's statement on U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell and U.S. Senator Gary Peters a

**"LANSING** — Last week, U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell and U.S. Senator Gary Peters visited Leggett and Platt Commercial Vehicle Products in Taylor to announce new legislation, the Vehicle Innovation Act that will be introduced in the House of Representatives next week. This act will allocate funds for research and development of alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies, as well as create truck-specific programs within the Department of Energy. The Vehicle Innovation act demonstrates a long term commitment to the clean transportation technology industry within Michigan and serves as crucial legislation which will initiate advancements for alternative fuel technologies."

**Source:** Clean Fuels Michigan **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447875553\\_clean.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447875553_clean.pdf)

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## Michigan's October Unemployment Rate Unchanged

**"Lansing** – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in October was unchanged over the month at 5.0 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). Total employment rose in October by 9,000 while the number of unemployed edged up by 3,000. The net impact was a 13,000 gain in the state's workforce over the

month."

**Source:** Department of Technology, Management and Budget **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447873344\\_unem.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447873344_unem.pdf)

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## **DNR marks 25 years of helping private forest landowners through the Forest Stewardship Program**

*"For the past 25 years, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Forest Stewardship Program – which helps private forest landowners connect with a professional forester to develop a voluntary Forest Stewardship Plan – have helped private landowners manage, protect and enjoy their forests. The program, funded by the U.S. Forest Service, celebrates its 25th anniversary this year."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447872242\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447872242_dnr.pdf)

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## **GOVERNOR JEB BUSH'S REMARKS: A U.S. DEFENSE POLICY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY**

*"Charleston, SC — Governor Jeb Bush today delivered a defense policy address at The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, outlining his plan to rebuild America's military."*

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447870128\\_jeb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447870128_jeb.pdf)

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## **United Nations-declared "International Year of Pulses" an opportunity for Michigan agriculture**

*"NEW YORK, N.Y. – Leaders from Michigan's dry bean industry were on hand today in New York this week for the launch of the International Year of Pulses (IYOP), a celebration of pulse crops declared by the **United Nations** set to take place throughout 2016."*

**Source:** Michigan Bean Shippers **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447870065\\_mbs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447870065_mbs.pdf)

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## **Consumers Energy News Release: Energy fraud targets small businesses**

*"LANSING, Mich., Nov. 18, 2015 – Officials from Consumers Energy, Michigan State Police and prominent business organizations encouraged Michigan business owners and residents to take steps to protect themselves from ongoing customer scams that continue across the state entering this holiday season."*

**Source:** Consumer Energy **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

## **MDOT, MSP to present I-94 audit to lawmakers**

**"LANSING, Mich.** — State [Senator Margaret O'Brien](#) announced Wednesday that officials from the state Department of Transportation and Michigan State Police will present findings from a Road Safety Audit that was conducted on the stretch of Interstate 94 that runs between the Michigan-Indiana border and the city of Jackson following the historic 193-vehicle pileup that occurred January 9."

**Source:** Sen. Margaret O'Brien **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447865704\\_obrien.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447865704_obrien.pdf)

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## **Upton Committee Advances Bill to Ban Use of Microbeads**

**"WASHINGTON, D.C.** — Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today joined all of his colleagues on the House Energy and Commerce Committee in voting to advance H.R. 1321, the [Microbead-Free Waters Act of 2015](#). Upton is an original cosponsor of the bipartisan legislation with Rep. Frank Pallone, D-New Jersey."

**Source:** Rep. Fred Upton **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447865635\\_upton.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447865635_upton.pdf)

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## **Phil Pavlov Recognized as one of Nation's Top Republican Candidates for Congress**

**"PORT HURON**—Phil Pavlov today was named to the first tier of the National Republican Congressional Committee's (NRCC) "Young Guns" program, putting him on the radar as one of the nation's top candidates for Congress. The "Young Guns" program provides organizational and fundraising assistance for top Republican candidates. "

**Source:** Sen. Phil Pavlov **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447864001\\_pavlov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447864001_pavlov.pdf)

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## **Sprinkle Road ramps in Kalamazoo now are open (with photos)**

**"November 18, 2015 --** The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has reopened the I-94 ramps at Sprinkle Road in Kalamazoo."

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447861961\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447861961_mdof.pdf)

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## Former Kearsley teacher, coach allegedly used schools as cover to embezzle thousands in charitable g

*"Detroit – A former Kearsley High School physical education teacher and baseball coach was arraigned Nov. 13 on embezzlement and charity gaming law violations in 67<sup>th</sup> District Court, Flint, for allegedly diverting funds raised at 22 charity poker events advertised as benefits for Kearsley district schools."*

**Source:** Michigan Gaming Control Board **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447861502\\_mgcb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447861502_mgcb.pdf)

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## Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on Testifying Before Environmental Protection Agency's National D

*"LANSING, Michigan — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) released the following statement on testifying today before the Environmental Protection Agency's National Drinking Water Advisory Council in Arlington, Virginia:"*

**Source:** Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447861438\\_anaich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447861438_anaich.pdf)

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## MDHHS to host public forum in Benton Harbor about MI Health Link

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services will be hosting a public forum about the MI Health Link program that integrates care for individuals who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. The event will be held Wednesday, December 9, in Benton Harbor. MDHHS will also provide a conference line for those interested in participating by phone."*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447861372\\_dhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447861372_dhhs.pdf)

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## MICHIGAN LEGAL HELP LEGAL SELF-HELP CENTER OF SOUTHWEST DETROIT NOW OPEN

*"(Detroit, MI.) People in Wayne County who need information about how to handle simple civil legal matters but cannot afford an attorney have a new place to go for help– the **Michigan Legal Help (MLH) Legal Self-Help Center of Southwest Detroit**. This new center is located at the Family Alliance for Change, a community center at 3627 W. Vernor in Southwest Detroit that offers support, advocacy, referrals, resources and education to all Wayne County families. With the addition of the **MLH Legal Self-Help Center**, now families can also find support when dealing with some legal issues. "*

**Source:** Michigan Legal Help **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447860336\\_legal.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447860336_legal.pdf)

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## MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES LEGISLATORS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

"

*LANSING, MI – The Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA) recently presented two state legislators with awards acknowledging their commitment to a vibrant restaurant industry in this state. The ceremony took place in Lansing during the MRA's board of directors November meeting."*

**Source:** Michigan Restaurant Association **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447860216\\_mra.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447860216_mra.pdf)

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## Secretary of State offices to close for Thanksgiving holiday

"

*LANSING, Mich. – Secretary of State Ruth Johnson reminds residents that all offices and the Office of the Great Seal will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday."*

**Source:** Michigan Secretary of State **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447860171\\_sosh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447860171_sosh.pdf)

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## State Law Eliminating County Gun Boards Takes Effect December 1

*"LANSING, MICH. Changes that standardize how a concealed pistol license (CPL) is issued or renewed in Michigan take on effect Dec. 1, 2015; however, applicants should experience little difference, as the application and renewal processes still start by visiting the county clerk's office of the county in which the applicant resides."*

"

**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447860130\\_msp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447860130_msp.pdf)

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## Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases - 11/17/2015

*"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 11/17/2015.*

*For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see <http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx>"*

**Source:** Michigan Court of Appeals **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447855839\\_court.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447855839_court.pdf)

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## Equality Michigan: Meet Our New Deputy Director

*"Equality Michigan is proud to announce the appointment of L. Michael Gipson as Deputy Director. Michael is joining Equality Michigan from his most recent position as Executive Director for the Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts in Washington, DC and Co-Founder of Cleveland's Beyond Identities Community Center for LGBTQ youth of color."*

**Source:** Equality Michigan **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447855338\\_equality.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447855338_equality.pdf)

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## Sparrow Mother Baby Center helps statewide effort to reduce infant mortality

*"LANSING, MI – The Sparrow Mother Baby Center has received a \$10,000 grant to participate in a statewide program to reduce infant mortality."*

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447855287\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447855287_sparrow.pdf)

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## Pedestrian bridge opens over M-39

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation has rebuilt the pedestrian bridge over M-39 at Cathedral Avenue that collapsed in a crash last year. Approximately \$2.9 million was provided by the federal government in emergency funds in order to expedite this important pedestrian bridge for the community."*

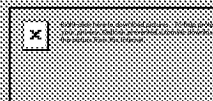
**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 11-19-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1447855178\\_mdod.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1447855178_mdod.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirnews.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 03, 2015 8:19 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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## **2016 candidates undermine the political hometown**

*"It's been 20 years since Bob Dole ran for president as the small town boy who never forgot his roots in windblown Russell, Kan., where he worked in high school as a drugstore soda jerk and recovered from his wounds after World War II. Even after he went to Congress, he never changed his legal residence."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/08/02/candidate-hometowns-dole-clinton-hope/30844905/>

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## **Koch implores donors to help 'change the trajectory of this country'**

*"DANA POINT, Calif. — Billionaire Charles Koch on Sunday invoked the American Revolution, the fight to end slavery and the civil-rights movement as he exhorted the donors in his growing political policy empire to help him dismantle what he called the obstacles to a "truly free society."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/08/02/koch-2016-campaign-republicans/31017189/>

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## **Everson to file complaint over first GOP debate**

*"WASHINGTON — Former IRS commissioner Mark Everson, a candidate for the GOP presidential nomination, will file a complaint with the Federal Election Commission on Monday alleging that he is being unfairly excluded from the first debate, he told USA TODAY."*



**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/08/02/everson-fox-debate-complaint/31022507/>

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## **MSU wins \$5M grant to study mint plants**

*"Mint is a daily part of most Americans' lives. It makes toothpaste taste tolerable, pairs beautifully with chocolate and transforms plain bourbon into a mint julep."*

**Source:** Lansing State Journal **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/local/2015/08/03/msu-wins-grant-study-mint-plants/31039935/>

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## **1 in 5 Michigan lawmakers lack college degree**

*"LANSING One out of every five Michigan lawmakers doesn't have a formal degree in higher education."*

**Source:** Lansing State Journal **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/08/03/michigan-lawmakers-lack-college-degree/31046293/>

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## **Three construction projects along U.S. 127 begin this month**

*"ITHACA, MI — Three road construction projects will begin along U.S. 127 during the first week of August."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/08/three\\_construction\\_projects\\_al.html#incart\\_river\\_news](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/08/three_construction_projects_al.html#incart_river_news)

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## **Cheboygan River Front Range Lighthouse helped bolster local shipping and lumber economy**

*"The Cheboygan River range lights were built in 1880 in response to the increasing commerce taking place in Cheboygan."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2015/08/cheboygan\\_river\\_front\\_range\\_li.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2015/08/cheboygan_river_front_range_li.html#incart_river)

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## **Video shows tornado hitting Michigan's Thumb**

*"HURON COUNTY, MI — A tornado appears to have touched down in Michigan's Thumb in a damaging storm that snapped apart trees and damaged buildings including a school, the National Weather Service*

reports. "

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/08/video\\_of\\_tornado\\_hitting\\_michi.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/08/video_of_tornado_hitting_michi.html#incart_river)

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## Study outlines challenges for black males in medicine

*"Detroit — The number of African-American males applying to medical school has steadily declined every year except 2014 since 1978, according to a study released Monday at the National Medical Association Convention and Scientific Assembly."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/08/03/black-men-medical-students/31045489/>

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## Raging N. California wildfires prompt evacuations

*"Lower Lake, Calif. — Fire officials called for thousands of evacuations as numerous homes remained threatened by Northern California wildfires Monday, while more than 9,000 firefighters battled 21 major fires in the state, officials said."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/08/03/california-wildfires-evacuations/31046093/>

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## Flint pastors tell residents to get their water tested

*"Flint — Critics aren't dropping their complaints about Flint's water."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/08/03/flint-pastors-tell-residents-get-water-tested/31045697/>

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## Kerry pushes Iran nuke deal with wary Arabs in Qatar

*"Doha, Qatar — U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry brought the Obama administration's case for the Iran nuclear deal to wary Arab officials in Qatar on Monday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/world/2015/08/03/kerry-iran-nuke-arabs-qatar/31046175/>

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## Biden for president? Allies mulling Clinton challenge

*"Washington — Vice President Joe Biden's associates have resumed discussions about a 2016 presidential run after largely shelving such deliberations while his son was sick and dying earlier this year. But Biden has yet to tell his staff whether he will run or personally ask them to do any planning for a potential campaign, according to several people close to the vice president."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/08/02/biden-president-allies-mulling-clinton-challenge/31017225/>

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## Koch warns conservatives must demand smaller government

*"Dana Point, Calif. — Billionaire industrialist Charles Koch warned America is "done for" if the conservative donors and politicians he gathered at a retreat over the weekend don't rally others to their cause of demanding a smaller, less-intrusive government."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/08/02/koch-warns-conservatives-must-demand-smaller-government/31042075/>

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## Judge Keith outraged by incomplete housing discrimination case

*"HAMTRAMCK — A Detroit-area community that targeted blacks by demolishing poor neighborhoods is scrambling to come up with money to finally end the case — 44 years after a federal judge found clear evidence of discrimination."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/08/02/judge-damon-keith-housing-discrimination/31024517/>

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## White Chapel Memorial Park Cemetery hosts V-J Day Ceremony

*"White Chapel Memorial Park Cemetery in Troy hosted its 68th annual V-J Day Ceremony Sunday. More than 400 U.S. flags lined White Chapel's Main Boulevard and the event featured the Gold Star Mothers, an organization of mothers who have lost a son or daughter in service to the U.S., and members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/2015/08/02/white-chapel-memorial/31033027/>

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## Hamtramck 'Guerrilla Road Repair' goes DIY on potholes

*"A fast-growing campaign to tamp away craters from Hamtramck neighborhoods entered Round 2 Saturday when nearly 4 tons of filler were dropped into potholes on the streets of the small east-side enclave."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/08/01/potholes-patch-hamtramck/30995401/>

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## Michigan awards nearly \$250K for Iron Belle Trail projects

*"LANSING – Michigan has awarded nearly \$250,000 in grants in 15 of the state's counties to help develop a new hiking and bicycling trail stretching hundreds of miles."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/08/02/michigan-awards-nearly-iron-belle-trail-projects/31020289/>

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## Sleeping Bear Dunes, Glen Arbor hit hard by storms

*"GLEN ARBOR, Mich. — Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and the northern Lower Peninsula communities of Glen Arbor and Traverse City have been hit hard by severe storms packing high winds."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/08/03/sleeping-bear-dunes-glen-arbor-hit-hard-by-michigan-storms/31045445/>

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## FBI: Former state rep handed out narcotics

*"Dr. Paul DeWeese was once a high-ranking politician in the Michigan House of Representatives, and an ER doctor on the side."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/08/03/fbi-former-state-rep-supplied-opioid-abusers-dealers/30917051/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### For petition drives to legalize marijuana, three may not be a crowd

*"If you had three groups dedicated to legalizing grass, wouldn't you think they would get their act together and decide on one ballot proposal for 2016 rather than maybe three?"*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/08/for\\_petition\\_drives\\_to\\_legaliz.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/08/for_petition_drives_to_legaliz.html#incart_river)

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## Michigan Film Office tries to stave off The End

*"We can give you a sunrise and a sunset on the water. We can give you mansions five minutes from ruins."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/real-rubin/2015/08/02/rubin-michigan-film-office/31040601/>

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## Many Up North are still down on their luck

*"Rogers City is a sleepy town with a tidy appearance, expansive waterfront and coastal views of Lake Huron that exemplify Up North during summer."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/07/31/north-michigan-jobs/30968785/>

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## State Gives Billions in Dollars to Corporations – But Keeps Secret How Much They Get

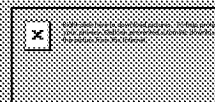
*"The state of Michigan gives tens of millions of taxpayer dollars to private companies each year. Yet remarkably, the public is kept in the dark about how much each corporate beneficiary receives — or even who receives the money."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 08-03-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21582>

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**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Michigan wins crucial federal waiver to continue expanded Medicaid coverage program**

*"LANSING, MI — The Obama administration has approved a key waiver that will allow Michigan to continue its unique program for expanded Medicaid coverage under the Affordable Care Act, Gov. Rick Snyder announced Thursday."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_wins\\_crucial\\_federal.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_wins_crucial_federal.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Is Senate Business Office subject to FOIA? Michigan Senator seeks a formal AG opinion**

*"LANSING, MI — The Senate Business Office claims it is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act, but Sen. Vincent Gregory is asking Attorney General Bill Schuette whether that's actually the case from a legal standpoint."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/is\\_senate\\_business\\_office\\_subj.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/is_senate_business_office_subj.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Snyder taps two advisers to help on Flint water crisis**

*"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder has tapped two of his advisers to coordinate the state's health, environmental and public relations response to Flint's water crisis."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/snyder-taps-two-advisers-help-flint-water-crisis/77479796/>

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## **Schuetzte continues out-of-state fundraising**

*"Lansing — Attorney General Bill Schuetzte has an "itch."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/schuetzte-fundraising-attorney-general-michigan-governor/77507548/>

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## **Feds approve Medicaid waiver for Michigan**

*"More than a half million Michigan residents will get to keep their expanded Medicaid health insurance next year and beyond after the federal government Thursday approved the final waiver required under state law."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/feds-approve-medicaid-waiver-michigan/77480758/>

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## **House Republicans push more than \$600B in tax cuts**

*"Washington — Republicans overwhelmed divided Democrats to whisk tax breaks for businesses, families and special interests through the House on Thursday as Congress sped toward final votes on a year-crowning budget accord that will also bankroll the government in 2016."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/house-budget-congress-taxes/77520360/>

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## **Spending bill could boost program to fight blight**

*"Washington — The year-end spending bill under consideration by Congress would allow the U.S. Treasury to transfer up to \$2 billion more to the fund that helps cities such as Detroit and Flint combat neighborhood blight."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/spending-bill-boost-program-fight-blight/77474652/>

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## Report rips security of state computer systems

*"LANSING — Hundreds of state computer servers are vulnerable to hacking and failure because of outdated operating systems, ineffective security configurations, poor password control, failure to install security patches and a lack of timely scanning to detect vulnerabilities, according to a report released Thursday by Michigan Auditor General Doug Ringer."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/17/report-rips-security-state-computer-systems/77409206/>

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## Hillary Clinton to stump in state Jan. 12

*"Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton is planning a campaign stop in Michigan on Jan. 12, ahead of the state's March 8 primary, according to sources."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/hillary-clinton--stump--state-jan-12/77475674/>

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## Federal government approves waiver for Healthy Michigan

*"The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has given Michigan a waiver for its Healthy Michigan plan, allowing nearly 600,000 low-income residents to continue with health care coverage."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/federal-government-approves-waiver-healthy-michigan/77483592/>

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## Roque DeLaFuente may be on Michigan presidential ballot

*"Most people have probably never heard of Roque (Rocky) DeLaFuente, a former car salesman and banker from San Diego, Calif. But come March 8, millions of Michigan voters may encounter his name on the presidential primary ballot."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/17/roque-delafuente-michigan-democratic-presidential-ballot/77506264/>

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## Detroit-led blight fight may spur demolitions across U.S.

*"WASHINGTON — A Michigan-led effort to get \$2 billion more put into a federal neighborhood stabilization fund could touch off one of the biggest initiatives to demolish abandoned, derelict buildings in older urban centers ever seen, with cities across the Midwest — Detroit first and foremost among*

them — standing to benefit."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/18/detroit-led-blight-fight-may-spur-demolitions-across-us/77500028/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Wolfram: Data center bill consistent with tax policy

*"The state Senate recently passed bills that deal with exempting data centers from the sales and use taxes as well as the personal property tax. While most of the discussion has been about the effect on economic activity, in particular whether the tax reductions will advance economic activity in Michigan, it is useful to examine the fundamental theory of the sales taxes and whether the property tax exemption is consistent with current policy."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/17/michigan-tax-policy-switch-data-center/77531752/>

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## Editorial: Protect access to medical marijuana

*"The Senate failed to pass legislation again this year that would legalize non-smokable forms of marijuana under the state's medical pot program. That means nearly 180,000 medical marijuana patients in Michigan remain in limbo, as do their caregivers and suppliers."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/17/medical-marijuana-access-pot-legalization-michigan/77530908/>

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## Bankruptcy could be option for ailing DPS

*"Each month the Legislature fails to act on Gov. Rick Snyder's proposals for fixing Detroit Public Schools brings the district a step nearer to a Chapter 9 bankruptcy filing, which now even the governor is calling an option."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/12/17/dps-inching-closer-bankruptcy/77528560/>

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## Questions, answers in Duggan's Detroit demolitions plan

*"The homes on the 1900 block of Calvert Street in Detroit are modest compared to the mansions a few blocks south in the historic Boston-Edison district – solid wood and brick one- and two-family houses, built in the 1920s as the city grew north. While the number of owner-occupied homes on the street has declined over the last few decades, most of the homes are well-maintained."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/17/detroit-demolitions-duggan/77476794/>

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## **Business Group, Utilities, Clash Over Rate Hikes, Electric Choice**

*"A business group is asking the Michigan Court of Appeals to overturn a rate hike it claims would give Consumers Energy the highest profits granted by regulators this year in the U.S. The lawsuit comes while Michigan customers face the highest electricity rates in the region and the state's two largest utilities, Consumers Energy and Detroit Edison, lobby the Legislature to return them to the status of full monopolies."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22001>

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## **Press Releases**

### **Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments**

*"Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments"*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450397269\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450397269_gov.pdf)

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### **Dingell, Peters, Stabenow Legislation to Award Medal of Honor to Ypsilanti Vietnam Veteran Included**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) and U.S. Senators Gary Peters (MI) and Debbie Stabenow (MI) today announced that legislation they introduced, which would allow Major Charles S. Kettles of Ypsilanti to be awarded the Medal of Honor, will move forward as part of the fiscal year 2016 government funding bill."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell and Sen. Gary Peters and Sen. Debbie Stabenow **Date:** 12-18-2015

**Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450397172\\_dingell.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450397172_dingell.pdf)

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### **Rep. Lawrence statement on Tax Extenders Vote**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) on Thursday issued the following statement*

*after voting against the tax extenders package."*

**Source:** Rep. Brenda Lawrence **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450386495\\_lawrence.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450386495_lawrence.pdf)

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## **Huizenga Votes to Provide Tax Relief For Hardworking Michiganders**

*"Washington, D.C. – Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga released the following statement after voting in support of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act:"*

**Source:** Rep. Bill Huizenga **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450385017\\_huizenga.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450385017_huizenga.pdf)

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## **Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Detroit Central City Community Mental Health's annual me**

*"Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Detroit Central City Community Mental Health's annual meeting. He will be joined by Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450383771\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450383771_gov.pdf)

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## **Gov. Snyder signs bill making allergy pens more accessible for emergencies at youth camps, sporting**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Epi-Pens and other auto-injectibles of epinephrine will be available in more public places to address severe allergic reactions, under legislation signed today by Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450383611\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450383611_gov.pdf)

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## **Bishop's Bill to Extend Perkins Loan Program Heads to President**

*"WASHINGTON – Following Senate passage yesterday, the House today passed Congressman Mike Bishop's amended legislation to extend the Federal Perkins Loan Program for two years (H.R. 3594). In response, **Congressman Bishop** issued the following statement: "*

**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450383569\\_bishop.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450383569_bishop.pdf)

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## **Governor Snyder Signs Bill to Protect Kids with Food Allergies**

*"New Law Gives Public Venues the Option to Stock Epi-Pens to Treat Patrons Experiencing Life Threatening Reactions"*

**Source:** No Nuts Moms Group **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450393525\\_allergy.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450393525_allergy.pdf)

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## **Rep. Runestad calls on Obama to declare ISIS action genocide**

*"State Rep. Jim Runestad today introduced a House resolution calling on President Obama to declare ISIS terrorism as an act of genocide against Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East."*

**Source:** Rep. Jim Runestad **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450393458\\_runestad.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450393458_runestad.pdf)

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## **Lakewood Construction, MIOSHA Sign Partnership to Protect Workers**

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***December 17, 2015 – Lakewood Construction, the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) recently signed a formal partnership with the goal of zero worker injuries, accidents and near misses during the construction of the new Caledonia High School South Campus building.***

"

**Source:** Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450393411\\_lara.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450393411_lara.pdf)

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## **Amendment fails to require timely reporting of independent expenditures**

*"An amendment to the Michigan Campaign Finance Act passed by the Michigan Legislature on its last day of voting in 2015 changes reporting schedules but it fails to require timely reporting of independent*

expenditures. That should be the next order of business for Michigan lawmakers."

**Source:** Michigan Campaign Finance Network **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450382062\\_micfn.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450382062_micfn.pdf)

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## **Rep. Garcia introduces school calendar legislation**

"State Representative Daniela García this week introduced a two-bill package providing more flexibility for local school districts to design the most efficient school calendar that will best benefit Michigan students."

**Source:** Rep. Daniela Garcia **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450382142\\_garcia.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450382142_garcia.pdf)

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## **Michigan Legislative Black Caucus Denounces Attack on Urban Voters**

"LANSING — The Michigan Legislative Black Caucus (MLBC) criticized the passage of Senate Bill 13 last night during a late session, calling the legislation a suppression of voter rights in urban areas of the state."

**Source:** Michigan Legislative Black Caucus **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450381411\\_mlbc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450381411_mlbc.pdf)

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## **Properly Fund Education By Closing Offshore Corporate Tax Loopholes**

"MICHIGAN — As part of the Americans for Tax Fairness campaign, education leaders from Michigan spoke out today against offshore corporate tax loopholes that rob much needed revenue to priorities back home, like public education. They called on elected officials like U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow to work in Washington, D.C. to put an end to the shell game."

**Source:** Americans for Tax Fairness **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450381040\\_engage.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450381040_engage.pdf)

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## **TC Chamber Honors Chuck Judson with Distinguished Service Award**

"TRAVERSE CITY, MI – A community thrives when its top professionals are deeply engaged in a wide range of local initiatives – a description that surely fits Charles B. "Chuck" Judson, the recipient of the 2015 Distinguished Service Award from the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce."

**Source:** Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450380511\\_tcac.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450380511_tcac.pdf)

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## Ag leaders urge passage of Consolidated Appropriations Act

*"LANSING – The **Agricultural Leaders of Michigan (ALM)** today urged members of Michigan's U.S. House delegation to support passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, noting in a letter to lawmakers (attached) that the bill contains a wide range of provisions to benefit Michigan agriculture and prevent roadblocks to continued progress."*

**Source:** Agricultural Leaders of Michigan **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450379895\\_alm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450379895_alm.pdf)

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## Benishek Fights for Michigan Taxpayers

*"WASHINGTON - Today, the House voted in favor of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act, sponsored by Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX). This bill makes permanent over 20 tax relief provisions, extends for 5 years or 2 years a number of other tax relief provisions that expired at the end of calendar year 2014, provides for a 2-year moratorium on the medical device tax, and includes a number of additional tax policy changes."*

**Source:** Rep. Dan Benishek **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450379826\\_benishek.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450379826_benishek.pdf)

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## Snyder Administration Leans on Lies to Avoid Flint Water Disclosures

*"LANSING — In a recent [story by the Detroit Free Press](#), it was reported that a lawyer for the Department of Health and Human Services claimed that documents related to the Flint Water Crisis could not be released because of a "litigation hold" placed on documents by the Attorney General's office. However, the Attorney General claims he did not place a hold and the story points out that the term is not a phrase used in litigation surrounding public documents."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450379750\\_mich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450379750_mich.pdf)

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## House Passes Pro-Growth Tax Package

*"WASHINGTON – Following House passage of H.R. 2029, the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act, Congressman Mike Bishop issued the following statement:"*

**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450379144\\_bishop.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450379144_bishop.pdf)

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## **Small Business Association of Michigan Staff Changes**

*"LANSING – Several people have joined the staff of the Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM) in Lansing."*

**Source:** *Small Business Association of Michigan* **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450377545\\_sbam.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450377545_sbam.pdf)

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## **Approval of federal waiver for Healthy Michigan Plan great gift to Michigan**

*"LANSING —The Michigan League for Public Policy issued the following statement on the the federal government's approval of the second waiver for the Healthy Michigan plan today:"*

**Source:** *Michigan League for Public Policy* **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450377501\\_policy.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450377501_policy.pdf)

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## **DNR honors hunter education instructor of the year**

*"Timothy Pifher of Davison, Michigan, was named 2015 hunter education volunteer instructor of the year by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources."*

**Source:** *Department of Natural Resources* **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450377458\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450377458_dnr.pdf)

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## **Statement from Rep Schor federal approval of the waiver for the Healthy Michigan Plan**

*"Statement from state Representative Andy Schor (D-Lansing) on federal approval of the waiver for the Healthy Michigan Plan:"*

**Source:** *Rep. Andy Schor* **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450377422\\_schor.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450377422_schor.pdf)

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## **Statement from Sen. David Knezek on Shooting at Dearborn Heights Police Department**

*"Statement from Sen. David Knezek on Shooting at Dearborn Heights Police Department"*

**Source:** *Sen. David Knezek* **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450377381\\_knezek.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450377381_knezek.pdf)



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## **Senator Johnson Introduces Legislation to Reduce Arson**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Senator Bert Johnson (D–Highland Park) today introduced legislation that would make it easier to prevent and investigate arson. Senator Rick Jones (R–Grand Ledge) was a cosponsor on the bill."*

**Source:** Sen. Bert Johnson **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450372936\\_johnson.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450372936_johnson.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Healthy Michigan Plan continues for 600,000 residents with approval of second waiv**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Healthy Michigan Plan will continue for nearly 600,000 residents, now that the state has obtained waiver approval from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Gov. Rick Snyder said today."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450371603\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450371603_gov.pdf)

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## **Last elk hunt of 2015 a success for most hunters**

*"Although it may not feel like a Michigan December, the final 2015 elk hunt drew to a close last weekend."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450370631\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450370631_dnr.pdf)

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## **DEQ announces \$450,000 available to communities for residential recycling carts**

*"Local communities interested in purchasing recycling carts for residents now can apply for grants from the DEQ."*

**Source:** Department of Environmental Quality **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450366734\\_deq.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450366734_deq.pdf)

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## **Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich Wants More Urgency from Governor, Trained Emergency Coordinator o**

"LANSING, Mich. — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D–Flint) responded to today's release of Flint Water Task Force correspondence. He reiterated specific actions that would help organize efforts with the Flint water crisis, including bringing in a trained emergency management professional to coordinate assistance within the City of Flint."

**Source:** Sen. Jim Ananich **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450365657\\_ananich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450365657_ananich.pdf)

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## **Cherry Republic just offered us a sweet deal we couldn't refuse!**

"Earlier this week I got some very exciting news from one of sweetest companies in Michigan, Cherry Republic. **Cherry Republic is including us in their annual 31 Days of Giving Environmental Challenge!**"

**Source:** Michigan League of Conservation Voters **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450365226\\_micv.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450365226_micv.pdf)

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## **Fund Used for Blight Demolition Set to Receive Billions More Under Push by Congressman Dan Kildee**

"WASHINGTON – A bill expected to be passed by Congress this week includes a provision fought for by Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) to transfer \$2 billion more into the Hardest Hit Fund (HHF), a program that has already helped to remove and repurpose thousands of abandoned properties in cities across Michigan, including Flint and Saginaw. Additionally, these new funds would have greater flexibility and could be used to make additional progress on removing blight, including past 2017, when the funds currently expire."

**Source:** Rep. Dan Kildee **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450364745\\_kildee.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450364745_kildee.pdf)

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## **Honest State Data Shows Troubling Achievement Gaps**

"ROYAL OAK, Mich. (December 17, 2015) – This morning, the Michigan Department of Education released further details on student performance on the Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP), taken by students in Spring 2015. The new assessment data provides more honest, reliable information on how well our students are prepared."

**Source:** Education Trust-Midwest **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450364535\\_edu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450364535_edu.pdf)

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## **Irwin - Coffee Hour, Transportation Update**

"It is an honor and a pleasure to contact you once again as the state representative for the

53<sup>rd</sup> Michigan House District. Though this is the last installment of this year, I will send updates throughout 2016 to keep you informed about issues that affect the Ann Arbor area and our state."

**Source:** Rep. Jeff Irwin **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450364367\\_irwin.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450364367_irwin.pdf)

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## **Late antlerless season reminder: Dec. 21 - Jan 1**

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that the 2015 late antlerless firearm deer season is right around the corner. Below is a list of the deer management units (DMUs) that are open and closed for this private-land-only hunt."

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450362996\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450362996_dnr.pdf)

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## **Sparrow's Operation Santa 2015 provides gifts for nearly 160 Lansing children**

"LANSING, MI – Sparrow Caregivers have once again generously supported less fortunate local children and families to ensure they enjoy the holiday season."

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450362923\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450362923_sparrow.pdf)

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## **Amendment will delay reporting of millions by months**

"News from the Michigan Campaign Finance Network..."

An amendment to the Michigan Campaign Finance Act passed by the Michigan Legislature on its last day of voting in 2015 will substantially delay the reporting of millions of dollars in election spending if it is signed into law by Gov. Rick Snyder.

Read about SB 571, a flawed bill that should not be signed into law by Gov. Snyder."

**Source:** Michigan Campaign Finance Network **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450361824\\_mcfn.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450361824_mcfn.pdf)

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## **MDOT weekend construction 12/18/15**

"MDOT weekend construction for 12/18-12/21/15 for roads beginning with I, M, or US. (Always check [Michigan.gov/drive](http://Michigan.gov/drive) or MiDrive app for changes and latest info.) **M-53: (Van Dyke Ave)** In Macomb County, south M-53 from 15 ½ Mile to 15 Mile Rd will have two lanes closed from Sat 8 am-Sun 5 pm for construction. **I-94:** In Wayne County, west I-94 from French Rd to M-3 (Gratiot) will have

*left lane closed Sat 6 am-Mon 5 am for road work."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450361533\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450361533_mdof.pdf)

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## Close Offshore Corporate Tax Loopholes, Fund Public Education

*"MICHIGAN — Today at 1 p.m., Americans for Tax Fairness will be joined by education leaders from the American Federation of Teachers and the Michigan Education Association to call for an end to loopholes that allow corporations to hide their profits overseas to avoid paying their fair share in taxes."*

**Source:** Americans for Tax Fairness **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450361428\\_engage.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450361428_engage.pdf)

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## Audit Report Released - DTMB, Statewide UNIX Security Controls (071-0563-15)

*"Performance audit report on Statewide UNIX Security Controls, Department of Technology, Management, and Budget Project Number: 071-0563-15 The complete audit report and/or report summary can be viewed or downloaded in Adobe Acrobat file format from our Internet site at: <http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/recently-released-audit-reports.html> Please direct any questions or comments to Kelly C. Miller, State Relations Officer [atkcmiller@audgen.michigan.gov](mailto:atkcmiller@audgen.michigan.gov)"*

**Source:** Auditor General Doug Ringer **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450361345\\_auditor.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450361345_auditor.pdf)

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## KNOLLENBERG PRESS RELEASE ON STRAIGHT TICKET VOTING

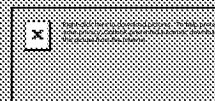
*"LANSING, Mich. — Senate Bill 13, legislation sponsored by State Senator Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy) to rein in political party control over elections, passed the legislature Wednesday evening. "*

**Source:** Sen. Marty Knollenberg **Date:** 12-18-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450361274\\_knollenberg.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450361274_knollenberg.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2015 5:59 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Nearly 400,000 signatures collected for prevailing wage repeal**

*"LANSING, MI -- A group aiming to put prevailing wage on the chopping block before voters in November 2016 has submitted more than 390,000 signatures to the Secretary of State."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/advocates\\_collect\\_nearly\\_40000.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/advocates_collect_nearly_40000.html#incart_river)

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### **Michigan per-pupil spending flatlines, and 6 other facts on K-12 expenditures**

*"Michigan spending on K-12 public school students remained virtually the same between 2008-09 and 2013-14, according to state data."*

**Source:** Kalamazoo Gazette **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan\\_per-pupil\\_spending\\_flat.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_per-pupil_spending_flat.html#incart_river)

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### **Flint mayor asks governor for \$10 million to replace lead water pipes**

*"FLINT, MI — Mayor Dayne Walling is asking Gov. Rick Snyder for \$30 million to upgrade Flint's water system, including \$10 million to remove lead service pipes and plumbing susceptible to leaching lead."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/flint\\_mayor\\_asks\\_governor\\_for\\_1.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/flint_mayor_asks_governor_for_1.html#incart_river)

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## Michigan AG promotes school safety hotline

*"Saginaw — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette is promoting a hotline and online student safety system called OK2SAY."*

**Source:** Associated Press **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/14/schuette-promotes-anti-bullying-school-hotline/72265248/>

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## John Oliver rips Courser, Gamrat scandal on HBO show

*"HBO comedy host John Oliver is the latest satirist to poke fun at the political sex scandal that rocked Michigan's House of Representatives."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/14/john-oliver-rips-courser-gamrat-scandal-hbo-show/72261336/>

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## White House's 'Smart Cities' push includes Detroit

*"Washington — The White House on Monday unveiled a new \$160 million "Smart Cities" initiative that will boost federal research and leverage more than 25 new technology collaborations to help local communities tackle important issues."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/09/14/smart-cities-initiative-white-house-detroit/72272826/>

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## Wage repeal group submits 390,000 petition signatures

*"Lansing — Protecting Michigan Taxpayers, a group with ties to the conservative DeVos family of Grand Rapids and a state organization representing nonunion contractors, has collected 390,000 petition signatures for its proposal to dump Michigan's prevailing wage law."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/14/prevailing-wage-repeal-petition/72275874/>

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## Fields of candidates grow for seats of Courser, Gamrat

*"Lansing — The number of candidates has grown for the state House seats that became vacant when Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat were forced out of the Legislature late last week during a*

dramatic session."

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/14/fields-candidates-grow-seats-courser-gamrat/72275382/>

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## U.P. teacher 1st in Michigan to contract plague

*"Marquette — Some people go their entire lives without catching anything worse than a flu or virus."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/14/bubonic-plague-michigan-case/72273294/>

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## FCA, UAW extend contract on 'hour-by-hour basis'

*"The United Auto Workers and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles have extended their existing contract "on an hour-by-hour basis," indicating that the two sides could be close on a tentative agreement."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/09/14/uaw-talks/72290540/>

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## Michigan Legislature: Gun, abortion bills introduced

*"LANSING — While most of the Legislature's attention was focused on expulsion hearings for two lawmakers, representatives and senators still managed to introduce 68 new bills in the first full week of their fall session after being off most of the summer."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/11/michigan-legislature-guns-abortion-religious-exemption-bills-introduced/72050336/>

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## TV host John Oliver skewers Courser-Gamrat sex scandal

*"While this summer's sex scandal between former state Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat has kept Lansing reporters busy, it's also functioning as an offering to the comedy gods."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/14/john-oliver-last-week-tonight-michigan-sex-scandal-/72251706/>

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## Anti-union group offers petition to end prevailing wage

*"A group looking to end Michigan's prevailing-wage law turned in enough signatures Monday to put the issue before the Legislature."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/09/14/anti-union-group-submits-petition-end-prevailing-wage/72268526/>

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## Bubonic plague case confirmed in Michigan

*"A Michigan resident has contracted the rare, life-threatening bubonic plague — the first documented case in Michigan's public health history, state officials confirmed."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/health/2015/09/14/bubonic-plague-case--michigan/72273070/>

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## UAW extends FCA contract by the hour; some workers walk

*"The UAW and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles have extended the existing collective agreement on an hour-by-hour basis as bargaining continues, suggesting they could be close to a deal."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/09/14/uaw-fiat-chrysler-contract-negotiations-agreement-deadline/72268486/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Mackinac pipeline helps power Michigan's industrial comeback

*"For months we've heard the same old rhetoric about the integrity of Enbridge's Line 5, which runs under the Straits of Mackinac. It's time to set the record straight about this important piece of Michigan's energy infrastructure, what it means for the state economy, and the commitment by the company and workers to ensure it continues to safely operate."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/09/mackinac\\_pipeline\\_helps\\_power.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/09/mackinac_pipeline_helps_power.html#incart_river)

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## Editor's Note: Get facts on right to work and pay

*"Unions work hard to make the case that right to work has a negative impact on wages and employment. But a new study from the Heritage Foundation finds that is not true across the board."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/09/15/editor-note-jacques-right-work-pay/72285138/>

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## **Lund: Unions are Chicken Little on prevailing wage**

*"Chicken Little" — it's an age-old fable with a compelling lesson for Michigan's modern-day debate over whether to repeal prevailing wage laws. Don't let hysteria over an imagined threat obscure good judgment."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/14/lund-unions-chicken-little-prevailing-wage/72285214/>

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## **Editorial: Bring them here**

*"President Barack Obama has signaled the United States will accept at least 10,000 more refugees from Syria during the next year. Michigan should lobby to be the destination for most, if not all of those seeking new homes."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/14/editorial-bring/72285322/>

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## **Michigan road funding: The road to 54**

*"When voters resoundingly rejected a road proposal that would have altered the gas tax and preserved dollars for schools and transit, most folks interpreted it as a sharp message from voters to state lawmakers: Go back to work, and do better this time."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/09/11/michigan-roads-funding/71965034/>

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## **Press Releases**

### **JEB BUSH RELEASES VIDEO CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**

*"Miami, FL — In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Jeb! 2016 campaign released a new web video featuring Governor Jeb Bush and Mrs. Columba Bush with a message for all Hispanic-Americans. Jeb and Mrs. Bush discuss the importance of Hispanic Heritage Month and the great contributions of the*

*Hispanic community in the U.S., while inviting everyone to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month."*

**Source:** *Jeb Bush* **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442264204\\_jb2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442264204_jb2.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder lowers flags to honor fallen firefighter Dennis Rodeman**

*"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder has ordered U.S. and Michigan flags to be lowered to half-staff on Wednesday, Sept. 16 within the State Capitol Complex and on all state buildings in honor of Lansing firefighter Dennis E. Rodeman, who died Wednesday, Sept. 9.*

"

**Source:** *Gov. Newsroom* **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442264175\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442264175_gov.pdf)

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## **Board of State Canvassers to meet Sept. 17 in Capitol**

"

*The Board of State Canvassers will meet at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 17 in room 426 of the Capitol in Lansing."*

**Source:** *Michigan Secretary of State* **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442264149\\_bc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442264149_bc.pdf)

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## **Peters, Stabenow Announce over \$650,000 for Capital Region International Airport**

*"WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senators Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow today announced that the Capital Region Airport Authority will receive \$652,400 for improvements at Capital Region International Airport in Lansing, including for the rehabilitation of a taxiway and to address key issues, objectives, and goals related to safety developments. The funding comes from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)."*

**Source:** *U.S. Senator Gary Peters* **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442264090\\_gp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442264090_gp.pdf)

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## **Fleming Announces Candidacy For 31st House District**

*"FRASER– John Fleming, an attorney practicing in Clinton Township and a former legislative aide to Rep. Marilyn Lane, has announced his intention to run for the Michigan House of Representatives in District 31, serving Clinton Township, Fraser, and Mount Clemens. Rep. Marilyn Lane cannot run again due to term limits."*

**Source:** John Fleming **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442264063\\_jf.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442264063_jf.pdf)

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## **CORRECTION: EEE Found in Barry County Horse**

"

*CORRECTION: The earlier version of this news release contained an incorrect county. The correct county where EEE has been detected is BARRY COUNTY, not Branch County as previously stated. MDARD apologizes for the error."*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442263973\\_mdard2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263973_mdard2.pdf)

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## **MDHHS Confirms Michigan Resident Contracts Plague in Colorado**

*"LANSING, Mich. – A case of bubonic plague has been confirmed in a Michigan resident who recently returned from Colorado in an area with reported plague activity, according to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.*

"

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442263916\\_dhs2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263916_dhs2.pdf)

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## **First Annual Governor's Energy Excellence Awards to be Held Sept. 22 in Lansing**

*"LANSING, MICH.—Individuals and organizations from across the state will be recognized by Gov. Rick Snyder for their commitment to responsible energy production and consumption at the first annual Governor's Energy Excellence Awards event in Lansing. Michigan has emerged as a leader in energy efficiency and the awards are meant to showcase outstanding achievements in reducing energy waste."*

**Source:** Truscott Rossman **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442263885\\_tr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263885_tr.pdf)

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## **390,000 Signatures Submitted to Eliminate Prevailing Wage**

**"Lansing, MI, September 14, 2015** – Protecting Michigan Taxpayers today submitted to the Bureau of Elections more than 390,000 signatures from voters demanding a repeal of the state's costly prevailing wage law. The filing exceeds minimum signature requirements by over 140,000.

"

**Source:** Protecting Michigan Taxpayers **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442263842\\_pmt.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263842_pmt.pdf)

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## **Monroe County Woman Wins \$2 Million Playing Mega Money Multiplier Instant Game**

**"LANSING, Mich., Sept. 14, 2015** – A Monroe County woman was all smiles after winning \$2 million playing the Michigan Lottery's Mega Money Multiplier instant game."

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442263815\\_lottery2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263815_lottery2.pdf)

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## **ICBA Updates**

"ICBA Updates"

**Source:** Ingham County Bar Association **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442263787\\_icha.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263787_icha.pdf)

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## **Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week Reminds All Family Members to Ride Safely**

**"LANSING, Mich. –** There is a lot to think about during the back to school season, but the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is joining the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning in asking residents to make child passenger safety a priority. Governor Snyder has proclaimed the week of September 13-19 as Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week in Michigan.

"

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442263733\\_dhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263733_dhs.pdf)

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## **U.S. Department of Transportation Announces \$19.5 Million to Improve Transit Access**

**"TACOMA, WA. –** The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today announced that 21 organizations around the country will receive a share of \$19.5 million in grants to

support comprehensive planning projects that improve access to public transit. The funds are made available through FTA's Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning Pilot Program for communities that are developing new or improved mass transit systems. A list of selected projects is available [online](#)."

**Source:** U.S. Dept. of Transportation **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442263703\\_usdot.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263703_usdot.pdf)

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## **JEB BUSH: STRENGTHENING CYBERSECURITY**

"The Internet has transformed everyday life for people, revolutionizing communications and how Americans interact with each other and the world. The Internet's impact on economic growth has likewise been profound. U.S. manufacturers reported e-commerce shipments were \$3.3 trillion in 2013. According to one [report](#), from 2004 to 2009, the Internet accounted for 15% of GDP growth."

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442263654\\_jb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263654_jb.pdf)

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## **EEE Found in Branch County Horse**

"

LANSING – The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development today announced the state's first reported case in 2015 of Eastern Equine Encephalitis in a Branch County horse. The testing was done by the private practitioner who sent the blood sample directly to the United States Department of Agriculture's National Veterinary Services Lab in Ames, Iowa."

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442263515\\_mdard.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442263515_mdard.pdf)

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## **CORRECTION: Ramp from WB I-96 to SB US-127 closed Tuesday night, Sept. 15**

"The ramp from westbound I-96 to southbound US-127 will be closed starting at midnight Tuesday until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16. "

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442254855\\_rampc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442254855_rampc.pdf)

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## **M-53 water main installation at Clear Lake Road in Imlay City**

"**September 14, 2015** -- Beginning Tuesday, Sept. 15, M-53 (North Van Dyke Road) will have a

temporary traffic signal in place at Clear Lake Road for water main installation."

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442254767\\_53.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442254767_53.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder makes case for investing in Michigan, strengthens ties with Japan**

*"TOKYO – Michigan is helping companies create more and better jobs and is eager to build upon the state's longstanding relationships with Japanese businesses, Gov. Rick Snyder said today after addressing the 2015 Midwest U.S.-Japan Association Conference.*

"

**Source:** Gov. Newsroom **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442254701\\_mi.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442254701_mi.pdf)

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## **I-75 bridge beam setting at Baker and Hess roads scheduled for Sept. 16**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) expects to set bridge beams on the Baker Road and Hess Road bridges over I-75 on the night of Sept. 16.*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442254086\\_bnd.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442254086_bnd.pdf)

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## **Rabhi Announces Run for State House**

*"ANN ARBOR – **Yousef Rabhi** announced today that he will run in the Democratic primary for the 53<sup>d</sup> Michigan House District, which represents much of Ann Arbor. Rabhi has been a Washtenaw County Commissioner since 2011, and served as the chair of the county Board of Commissioners. At an event at the Buhr Park Wet Meadow Project, Rabhi told supporters that he wants to represent Ann Arbor's values in Lansing."*

**Source:** Yousef Rabhi **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442253436\\_rab.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442253436_rab.pdf)

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## **Rep. Lawrence to host "Miss Representation: The Portrayal of Powerful**

## **Women in the Media” panel at**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Brenda Lawrence will host a powerful panel discussion on the power of the media to perpetuate or challenge the gender bias that women have struggled with for many generations and that has translated to women being extremely underrepresented in politics, business, and the media. Her panel discussion is part of the 45th Annual Legislative Conference for the Congressional Black Caucus, which is scheduled to begin Wednesday, Sept. 16th. The ALC is the premier gathering of African Americans, cultivating engaging policy discussions on issues that impact communities of color around the world."*

**Source:** Congresswoman Lawrence **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442252608\\_cbl.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442252608_cbl.pdf)

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## **Upton to be Honored for Working on Behalf of At-Risk Kids and Families**

*"NILES, MI – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, will be honored for his support of early childhood home visiting programs on Tuesday, September 15, at the Berrien County Courthouse – South County. The event, hosted by Michigan members of Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, Ready Nation and Shepherding the Next Generation, is a thank-you to state and federal lawmakers who helped pass early childhood home visiting program legislation which benefits at-risk children and their families."*

"  
**Source:** Congressman Fred Upton **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442252462\\_freupt.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442252462_freupt.pdf)

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## **Justice Viviano Honors First Graduates of the 3rd Circuit Court's Veterans Treatment Court**

*"LANSING, MI, September 14, 2015 – Michigan Supreme Court Justice David F. Viviano helped mark a milestone today at the 3rd Circuit Court in Detroit by speaking at the court's first Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) graduation. Two graduates were recognized during the event."*

"  
**Source:** Michigan Courts **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442252046\\_mdr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442252046_mdr.pdf)

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## **Column: State Licensing, Inspection and Certification Helps Michigan Food Businesses Export Products**

"  
*Food safety is the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's top priority, not only*



*because it helps protect consumers from foodborne illness, but also because it helps Michigan food businesses stay competitive and market their products both domestically and across the world."*

**Source:** Michigan Dept of Agriculture & Rural Development **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442251962\\_mdard.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442251962_mdard.pdf)

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## **US-127 at I-96, Ingham County**

*"This week, there will be a single lane closure on southbound US-127 and on eastbound I-96, along with ramp closures, for bridge work at the interchange. The following is the schedule: "*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442251843\\_laner.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442251843_laner.pdf)

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## **Lanes reopening on southbound I-75 at 13 Mile Road**

*"The maintenance repairs to the 13 Mile Road bridge at I-75 have required lane closures during the last couple months. This work will be completed Tuesday late afternoon when all lanes will be reopened. Southbound I-75 will reopen by 3 p.m. Tuesday, while 13 Mile Road will have all lanes reopened by 5 p.m.*

*"*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442251663\\_dto.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442251663_dto.pdf)

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## **\*\*\*Media Advisory\*\*\* Casperson invites U.P. residents to participate in Natural Resources Committee**

*"LANSING, Mich. — State Sen. Tom Casperson announced Monday that the Senate Natural Resources Committee hearing on Wednesday, Sept. 16 will include testimony from U.P. residents via remote videoconference.*

*"*

**Source:** Senator Tom Casperson **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442245390\\_tc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442245390_tc.pdf)

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## **Governor Walker will be attending Michigan Republican Leadership Conference on Mackinac Island**

*"LANSING, Mich., September 12, 2015 – Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel issued the following statement on Gov. Scott Walker confirmation to attending the Mackinac*

Republican Leadership Conference:"

**Source:** Michigan Republicans **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442244937\\_mr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442244937_mr.pdf)

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## **Tuscola County Woman Wins \$283,791 Fantasy 5 Jackpot**

**"LANSING, Mich., Sept. 14, 2015** – Winning a \$283,791 Fantasy 5 jackpot left a Tuscola County woman feeling "numb and in disbelief."

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442244879\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442244879_lottery.pdf)

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## **Yousef Rabhi announces run for State House I Today, noon**

**"ANN ARBOR—Today, Yousef Rabhi** will announce his candidacy for the 53<sup>rd</sup> House District (Ann Arbor). Rabhi, who has been a Washtenaw County Commissioner since 2011, will run in the Democratic primary. At today's event, Rabhi will speak about his plans to bring Ann Arbor's values to Lansing: education, equity, environment, and economic resiliency."

**Source:** Yousef Rabhi **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442241070\\_yr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442241070_yr.pdf)

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## **Schuetz Joins Saginaw Schools to Promote OK2SAY Student Safety Program**

"

**SAGINAW** – Attorney General Bill Schuetz today joined Saginaw Superintendent Nathaniel McClain, Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy Principal Priscilla Arocha-Roby, Michigan State Police Tri-City Post Commander David Simon and students at the Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy to promote the Michigan OK2SAY program.

"

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuetz **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442240787\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442240787_ag.pdf)

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## **Sparrow Medical Group OB/GYN Carson celebrates its first arrival**

"

CARSON CITY, MI – Sparrow Medical Group's new Carson City OB/GYN practice has made history, welcoming its first baby, a bouncing boy."

**Source:** Sparrow Hospital **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442240150\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442240150_sparrow.pdf)

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## Travel Advisory - M-21 in Genesee County

"Beginning today (Monday, September 14, 2015) Mid Michigan Contracting will be repairing catch basins on M-21 from the Flint city limit to Dye Road. Single right lane closures will be needed as work is completed. Motorists are advised to be prepared for lane closures. This work is expected to take approximately two weeks, and is weather dependent.

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442240062\\_mdott2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442240062_mdott2.pdf)

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## M-72 roundabouts in Acme to open later this month

"**September 14, 2015** – Two new roundabouts on M-72 in Acme are scheduled to open later this month, and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is offering guidance for drivers who are unfamiliar with this newer intersection design."

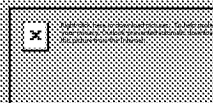
**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1442240033\\_mdott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1442240033_mdott.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 28, 2015 8:31 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Tuition receipts lower than expected at Lake Superior State**

*"SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Tuition receipts at Lake Superior State University are about \$2.5 million down from what school officials were expecting."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/2015/09/27/lake-superior-state-university-tuition/72942240/>

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### **War on Islamic State focus at UN assembly**

*"NEW YORK —When world leaders convene for the UN General Assembly this week, it will be a year since the U.S. president declared the formation of an international coalition to “degrade and ultimately destroy” the Islamic State."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/09/27/war-islamic-state-focus-un-assembly/72950642/>

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### **Detroit man creating mobile school museums**

*"Two old, beat-up SMART shuttle buses are parked end-to-end in Michael Williams' Detroit driveway. Only one runs."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/09/27/detroit-man-creating-mobile-school-museums/72878686/>

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## Tribe, state exploring \$14M path around bay

*"Native Americans in the Upper Peninsula and the state of Michigan are exploring a plan to build a 12-mile hiking and bicycling trail that would connect two villages on opposite sides of a Lake Superior bay — and, supporters hope, boost tourism and economic development in the beautiful but remote area."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/27/indian-tribe-trail-plan/72924580/>

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## Henry Ford Health System plans \$110M cancer center

*"Detroit — Henry Ford Health System plans to build a \$110 million cancer center in Detroit as part of a \$500 million expansion and neighborhood improvement project."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/09/28/cancer-center-detroit/72960752/>

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## CIA, special ops join to kill extremists in Syria, Iraq

*"Washington — With no regular American presence in the war theater, the U.S. has struggled to answer basic intelligence questions about the situation in Syria and Iraq, including the Islamic State group's fighting strength. And the overall U.S.-led bombing campaign has failed to dislodge the group from its self-declared caliphate across both countries."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/world/2015/09/28/syria-intelligence-targeting/72960558/>

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## Burden of health care costs continues shift to workers

*"American workers saw their out-of-pocket medical costs jump again this year, as the average deductible for an employer-provided health plan surged nearly 9 percent in 2015 to more than \$1,000, a major new survey of employers shows."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/personal-finance/2015/09/27/burden-health-care-costs-continues-shift-workers/72947928/>

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## Catholic church seeks lasting effects from pope's visit

*"Philadelphia — Pope Francis' six-day U.S. trip will be as memorable for his deeds as his words, from visiting with homeless people in Washington, to praying with prisoners in Philadelphia and meeting with victims of church sex*

abuse."

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/09/27/catholic-church-seeks-lasting-effects-popes-visit/72948478/>

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## German prosecutors open probe of former VW boss

*"Berlin — German prosecutors on Monday opened an investigation against former Volkswagen CEO Martin Winterkorn to establish what his role was in the company's emissions-rigging scandal."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/foreign/2015/09/28/volkswagen/72960002/>

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## Low-income students lag in grad rates, loan repayment

*"Low-income students working to get a higher education are in peril, graduating less often than their middle-income counterparts and struggling to pay down their college loans, according to two new studies."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/education/2015/09/28/low-income-students-lag-grad-rates-loan-repayment/72951450/>

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## FCA-UAW deal under fire before key votes

*"Toledo — Approval of the tentative four-year contract between the United Auto Workers and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles is in jeopardy after a majority of workers voted "no" at several large facilities, including Jefferson North Assembly Plant in Detroit."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/09/27/uaw-local-toledo-vote-meeting/72938820/>

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## Greenville rebounding from image as down-trodden Midwestern factory town

*"GREENVILLE, MI – "Wow! That's up already!" exclaimed Kathy Jo VanderLaan last week as she drove past an addition being built for Dicastal North America's new aluminum wheel factory on the north end of this Montcalm County town."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/09/greenville\\_rebounding\\_from\\_ima.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/09/greenville_rebounding_from_ima.html#incart_river_home)

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## 38% of Michigan high schoolers aren't virgins, and 11 takeaways on teen sex

*"State Rep. Tom Hooker, R-Byron Township, is outraged by letting teenagers practice using condoms by putting them on cucumbers and bananas, and he recently introduced a bill seeking to ban the practice in Michigan schools."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/09/look\\_up\\_rates\\_of\\_teen\\_sexual\\_activity\\_in\\_michigan.html#hpid=hp\\_national\\_story%3Ahomepage%2Ftcm%3A1111111111](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/09/look_up_rates_of_teen_sexual_activity_in_michigan.html#hpid=hp_national_story%3Ahomepage%2Ftcm%3A1111111111)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Snyder must act on Flint lead crisis

*"It's hard to understand the resounding yawn that seems to have emanated from the governor's office, following news that an increasing percentage of Flint kids have been lead poisoned after a switch in the city's water supply."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kafer/2015/09/26/shortfalls-em-law-writ-large-flint-water-crisis/72811990/>

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## Page: Fact-challenged campaign drama

*"Facts are stubborn things," goes an old saying that President Ronald Reagan liked to quote. Unfortunately, so are cherished myths."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/clarence-page/2015/09/28/page-fact-challenged-campaign-drama/72939176/>

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## Letter: Corporations should pay 'fair share'

*"Lt. Gov. Brian Calley recently came out against a citizens-initiated proposal that would require corporations to pay their fair share to help fix Michigan's crumbling roads and bridges so middle-class families don't continue to bear all the costs (Re: "Calley: Michigan can't afford a return to 'lost decade,' " Sept. 10)."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/28/letter-corporations-pay-fair-share/72939240/>

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## Rennie: Scott Walker's final bow

*"Poor Scott Walker. There's nothing like a competitive presidential campaign to shred the hopes of a candidate who looks good on paper."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/28/rennie-walker-final-bow/72940322/>



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## Crops rot for want of immigration reform

*"Some Michigan farm owners are leaving their crops to rot because they can't find enough workers to harvest them. That's a shameful problem linked to bad immigration policy, and could be easily fixed if Congress would stop fighting about immigration and start adopting sensible regulations."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/28/crops-rot-want-immigration-reform/72940352/>

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## Emails Show Shaky Grounds for Corporate Welfare Agency's Transparency Shutdown

*"The official story from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation — the state's corporate welfare arm — is that its 2009 decision to stop disclosing how much money particular companies collect in tax breaks (and cash subsidies styled as tax credits) was based on informal verbal advice solicited from the attorney general's office. However, contemporary email records reveal that an even greater degree of ambiguity surrounded the agency's leap away from transparency."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michiganconfidential.com/21748>

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## School dress codes have a serious sexism problem

*"School dress codes have a sexism problem. It's become now more apparent than ever, with a spate of viral photos and news stories showing female students wearing innocuous outfits that supposedly run afoul of the rules."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/grand-](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/school_dress_codes_have_a_ser.html#incart_river_home)

[rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/school dress codes have a seri.html#incart river home](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/school_dress_codes_have_a_ser.html#incart_river_home)

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## Clean Water Rule needs protection for Michigan rivers' sake

*"From the Huron River to Saginaw Bay to the Great Lakes, our waterways help support many Michigan businesses that contribute to local economies, help Michiganders enjoy and explore their waterways, and provide clean drinking water to over 1,400,000 residents. These waterways are now better protected, thanks to the Clean Water Rule."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/09/clean\\_water\\_rule\\_needs\\_protect.html](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/09/clean_water_rule_needs_protect.html)

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## Pope Francis' climate message heard, if not received, in Lansing

*"Realizing that Pope Francis has a lot of reading to do, it's possible somewhere along the line he missed the internal memo about not mixing politics and religion, because there he was, smack dab in the middle of the most political body in the country, urging the U.S. Congress to get off the dime and work on climate change."*

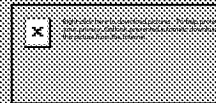
**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-28-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/09/pope\\_francis\\_climate\\_message\\_h.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/09/pope_francis_climate_message_h.html#incart_river_home)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirnews.com>  
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**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
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### **Clinton says she'll still 'pick the flowers' at state dinners**

*"Hillary Clinton would make history if she wins the 2016 presidential election — and so would her husband, as the nation's first first gentleman. At Saturday night's Democratic debate, the former first lady was asked whether it was time to redefine the role of the presidential spouse."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2015/12/19/hillary-clinton-bill-debate/77654296/>

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### **Clinton, Sanders move past data spat in Dem debate**

*"MANCHESTER, N.H. — Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders moved quickly past the dispute Saturday night between their campaigns over Sanders' team's improper access of voter data compiled by Clinton's campaign."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/19/democratic-debate-clinton-sanders-omalley/77644578/>

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### **Sanders says Clinton is 'too much into regime change'**

*"National security figured to be a primary focus of Saturday's Democratic debate, the first since the San Bernardino attack, and Bernie Sanders sought to draw a distinction with Hillary Clinton on battling the Islamic State."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2015/12/19/clinton-sanders-regime-change-islamic-state/77651234/>

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## **Analysis: Democratic candidates did what they came to do at third debate**

*"GOFFSTOWN, N.H. — At the first Democratic presidential debate, challenger Bernie Sanders gave rival Hillary Clinton an unexpected gift. Relinquishing a potential point of attack, he told her that Americans "were sick and tired of hearing about your damn emails."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/12/19/analysis-democratic-debate-clinton-sanders-omalley/77645996/>

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## **Six takeaways from the New Hampshire Democratic debate**

*"The three Democratic presidential candidates — Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders and Martin O'Malley — gathered in New Hampshire for their third debate on Saturday. Clinton, while in a battle with Sanders in the Granite State, entered the race as the dominant front-runner. Did the last debate of 2015 change that dynamic?"*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2015/12/20/democratic-debate-takeaways-clinton-sanders-omalley/77654826/>

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## **Hillary Clinton returns late after commercial break**

*"Sure, ABC waited a half-hour after the scheduled start time to kick off Saturday night's Democratic debate. But wait a couple minutes for the Democratic front-runner to return to the stage after a commercial break? Well, there was no time for that."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2015/12/19/hillary-clinton-debate-stage/77651424/>

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## **Sanders apologizes to Clinton for data breach**

*"Manchester, N.H. — Bernie Sanders apologized to Hillary Clinton and his own supporters Saturday night for a breach of her campaign's valuable voter data, seeking to put the controversy to rest in a debate that quickly moved on to national security concerns and Americans' heightened fear of terrorism."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/19/will-clinton-handle-data-breach-dust/77633848/>

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## **Snyder: Detroit school fix could be addressed in steps**

*"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder said lawmakers could first tackle the Detroit school district's debt and possibly leave until later his call for a new commission to close or reconfigure poor-performing traditional, charter and turnaround schools in the city."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/12/19/snyder-priorities-detroit-schools-energy-justice/77638500/>

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## **OCC program aims to ease deaf interpreter shortfall**

*"Waterford Township — James Berendzen was encouraged to become a sign language interpreter by his high school teacher. After submerging himself in the deaf community, the Walled Lake resident enrolled in Oakland Community College's sign language interpreter program."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/oakland-county/2015/12/19/sign-language-interpreter-program-oakland-community-college/77638582/>

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## **Mich. High Court takes case involving sex offender list**

*"Detroit — The Michigan Supreme Court has agreed to look at the case of a man who's on the sex offender list for life, although his conviction was erased nearly 20 years ago."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/20/mich-high-court-takes-case-involving-sex-offender-list/77657074/>

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## **Powers restored to Detroit police civilian review board**

*"For the first time since Detroit went into bankruptcy in 2013, the city's police department is again under citizen oversight."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/12/20/detroit-police-civilian-oversight-board-tasers/77642422/>

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## **64 middle-school robotics teams battle in Battle Creek**

*"BATTLE CREEK — A war between robots took place inside Lakeview High School Saturday — with middle*

*school students from all over Michigan at the controls and Gov. Rick Snyder standing by."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/19/first-tech-challenge-state-championship-battle-creek/77642432/>

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## **Boy Scouts council closing 5 Michigan camps**

*"LANSING – Five Boy Scout camps will be closing in Michigan by the end of the 2016 season."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/20/boy-scouts-closing-camps/77660326/>

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## **Teacher training is focus of new bills in Lansing**

*"LANSING – Education policy jumped to the forefront of a slew of new bills introduced at the state Capitol last week."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/19/teacher-training-focus-new-bills-lansing/77485580/>

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## **Muslims rally in Dearborn against hate, terrorism**

*"A crowd of about 150 Muslims and supporters withstood the cold in Dearborn on Saturday to celebrate their religion and their American citizenship — while denouncing terrorism and hatred directed at their community."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/12/19/dearborn-muslims-rally-against-hate-terrorism/77636154/>

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## **Keegan-Michael Key: How to use improv to aid Detroit kids**

*"Keegan-Michael Key is the hottest star around who hasn't forgotten his Detroit roots."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/entertainment/movies/julie-hinds/2015/12/19/keegan-michael-key-key-and-peeke-detroit-creativity-project-improv-comedy/77575170/>

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## **Educators, cities worry over bill limiting ballot education**

*"LANSING — The final bill passed before the Legislature adjourned last week has municipal and school*

officials worried that educating the public about local ballot issues will become difficult, if not impossible."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/19/educators-cities-worry-over-bill-limiting-ballot-education/77593062/>

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## Could home demolition program be spreading lead dust?

"Detroit's ambitious demolition program, which has been razing thousands of unsightly and unsafe houses and other structures per year to fanfare and criticism, may be replacing one danger in neighborhoods with another: toxic clouds of lead dust from old paint."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/detroit-reborn/2015/12/19/detroit-blight-house-demolition-lead-dust/75315966/>

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## Around 1,885 students graduate in EMU winter commencement ceremony

"Eastern Michigan University hosted its winter 2015 commencement Saturday, when roughly 1,885 students got diplomas at the EMU Convocation Center."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/emu\\_graduates\\_roughly\\_1800\\_at.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/emu_graduates_roughly_1800_at.html#incart_story_package)

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## Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority director resigns

"Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority Director Tim Colbeck is resigning from the post."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/ypsilanti\\_downtown\\_development\\_3.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/ypsilanti_downtown_development_3.html#incart_story_package)

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## Congressional approval puts veteran one step closer to Medal of Honor

"The effort to honor an 85-year-old Ypsilanti veteran for his heroic 1967 actions that saved eight men's lives in Vietnam took a big step forward Friday when Congress approved a critical piece of legislation needed for him to receive the Medal of Honor."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/congress\\_oks\\_legislation.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/congress_oks_legislation.html#incart_river_home)

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## Mayor pins Flint's hopes on water disaster declaration

*"FLINT, MI – The federal government may have never recognized a man-made water crisis like Flint's as a disaster before, but asking for the assistance has been Mayor Karen Weaver's plan since before she was elected Nov. 3."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/flint\\_mayor\\_karen\\_weaver\\_pin\\_h.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/flint_mayor_karen_weaver_pin_h.html#incart_river_home)

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## Michigan city in 4th place for \$5M energy prize

*"HOLLAND, MI – The City of Holland has moved up the ranks in a two-year contest that is challenging communities to rethink their energy use, and comes with a \$5 million purse for the winner."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/business/west-](http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_city_in_4th_place_for.html#incart_river_home)

[michigan/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_city\\_in\\_4th\\_place\\_for.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_city_in_4th_place_for.html#incart_river_home)

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## Substitute teacher fill rates rise in Ann Arbor with increase in pay

*"In September, nearly one in five available substitute teacher jobs were left unfilled in Ann Arbor Public Schools."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/substitute_teacher_fill_rates.html#incart_river_home_pop)

[arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/substitute\\_teacher\\_fill\\_rates.html#incart\\_river\\_home\\_pop](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/substitute_teacher_fill_rates.html#incart_river_home_pop)

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## Retiring Michigan Sugar Co. executive taught me all about sugar beet piling

*"Paul Pfenninger is the man who taught me everything I know about sugar beet piling."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/12/so_long_paul_pfenninger_thank.html#incart_river_home_pop)

[city/index.ssf/2015/12/so\\_long\\_paul\\_pfenninger\\_thank.html#incart\\_river\\_home\\_pop](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/12/so_long_paul_pfenninger_thank.html#incart_river_home_pop)

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## Ann Arbor judge who resigned amid text scandal says he's on medical leave

*"Christopher Easthope, the Ann Arbor judge who announced his resignation amid a text message scandal this past summer, says he plans to go back to practicing law when he steps down later this month."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/ann_arbor_judge_who_resigned_a.html#incart_river_home_pop)

[arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/ann\\_arbor\\_judge\\_who\\_resigned\\_a.html#incart\\_river\\_home\\_pop](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/12/ann_arbor_judge_who_resigned_a.html#incart_river_home_pop)



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## Dave Agema says Donald Trump right about immigration, Islam

*"As Gov. Rick Snyder and some other GOP leaders criticized Donald Trump's call to freeze Muslim immigration, Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema thinks the party's presidential frontrunner is right on."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/dave\\_agema\\_says\\_donald\\_trump\\_r.html#incart\\_most\\_shared\\_lansing](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/12/dave_agema_says_donald_trump_r.html#incart_most_shared_lansing)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Finley: Black inclusion in Detroit's comeback still lagging

*"One year ago I asked the question of downtown Detroit, 'Where are all the black people?'"*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/12/20/black-inclusion-detroit-comeback-still-lagging/77640424/>

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### Rochelle Riley: Legislature fails Detroit students again

*"Once again, the Michigan Legislature has put cowardice before courage, politics before progress — all while managing to show 40,000 children that they don't care about them."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/12/19/michigan-legislators-detroit-schools/77412970/>

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### One Arabic sentence closes schools, and ignorance wins

*"There are many good reasons to cancel school. Snow. A hurricane. No heat. A busted water pipe."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/sports/columnists/mitch-albom/2015/12/20/mitch-albom-arabic-writing-exercise/77638430/>

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### Tom Wals: My 33 years of highs, lows on Detroit beat

*"When I joined the Detroit Free Press in 1982, the interest rate on a 30-year home mortgage loan was 16.3%."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/tom-walsh/2015/12/19/tom-walsh-farewell-column/77411100/>

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## All Michigan Republicans want is a permanent majority

*"It was the week before Christmas, the last day both houses of Michigan's state Legislature would convene in 2015."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/12/19/michigan-gop-firewall/77547490/>

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## Snyders can look back and laugh now, but true story was 'scary'

*"One thing you learn in this business is that it may take some time, but eventually the true story behind a news event comes out."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-20-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/snyders\\_can\\_look\\_back\\_and\\_laugh.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/12/snyders_can_look_back_and_laugh.html#incart_river_home)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 29, 2015 6:54 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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**Michigan state agency installs solar panels, expects to save taxpayers \$800,000**

*"LANSING, MI — The Michigan Agency for Energy is in charge of leading Michigan's energy future, and it's leading by example with solar panels and energy efficiency improvements."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan\\_state\\_agency\\_installs.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_state_agency_installs.html#incart_river_home)

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**Michigan Dems propose \$1 billion in tax credits aimed at alleviating 'middle class squeeze'**

*"LANSING, MI — Democrats in the Michigan Legislature are proposing \$1 billion in new and expanded tax credits to benefit middle class families, saying it's time to revisit a 2011 tax shift that benefited businesses."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan\\_dems\\_propose\\_1\\_billio.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_dems_propose_1_billio.html#incart_river)

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**House Speaker front-runner Kevin McCarthy recently spoke in Kalamazoo**

*"KALAMAZOO, MI — Kevin McCarthy, the Republican congressman from Bakersfield, Calif. who announced Monday he will seek to replace Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives John Boehner, spoke recently in Kalamazoo."*

**Source:** Kalamazoo Gazette **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/09/house\\_speaker\\_frontrunner\\_kevi.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/09/house_speaker_frontrunner_kevi.html#incart_river)

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## **State Sen. Ananich joins call for disconnecting city from Flint River**

*"FLINT, MI – Michigan Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich is asking Gov. Rick Snyder to broker a new contract allowing Flint to return to pre-treated water from the city of Detroit."*

**Source:** *Flint Journal* **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/state\\_sen\\_ananich\\_joins\\_call\\_f.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/state_sen_ananich_joins_call_f.html#incart_river_home)

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## **U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz plans Oct. 5 rally in Kalamazoo**

*"Lansing — Republican presidential candidate and Texas U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz is returning to Michigan to hold an Oct. 5 campaign rally in Kalamazoo."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/28/ted-cruz-kalamazoo/72975556/>

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## **Bill to cut repair costs for federal vehicles passes**

*"The U.S. House on Monday approved a bipartisan bill to cut federal vehicle repair costs."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/2015/09/28/bill-cut-repair-costs-federal-vehicles-passes/73003130/>

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## **Snyder urged to help Flint reconnect to Detroit water**

*"Lansing — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich urged Gov. Rick Snyder on Monday to help Flint switch back to Detroit's water system after medical researchers found elevated levels of lead in children who consumed water from the Flint River over the past year."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/2015/09/28/snyder-urged-help-flint-reconnect-detroit-water/72999390/>

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## **Howes: Old Detroit lives in UAW tide against FCA deal**

*"The potential rejection of the FCA-UAW labor contract shows Old Detroit is not yet dead, proof that competitive reality cannot necessarily overcome unrealistic expectations in a post-bailout era."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/09/28/howes-old-detroit-lives-potential-rejection-fca-deal/73008962/>

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## Unlicensed title lenders defy state laws

*"Two lenders offering loans that charge consumers exorbitant, triple-digit interest rates to borrow against their cars are operating in defiance of state law in Michigan, often seizing the vehicles of desperate borrowers who can't pay."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/09/28/unlicensed-title-lenders-defy-state-laws/73009542/>

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## Congress supports use of rebuilt auto parts

*"WASHINGTON — U.S. Sen. Gary Peters, D-Mich., got his first piece of legislation as a senator approved by the U.S. House on Monday and sent on to President Barack Obama to be signed into law."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/28/congress-supports-use-rebuilt-auto-parts/72989944/>

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## Blind activist arrested at Capitol disability event

*"LANSING — A blind activist for disability rights is to be arraigned in district court in Lansing on Friday after he was arrested at an Americans with Disabilities Act rally and demonstration in front of the Capitol on Sept. 17."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/28/blind-activist-arrested-capitol-disability-event/72982496/>

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## Lawyer sues Warren over medical marijuana

*"A Warren lawyer filed a lawsuit Monday against the City of Warren that demands up to \$5 million in damages on behalf of 23 state-approved medical-marijuana users who say they've been harassed and ticketed by Warren police."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/09/28/lawyer-sues-city-warren-over-medical-marijuana-law/72989056/>

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## UAW gets yes vote at Warren Truck, Mack Engine

*"A majority of production workers at Warren Truck Assembly and at a Detroit engine plant narrowly voted in favor of a proposed national agreement on Monday with Fiat Chrysler, giving the UAW its first glimmer of hope in recent days that it can convince a majority workers to ratify the proposed contract."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/09/28/uaw-gets-yes-vote-warren-truck-mack-engine/73002052/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

**Enacted nearly 40 years ago, Michigan's Freedom of Information Act is a vital tool for residents of this state to track what their government is doing and how their tax dollars are being spent.**

"

*Enacted nearly 40 years ago, Michigan's Freedom of Information Act is a vital tool for residents of this state to track what their government is doing and how their tax dollars are being spent.*

"

**Source:** Escanaba Daily Press **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.dailypress.net/page/content.detail/id/565886/Scandal-another-example-of-weak-FOIA-policy.html?nav=5052>

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## Crops rot for want of immigration reform

*"Some Michigan farm owners are leaving their crops to rot because they can't find enough workers to harvest them. That's a shameful problem linked to bad immigration policy, and could be easily fixed if Congress would stop fighting about immigration and start adopting sensible regulations."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/28/crops-rot-want-immigration-reform/72940352/>

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## Dark money: The hot stove politicians can't stop touching

*"In 2013, Gov. Rick Snyder vowed to shut down a nonprofit that was collecting funds from donors whose names were never made public. Instead, the governor said, he'd launch a new nonprofit with a transparent donor list."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/28/snyder-dark-money/72972996/>

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## **Mark Hackel: Jails new asylums for mental health patients**

*"Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel says correctional institutions have become the new asylums for mental health and substance abuse patients, and there needs to be a better system other than jailing them for minor crimes."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/macomb/2015/09/28/macomb-executive-hackel-correction-asylum/72985104/>

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## **Press Releases**

### **Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich Urges Governor, State Action in Flint**

*"FLINT, Mich.—Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) issued the following statement:"*

**Source:** *Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich* **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443488395\\_ananich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443488395_ananich.pdf)

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### **Bishop Leads Movement to Extend Vital Student Aid**

*"WASHINGTON – Congressman Mike Bishop (MI-08) today led the House passage of H.R. 3594, the Higher Education Extension Act of 2015, to extend for one year the Perkins Loan Program while Congress continues its effort to achieve higher education reauthorization. In response, Rep. Bishop issued the following statement:"*

**Source:** *U.S. Representative Mike Bishop* **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443480931\\_mb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480931_mb.pdf)

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### **Immediate Release: Most Contractors Oppose Prevailing Wage Mandates**

*"Lansing, MI, September 28, 2015 – Associated Builders and Contractors President Chris Fisher today issued the following statement:*

*"*

**Source:** *Associated Builders and Contractors* **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443480792\\_abc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480792_abc.pdf)

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## **JEB BUSH: MY TAX PROPOSAL WOULD DELIVER \$2,000 BACK TO MIDDLE-CLASS FAMILIES**

*"I recently unveiled a dramatic tax reform plan that upends a dysfunctional and complicated tax code that was written by special interests. We would go from seven brackets to three (28%, 25% and 10%). To get to the lower rates — which are essential to sparking economic growth — the plan would eliminate carve outs, loopholes and deductions that primarily benefit the wealthy."*

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443480641\\_jb2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480641_jb2.pdf)

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## **Huizenga, Peters Remanufacturing Legislation Headed To The President's Desk**

*"Washington, DC – Today, the House of Representatives unanimously passed Congressman Bill Huizenga and Senator Gary Peters' bipartisan legislation to save taxpayer dollars by encouraging federal agencies to use remanufactured vehicle components such as engines, transmissions, alternators, and starters. Prior to passage of the Federal Vehicle Repair Cost Savings Act of 2015, Congressman Huizenga spoke on the House floor and detailed how this legislation would have a direct impact on remanufacturing in West Michigan, throughout the state, and across the nation. To watch Rep. Huizenga's remarks, click on the photo below:*

"

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443480556\\_bh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480556_bh.pdf)

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## **Snyder Media Advisory for Tuesday, Sept. 29**

*"Snyder Media Advisory for Tuesday, Sept. 29"*

**Source:** Gov Newsroom **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443480467\\_smedia.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480467_smedia.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Rising Tide program will help communities establish strong economic vision**

*"RIVER ROUGE, Mich. – Ten communities across Michigan will participate in a pilot program to work with local leaders as they develop new strategies for economic prosperity, creating more and better jobs, Gov. Rick Snyder said.*

"

**Source:** Gov Newsroom **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443480408\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480408_gov.pdf)



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## Peters Bill Headed to President's Desk to be Signed into Law

*"WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today applauded the unanimous passage in the U.S. House of Representatives of legislation he introduced, the Federal Vehicle Repair Cost Savings Act, which requires federal agencies to encourage the use of remanufactured parts in federal vehicle repairs when doing so lowers costs, maintains quality and performance and does not compromise safety. The legislation is the first bill Peters introduced as a member of the U.S. Senate in February, along with Republican Senator James Lankford (OK), and the bill now heads to the President's desk to be signed into law. Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) introduced the companion legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives."*

**Source:** U.S. Senator Gary Peters **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443480350\\_gp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480350_gp.pdf)

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## ADVISORY: JEB BUSH TO VISIT NEW HAMPSHIRE ON WEDNESDAY

*"Miami, FL – On Wednesday morning, Governor Jeb Bush will participate in a roundtable discussion on substance abuse with community leaders at the Catholic Medical Center in Manchester, NH. Wednesday evening, he will attend a town hall in Bedford, NH."*

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443480272\\_jb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443480272_jb.pdf)

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## Eastbound I-69 lane shifts for bridge deck work

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will complete an epoxy overlay on bridge decks along eastbound I-69."*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443469691\\_mdod2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443469691_mdod2.pdf)

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## Congressman Randy Weber Endorses Cruz For President

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*HOUSTON, Texas - Today, the Cruz for President campaign announced the endorsement of Texas Congressman Randy Weber. Originally a small business owner, the second-term Congressman has been a strong conservative voice in Congress for fiscal discipline, national security, and protecting life. Weber won election in 2012 for the seat previously held by Ron Paul."*

"

**Source:** Ted Cruz for President **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

## **ADVISORY: Advocates to Gather in Chicago to Advance Great Lakes Restoration**

*"11<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Lakes Restoration Conference"*

**Source:** National Wildlife Federation **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443468046\\_nwf.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443468046_nwf.pdf)

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## **Counties' fund issues Loss Prevention Grants; announces largest dividend in its history**

*"LANSING, Mich. — The Michigan Counties Workers' Compensation Fund (MCWCF) made two major announcements at the 2015 Michigan Association of Counties Annual Conference in Traverse City last week."*

**Source:** Michigan Association of Counties **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443467992\\_mac.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443467992_mac.pdf)

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## **PRESS ADVISORY: Educators and Faith Leaders to Discuss Paid Sick Leave Campaign**

*"DETROIT — On Tuesday, September 29th at noon, members of the Michigan Time to Care Coalition, as well as educators, faith leaders and parents, will hold a press conference to emphasize the need for all parents to have the ability to earn paid sick time. With the school year rolling, kids are piling onto buses and into classrooms, increasing their contact with germs and classmates with runny noses. As the weather begins to cool, there will inevitably be more sick kids, which means parents will need time to care for their children."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443467907\\_pm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443467907_pm.pdf)

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## **DNR answers questions about status of Lake Michigan fishery**

*"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has posted a two-page document to its website to provide updated information about the current status of the Lake Michigan fishery."*

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443466470\\_dnr2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466470_dnr2.pdf)

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## Texas-based Direct Energy Has History of Scamming Michiganders Better Business Bureau Warns Michigan

*"Lansing — Despite a history of scamming customers in Michigan, Texas-based Direct Energy's manager of government and regulatory affairs, Teresa Ringenbach, came up from Ohio and attempted to convince members of the Senate Energy and Technology Committee to support increasing energy deregulation in Michigan, saying "Competitive markets were built on free market principles that customers are in control of choosing the price they pay for electricity.""*

**Source:** Truscott Rossman **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443466420\\_tr2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466420_tr2.pdf)

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## Benishek Toxic Exposure Bill Surpasses 100 Co-Sponsors

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*Washington, D.C.- Dr. Dan Benishek, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Veterans Health, recently introduced the bi-partisan, bi-cameral Toxic Exposure Research Act along with Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA) and Sens. Moran (R-KS) and Blumenthal (D-CT). In the House of Representatives, the bill has now earned over 100 co-sponsors with strong representation of both parties.*

"

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443466357\\_db.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466357_db.pdf)

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## MDARD cracking down on credit card skimmers

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*In an effort to protect consumers and stop criminals trying to steal consumers' credit card information at gas pumps, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development launched a two-week intensive blitz to locate and remove credit card skimming devices. "*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443466273\\_mdard2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466273_mdard2.pdf)

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## Full Restoration of Board of Police Commissioners' Powers

"

***Detroit** - Council Member Mary Sheffield, in continuance of her efforts to improve police-community relations, has authored a resolution restoring full power to the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners. She*

is joining Michigan United's Detroit Pastoral Alliance for Change (DPAC) and the Board of Police Commissioners (BOPC) in seeking full restoration of the powers which were stripped under Emergency Management. Council Member Sheffield will join DPAC and the BOPC for a **Press Conference on Tuesday, September 29, 2015 at 9am in front of the Spirit of Detroit Statue located at 2 Woodward Avenue.**

"

**Source:** Detroit Council Member Mary Sheffield **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443466179\\_ms.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466179_ms.pdf)

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## **Truscott Rossman Continues Growth, Hires Grand Rapids Senior Account Executive**

**"GRAND RAPIDS** – Truscott Rossman, Michigan's top public relations and strategic communications firm with offices in Grand Rapids, Lansing and Detroit, has hired Allie Walker as senior account executive. Walker joins the firm after seven years in Washington, D.C. and will serve a variety of clients in Grand Rapids and Lansing, including the American Petroleum Institute and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce."

**Source:** Truscott Rossman **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443466117\\_tr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466117_tr.pdf)

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## **Physicians, Pain Management Experts Sound Warning Siren over Bill**

**"LANSING**—As Michigan struggles to deal with an opioid abuse crisis, physicians and pain management experts today warned lawmakers about the danger of Senate Bill 320, a bill that would grant 3,000 registered nurse anesthetists full prescribing authority for opioid pain killers. The bill does not require any additional training for the new prescribers and removes all physician oversight of nurse anesthetists, allowing them to prescribe opioids without supervision."

**Source:** Resch Strategies **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443466082\\_rs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443466082_rs.pdf)

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## **Kalamazoo River restoration plan, assessment out for public review**

**"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources, along with other recognized trustees, are in the process of determining both the extent of the injuries to natural resources caused by the past releases of PCBs to the Kalamazoo River and how to restore these injured natural resources and the services they provide."**

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443465993\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443465993_dnr.pdf)

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY- TOMORROW: Schuette at East Lansing High School to**

## Promote Anti-Bullying Program

*"A.G. Schuette to highlight new statistics on OK2SAY's success promoting student safety, OK2SAY designed to reduce violence in Michigan schools through confidential 24-hour multimedia tipline, mobile app, website.*

"

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443465947\\_agm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443465947_agm.pdf)

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## COLUMBA BUSH: EMBRACE YOUR HISPANIC HERITAGE, EXPAND THE KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR CULTURE

*"As an American of Hispanic origin, I am proud to celebrate my heritage and join with each of you as we recognize the tremendous influence of the Hispanic culture on our great nation."*

"

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443465889\\_jb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443465889_jb.pdf)

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## USDA AWARDS MICHIGAN \$496,000 TO SUPPORT

*"LANSING – Michigan students will continue to get healthier school meal options as a result of the Michigan Department of Education receiving nearly half a million dollars in federal grants, and working with other state partners, to provide training to school nutrition professionals.*

"

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Education **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443465740\\_doe.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443465740_doe.pdf)

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## Media Advisory: Senator Ted Cruz in Kalamazoo- October 5th

*"KALAMAZOO, Michigan- Monday, October 5th, U.S. Senator Ted Cruz will speak at a rally in Kalamazoo, MI. Press is invited to cover his comments."*

**Source:** Ted Cruz for President **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443454139\\_tc2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443454139_tc2.pdf)

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## House and Senate Dems Announce Blueprint for Michigan's Families

*"LANSING – Democrats in the state House and Senate announced a defining package of bills today to strengthen Michigan's middle class and reverse one of the largest tax shifts in Michigan history. Called the Blueprint for Michigan's Families, the bills take aim at stagnant incomes and tax increases which make it difficult to achieve and sustain a middle-class quality of life while coping with the rising costs of living."*

**Source:** Michigan Dems **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443452190\\_md.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443452190_md.pdf)

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## **Senate adopts Casperson's resolution supporting hunting camp owners**

*"LANSING, Mich. — A resolution encouraging the United States Forest Service (USFS) to work with owners of privately held hunting camps on leased acreage within the Ottawa National Forest was adopted by the state Senate last Thursday."*

**Source:** Senator Tom Casperson **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443452151\\_tc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443452151_tc.pdf)

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## **Additional Cases of EEE Found in Calhoun County and Van Buren County Horses**

"

*LANSING – The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development announced two additional cases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis in horses in Calhoun and Van Buren Counties."*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443452081\\_mdard.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443452081_mdard.pdf)

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## **Sparrow Physicians to discuss breast health during Oct. 1 community event**

"

*LANSING, MI – In celebration of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the public is invited to hear from Sparrow Physicians as they present "Healthy breasts at every age." "*

**Source:** Sparrow Hospital **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443447602\\_sh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447602_sh.pdf)

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## **Bullard Announces Run for County Clerk**

"

**(Highland, 9-28-15)** Citing his record of bringing an unprecedented amount of new technology and expanded customer service to the Clerk and Register of Deeds office, former Oakland County Clerk Bill Bullard announced his candidacy today.

"

**Source:** Bill Bullard **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443447750\\_bb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447750_bb.pdf)

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## **Just in Time for Her 92nd Birthday, Redford Woman Wins \$250,000 Playing KENO!**

**"LANSING, Mich., Sept. 28, 2015** – Just in time for her 92nd birthday, a lucky Redford woman won \$250,000 playing the Michigan Lottery's KENO! game."

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443447715\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447715_lottery.pdf)

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## **TODAY: House, Senate Democrats to Unveil Blueprint for Michigan's Families**

" LANSING – House Democratic Leader **Tim Greimel** (D-Auburn Hills, state Representative **Tom Cochran** (D-Mason) and state Senator **Curtis Hertel Jr.** (D-Meridian Twp.) will hold a press conference to announce the Blueprint for Michigan's Families on **Monday, Sept. 28, at 10 a.m. in the House Democratic Press Room, S1124 Anderson House Office Building, 124 N. Capitol Ave. in Lansing.** Democratic lawmakers are unveiling their Blueprint for Michigan's Families, which is a plan to help improve the economic outlook for Michigan families and residents after years of struggling with Republican-imposed tax increases."

**Source:** Michigan Senate Democrats **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443447655\\_sd.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447655_sd.pdf)

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## **The Future of the Great Lakes - Wall-to-Wall Coverage - Live from Great Lakes Week in Chicago**

"For the fifth year in a row, Detroit Public Television (DPTV) will bring pioneering coverage of Great Lakes issues to viewers nationwide. This year's coverage will be even more important featuring not one but two conferences: The 11th Annual Great Lakes Restoration Conference (hosted by Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition); and the Great Lakes Commission 2015 Annual Meeting. Coverage will be available on the Great Lakes Now website, <http://greatlakesnow.org>. In addition, stay tuned for a special announcement from DPTV on Monday, September 28."

**Source:** Detroit Public Television **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443447573\\_dptv.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447573_dptv.pdf)

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## **Traffic Advisory - I-75 lane closure under Mackinaw Road bridge Monday,**

**Sept. 28**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be completing routine maintenance on the Mackinaw Road bridge over southbound I-75.*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443447524\\_mdod.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447524_mdod.pdf)

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## **Snyder Press Advisory**

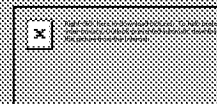
*"Snyder Press Advisory Monday, September 28."*

**Source:** Gov. Newsroom **Date:** 09-29-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443447494\\_smed.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443447494_smed.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 7:02 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Teen prescription drug overdose inspires push for 'Good Samaritan' exemption in Michigan law**

*"LANSING, MI - The recent death of a Michigan teen has inspired new legislation that would shield a minor or friend from criminal prosecution if they seek treatment for a prescription drug overdose."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/teen\\_prescription\\_drug\\_overdos.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/teen_prescription_drug_overdos.html#incart_river)

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### **Abortion coercion prevention bills advance to Michigan House in party-line vote**

*"LANSING, MI — Controversial legislation that would make it a crime to coerce a woman into having an abortion is heading to the Michigan House for consideration."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/abortion\\_coercion\\_bill\\_advance.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/abortion_coercion_bill_advance.html#incart_river)

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### **Are state lawmakers running on your dime? Courser, Gamrat staffs weren't the only ones blurring that line**

*"LANSING, MI — Emails released as part of a House investigation of now-ousted Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat show staff mix political and official work. But an MLive investigation found those blurred lines, far from being isolated to the offices of two members, trace throughout the Michigan*

House of Representatives."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/are\\_state\\_lawmakers\\_running\\_on.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/are_state_lawmakers_running_on.html#incart_river)

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## Michigan AG Bill Schuette backs civil asset forfeiture reform package

"LANSING, MI — Attorney General Bill Schuette, Michigan's top law enforcement officer, is backing legislation that would begin to reform the state's civil asset forfeiture laws, which allow police to seize property linked to a crime even if charges are never filed."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan\\_ag\\_bill\\_schuette\\_back.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/michigan_ag_bill_schuette_back.html#incart_river)

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## Group launches ballot initiative to mandate paid sick leave in Michigan

"DETROIT, MI — A group of activists on Tuesday announced a statewide ballot initiative aimed at enacting a law that would require Michigan employers to offer all workers one hour of paid sick time for every 30 hours worked."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/09/group\\_launches\\_ballot\\_initiative.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/09/group_launches_ballot_initiative.html#incart_river)

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## Snyder expected to name new Michigan Supreme Court justice Wednesday

"LANSING, MI — Republican Gov. Rick Snyder, who has scheduled an 11 a.m. news conference Wednesday, is expected to name his pick for the next justice of the Michigan Supreme Court."

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/snyder\\_expected\\_to\\_name\\_new\\_mi.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/09/snyder_expected_to_name_new_mi.html#incart_river)

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## \$6,455 in fines, fees for Grand Rapids campaign in term limits vote

"GRAND RAPIDS, MI — A campaign that opposed a 2014 ballot proposal for city term limits has paid \$6,455 in fees and fines, according to an agreement with the Michigan Secretary of State."

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/6455\\_in\\_fines\\_fees\\_for\\_campaign.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/09/6455_in_fines_fees_for_campaign.html#incart_river)

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## **Snyder picks O'Brien for state Court of Appeals**

*"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder said Tuesday he has appointed Oakland County Circuit Judge Colleen O'Brien to fill a vacancy on the Michigan Court of Appeals."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/29/snyder-picks-obrien-state-court-appeals/73045752/>

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## **Snyder in talks on resettling Syrian refugees in Mich.**

*"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder said Tuesday his administration is in talks with the federal government about resettling refugees from war-torn Syria in Michigan."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/29/snyder-talks-resettling-syrian-refugees-mich/73032658/>

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## **Insurer uses cash to promote surgical shopping**

*"A Michigan health insurer is giving consumers a cash incentive to shop for medical procedures as a way to promote a healthy lifestyle — a development that experts said could help lower prices if its practice spreads."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/29/insurer-cash-incentives-surgical-shopping/73063158/>

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## **Toledo, Sterling Heights workers reject UAW-FCA deal**

*"The tentative four-year contract between the United Auto Workers and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles was voted down Tuesday by a majority of workers at both the Sterling Heights Assembly Plant and Toledo Assembly Complex, The Detroit News has learned."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/09/29/uaw-fca-voting-nears-end/73037864/>

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## **Bill would make coercing a woman into abortion a crime**

*"LANSING — A bill that would make it a felony to coerce a woman into having an abortion passed a state House of Representatives committee on a straight party-line vote Tuesday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/29/bill-would-make-coercing-woman-into-abortion-crime/73020478/>

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## **Bishop bill extends federal student loan program**

*"WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop this week got his first piece of legislation passed in the U.S. House, a one-year extension of a student loan program which now goes to the Senate for consideration."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/09/29/bishop-bill-extends-federal-student-loan-program/73025212/>

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## **Michigan gets grant to fight heroin**

*"WASHINGTON — Michigan's U.S. senators on Tuesday announced the awarding of nearly \$1.5 million to the state police to work with other law enforcement agencies to address an increase in heroin distribution and trafficking."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/29/michigan-gets-grant-fight-heroin/73027236/>

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## **Snyder: Michigan exploring steps to take in Syria refugees**

*"LANSING — The state is in talks with the federal government to determine the process for accepting refugees from the ongoing crisis in Syria and the Middle East, Gov. Rick Snyder said Tuesday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/29/snyder-michigan-exploring-steps-take-syria-refugees/73030078/>

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## **Bill would punish so called 'sanctuary cities'**

*"LANSING — Cities like Detroit and Ann Arbor could risk losing millions in state revenue sharing if they maintain "sanctuary city" designations, under proposed legislation currently being debate in the Capitol."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/29/bill-would-punish-so-called-sanctuary-cities/73050034/>

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## U-M attorney headed to Michigan Supreme Court?

*"LANSING — Will Gov. Rick Snyder turn to his alma mater to fill a vacancy in the Michigan Supreme Court, in an announcement expected today?"*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/09/30/u-m-attorney-headed-michigan-supreme-court/73041084/>

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## Gov. Snyder says action coming on Flint's water woes

*"LANSING — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder said Tuesday the drinking water situation in Flint is a serious issue and he expects the state to come forward with "action steps" by early next week."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/29/snyder-state-action-coming-flint-water/73033462/>

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## Salmon population plummeting in Lake Michigan

*"They are the king of the Great Lakes sport fish, luring thousands of anglers to Michigan waters every year for a chance to try to land them — and helping fuel a multibillion-dollar fishing and boating tourism industry."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/29/salmon-population-plummeting-lake-michigan/73032260/>

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## UAW workers in Toledo decisively reject FCA contract

*"UAW workers at assembly plants in Toledo and Sterling Heights on Tuesday overwhelming voted against a proposed four-year contract with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, the latest in a string of decisive defeats that now makes ratification of the deal a long shot."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/09/29/jeep-workers-toledo-decisively-reject-fca-contract/73062770/>

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## Syrian refugees find new home, peace in metro Detroit

*"Gazing through his living room window in a quiet block in Garden City, a 48-year-old Syrian refugee ponders his new life in America."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/30/syrian-refugees-detroit-michigan-syria-war/72811502/>

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## **UAW VP threatens strike at Ford F-150 plant**

*"UAW Vice President Jimmy Settles told Ford workers Tuesday they should expect a different national agreement than the one Fiat Chrysler workers are voting on this week and is threatening to call a strike at Ford's plant in Kansas City, Mo., over disagreements with the automaker at that plant."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/ford/2015/09/29/uaw-vp-threatens-strike-ford-f-150-plant/73056832/>

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## **Lt. Gov. Calley, Justice Bernstein to visit for Dearborn Area Chamber breakfast**

*"Michigan Lt. Governor Brian Calley and Supreme Court Justice Richard Bernstein will be joining the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce as the guest speakers for the Dearborn Area Chamber's upcoming Business Builder Series, as a part of the 2015 Michigan Association of Chamber Professionals annual convention."*

**Source:** Dearborn Press and Guide **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/09/29/news/doc5609c19636e8a676246692.txt>

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

### **Robinson: Demystify the minimum wage**

*"One of the most widely discussed but least understood public policy debates essential to the well-being of our economy and every American citizen is the minimum wage."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/30/robinson-labor-voices-demystify-minimum-wage/73044382/>

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### **Glenn: Keep energy choice alive**

*"Michigan's economy is hindered by an arbitrary law allowing only 10 percent of electricity users to buy from an alternative provider, guaranteeing Consumers Energy and Detroit Edison 90 percent of the*

*market. Utility monopoly-backed legislation to eliminate electricity choice altogether would further damage our economy, schools in particular."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/09/30/glenn-energy-choice/73070132/>

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## **Editor's Note: NLRB seeks right to trash employers**

*"When my son was a teenager, he got in a bit of trouble for starting a website with a friend that caused a racket at his high school."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/noian-finley/2015/09/30/trash-talking-employers/73070092/>

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## **Editorial: UAW members must face contract reality**

*"The UAW rank and file is obviously not pleased with the tentative labor contract President Dennis Williams and FCA US CEO Sergio Marchionne agreed to two weeks ago, even though it provides significant economic rewards for workers.*

*"*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/30/editorial-uaw-members-must-face-contract-reality/73070116/>

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## **State Senator Blames Public School Choice After Fight Makes News**

*"A Republican state senator is blaming a Michigan schools of choice program for a fight at L'Anse Creuse Public Schools that was caught on videotape and broadcast statewide."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21753>

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## **Retired State Police Officer: Forfeiture is 'Big Money' for Law Enforcement Agencies**

*"The first time Ted Nelson realized something was wrong with civil asset forfeiture occurred when he was training police officers around the state on the practice."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21751>

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## Correcting corrections would save money, but carry risks

*"Trying to come up with better corrections policy for Michigan is tough, because you have to balance two different factors – costs versus public safety – where a fact-based comparison is difficult."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/09/correcting-corrections-would-save-money-but-carry-risks/>

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## Press Releases

### Equality Michigan Elects New Board Members

**"DETROIT, MI, September 29, 2015**—Equality Michigan, the state's only statewide advocacy organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender citizens, today announced that four new members have been elected to join its Board of Directors. Joining the board are Mira Krishnan, Director, The Center for Autism at Hope Network; Kerene Moore, attorney, Legal Services of South Central Michigan; Jim Murray, president, AT&T Michigan; and Michael L. Rowady, a Southfield, MI law firm managing attorney.

"

**Source:** Equality Michigan **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443560157\\_em3.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443560157_em3.pdf)

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### Rep. Jacobsen welcomes local student to Capitol as 'Junior Rep.'

*"State Representative Brad Jacobsen, R-Oxford, welcomed St. Joseph Catholic School student, Kira Corrigan of Oxford, to the Capitol today to shadow the lawmaker as "junior representative for the day." Kira was selected from the Oakland County students that participated in Rep. Jacobsen's Summer Reading Contest."*

**Source:** Rep. Brad Jacobsen **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443560129\\_bj.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443560129_bj.pdf)

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### Judge Harold Hood (posthumously) with the Founders Award Marilyn Mullane with Award

*"The Michigan State Bar Foundation has selected Hon. Harold Hood (posthumously) as the 2015 recipient of its Founders Award, which recognizes lawyers who exemplify professional excellence and outstanding community contributions. Past recipients included Dennis Archer, Wallace Riley, Charles Rutherford, Hon. Julian Cook, Patrick Bruetsch, Kim Cahill (posthumously), Hon. Avern Cohn, John*



Cummiskey (posthumously) and Hon. Hilda Gage (posthumously)."

**Source:** Michigan State Bar Foundation **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443560089\\_msbfb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443560089_msbfb.pdf)

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## **Snyder Admin: There's No Lead Problem, But Here's Some Water Filters**

*"FLINT — News broke today that the Snyder administration secretly organized the distribution of water filters to Flint residents that help remove lead from the water. This comes on the heels of the Snyder administration denying that there was any problem with the Flint water, which has been deemed dangerous to drink by researchers and resulted in Flint children having increased levels of lead in their blood."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559942\\_pm2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559942_pm2.pdf)

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## **Rep. Yonker invites area residents to budget town hall**

*"State Rep. Ken Yonker, R-Caledonia, invites local residents of Allegan and Kent counties to attend a budget town hall with guest-speaker House Appropriations Chair Rep. Al Pscholka on Thursday, Oct. 15 at Wayland Union High School from 6 to 8 p.m."*

**Source:** Rep. Ken Yonker **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559780\\_ky.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559780_ky.pdf)

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## **Westbound US-10 bridge opens, demolition and rebuild begin on eastbound US-10 bridge**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is nearing completion of the westbound US-10 bridge over I-75, with the bridge opening to traffic on Oct. 3. Then on Oct. 4, crews will shift eastbound traffic over to the newly constructed westbound bridge, closing the eastbound bridge. Final concrete work on the north end ramps (northbound I-75 to westbound US-10 and westbound US-10 to southbound I-75) will finish by Oct. 5."*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559737\\_mdott5.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559737_mdott5.pdf)

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## **State parks wrap up camping season with harvest festivals**

*"Each year in the fall, Michigan state parks close out the busy summer camping season with a family favorite: harvest festivals. These events, offered this year at many locations statewide, are a great way*

to welcome autumn and feature activities such as pumpkin carving, costume contests, trick-or-treating and more. Each park puts its own personal spin on the celebration, so no two events are exactly the same."

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559708\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559708_dnr.pdf)

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## **Person-Centered Long Term Care the Focus of Joint Provider Surveyor Training**

*"September 29, 2015 – Developing positive approaches to person-centered care is the focus for more than 700 long term care health professionals, providers, and state surveyors attending today's Joint Provider Surveyor Training (JPST) at the DeVos Place Convention Center in Grand Rapids. The training is organized by the Bureau of Community and Health Systems within the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs."*

**Source:** LARA **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559679\\_lara2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559679_lara2.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Judge Colleen O'Brien to Michigan Court of Appeals**

*"LANSING, Mich. -- Colleen O'Brien, an Oakland Circuit Court judge with more than 30 years of legal experience, was today appointed to the Michigan Court of Appeals by Gov. Rick Snyder."*

"  
**Source:** Gov. Newsroom **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559618\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559618_gov.pdf)

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## **JEB BUSH: UNLEASH THE ENERGY REVOLUTION**

*"Taken together, these policies will fully unleash the Energy Revolution, creating more jobs, higher wages, cheaper gas and cheaper electricity, while better protecting our interests abroad and our environment."*  
"

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559572\\_jb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559572_jb.pdf)

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## **Michigan Legislature & Congress Attack Women's Reproductive Rights**

*"MICHIGAN — Progress Michigan is proud to stand with Planned Parenthood in Michigan and across the country as extremist-backed elected officials continue to push for an end to a woman's constitutional right to safe and legal abortions."*

**Source:** *Progress Michigan* **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559529\\_pm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559529_pm.pdf)

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## **Zorn raising awareness of Dysautonomia**

*"LANSING, Mich. — The Michigan Senate on Tuesday approved a resolution sponsored by Sen. Dale Zorn to help increase the public's understanding and awareness of dysautonomia."*

**Source:** *Senator Dale Zorn* **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559497\\_dz.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559497_dz.pdf)

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## **Horn Hometown Tours: Huron Eastern Railroad and Sargent Docks**

*"LANSING, Mich. — State Sen. Ken Horn last week joined Huron Eastern Railroad staff for a tour of their operations and a trip down the rails to one of their common stops, Sargent Docks."*

**Source:** *Senator Ken Horn* **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559474\\_kh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559474_kh.pdf)

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## **THIRTEEN MICHIGAN SCHOOLS AWARDED NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON RECOGNITION**

*"LANSING — Thirteen Exemplary High Performing Schools in Michigan were recognized today as being National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2015 by the U.S. Department of Education (USED)."*

"

**Source:** *Michigan Dept. of Education* **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559427\\_doe.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559427_doe.pdf)

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## **Big trucks on display at State Capitol as ag leaders highlight truck regulations**

*"LANSING — Tomorrow, **Wednesday, September 30**, the **Agricultural Leaders of Michigan (ALM)** will host a display of large trucks outside the Michigan capitol and highlight the importance of Michigan's current truck regulations, allowing trucks of up to 11 axles and 160,000 pounds to operate"*

on roads and highways."

**Source:** *Agricultural Leaders of Michigan* **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559376\\_alm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559376_alm.pdf)

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## **Dingell, Miller Introduce Resolution Establishing National Manufacturing Day**

**"WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Representatives Debbie Dingell (MI-12) and Candice Miller (MI-10) this week introduced a bipartisan resolution designating Friday, October 2, 2015 as "National Manufacturing Day." The resolution recognizes the critical role manufacturing plays in the United States economy and honors the hardworking men and women of the manufacturing sector. The resolution can be read in full [here](#)."

**Source:** *U.S. House of Representatives* **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559319\\_ushr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559319_ushr.pdf)

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## **Voter registration deadline for November election nears**

"

**LANSING, Mich.** - Michigan residents have until Monday, Oct. 5, to register to vote in the Nov. 3 election, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announced today."

**Source:** *Michigan Secretary of State* **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559281\\_sos.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559281_sos.pdf)

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## **MSC Opinion: Epps v 4 Quarters Restoration LLC**

"The Michigan Supreme Court has issued an opinion in No. 147727, [Epps v 4 Quarters Restoration LLC](#), a case in which oral arguments were heard on March 10, 2015.

"

**Source:** *Michigan Supreme Court* **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559240\\_sc2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559240_sc2.pdf)

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## **Jones introduces bill banning fish farming in the Great Lakes**

**"LANSING, Mich.** — [Sen. Rick Jones](#) on Tuesday introduced legislation to ban commercial fish farming in the Great Lakes."

**Source:** *Senator Rick Jones* **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

## **USDA Helps Rural Michigan Businesses Create Jobs and Increase Economic Opportunities**

*"PINE RIDGE, S.D., Sept. 29, 2015 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today awarded nearly \$20 million through 385 grants to help support the start-up or expansion of rural small businesses."*

**Source:** USDA **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443559146\\_usda.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443559146_usda.pdf)

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## **Sen. Robertson welcomes the Rev. Ed Pedley to state Capitol to give Senate invocation**

*"LANSING, Mich. — State Sen. Dave Robertson, R-Grand Blanc, welcomed the Rev. Ed Pedley to the Michigan Capitol on Tuesday. Pedley serves as pastor at First Baptist Church of Holly and delivered the invocation before Senate session."*

**Source:** Senator David B. Robertson **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443553963\\_dr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553963_dr.pdf)

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## **School Year + Germs = Sick Kids: Detroiters Talk Need for Earned Sick Time**

*"DETROIT — With the school year back in session, every parent knows it is only a matter of time before the crowded school buses and bustling playgrounds lead to a child sick at home with a cold."*

**Source:** Time to Care Coalition **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443553574\\_ttc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553574_ttc.pdf)

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## **Schuette, State Attorneys General Urge Congress to Address Heroin, Opioid Addiction and Abuse**

"

**LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today joined attorneys general from 37 states and the District of Columbia to urge the Committees on the Judiciary for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives to pass legislation designed to help states more effectively confront the growing challenge of heroin and opioid abuse and addiction.

"

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443553538\\_ag2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553538_ag2.pdf)

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## House committee takes testimony on Rep. Pscholka's 'Good Samaritan' prescription drug legislation

*"The House Committee on Criminal Justice today took testimony on House Bill 4843, legislation introduced by State Rep. Al Pscholka that would protect individuals under 21 years of age from facing prescription drug-related legal charges when reporting a medical emergency."*

**Source:** Rep. Al Pscholka **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443553506\\_ap.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553506_ap.pdf)

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## Ted Cruz Climbs to Top of This Week's Fox News 2016 Presidential Power Index

*"HOUSTON, Texas – Yesterday, in the weekly update of Fox News's Presidential Power Index, Digital Politics editor Chris Stirewalt offered his analysis on America's Newsroom with Gretchen Carlson for why Ted Cruz replaces Jeb Bush as this week's number one pick to win the 2016 GOP Primary, citing Cruz's strong positioning to compete for "the long haul" against the party's establishment candidate."*

**Source:** Ted Cruz for President **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443553444\\_tc3.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553444_tc3.pdf)

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## VOLKSWAGEN'S LEGAL ISSUES DISCUSSED BY WMU-COOLEY LAW SCHOOL PROFESSORS MARK DOTSON AND PAUL CARRIER

*"WMU-Cooley Law School Professors [Mark Dotson](#) and Paul Carrier are paying close attention to potential legal ramifications facing Volkswagen for rigging millions of cars with deceptive software, which falsifies emission testing results. Professor Dotson teaches Torts and Remedies and has extensive knowledge in consumer protection laws. Professor Carrier teaches a variety of international law courses, which include EU Law, International Business Law, and Public International Law."*

**Source:** WMU - Cooley Law School **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443553399\\_wmu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553399_wmu.pdf)

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## Oct. 15: Honor Diaries to be Screened at the University of Michigan

"

*Ann Arbor, Mich. — The University of Michigan chapter of Young Americans for Freedom will host a screening and panel discussion of Honor Diaries on Oct. 15 at 6 p.m. More than a documentary, Honor*

*Diaries has become a movement that educates viewers about "honor"-based violence faced by women in Muslim-majority societies and how to combat such abuse.*

"

**Source:** Young Americans for Freedom - U of M **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443553349\\_yaff.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553349_yaff.pdf)

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## **TC Chamber Young Professionals Headed to Leelanau Outdoor Center**

*"TRAVERSE CITY, MI – Scores of rising stars from the youthful ranks of Northern Michigan's business and professional community will head to the great outdoors for the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce's Young Professionals Annual Conference."*

**Source:** Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443553312\\_tc2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553312_tc2.pdf)

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## **Powerball Jackpot Tops \$300 Million**

*"LANSING, Mich., Sept. 29, 2015 – Cash continues to pile up for the Powerball jackpot, which now stands at \$301 million for Wednesday night's drawing."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443553233\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553233_lottery.pdf)

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## **Manufacturers Honor State Leaders at Legislative Reception**

"

LANSING — Stakeholders from across Michigan will convene in Lansing today, 9/29/15, for the annual Michigan Manufacturers Association (MMA) Legislative Reception. This networking event features the presentation of the MMA Legislator of the Year Award. The honor recognizes legislators for their leadership and dedication to Michigan's manufacturing sector and their role advocating on behalf of Michigan's largest job-creating industry.

"

**Source:** Michigan Manufacturers Association **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443553186\\_mma.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553186_mma.pdf)

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## **ICYMI: Rep. Bishop Floor Statement on House Passage of Higher Education Extension Act of 2015**

*"In case you missed it yesterday, Congressman Mike Bishop led the House passage of the "Higher Education Extension Act of 2015," H.R. 3594, which will prevent the Perkins Loan Program from expiring later this week. This is Rep. Bishop's first legislation to pass the full House of Representatives, making him the first Michigan freshman to pass a bill this session."*

**Source:** U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443553093\\_mb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553093_mb.pdf)

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## **East Lansing Kids Join with Schuette to Stop Bullying and School Violence**

*"EAST LANSING – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today joined State Superintendent Brian Whiston, East Lansing High School Principal Coby Fletcher, Anti-Bullying Advocate Kevin Epling, and Michigan State Police Inspector Matt Bolger and students at East Lansing High School to promote the success of Michigan's OK2SAY student safety program."*

"

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443553036\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443553036_ag.pdf)

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## **VENTURE NORTH AND ALLIANCE FOR ECONOMIC SUCCESS DEVELOP COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT**

*"TRAVERSE CITY AND MANISTEE, MICHIGAN – Venture North Funding and Development, based in Traverse City and the Alliance for Economic Success in Manistee have entered into a working agreement to collaborate in promoting business and job growth in the Manistee County area using economic development funding sources managed by Venture North."*

**Source:** Venture North **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443552871\\_vn.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443552871_vn.pdf)

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## **Legal Self-Help Website Attracts More Than 1.6 Million Visitors;Two New Self-Help Centers to Open Th**

*"LANSING, MI, September 29, 2015 – The Michigan Supreme Court announced today that use of the Michigan Legal Help website has grown dramatically, facilitating increased access to the state's court system. Since [www.michiganlegalhelp.org](http://www.michiganlegalhelp.org) was launched in August 2012, the website has had 5,645,811 page views and 1,638,853 visitor sessions."*

"

**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 09-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443552809\\_sc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443552809_sc.pdf)



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## **Traffic Advisory - M-83 in Saginaw County**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will have lane closures in effect today (Tuesday, Sept. 29), through Thursday, Oct. 1 on M-83 north of Frankenmuth, while crews repair culverts.*

"

**Source: MDOT Date: 09-30-2015 Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443552744\\_mdott2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443552744_mdott2.pdf)

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## **New medication management therapy program saving lives, improving Patient health**

"

*LANSING, MI – Three months after its launch, a new medication management program led by a Physicians Health Plan (PHP) Clinical Pharmacist is already saving lives and improving the health of Patients in the mid-Michigan region."*

**Source: Sparrow Hospital Date: 09-30-2015 Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443552718\\_sh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443552718_sh.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 02, 2015 6:51 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Michigan House revises prisoner parole procedure despite objections from AG Bill Schuette**

*"LANSING, MI — Prisoners who present a low risk to society would be more likely to serve only their minimum sentences under legislation passed by the Michigan House of Representatives Thursday, despite opposition from Attorney General Bill Schuette."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_house\\_revises\\_parole.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_house_revises_parole.html#incart_river)

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### **Cotter: No immediate action on Tinsley-Talabi as feds investigate link to bribery scheme**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan House Speaker Kevin Cotter, weeks removed from overseeing a rare expulsion, said Thursday he is not planning immediate action against a lawmaker linked to a bribery scheme dating back to before her time in the Legislature."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/cotter\\_no\\_immediate\\_action\\_on.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/cotter_no_immediate_action_on.html#incart_river)

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### **Former Detroit council staffer who took bribes gets probation after cooperating with feds**

*"DETROIT, MI — A former City Council staffer who took and facilitated bribes related to pension system*

*investments in 2006 and 2007 won't spend time in prison."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/former\\_detroit\\_council\\_staffer.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/former_detroit_council_staffer.html#incart_river)

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## **5 reasons why report says Justin Amash could 'revolutionize' the U.S. House as Speaker**

*"GRAND RAPIDS, MI – U.S. Rep. Justin Amash has fresh ideas that could "revolutionize" the House if he becomes Speaker, opined a libertarian writer today on The Week."*

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/5\\_reasons\\_why\\_justin\\_amash\\_cou.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/5_reasons_why_justin_amash_cou.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Budget bill add-on awaits future state funds for Flint water**

*"FLINT, MI – A funding mechanism aimed at the state paying for measures to reduce lead levels in Flint's drinking water has been added to a budget bill in the Michigan Senate."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/state\\_sen\\_ananich\\_sets\\_stage\\_f.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/state_sen_ananich_sets_stage_f.html#incart_river_home)

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## **State to announce Flint water action plan Friday at Kettering**

*"FLINT, MI — Local, state and federal officials are set to announce a plan for addressing concerns with lead in Flint's drinking water at a news conference Friday, Oct. 2."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/state\\_will\\_announce\\_flint\\_wate.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/state_will_announce_flint_wate.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Public health emergency declared in Flint**

*"Flint — Officials have declared a public health emergency over the city of Flint's water after tests showed children with elevated levels of lead."*

**Source:** Associated Press **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/01/thousands-flint-will-able-get-water-filters/73148174/>

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## House OKs reform bill on releasing nonviolent inmates

*"Lansing — The Michigan House approved Thursday tightening the guidelines for the state's parole board to deny an inmate release from prison in a move aimed at releasing non-violent offenders after they've served their minimum mandatory sentences."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/01/nonviolent-inmates/73153978/>

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## Michigan Dems may shift support if Biden runs

*"Some Michigan Democrats are anxious for Vice President Joe Biden to decide soon whether he'll jump into the race for president and disrupt former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's presumed path to the Democratic nomination."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/01/michigan-dems-may-shift-support-biden-runs/73181080/>

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## No announcement follows UAW leaders' meeting

*"United Auto Workers leaders met into the night Thursday with no decision announced about the union's next move, following membership's rejection of a tentative deal with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/10/01/contract-rejected-uaw-meeting-warren/73144882/>

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## Mich. House passes bill adopting 'presumptive parole'

*"LANSING — Prisoners who have served their minimum sentences and who score well on behavior and type of crime criteria could be approved for parole faster under a bill that received bipartisan support in the House of Representatives Thursday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/01/mich-house-passes-bill-adopting-presumptive-parole/73155514/>

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## Presidential primary ballot could include local issues

*"LANSING — The March 8 presidential primary ballot could grow next year and in future election cycles because of a bill which passed on a vote of 105-1 in the House of Representatives Thursday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/01/presidential-primary-ballot-could-include-local-issues/73161320/>

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## Legislators take action to fix Flint water supply

*"LANSING — The Michigan Legislature is beginning to take notice of the ongoing controversy surrounding Flint's water system, which has been plagued by problems with discoloration and foul smells since the city disconnected from the Detroit water system and began pulling its water supply from the Flint River."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/01/legislators-take-action-fix-flint-water-supply/73152540/>

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## Tinsley-Talabi's ex-staffer avoids prison in scam

*"A former Detroit public official who pocketed more than \$100,000 in bribes was spared a prison sentence today due to his cooperation, convincing the prosecution and judge that he was doing some dirty work at the behest of his former boss, former Detroit Councilwoman Alberta Tinsley-Talabi."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/01/tinsley-talabis-ex-staffer-avoids-prison-scam/73161594/>

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## Governor in Silicon valley selling Michigan

*"While 175 Michigan expatriates returned this week for a three-day Detroit Homecoming 2015 conference to talk about reinvesting in the city, Gov. Rick Snyder and three business leaders traveled to San Francisco today to preach the same gospel to Michigan expats there."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/columnists/tom-walsh/2015/10/01/ambassadors-silicon-valley/73166584/>

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## No decision as UAW grapples with next steps

*"No decisions were made on the next steps in UAW negotiations with Detroit automakers after a marathon session of the union leadership that stretched into the night Thursday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/01/no-decision-uaw-grapples-next-steps/73159150/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Michigan energy planning should not be rushed

*"In testimony given on Sept. 17 regarding Senate Bill 437 before the Senate Energy and Technology Committee, David Mengebier, a senior vice president for Consumers Energy, listed a number of potential risks to Michigan's electricity market and stated: "It is imperative that we get a fair Michigan policy in place this fall.""*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_energy\\_planning\\_shoul.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_energy_planning_shoul.html#incart_river)

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### Editor's Note: Strike no good for anyone

*"It's hard to see how a strike by the UAW will help either the union or the domestic auto industry."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/10/01/editor-note-finley-strike/73172036/>

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### Jacques: Plan for Detroit schools shouldn't be delayed

*"Gov. Rick Snyder better act soon on his plans for Detroit schools. Because the momentum surrounding revamping education in the city is deflating."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/ingrid-jacques/2015/10/02/jacques-detroit-schools-plan/73190098/>

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### Our Editorial: Get Flint residents drinkable water

*"It doesn't matter if official reports say Flint's water is safe to drink. If residents turn on the tap and the water that comes out is oddly colored — or any color but clear — and stinky, they aren't going to drink it. Nor should they have to."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/01/editorial-flint-drinkable-water/73172092/>

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### City Manager: 'Prosperity Doesn't Come From Government; It Comes From Freedom'

*"When cities cry poverty, the organization helping them pursue more resources from state or local taxpayers is often the Michigan Municipal League. It is interesting then to see signs that the lobbying group*

*is doing some self-reflection, in the form of allowing a city manager with a fresh point of view to address the organization's annual meeting."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michiganicapitolconfidential.com/21759>

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## **Press Releases**

### **Schuitmaker announces office hours events for October**

*"Schuitmaker announces office hours events for October"*

**Source:** Senator Tonya Schuitmaker **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443733141\\_ts.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443733141_ts.pdf)

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### **Sent on behalf of the National Center for State Courts: Michigan Court of Appeals Judge William B.**

*"As a Mentors Plus volunteer, only a few hours of your time each month, will help a young person in your community. Be a positive adult role model for someone 5 to 16 years old. "*

**Source:** Oakland County Youth Assistance **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443731609\\_oc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443731609_oc.pdf)

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### **Michigan Appellate Court Judge Named Recipient of National Court Organization's Award**

*"Michigan Court of Appeals Judge William B. Murphy is the recipient of the National Center for State Courts' (NCSC) 2015 Distinguished Service Award, one of the highest awards presented by the organization.*

*"*

**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443731740\\_sc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443731740_sc.pdf)

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### **Media Reminder: Kowall sponsoring Capitol event honoring Vietnam era veterans**

*"**LANSING, Mich.** — Michigan Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike Kowall reminded residents Thursday that he is sponsoring an event honoring veterans of the Vietnam War era on the Capitol lawn on Thursday, Oct. 8. Kowall encouraged his constituents and all interested Michiganders to attend."*

**Source:** Senator Mike Kowall **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443731577\\_mnk.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443731577_mnk.pdf)



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## Traffic Advisory – Genesee County

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will require one additional day to complete sign replacement over the ramp from eastbound I-69 to M-54 (Dort Highway). Crews will close the ramp (Exit 138) from 9 a.m. to 12 noon tomorrow (Oct. 2) to complete this work.*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443731539\\_mdof5.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443731539_mdof5.pdf)

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## TOMORROW: Dingell to Speak at Detroit-Area Manufacturing Day Kickoff

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) will join local manufacturers, government officials, business and community leaders, and students **tomorrow at 10 a.m.** to kick off National Manufacturing Day, a nationwide effort to draw greater attention to modern manufacturing and the rewarding career opportunities available in the manufacturing sector."*

**Source:** U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443731508\\_dd2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443731508_dd2.pdf)

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## Lt. Gov. Brian Calley leading trade mission to India focused on strengthening relationships, boostin

*"LANSING, Mich. – In an effort to expand markets for Michigan made products and encourage job-creating foreign direct investment in the state, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will lead a delegation of state and business leaders on a trade mission to India starting Friday.*

"

**Source:** Gov. Newsroom **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443731474\\_ltgov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443731474_ltgov.pdf)

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## MDE SCHEDULES ADDITIONAL PUBLIC MEETINGS ON PROPOSED STATE STANDARDS

*"LANSING – To continue sharing information and receiving public input on the proposed new Michigan science and social studies standards, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has announced additional public information sessions.*

"

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Education **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

## **Rep. Bishop on Legislation Demanding Justice for Victims of Iranian Terrorism**

*"WASHINGTON – The House today passed Pennsylvania Congressman Patrick Meehan's legislation, the Justice for Victims of Iranian Terrorism Act, by a vote of 251-173. In response, Congressman Mike Bishop, a co-sponsor, issued the following statement:"*

**Source:** Rep. Bishop **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443728431\\_bihs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443728431_bihs.pdf)

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## **Sen. Nofs honors retiring Michigan Public Service Commissioner Greg White**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Mike Nofs on Thursday honored retiring Michigan Public Service Commissioner Greg White with a Senate resolution. White accepted the resolution with his wife Junru at the Capitol during Senate session."*

**Source:** Senator Mike Nofs **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443727223\\_mn.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443727223_mn.pdf)

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## **House passes probation, parole reform legislation**

*"The Michigan House of Representatives today approved legislation that would make much-needed reform to the state's parole and probation practices while lightening the burden of corrections costs in the state budget."*

**Source:** Michigan House **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443727179\\_mh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443727179_mh.pdf)

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## **Huizenga: Hold Iranian Terror Accountable For Death of West Michigan Soldier**

*"Washington, DC – Today, Congressman Bill Huizenga (MI-02) released the following statement after the House of Representatives passed H.R. 3457, the Justice for Victims of Iranian Terrorism Act. This legislation requires that American victims and their families affected by Iranian linked terror attacks are compensated before the Iranian regime receives any of the \$150 billion in sanction relief contained within the Iranian Nuclear Agreement."*

"

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

## **Statement from Rep. Phelps on his denied FOIA requests pertaining to the City of Flint water crisis**

*"Residents of the City of Flint face a substantial health risk due to contaminants found in their drinking water. In an effort to not politicize this situation, I have been working directly with state and local officials in seeking important information and attempting to correct the City's water crisis. Unfortunately, I have been faced with continual road blocks in my requests for information. It has been nearly a month since I submitted Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to the State and the City of Flint requesting to see documents related to the City's switch to using water from the Flint River. I requested the applications and permits required by law to change a city's source of water. So far, the State Treasury has violated FOIA by not providing any information or even a denial. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and City of Flint have denied my request saying that the documents I requested do not exist. However, state law requires Michigan cities to apply for a permit from the DEQ to switch their source of water. Violation of this law is punishable by a fine of \$5,000 per day and possible incarceration. I find it hard to believe that the DEQ and the City of Flint ignored such a critical step, not to mention one that the cost in fines alone would already be roughly \$2.5 million and cause those responsible to be subject to criminal prosecution."*

**Source:** Rep. Phil Phelps **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443725542\\_pp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443725542_pp.pdf)

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## **MRG Release: Hackel tops Schuette**

*"Lansing, Mich. – If the next race for Governor were being held today, Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel would lead Attorney General Bill Schuette 38% to 30% among likely voters. A recent statewide survey by Marketing Resource Group asked 600 likely voters for whom they would vote if the candidates for Governor in 2018 were Democrat Mark Hackel and Republican Bill Schuette."*

**Source:** Marketing Resource Group **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443725320\\_mrg.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443725320_mrg.pdf)

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## **Statement from the Attorney General on the Presumptive Parole Vote in the House**

*"Attorney General Schuette today released the following statement in response to the vote on presumptive parole:"*

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443725272\\_ag3.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443725272_ag3.pdf)

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## **House Passes National Defense Authorization Act**

"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today joined by his colleagues in the House of Representatives, passed the Conference Report to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2016. The legislation was advanced by a bipartisan vote of 270-156 and now heads to the U.S. Senate and then the president's desk.

"

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Fred Upton **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443725111\\_fru.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443725111_fru.pdf)

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## Statement from CAPPS on Michigan House Passage of HB 4138

"LANSING - Citizens Alliance on Prisons and Public Spending (CAPPS) released the following statement on HB 4138 passing the Michigan House today with 67 votes:

"

**Source:** Grassroots Midwest **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443725058\\_qrm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443725058_qrm.pdf)

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## NDAA Heads to President with Rep. Bishop's Continued Support

"WASHINGTON – In response to the House passage of the Adoption of the Conference Report to H.R. 1735 – FY16 National Defense Authorization Act, Congressman Mike Bishop issued the following statement:"

**Source:** U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443725019\\_mib.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443725019_mib.pdf)

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## Benishek Acts to Help Seniors and Rural Americans Obtain Paper Tax Forms

"

Washington, D.C. - Today, Dr. Dan Benishek introduced a new piece of legislation entitled H.R. , the "Personal Access to Paper Election Reform (PAPER) Act of 2015." In response to complaints from constituents who were unable to easily access free copies of paper forms or instructions to file their taxes in a timely manner, Dr. Benishek introduced legislation that would require the IRS to automatically mail these forms to individuals who have filed by paper the year prior.

"

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443722423\\_db.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443722423_db.pdf)

## Michigan receives funds to assist providers, increase awareness of PrEP

*"LANSING, Mich. – Michigan has received funds to expand awareness of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), a way for people that do not have HIV but are at high risk to prevent HIV infection by taking a pill every day.*

"

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443722387\\_dhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443722387_dhs.pdf)

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## Donate blood with the Red Cross to support cancer patients and others needing blood

*"(October 1, 2015) — During Breast Cancer Awareness Month this October, the American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to give blood to support cancer patients and others needing blood products. "*

**Source:** American Red Cross **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443722353\\_rc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443722353_rc.pdf)

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## Emmons: Harrison named as part of state's 'Rising Tide' economic development program

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Judy Emmons announced Thursday that Harrison has been named as one of 10 communities in Michigan that will participate in a pilot program to work with local leaders as they develop new strategies for economic prosperity and creating more and better jobs."*

**Source:** Senator Judy K. Emmons **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443716001\\_je.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443716001_je.pdf)

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## North Rockford Middle School Students, Schuette Tackle Bullying, Violence in Schools with OK2SAY Sch

"

**ROCKFORD** – Students at North Rockford Middle School and Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today joined with Rockford Superintendent Dr. Michael Shabler and Michigan State Police Inspector Matt Bolger to talk about the importance of preventing bullying and violence in school, with help from the OK2SAY student safety initiative

"

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443715963\\_ag2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443715963_ag2.pdf)

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## **MIOSHA Launches Local Emphasis Program to Reduce Injuries and Illnesses**

*"October 1, 2015 – Effective today, the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) is launching a Local Emphasis Program (LEP) to target the siding contractors, structural steel and pre-cast concrete construction sectors and improve overall workplace safety and health. MIOSHA is part of the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)*

"

**Source:** LARA **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443715921\\_lara.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443715921_lara.pdf)

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## **Nominations Open for TC Area Chamber Board of Directors**

*"TRAVERSE CITY, Mich.—Nominations are being accepted for seats on the Board of Directors for the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce."*

**Source:** Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443715879\\_tc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443715879_tc.pdf)

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## **Grant opportunity for funding of dam removals, critical repairs**

*"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has announced its Dam Management Grant Program is now open for proposals. The fourth year of this grant opportunity will provide \$350,000 in fiscal year 2016 to address Michigan's failing dam infrastructure through the funding of dam removals and critical repair/maintenance."*

**Source:** Michigan DNR **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443715806\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443715806_dnr.pdf)

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## **MDOT weekend construction 10/2-10/5/15**

*"MDOT weekend construction for 10/02-10/05/15 (Always check Michigan.gov/drive or MiDrive app.)*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443715753\\_mdott4.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443715753_mdott4.pdf)

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## **New Statewide Poll Shows Broad, Bipartisan Support for Smarter,**

## Evidence-Based Justice

*"LANSING - Today the Citizens Alliance on Prisons and Public Spending (CAPPS) released a [new poll showing broad, bipartisan support](#) for corrections reform measures currently moving through the Michigan House of Representatives."*

**Source:** Grassroots Midwest **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443708880\\_gr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708880_gr.pdf)

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## Stadium Drive carpool lot open in Kalamazoo

*"October 1, 2015: With traffic volumes increasing on the US-131 and Stadium Drive corridors in Kalamazoo, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has built a new feature for commuters."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443708845\\_mdott3.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708845_mdott3.pdf)

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## Road Commission for Oakland County's 2015 Strategic Planning report

*"Beverly Hills, Mich. — The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) this week released its biennial Strategic Planning report, which summarizes the meetings the agency's leaders conducted recently with the leaders of virtually every community in the county."*

**Source:** Road Commission for Oakland County **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443708806\\_rcoc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708806_rcoc.pdf)

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## Rep. Leonard welcomes local students to Capitol as 'junior representatives'

*"State Rep. Tom Leonard welcomed six local students to the Capitol Tuesday to shadow him as "junior representatives for the day." The students all participated in Rep. Leonard's summer reading program."*

**Source:** Rep. Tom Leonard **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443708749\\_tl.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708749_tl.pdf)

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## Rep. Trott Calls On Obama Administration to Put U.S. Security Ahead of Syrian Refugee Resettlement

"

WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today called on the Obama Administration to work with Congress on the Syrian refugee crisis and endorsed [legislation](#) that allows Congress to vote on the Obama Administration's Syrian refugee resettlement program.

"

**Source:** U.S. Congressman Dave Trott **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443708686\\_dt.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708686_dt.pdf)

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## **"SPOOKTACULAR" GOP Debate Watch Party**

*"West Bloomfield, MI, October 1, 2015: (For Immediate Release) With a record number of television viewers for each of the first two Republican Presidential debates, the Greater West Bloomfield Republicans are hosting an opportunity to join the crowd and cheer on your favorite GOP candidate.*

"

**Source:** Greater West Bloomfield Republicans **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443708641\\_gwbr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708641_gwbr.pdf)

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## **M-72 detour in Grayling starts Oct. 12 for railroad crossing work**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be upgrading the Lake State Railway crossing on M-72 in Grayling.*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443708574\\_mdott2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708574_mdott2.pdf)

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## **Railroad crossing improvements in Ludington start Oct. 8**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will be upgrading the south Marquette Rail line railroad crossing and approaches on US-31 BR in Ludington, south of West 6th Street.*

"

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443708529\\_mdott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708529_mdott.pdf)

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## **Oct. 15: University of Michigan Students Tackle Honor Violence with Film, Discussion**

*"Oct. 1, 2015, Ann Arbor, Mich. – UM-Ann Arbor will host a screening and panel discussion on Oct. 15 at 6 p.m. of the groundbreaking documentary Honor Diaries, which breaks the silence on "honor" violence against girls and women in Muslim-majority societies around the world. The event will take place in the Pendleton Room of the Michigan Union, 530 S. State St."*

**Source:** Young Americans for Freedom - U of M **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443708326\\_yaf.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443708326_yaf.pdf)



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## **TODAY: CAPPS Announcing Polling Showing Broad Support for Corrections Reform**

*"LANSING - This morning at 10:00 AM the Citizens Alliance on Prisons and Public Spending (CAPPS) will announce a new statewide poll showing broad, bipartisan support for corrections reform measures currently moving through the Michigan House of Representatives."*

**Source:** Grassroots Midwest **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443705327\\_grmw.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443705327_grmw.pdf)

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY - TODAY: Schuette Joins North Rockford Middle School Students For OK2SAY Program**

*"A.G. Schuette to highlight new statistics on OK2SAY's success promoting student safety, OK2SAY designed to reduce violence in Michigan schools through confidential 24-hour multimedia tipline, mobile app, website."*

"

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443705278\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443705278_ag.pdf)

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## **UPDATED: Gov. Rick Snyder lowers flags to honor fallen firefighter Richard Crosby**

*"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder has ordered U.S. and Michigan flags to be lowered to half-staff on Thursday, Oct. 1 within the State Capitol Complex and on all state buildings in honor of Casnovia Township firefighter Richard Crosby Sr., who died Saturday, Sept. 26."*

"

**Source:** Gov. Newsroom **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443705207\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443705207_gov.pdf)

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## **Rep. Lawrence statement on the House passage of H.R. 719**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. - Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14) on Wednesday released the following statement regarding the passage of H.R. 719, which maintains government funding at its current spend rate through December 11. "*

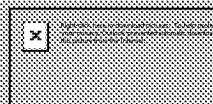
**Source:** *U.S. Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence* **Date:** 10-02-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1443705118\\_bl.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1443705118_bl.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 04, 2015 8:55 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Hillary Clinton defends gay rights in strongest speech yet on issue**

*"Hillary Clinton pledged Saturday to champion new federal laws banning discrimination against gays and lesbians and warned that Republican presidential candidates will try to undo a Supreme Court ruling on marriage equality, among other protections, if elected."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2016/2015/10/03/hillary-clinton-defends-gay-rights-strongest-speech-yet-issue/73280848/>

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### **'I had to do this,' Trump says of presidential run**

*"FRANKLIN, Tenn. — Thousands of Donald Trump supporters braved a soggy, gray Saturday in hopes of hearing the Republican presidential candidate speak in suburban Nashville."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/03/trump-says-presidential-run/73305992/>

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### **4 students arrested for Calif. school shooting plot**

*"Four students were arrested Saturday after police discovered a shooting plot involving Summerville High School in Tuolumne."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/local/2015/10/03/4-students-arrested-for-plotting-school-shooting/73290456/>

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## Michigan State students targeted in check-cashing scam

*"EAST LANSING, MI — Michigan State University police are warning of a check-cashing scam targeting MSU students."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_state\\_students\\_target.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_state_students_target.html#incart_river_home)

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## Rick Haglund: Gov. Snyder working hard to build future trade relationships

*"Gov. Rick Snyder engaged in some important work recently as part of his goal to enhance Michigan's economic competitiveness long after he leaves office."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/rick\\_haglund\\_gov\\_snyder\\_workin.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/rick_haglund_gov_snyder_workin.html#incart_story_package)

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## Michigan AG Bill Schuette to unveil new book, share 'Big Lessons from a Small Town'

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, a potential 2018 gubernatorial candidate, has penned a new book focused on lessons he learned growing up in Midland and how they influenced him later in life."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_ag\\_bill\\_schuettes\\_big.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_ag_bill_schuettes_big.html#incart_river_home)

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## Are the streetlights on in your neighborhood?

*"The Public Lighting Authority of Detroit is about 80% done with a \$185 million project to overhaul Detroit's street lighting system and install new LED fixtures. "*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/01/streetlights-your-neighborhood/73166892/>

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## Ore. college shooter's death ruled a suicide

*"ROSEBURG, Ore. — The cause of death for the young man responsible for shooting several people at Umpqua Community College this week was ruled a suicide by the Oregon state medical examiner's office,*

authorities announced Saturday."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/03/roseburg-oregon-community-grieving-shooting-community-college/73283670/>

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## Vatican fires gay priest on eve of Catholic bishops meeting

*"The Vatican fired a priest Saturday after he came out as gay and revealed he has a boyfriend on the eve of an important meeting of the world's bishops to discuss church teachings on family life, a topic that encompasses divorce, homosexuality and cohabitation."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/world/2015/10/03/vatican-fires-gay-priest-eve-catholic-synod-meeting/73278004/>

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## Bills target property tax cuts for 'big box' stores

*"LANSING — Local governments across Michigan say they are losing millions of dollars in taxes and facing cuts in services because "big box" retailers such as Lowe's and Home Depot are unfairly getting their property assessments slashed through appeals."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/03/bills-target-property-tax-cuts-big-box-stores/73144482/>

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## Great Lakes face threat from another Enbridge line

*"The 62-year-old segment of Canadian oil transport giant Enbridge's Line 5 pipeline underwater, at the bottom of the Straits of Mackinac, that has been generating the most buzz and concern lately over how a spill from it would harm the Great Lakes."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/03/great-lakes-face-threat-another-enbridge-line/73170338/>

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## UAW, FCA officials miscalculated young worker angst

*"UAW negotiators failed to understand the deep hostility of entry-level workers who, instead of taking a substantial raise, chose to join forces with higher-paid veterans to resoundingly defeat a proposed, four-year deal with Fiat Chrysler."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/03/uaw-fca-officials-miscalculated-young-worker->

## **Detroit's homeless treated to Red Carpet luncheon**

*"With winter weather just around the corner, Leon Odom is concerned about making sure he has a warm place to lay his head each night ."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/03/detroits-homeless-treated-red-carpet-luncheon/73297260/>

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## **Dozens of deaths likely from VW pollution dodge**

*"Washington — Volkswagen's pollution-control chicanery has not just been victimless tinkering, killing between five and 20 people in the United States annually in recent years, according to an Associated Press statistical and computer analysis."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/foreign/2015/10/03/dozens-deaths-likely-vw-pollution-dodge/73313068/>

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## **Mich.: Progress made to reduce phosphorus in Lake Erie**

*"Monroe — Efforts in Michigan to cut down on the pollutants feeding algae in Lake Erie have been showing signs of success, state officials say."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/03/mich-progress-made-reduce-phosphorus-lake-erie/73320696/>

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## **Prevailing wage backers push for public vote on repeal**

*"Lansing — The best chance advocates have to save a Michigan law that promises better wages on public works projects is if Republican legislators ignore a petition initiative and instead let voters decide the fate of prevailing wage."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/03/prevailing-wage-repeal-campaign-michigan/73295556/>

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

## State Police slow down lawmaker's drive to raise freeway speeds

*"If lawmakers can't fix the roads, would you settle for them boosting some of the freeway speeds to 80 miles an hour?"*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/state\\_police\\_slow\\_down\\_lawmake.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/state_police_slow_down_lawmake.html#incart_story_package)

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## Michigan's Wind Energy Mandate Costs Each Family Nearly \$4,000

*"A new study from Utah State University found that, as of 2013, Michigan's renewable energy mandate, enacted in 2008, has cost families and businesses here a bundle: \$15.1 billion overall, or \$3,830 per family, compared to what we would have experienced without the mandate."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21783>

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## Make college affordable again

*"College should be accessible and affordable to everyone regardless of where they live and how much money they have. We have been taught that education is the key to success, that a better education equals a better job."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/10/04/make-college-affordable/73247796/>

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## We need legislators with both eyes on the road

*"The announcement in March that Republican U.S. Representative Candice Miller would not seek re-election in 2016 sent Michigan's politicians abuzz about who might jump into the race for the state's 10th Congressional District."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/10/03/we-need-legislators-both-eyes-road/73179036/>

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## Do guns belong in Michigan schools? Readers sound off

*"Last Sunday, the Free Press published a story about the debate on whether staff and parents should be allowed to carry guns in schools."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/readers/2015/10/04/letters-editor-guns/73247864/>

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## The case against term limits in the Michigan Legislature

*"Michigan's experiment with term limits stretches back 20 years, and it's hard, in retrospect, to think of when they actually improved government performance."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/03/case-against-term-limits-michigan-legislature/73229422/>

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## Avoiding tap water has become a way of life in Flint

*"Outside a taco shop on Flint's Fifth Street, Estella Walker balances a gallon jug of water on top of the stroller that holds her 3-month-old son, DeWayne. She's mixing bottles of formula for DeWayne and his 19-month-old sister Vanessa."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/10/03/life-flint-sickening-water/73219986/>

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## Finley: Obama just jawboning on guns

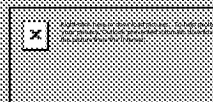
*"So President Barack Obama is angry that America has done nothing to change its gun laws despite a series of mass shootings throughout his presidency. He showed us that Thursday in yet another self-righteous, finger-wagging speech that he admits himself he's tired of giving."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-04-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/10/04/finley-obama-just-jawboning-guns/73294784/>

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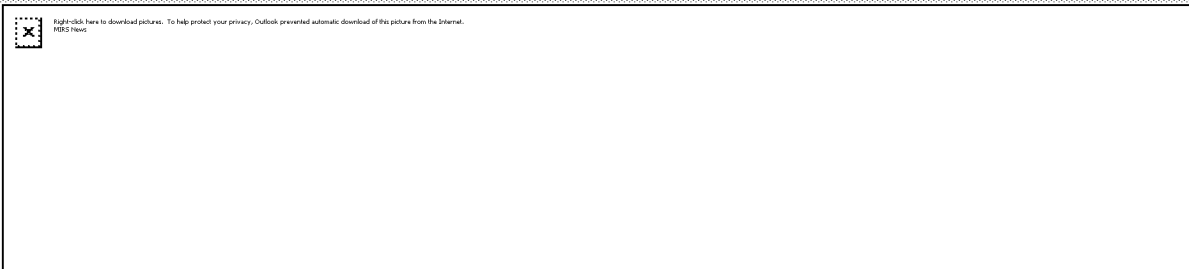
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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
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**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Snyder talks job creation, STEM and auto careers at Michigan Works conference**

**"MOUNT PLEASANT, MI** — *In the past four years, 420,000 private sector jobs have been created in Michigan."*

**Source:** Saginaw News **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/snyder\\_talks\\_job\\_creation\\_unem.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/snyder_talks_job_creation_unem.html#incart_river_home)

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### **Ted Cruz in Michigan: 'Nothing short of crazy' to take in Syrian Muslim refugees**

**"KALAMAZOO, MI** — *Presidential candidate Ted Cruz said Monday morning in Michigan that it would be "crazy" to bring more Syrian refugees to the United States, despite a humanitarian crisis that has captured the attention of the world."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/ted\\_cruz\\_in\\_michigan\\_nothing\\_s.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/ted_cruz_in_michigan_nothing_s.html#incart_river)

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### **Michigan AG Bill Schuette takes a tip from Taylor Swift in releasing book of life lessons**

**"LANSING, MI** — *It took Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette four and a half years to write a book of important life lessons, something he knows some people will see as a political move."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.mlive.com/lansing->

[news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_ag\\_bill\\_schuetz\\_take.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_ag_bill_schuetz_take.html#incart_river)

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## **Dave Agema leaning toward Ted Cruz for president, considering run for Congress**

*"KALAMAZOO, MI — Controversial Michigan Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema is close to endorsing Ted Cruz for president and is considering a Congressional run."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/dave\\_agema\\_close\\_to\\_endorsing.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/dave_agema_close_to_endorsing.html#incart_river)

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## **Fred Upton distances himself from GOP's anti-immigration wing**

*"U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, R- St. Joseph, is not on board with those calling for a hardline stance on immigration."*

"

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/fred\\_upton\\_distances\\_himself\\_f.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/fred_upton_distances_himself_f.html#incart_river)

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## **State plans Flint water filter giveaway Tuesday**

*"Lansing — Starting Tuesday, free water filters will be available to Flint residents who are worried about lead contamination and other concerns, the state Department of Health and Human Services announced Monday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/05/state-flint-water-filter-giveaway/73411770/>

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## **Cruz: More Syrian refugees ups chances of U.S. terror**

*"Kalamazoo — Republican presidential hopeful Ted Cruz warned Monday that allowing more Syrian refugees to resettle in the United States would make it easier for Islamic radicals "to murder innocent Americans.""*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/05/ted-cruz/73365190/>

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## **U.S. auto tariffs fall slowly in trade deal**

*"Washington — In the landmark Asia-Pacific free trade deal reached among the United States and 11 other nations, U.S. automakers won a lengthy delay of the phaseout of tariffs that protect domestic truck production."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/05/free-trade-deal/73367620/>

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## Attorney: John Conyers doesn't want divorce

*"U.S. Rep. John Conyers doesn't want to get divorced, his attorney says."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/05/conyers-divorce/73369628/>

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## Detroit mayor nominates 2 to head city water department

*"Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan has nominated two officials to head the city's Water and Sewerage Department, officials announced early Tuesday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/10/06/detroit-mayor-nominates-head-city-water-department/73430436/>

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## Schuetz writes 'Big Lessons from a Small Town'

*"Ever wonder why that nice young man with the blond hair and immaculate business suit has been pouring your coffee at political gatherings?"*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/04/schuetz-book-big-lessons-small-town/73225458/>

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## Great Lakes face threat from another Enbridge line

*"The 62-year-old segment of Canadian oil transport giant Enbridge's Line 5 pipeline underwater, at the bottom of the Straits of Mackinac, has been generating the most buzz and concern lately over how a spill from it would harm the Great Lakes."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/03/great-lakes-face-threat-another-enbridge-line/73170338/>

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## Ford, others say trade deal lacks currency protections

*"WASHINGTON — The Obama administration and negotiators from 11 Pacific Rim nations announced an agreement, in principle, for a sweeping trade deal, but critics — including Ford — were quick to complain that it doesn't do enough to address currency manipulation, which many see as a huge barrier to American auto sales in*

some Asian countries."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/05/ford-others-say-trade-deal-lacks-currency-protections/73372996/>

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## Senators urge NASA to continue monitoring Lake Erie

*"WASHINGTON — Michigan and Ohio's U.S. senators on Monday sent a letter to NASA's head administrator asking him to continue supporting flights being flown over Lake Erie to monitor for harmful algae blooms."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/05/senators-urge-nasa-continue-monitoring-lake-erie/73397776/>

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## U.S. Rep. Conyers does not want to divorce wife Monica

*"Despite her going to prison, losing her political job and often embarrassing the family with her behavior in City Hall, U.S. Rep. John Conyers does not want a divorce from his feisty wife, Monica Conyers, his lawyer told the Free Press on Monday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/05/us-rep-john-conyers-does-not-want-divorce-monica/73392542/>

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## About-face for UAW on FCA: We'll 'tell the whole story'

*"As the UAW and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles resumed talks for a new four-year labor contract, union leaders say they plan to do a much better job of telling members what has been negotiated on their behalf and of helping them to understand the implications."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/05/uaw-trying-set-record-straight-deal/73375518/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Dramatic transformation of education necessary to keep Michigan top-tier state (Guest column)

*"So much of what we do in life is about giving ourselves and our families the best."*

**Source:** Saginaw News **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/dramatic\\_transformation\\_of\\_edu.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/dramatic_transformation_of_edu.html#incart_river_home)

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## Moore: Anti-sanctuary bill wrong for Detroit

*"The Detroit Police Department has a lot of work on its hands, and this has been the case for many years. A bill in the Michigan Senate, termed the "sanctuary policy prohibition act" would only make matters worse for Detroit. It would strip the Police Department of discretion in terms of how or when to assist the federal government in enforcing immigration law, adding to its overwhelming duty of enforcing state criminal law by adding federal civil law as well."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/05/moore-anti-sanctuary-bill-wrong-detroit/73426556/>

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## Rep. Forlini: 'Michigan penalty' harms taxpayers

*"While our state has made significant progress toward restoring its fiscal health, taxpayers across Michigan continue to pay inflated interest rates on voter-approved bonds. These bonds — referred to as "unlimited tax general obligation bonds" — are used to build schools, pave roadways and repair bridges, and prior to the Detroit bankruptcy case, were considered among the safest investments around."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/05/rep-forlini-michigan-penalty-harms-taxpayers/73426512/>

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## McBroom: Courser, Gamrat expulsions warranted

*"The Michigan Constitution, voted on by the people of Michigan, lays out a specific method for protecting the integrity of the Legislature. The House of Representatives' ability to determine its members' qualifications and expel them when necessary is an important check and balance to the possibility of corrupt, deceptive or unqualified members. Such a safety valve is also provided in the federal Constitution and in other states' constitutions."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/05/mcbbroom-courser-gamrat-expulsions-warranted/73426490/>

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## Our Editorial: Toughen proposed forfeiture reforms

*"Innocence until proven guilty should also mean an individual isn't punished until guilt is established in court. But in Michigan and other states, a suspect can lose property and cash without ever even being charged with a crime."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/05/editorial-toughen-proposed-forfeiture-reforms/73426474/>

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## Try again, try harder to get FCA deal for UAW

*"The loud voices of FCA Automobiles UAW members have got to be heard — by the union's leadership, which failed to sell a contract that had many spoils but failed to address some key concerns, and by the company's management, which should be fearful that the current trajectory winds up in a devastating strike."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/2015/10/05/try-again-try-harder-get-fca-deal-uaw/73365270/>

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## Press Releases

### Dingell Statement on the Passing of Civil Rights Activist Grace Lee Boggs

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement today on the passing of long-time civil rights activist and philosopher Grace Lee Boggs."*

**Source:** **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444076818\\_dingell.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444076818_dingell.pdf)

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### Court Rules EPA Failed to Protect U.S. Waters from Aquatic Invasive Species

*"ANN ARBOR, MICH. (October 5, 2015) – In a unanimous 3-0 decision that has ramifications for waters across the country—from Long Island Sound to the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico to San Francisco Bay—the U.S. Court of Appeals 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit today ruled that the U.S. EPA failed its responsibility under the Clean Water Act to protect U.S. waters from aquatic invasive species introduced by ballast water discharge. Ballast water invaders cost citizens, businesses, industry, and municipalities billions of dollars per year annually due to damages and control costs."*

**Source:** **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444077346\\_epa.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444077346_epa.pdf)

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### MDOT to host M-25 resurfacing open house in Sebewaing

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will host a public open house to discuss M-25 resurfacing from Sebewaing Road to Main Street. Individuals interested in learning more details regarding the project, as well as the timeline, are invited to attend. MDOT officials will be on hand to answer questions."*

**Source:** **Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444077252\\_mdod.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444077252_mdod.pdf)

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### Michigan Army National Guard Michigan Youth Challenge Academy (MYCA)

## Veterans Affairs

**"The Secret is Out: Statewide recruiting for MYCA Class 34 has begun** Statewide recruiting for the Michigan Youth Challenge Academy (MYCA) has begun. "Recruiting and Informational" events are scheduled around the State of Michigan and open to the public. These events provide an MYCA outline and benefits presentation along with individual applicant interviews. The main purpose of each recruiting event is to identify the best qualified applicants; those who possess the necessary abilities to become an MYCA graduate. For an active list of Recruiting and Informational events, visit [www.mivcp.org](http://www.mivcp.org). "

**Source: Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444076323\\_mdva.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444076323_mdva.pdf)

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## Water filters available for MDHHS clients, all Flint residents beginning Tuesday

"LANSING, Mich. – Free water filters will be available to current Michigan Department of Health and Human Services clients and Flint residents at four locations beginning Tuesday, October 6, at 9 a.m. through a partnership between the MDHHS and the Genesee County Community Action Resource Department. Free National Sanitation Foundation certified water filters are being provided to Flint residents as part of the administration's comprehensive approach to addressing water concerns in the area."

**Source: Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444076157\\_mdhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444076157_mdhhs.pdf)

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## Gov. Rick Snyder honors Oregon shooting victims

"LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder has joined President Barack Obama's call for U.S. flags to be lowered to half-staff today through Tuesday, Oct. 6 to honor the victims of the Roseburg, Oregon shooting."

**Source: Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444075483\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444075483_gov.pdf)

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## DNR - Cubs survive illegal black bear killing in Oceana County

"Michigan Department of Natural Resources wildlife biologists today said the recent illegal killing of a female black bear, which had three cubs with her, has aroused great public interest."

**Source: Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444075431\\_DNR.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444075431_DNR.pdf)

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## TOPPING OFF CEREMONY PLANNED FOR NEW DEVOS LEARNING CENTER AT THE GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM

"**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Oct. 5, 2015** –The final beam for the new DeVos Learning Center at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum will be placed during a topping off ceremony on Oct. 12, 2015. The ceremony will also mark the museum's closure for several months as crews install new permanent interactive exhibits and begin renovations to the facility. The museum will reopen to the public during the summer of 2016. The 8,000 square-



foot DeVos Learning will be complete in fall 2016. "

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444075365\\_GERALD.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444075365_GERALD.pdf)

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## **DEQ to hold public hearing on Michigan's Adventure discharge permit**

*"The DEQ will hold a public hearing on the proposed groundwater discharge permit for Michigan's Adventure in Muskegon County. "*

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444072992\\_deq.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444072992_deq.pdf)

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## **Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus to Urge Action on Domestic Violence Bills**

*"LANSING – Members of the Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus, including PWLC chairwoman Rep. **Winnie Brinks** (D-Grand Rapids), Rep. **Kristy Pagan** (D-Canton) and Sen. **Rebekah Warren** (D-Ann Arbor), will urge action on a package of legislation aimed to combat the persistent problem of domestic violence on **Tuesday, Oct. 6, at 11:15 a.m. in room 402/403 of the Michigan Capitol Building**. The bills, introduced in March, have yet to receive committee hearings or be voted on in the Legislature. As October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the PWLC is sending message that it is time to move forward with this legislation"*

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444072104\\_house.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444072104_house.pdf)

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## **News Conference and Demonstration regrading Sterling Heights Mosque**

*"News Conference and Demonstration regrading Sterling Heights Mosque set for Thursday, October 8th from 11:30AM-12:30PM"*

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444069453\\_mosque.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444069453_mosque.pdf)

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## **Out-of-State Company Slammed with Federal Fine Tries To Woo Michigan Legislators**

*"Lansing—A Baltimore-based company that paid what was then the largest fine in the history of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)— the federal agency tasked with regulating, monitoring and investigating electricity markets — wants Michigan to continue paying \$300 million a year in unfair subsidies. That's essentially what Richard Spilky, principal of retail analytics at Constellation Energy, said last week in testimony to the Michigan Senate Energy and Technology Committee when he argued against Senate Bill 437."*

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444066302\\_energy.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444066302_energy.pdf)

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## Construction begins this week on I-96 near Cedar Street in Lansing

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***Construction begins this week***

***on I-96 near Cedar Street in Lansing***

***COUNTY: Ingham ROADWAY: I-96 CLOSEST CITY: Lansing"***

**Source: Date: 10-06-2015 Link: [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444067846\\_mdotr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067846_mdotr.pdf)**

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## COLUMBA BUSH: AN ESCAPE FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

*"The 2014 Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Uniform Crime Report reflects a 10.2 percent increase in domestic violence homicides, which represents a stunning 20.9 percent of all homicides in our state. During the 2014/2015 fiscal year, Florida's 42 certified domestic violence centers provided 546,658 nights of emergency shelter to 15,397 survivors and their children, many who fled a violent home with nothing but the clothes on their backs."*

**Source: Date: 10-06-2015 Link: [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444067766\\_jeb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067766_jeb.pdf)**

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## DESE - NILES DISTRICT LIBRARY EARNS 2015 STATE LIBRARIAN'S EXCELLENCE AWARD

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***NILES DISTRICT LIBRARY EARNS 2015 STATE***

***LIBRARIAN'S EXCELLENCE AWARD***

***October 5, 2015***

*LANSING – The Niles District Library (NDL) has earned the 2015 State Librarian's Excellence Award for its superior customer service, State Librarian Randy Riley announced today."*

**Source: Date: 10-06-2015 Link: [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444067448\\_dese.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067448_dese.pdf)**

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## Michigan Manufacturers Association honors Sen. Nofs as 2015 Legislator of

## the Year

**"LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Mike Nofs was recently honored as one of four Michigan lawmakers to receive the Michigan Manufacturers Association (MMA) Legislator of the Year Award."

**Source: Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444067390\\_manu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067390_manu.pdf)

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## Gov. Snyder Proclaims Fire Prevention Week October 4-10

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**Hear the beep where you sleep, every bedroom needs a working smoke alarm October 5, 2015** - Gov. Rick Snyder today proclaimed October 4-10 as Fire Prevention Week to emphasize the importance of having multiple home smoke alarms, urge citizens to install smoke alarms in every bedroom and on every level of their home, including the basement, and routinely test and maintain them to make sure they work."

**Source: Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444067320\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067320_gov.pdf)

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## Peters Statement on Trans-Pacific Partnership Trade Agreement

**"WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today released the following statement as the twelve Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) countries concluded negotiations and reached an agreement:"

**Source: Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444067272\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067272_peters.pdf)

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## Dedication ceremony for Heath M. Robinson Memorial Cut River Bridge set for Saturday

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### ***Dedication ceremony for Heath M. Robinson Memorial***

#### **Cut River Bridge set for Saturday WHAT:**

The family of Heath M. Robinson will have a dedication ceremony for the newly renamed Heath M. Robinson Memorial Cut River Bridge. **WHO:**

Family and friends of Heath M. Robinson

Military honor guard units

U.S. Navy and Coast Guard representatives

Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) staff

Interested citizens **WHEN:**

Saturday, Oct. 10, 2015

10 a.m. **WHERE:**

Heath M. Robinson Memorial Cut River Bridge, 26 miles west of St. Ignace on US-2

Mackinac County (between Epoufette and Brevort) **BACKGROUND:**

Navy Senior Chief Special Warfare Operator (SEAL) Heath M. Robinson, a resident of Petoskey and Mackinac

Island, was killed in action on Aug. 6, 2011. Robinson was in a CH-47 Chinook helicopter when it was shot down over Wardak Province in Afghanistan. The crash claimed the lives of 30 American service members and eight members of the Afghan military, making it the largest single-day loss of life in Naval Special Warfare history. Former State Rep. Frank Foster introduced a bill to rename the bridge in Robinson's honor in September 2013. The measure was approved by both houses of the Michigan Legislature in 2014, and signed by Gov. Rick Snyder on Oct. 22, 2014."

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444067218\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067218_mdof.pdf)

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## **Michigan State Police Host Women's Recruiting Seminar**

**"LANSING, MICH.** The Michigan State Police (MSP) is hosting an informational recruiting seminar for women at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 17, 2015, at Kalamazoo Valley Community College (6767 W. O Ave., Kalamazoo, Mich.)."

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444067173\\_msp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067173_msp.pdf)

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## **MICHIGAN RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES ANNUAL RESTAURANT SHOW**

**"LANSING, MI –** The Michigan Restaurant Show, produced by the Michigan Restaurant Association (MRA), is the premier foodservice industry trade show in Michigan. Held October 13 and 14 at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, the Show provides access to new products, ideas, and trends for restaurateurs."

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444067053\\_rest.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444067053_rest.pdf)

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## **FEMA - Fire Prevention Week: Learn the Dos & Don'ts of House Fire Safety**

**"Fire Prevention Week: Learn the Dos & Don'ts of House Fire Safety CHICAGO –**October 4 – 10, 2015 marks Fire Prevention Week, a commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire in 1871 and an opportunity to emphasize fire safety and preparedness."

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444066982\\_fema.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444066982_fema.pdf)

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## **Press Advisory for Winter Resource Fair**

*"Please see attached a press advisory regarding an upcoming Winter Resource Fair hosted by Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence and that is scheduled for Oct. 19 in Detroit. The fair will include about a dozen representatives from local business, government, and nonprofit agencies who will help residents prepare for the on-coming severe weather months. Any advance coverage/notification of the event that you can provide is greatly appreciated. The congresswoman would also love to see you at the fair, should you have the time and are interested in speaking with the participating agencies. A full press release will follow after the event, in case you*

are unable to attend."

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444061639\\_winter.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444061639_winter.pdf)

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## **Lawmakers fight to increase benefits, insurance period for unemployed**

*"Lawmakers fight to increase benefits, insurance period for unemployed Sen. Hood, Rep. Garrett seek to raise maximum weekly benefit, expand eligibility period LANSING—State Senator Morris W. Hood III (D–Detroit) and Representative LaTanya Garrett (D–Detroit) have introduced joint legislation to increase the maximum weekly benefit and extend the insurance eligibility period for unemployed citizens in Michigan."*

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444061346\\_senatenews.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444061346_senatenews.pdf)

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## **Media Invited to Ride Along as Michigan Farmers Begin Corn Harvest**

*"MICHIGAN – The Corn Marketing Program of Michigan (CMPM) invites members of the media to ride along in the combine with a local corn farmer and get a firsthand harvest experience."*

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444061198\\_cmpm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444061198_cmpm.pdf)

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## **DNR's Habitat Improvement Account to fund five projects on key rivers**

*"The Department of Natural Resources has announced five recipients of its Habitat Improvement Account (HIA) for fiscal year 2016. The HIA funds projects to improve aquatic habitat, fishing access, water quality and the DNR's understanding of resources on the Au Sable, Manistee and Muskegon rivers. The account was established to mitigate resource impacts from hydropower dam operations."*

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444059620\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444059620_dnr.pdf)

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## **MDARD - New Invasive Vegetable Pest Found in Michigan**

*"LANSING – A potentially serious threat to Michigan's cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower and other crucifers has been found in the state for the first time in five organic production fields in Sanilac County."*

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444058558\\_mdard.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444058558_mdard.pdf)

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## **Students get moving - more than 250 schools to celebrate Walk to School Day**

*"October 7, 2015 -- More than 250 schools in Michigan will join students around the country in observing the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Walk to School Day on Wednesday, Oct. 7. Thousands of Michigan students, along with their parents,*

teachers and community leaders, are expected to participate."

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444058086\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444058086_mdof.pdf)

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## **GAMRAT: The People of Allegan Deserve a Voice!**

*"In the early morning hours on September 11th, 2015, Allegan County had their voice in the House of Representatives stolen from them. The Representation of 90,000 people was overridden by 91 Lansing politicians. They decided that they knew what was best for our District and that the people of Allegan County should not have a say in their Representation."*

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444057626\\_gamrat.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057626_gamrat.pdf)

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## **Attorney General to Launch Book on Life's Lessons**

**"WHO:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **WHAT:** Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette will unveil a book he's written at a press conference this coming Monday in Lansing. The book shares a number of lessons he has learned throughout his career and personal life that can also serve as life lessons for others. Focusing on his home town and people who have influenced his life, Schuette recounts the people, the places and the lessons learned."

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444057520\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057520_ag.pdf)

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## **Casperson invites U.P. residents to participate in Natural Resources Committee hearing via videoconf**

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**\*\*\*Media Advisory\*\*\***

Casperson invites U.P. residents to participate in Natural Resources Committee hearing via videoconference

**LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Tom Casperson announced Monday that the Senate Natural Resources Committee hearing on Wednesday, Oct. 7 will include testimony from U.P. residents via remote videoconference."

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444057467\\_casperson.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057467_casperson.pdf)

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## **Congresswoman Dingell Statement on TPP Agreement**

**"WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) released the following statement today on the

Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement. "Early reports indicate that this agreement is a bad deal for the working men and women of the American auto industry and for many other sectors of the U.S. economy. The negotiators' cloak and dagger approach has resulted in Members of Congress and the public being forced to operate on hearsay – not facts – because to date, we have been unable to access the secret web of side agreements and backroom deals that are associated with the latest rounds of negotiations."

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444057391\\_dingell.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057391_dingell.pdf)

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## **JEB BUSH TO VISIT IOWA THIS WEEK**

*"Miami, FL – This week, Governor Jeb Bush is making a swing through Iowa. He will be in the state Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. On Tuesday, he will be in Bettendorf. On Wednesday, he will be in Muscatine and Oskaloosa. On Thursday morning, he will be in Des Moines and Indianola."*

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444057340\\_jeb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057340_jeb.pdf)

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## **Freedom Fund: In Wake of Bribery Allegations, Tinsley-Talabi Should be Stripped of Committee Assignm**

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***Freedom Fund: In Wake of Bribery Allegations, Tinsley-Talabi Should be Stripped of Committee Assignments***

***Minority Leader Tim Greimel Must Request Democratic Lawmaker Be Replaced on Committees Immediately*** LANSING, MI, October 5, 2015 –The Michigan Freedom Fund today called on House Minority Leader Tim Greimel to formally request state Rep. Alberta Tinsley-Talabi be removed from her House Committee assignments after being accused of accepting bribes and implicated last week in a federal corruption probe."

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444057286\\_mff.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057286_mff.pdf)

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## **Hunt and win - Consumers Energy and DNR partner to bring hunters Wetland Wonders Challenge**

*"Seven lucky waterfowl hunters will win more than \$1,500 dollars in prizes just by hunting at three of Michigan's seven managed waterfowl areas this fall. The Wetland Wonders Challenge, sponsored by Consumers Energy, will begin Oct. 10 and continue through Jan. 31, 2016."*

**Source:** Date: 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444057068\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057068_dnr.pdf)

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## **Rep. Hoadley Earns 'Friend of Nursing' Award from Michigan Nurses Association**

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**Rep. Hoadley Earns 'Friend of Nursing' Award from Michigan Nurses Association**

Honor recognizes advocacy for safe patient care and healthcare professionals State Representative Jon Hoadley (D-Kalamazoo) has received the Michigan Nurses Association 'Friend of Nursing' Award in recognition of his advocacy on safe patient care and other issues that support nurses and their profession."

**Source: Date:** 10-06-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444057013\\_hoadley.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444057013_hoadley.pdf)

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**UPDATED: Snyder Media Advisory for Monday, Oct. 5**

"Monday, October 5, 2015

Contact: [Sara Wurfel](#) or [Dave Murray](#)

Office: 517-335-6397

**Monday, Oct. 5 at 12:15 p.m.**

Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks at the Mt. Pleasant Rotary club luncheon. He will be joined by state Sen. Judy Emmons. **Location:**

[Mountain Town Station](#)

506 W. Broadway

**Mt. Pleasant, MI Monday, Oct. 5 at 4:10 p.m.**

Snyder will offer remarks highlighting the importance of continued workforce development at a general session of the 2015 Michigan Works! Annual Conference. **Location:**

[Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort -](#)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
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**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Microbeads in the Great Lakes: Legislators butt heads over whether current legislation would help**

*"LANSING, MI — The flow of tiny plastic pieces known as microbeads into the Great Lakes would be stymied by a House bill, some say, but others think the state should take more meaningful action."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/microbeads\\_in\\_the\\_great\\_lakes.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/microbeads_in_the_great_lakes.html#incart_river)

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### **More regulations? More guns? Michigan lawmakers debate solutions in wake of Oregon shooting**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan state Sen. Steve Bieda was at a conference in Washington D.C. last week when he learned about a tragic shooting at an Oregon community college. When he flew home days later, he was struck by the fact that he had to remove his shoes before boarding."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/more\\_regulations\\_more\\_guns\\_mic.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/more_regulations_more_guns_mic.html#incart_river)

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### **How grown up is 17? Bills would stop automatic adult prosecution of 17-year-old offenders**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan 17-year-olds would stop automatically being prosecuted as adults under bipartisan legislation rolled out with broad support on Tuesday."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/how\\_grown\\_up\\_is\\_a\\_17-year-old.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/how_grown_up_is_a_17-year-old.html#incart_river)

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## **Michigan Senate votes to increase fines for selling tobacco to minors**

*"LANSING, MI — The Michigan Senate on Tuesday voted unanimously to increase fines for selling tobacco to minors for the first time since at least 1988."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_senate\\_votes\\_to\\_incre.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_senate_votes_to_incre.html#incart_river)

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## **Statewide donations of clean water pour in for Flint students, residents**

*"FLINT, MI – What started as smaller attempts to bring clean water to Flint residents has turned into an outpouring of support as businesses, individuals and charities send thousands of bottles of water to the city, mostly for Flint Community Schools."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/post\\_444.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/post_444.html#incart_river_home)

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## **John Dingell hospitalized, will undergo heart procedure**

*"Former U.S. Rep. John Dingell was admitted to Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit Monday and will undergo an unidentified heart procedure — his second in two years, his office said Tuesday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/06/john-dingell-hospitalized-will-undergo-heart-procedure/73465228/>

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## **President Clinton to visit Bingham Farms fundraiser**

*"Bingham Farms – President Bill Clinton is scheduled to headline a Wednesday fundraiser for his wife's presidential campaign in Michigan."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/05/president-clinton-visit-bingham-farms-fundraiser/73494782/>

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## **UAW issues strike notice to Fiat Chrysler**

*"Thousands of United Auto Workers members could walk out of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV plants*

*and head to picket lines early Thursday if bargainers fail to reach a new tentative labor contract."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/10/06/uaw-fca/73453880/>

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## **U.S. Senate readies bill for Obama that saves A10s**

*"WASHINGTON — On a notably bipartisan vote of 73-26, the U.S. Senate advanced a bill that saves A10 aircraft at Selfridge Air National Guard Base and across the nation even though President Barack Obama has promised to veto it when it reaches his desk, which is expected to happen in the next several days."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/06/bill-obama-a10-selfridge-aircraft/73461718/>

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## **Senators propose making auto safety cover-ups a crime**

*"WASHINGTON — Two U.S. senators on Tuesday introduced legislation which would make it a crime for a corporate officer to conceal information about a dangerous product, citing last month's settlement between General Motors and the U.S. Justice Department as proof that stronger laws are needed."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/general-motors/2015/10/06/senators-propose-making-auto-safety-cover-ups-crime/73474402/>

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## **Road side drug testing project approved by Senate panel**

*"LANSING — A bill that would authorize the Michigan State Police to set up a roadside drug testing pilot program in three Michigan counties is on its way to the Senate after getting unanimous support in a Senate committee Tuesday afternoon."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/06/road-side-drug-testing-project-approved-senate-panel/73475214/>

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## **Road side drug testing project approved by Senate panel**

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**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/06/road-side-drug-testing-project-approved-senate-panel/73475214/>

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## Michigan Senate raises fines for selling cigarettes to minors

*"LANSING, Mich. — Michigan lawmakers want to make it costlier for stores that sell cigarettes to minors and the minors who illegally buy them."*

**Source:** Associated Press **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/06/mich-senate-approves-higher-fines-cigarettes-minors/73480914/>

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## Former U.S. Rep. John Dingell back in hospital

*"WASHINGTON — Former U.S. Rep. John Dingell was admitted to Henry Ford Hospital on Monday and is expected to undergo a heart procedure, his wife's office said Tuesday."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/06/john-dingell-back-hospital/73464268/>

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## Great Lakes face threat from Enbridge Line 5

*"The 62-year-old segment of Canadian oil transport giant Enbridge's Line 5 pipeline underwater, at the bottom of the Straits of Mackinac, has been generating the most buzz and concern lately over how a spill from it would harm the Great Lakes."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/06/great-lakes-face-threat-another-enbridge-line/73170338/>

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## Bill would get retired teachers back in the classroom

*"Arlene Millman retired from education in 2012, but she wasn't quite ready to give up working with kids. That's why she's hoping Michigan lawmakers get moving on legislation that would allow people like her to go back to work — with some restrictions — without risking their retirement benefits or health care."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/06/retired-teachers-bill-classroom/73198854/>

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## UAW set to strike, FCA keeps talking

*"Negotiations between UAW and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles to restructure a deal overwhelmingly rejected by workers last week took an ominous turn Tuesday with the union issuing a*

strike notice that says the current contract extension will expire at 11:59 p.m. Wednesday."

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/06/uaw-fiat-chrysler-talks-break-down-walkouts-looming/73448018/>

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## John Dingell admitted to hospital for heart procedure

"Former U.S. congressman John Dingell was admitted Monday, Oct. 5, to Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit."

**Source:** Dearborn Press and Guide **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/10/06/news/doc56141dffbcc21289014010.txt>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Why the right should support forfeiture reform in Michigan

"One of the most important features of limited government and economic freedom is the rule of law. In the words of John Adams, we should seek to establish "a government of laws and not of men.""

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/why\\_the\\_right\\_should\\_support\\_f.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/why_the_right_should_support_f.html#incart_river)

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### Williams: Trade deal must put America's interests first

"With 40 percent of the world's economy in the balance, possibly more if China, Thailand and other countries join over time, the Trans Pacific Partnership will have a huge impact on working families and our nation for generations to come."

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/06/williams-trade-deal-american-interests/73487004/>

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### Column: Minimum wage hike will hurt restaurants

"It's been one year since Michigan took its first step toward implementing a 25 percent minimum wage increase. To judge the effects of the policy, it's important to look beyond the state's overall economic growth numbers."

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/06/column-minimum-wage-hike-will-hurt-restaurants/73486906/>

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## Our editorial: Ted Cruz is wrong on Syrian refugees

*"The downside of having so many presidential candidates in the GOP field is that it increases the likelihood that one of them — or several — will say something so offensive that it taints everyone else. Ted Cruz is the latest.*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/06/editorial-ted-cruz-wrong-syrian-refugees/73486846/>

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## Even Compared to Workers With College Degrees, Teachers Are Well Paid

*"The new Dearborn school district superintendent Glenn Maleyko says he is worried about losing his best teachers."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21789>

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## New Detroit-Windsor bridge crossing raises traffic exhaust concerns

*"Patricia Gonzalez can't imagine living in Southwest Detroit's Delray Neighborhood after a second international bridge to Canada opens and truck traffic doubles."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/new-detroit-windsor-bridge-crossing-raises-traffic-exhaust-concerns/>

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## Press Releases

### Snyder Media Advisory for Wednesday, Oct. 7

*"Snyder Media Advisory for Wednesday, Oct. 7"*

**Source:** Gov. Newsroom **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444166448\\_smedia6.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444166448_smedia6.pdf)

## Stamas bill supports Critical Incident Stress Management teams

**"LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Jim Stamas, Roxanne Affholter of Michigan Crisis Response Association and Midland Fire Department Chief Chris Coughlin shared with members of the Senate Health Policy Committee on Tuesday about the need to support Michigan's Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) teams."

**Source:** Senator Stamas **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444164889\\_stama.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444164889_stama.pdf)

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## Pine Rest President: Huizenga Leading On Mental Health Reform

"While national in scope, the bill would support local West Michigan solutions to problems that are unique to West Michigan — problems that decrease our quality of life, and create unnecessary health care costs and present challenges in our workplaces. **Congressman Bill Huizenga, R-Michigan, understands these local issues and is helping champion comprehensive mental health reform on the national level. Rep. Huizenga recently became a co-sponsor to the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act and is diligently working to make sure the local, West Michigan perspective is shared and helps inform national policy reform.** Passage of the act will reduce the number of headlines we see linking mental illness to tragic events, and will increase the headlines describing breakthroughs of care, access and innovations, and improved quality of life in West Michigan. Let's support our national legislators who are working hard to find consensus around common-sense solutions to this fixable problem of inadequate access to quality behavioral health services."

**Source:** Date: 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444162838\\_pine.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444162838_pine.pdf)

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## Events Planned for Securing Mi Financial Future Month

"LANSING — On October 1, 2015, Governor Snyder proclaimed October as "Securing Mi Financial Future Month" and encouraged Michigan residents to take advantage of free, non-commercial financial education events throughout the month. Spearheaded by the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS), the **Securing Mi Financial Future** initiative will be holding several events across the state throughout the month. The first three events entitled **Building Mi Financial Future** are geared toward residents 18 years and older."

**Source:** Date: 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444162575\\_difs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444162575_difs.pdf)

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## Senate panel approves Jones legislation to allow tax donations to American Red Cross

**"LANSING, Mich.** — The Senate Finance Committee on Tuesday approved measures sponsored Sen. Rick Jones to allow residents to make voluntary donations on their state tax returns to help support the American Red Cross in Michigan."

**Source:** Date: 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444161134\\_senate.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444161134_senate.pdf)

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## **Creative Many Selected for Bloomberg Philanthropies' Grant**

*"DETROIT — Creative Many Michigan – the statewide economic development organization for the arts, culture and creative and design industries – announced it is a grantee recipient of Bloomberg Philanthropies' Arts Innovation and Management (AIM) program. Through the two-year initiative, Bloomberg Philanthropies is providing \$30 million across 262 small and mid-sized nonprofit cultural organizations around the country to help strengthen their operational and programming efforts, including training in fundraising, audience development and board member engagement."*

**Source: Date: 10-07-2015 Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444159563\\_creative.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444159563_creative.pdf)

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## **Whistleblower Lawsuit Raises Further Questions About Cotter's Leadership**

*"LANSING — Progress Michigan released the following statement after staff members fired by Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat raised new allegations in a lawsuit. In the lawsuit, Keith Allard and Ben Graham allege that they informed "House management staff" about wrongdoing by Reps. Courser and Gamrat prior to being fired."*

**Source: Date: 10-07-2015 Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444159501\\_whistleblower.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444159501_whistleblower.pdf)

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## **Congressman John Dingell to Undergo Medical Procedure in Detroit**

*"DETROIT, MI – Congressman John Dingell was admitted to Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit on Monday. He is being evaluated and will undergo a heart procedure. Mr. Dingell is resting comfortably under doctor's care and is his usual feisty self. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell will be in Michigan this week."*

**Source: Date: 10-07-2015 Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444158278\\_DINGELL.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444158278_DINGELL.pdf)

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## **Lansing citizens file federal complaints in response to illegal political robocalls**

*"LANSING — Local citizens filed FCC complaints Tuesday against Capitol Region Progress, a shadowy Lansing special interest group that has been sending out illegal robocalls to area voters ahead of the Nov. 3 election."*

**Source: Date: 10-07-2015 Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444158235\\_MORGAN.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444158235_MORGAN.pdf)

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## **JEB BUSH TO ATTEND GEORGIA - TENNESSEE TAILGATE**

*"Miami, FL – On Saturday, Governor Jeb Bush will attend a tailgate prior to the Georgia Bulldogs at Tennessee Volunteers football game in Knoxville, TN."*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444156191\\_JEB.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444156191_JEB.pdf)

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## **Rep. Kurt Heise to speak at Youth in Prison Legislative Bill Package Press Conference**

*"Rep. Kurt Heise to speak at Youth in Prison Legislative Bill Package Press Conference"*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444154289\\_reminder.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444154289_reminder.pdf)

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## **Statement on Courser/Gamrat Staff Lawsuit Claiming House Management Staff Were Told of Wrongdoing**

*"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party released the following statement today on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon regarding the recent lawsuit filed by former Courser and Gamrat aides, Keith Allard and Ben Graham, against the former representatives. In the lawsuit, Allard and Graham claim they reported to 'House management staff' instances of Courser's and Gamrat's 'wrongdoing i.e., the abuse of staff and government resources.' "*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444152239\\_mdp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444152239_mdp.pdf)

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## **Three Rivers Woman Wins \$310.5 Million Powerball Jackpot**

*"LANSING, Mich., Oct. 6, 2015 – The dream of being a Lottery jackpot winner has come true for a Three Rivers woman who won a \$310.5 million Powerball jackpot from the Michigan Lottery."*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444152192\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444152192_lottery.pdf)

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## **The time is now to act on abortion coercion**

*"On September 29, in a 5-3 vote, H.B. 4787 and H.B. 4830 passed the Michigan House Criminal Justice Committee and are under consideration on the House floor. Right to Life of Michigan applauds these legislative efforts to address the ongoing injustice of coerced abortions. "*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444148670\\_abortion.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444148670_abortion.pdf)

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## EQUALITY MICHIGAN MOURNS THE LOSS OF ANOTHER MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY

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*DETROIT, MI – The body of Melvin, a 30-year old African American gay male, was discovered shot to death early yesterday morning by a neighbor on Detroit's East side. Melvin was homeless, and often wore women's clothing to earn a living causing early reports to identify him as potentially a member of the transgender community. Friends of Melvin, however, insist that he did not identify as transgender. The Detroit Police Department (DPD) is not releasing Melvin's legal name out of respect for his family.*

"

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444148050\\_equality.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444148050_equality.pdf)

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## MacGregor bill would add Fostering Futures Scholarship Trust Fund tax checkoff

*"LANSING, Mich. — Michigan taxpayers would be able to donate a portion of their tax return to the Fostering Futures Scholarship Trust Fund next year under legislation introduced by Sen. Peter MacGregor on Tuesday."*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444147538\\_mcgregor.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444147538_mcgregor.pdf)

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## 2015 Michigan Capitol Robotics Day

*"Don't miss this opportunity to meet Michigan STEM students and instructors as they exhibit robots, drones, and submersibles at the State Capitol. Two innovative Michigan companies, Pratt & Miller Engineering and Quantum Signal will be on hand to discuss their AVETAR robotic vehicle which will be on display outside."*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444147478\\_robotics.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444147478_robotics.pdf)

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## Photo Advisory: Sen. Schuitmaker welcomes the Rev. Steve Smail to state Capitol to give Senate invoc

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### **\*\*SCHUITMAKER PHOTO ADVISORY\*\***

*Sen. Schuitmaker welcomes the Rev. Steve Smail to state Capitol to give Senate invocation LANSING, Mich. — State Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker, R-Lawton, welcomed the Rev. Steve Smail to the Michigan Capitol on Tuesday. Smail serves as senior pastor at Lighthouse Baptist Church of Plainwell and delivered the invocation before Senate session."*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

## **Legislative Democrats Call for Action on Domestic Violence Bills**

*"LANSING – As October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, members of the Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus are urging their Republican colleagues that a package of bills aimed at combating domestic violence has languished in the Legislature for half a year. The measures would give survivors of domestic violence the tools they need to escape violent situations and seek justice."*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444146505\\_dems.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444146505_dems.pdf)

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## **Study: 13 Michigan Corporations Had a Total of \$54 Billion in Untaxed Profits Stashed Offshore in 20**

*"MICHIGAN – Tax loopholes encouraged 13 Michigan Fortune 500 companies – including Dow Chemical, General Motors, Stryker, Whirlpool, Ford Motors and Kellogg – to maintain a total of \$54 billion in profits offshore in 2014, much of the money in tax havens, according to a report released today by Engage Michigan and Michigan Citizen Action. These 13 companies had a total of 304 subsidiaries in offshore tax havens last year. The corporations are most likely paying a tax rate on these profits of no more than 6 percent in these tax havens and are able to dodge paying any U.S. taxes on these profits until they are brought back to the United States, which may never happen."*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444144925\\_engage.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444144925_engage.pdf)

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## **Michigan Supreme Court to open 2015-2016 term; first case to be heard in the old Supreme Court court**

*"LANSING, MI, October 6, 2015 – The Michigan Supreme Court will convene to hear oral arguments in 11 cases scheduled for October 13-15, 2015. The Court will hear the first case at 9:30 am, October 13, in the old Supreme Court courtroom on the third floor of the State Capitol."*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444144056\\_court.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444144056_court.pdf)

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## **Michigan conservation officers share tips for safe bowhunting**

*"Michigan's bowhunting season opened October 1, and Department of Natural Resources conservation officers are sharing tips for a safe bowhunting experience."*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444143968\\_mdc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444143968_mdc.pdf)

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## Continued Savings in Workers' Compensation Costs Boosts Economic Competitiveness

"LANSING — The Michigan Manufacturers Association (MMA) lauded huge gains in manufacturing competitiveness as the Michigan Workers' Compensation Agency (WCA) announced today, 10/6/15, that the state's workers' compensation pure premium rate will drop another 6.9 percent in 2016. Michigan is the only state in the Midwest to have seen such a steady cost-saving trend in workers' compensation costs and the cumulative effect is a 32.7 percent decrease over the period of 2011 to 2016."

Source: Date: 10-07-2015 Link: [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444143900\\_mma.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444143900_mma.pdf)

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## MI Dept. of Agriculture & Rural Development Seeks Food Safety Education and Training Grant Proposals

"LANSING — The Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development is seeking grant proposals for food safety education and training as part of the Food Safety Education Fund grant program. Grant proposals must be received by MDARD no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, October 30, 2015. An electronic copy of the Request for Proposals, including grant criteria, is available on the department's website at [www.michigan.gov/mdardgrants](http://www.michigan.gov/mdardgrants). The Food Safety Education Fund was established under the Michigan Food Law of 2000, as amended, Sec. 4117, and is funded through assessments of \$3.00 to \$5.00 from each Michigan food establishment license. Up to \$250,000 is available in the fund for the 2016 food safety education and training grant cycle."

Source: Date: 10-07-2015 Link: [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444142008\\_mda.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444142008_mda.pdf)

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## Local state representatives endorse Nathan Triplett

"EAST LANSING—All three Ingham County State Representatives today announced their support for **Nathan Triplett** for reelection to East Lansing City Council."

Source: Date: 10-07-2015 Link: [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444141958\\_triplett.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444141958_triplett.pdf)

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## Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus to Urge Action on Domestic Violence Bills

"LANSING — Members of the Progressive Women's Legislative Caucus, including PWLC chairwoman Rep. **Winnie Brinks** (D-Grand Rapids), Rep. **Kristy Pagan** (D-Canton) and Sen. **Rebekah Warren** (D-Ann Arbor), will urge action on a package of legislation aimed to combat the persistent problem of domestic violence today, **Tuesday, Oct. 6, at 11:15 a.m. in room 402/403 of the Michigan Capitol Building**. The bills, introduced in March, have yet to receive committee hearings or be voted on in the Legislature. As October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the PWLC is sending message that it is time to move forward with this legislation."

Source: Date: 10-07-2015 Link: [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444138619\\_house.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444138619_house.pdf)

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## **The Education Trust - Midwest - Making Progress for MI Students**

*"In a major step toward making Michigan a top ten education state, a bill to improve the quality of feedback and support for Michigan educators was approved by the House Education Committee on October 1, in a bipartisan, 14-2 vote."*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444136150\\_education.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444136150_education.pdf)

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## **MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF CAREER COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS (MACCS) RETAINS CLARK HILL**

*"TROY, MI – OCTOBER 6, 2015 – Kurt Mayry, President of MACCS and CFO/Co-Owner of The Motion Picture Institute in Troy, Michigan announced today that the 53-member association has retained Clark Hill to represent the membership and advise on important state legislation. "*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444138043\\_maccs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444138043_maccs.pdf)

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## **Consumers Energy, Habitat for Humanity Celebrate World Habitat Day with Commitment to Safe, Affordab**

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***Consumers Energy, Habitat for Humanity Celebrate World***

***Habitat Day with Commitment to Safe, Affordable Housing"***

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444137335\\_energy.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444137335_energy.pdf)

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## **Schuetzte: Emmet County Attorney Allegedly Stole \$100,000 from Elderly Woman with Alzheimer's**

*"LANSING — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuetzte announced felony criminal charges against Michael Aho Kennedy, 67, of Petoskey, for allegedly embezzling funds from a client suffering from Alzheimer's disease."*

**Source: Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444137130\\_schuetzte.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444137130_schuetzte.pdf)

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## **MICCD - Major Bill Package Seeks to Remove Youth from Michigan's**

## Prison System

*"LANSING - In response to growing concern on the treatment of youth in Michigan's adult prison system, Representatives Harvey Santana (D-Detroit), Peter Lucido (R- Shelby), Kurt Heise (R- Plymouth), Klint Kesto (R- Commerce), and Robert Kosowski (D-Westland) announced legislation today to reduce the number of young people exposed to the dangers of adult jails and prisons and improve public safety. Over the past ten years, more than 20,000 young people under 18 have been convicted as adults in Michigan, mostly for non-violent offenses with no prior juvenile record."*

**Source:** **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444137065\\_miccd.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444137065_miccd.pdf)

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## Rep. Trott to Honor Southeast Michigan's Vietnam Veterans

*"WASHINGTON, DC: U.S. Representative Dave Trott (MI-11) today announced he will be hosting a ceremony honoring the Vietnam veterans of the 11th Congressional District for their courageous service to our nation. On Sunday, November 8, 2015, in Livonia, Rep. Trott will be awarding veterans with the Congressional Vietnam Veteran Pin to mark the 50th Anniversary of the War in Vietnam. "*

**Source:** **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444136984\\_trott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444136984_trott.pdf)

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## COURSER - Conservative voting record second to none

*"Every day I fought to defend you AGAINST the Progressive leaders of the Republican Party! Do you want a Party player, a Party hack, a new comer, a Lobbyist dream, or a Defender for Liberty who will not bend to the Progressive demands? It is your choice."*

**Source:** **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444136932\\_courser.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444136932_courser.pdf)

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## Dr. Benishek Announces Agriculture Grants USDA Grants Will Support Farmers Growing Agriculture Crop

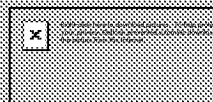
*"Washington, D.C. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced today the awarding of more than \$113 million in program grants to support farmers growing "specialty crops," which include products such as cherries, apples, asparagus, and other Northern Michigan products. "*

**Source:** **Date:** 10-07-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444136850\\_benishek.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444136850_benishek.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnnews.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 23, 2015 6:48 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Michigan could get 'lion's share' of blight money, lawmakers say**

*"FLINT, MI – Federal lawmakers said Michigan could get the "lion's share" of \$2 billion in federal funds recently released to help fight blight across the country."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/politicians\\_say\\_michigan\\_could.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/politicians_say_michigan_could.html#incart_river_index)

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### **No more emergency managers in Michigan cities after Lincoln Park escapes financial crisis**

*"LINCOLN PARK, MI – While three Michigan school districts are still run by emergency managers, there are no remaining state appointees running city governments after Lincoln Park officially escaped financial emergency Tuesday."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/12/no\\_more\\_emergency\\_managers\\_in.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/12/no_more_emergency_managers_in.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Michigan judge's landmark DNA ruling could revolutionize CSI work**

*"MUSKEGON, MI – A Michigan judge has made the nation's first ruling on a new approach to analyzing DNA results that could revolutionize crime-scene investigation and court cases."*

**Source:** Muskegon Chronicle **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_judges\\_landmark\\_dna\\_r.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_judges_landmark_dna_r.html#incart_river_home)



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## State health fund needed in response to Flint water crisis, congressman says

*"FLINT, MI – As questions continue to swirl about who should be held responsible for the Flint water crisis, U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee said the state needs to step forward and fund a program to benefit the health of the city's youngest residents."*

**Source:** *Flint Journal* **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/us\\_rep\\_dan\\_kildee\\_calls\\_for\\_st.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/us_rep_dan_kildee_calls_for_st.html#incart_river_home)

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## Population estimates would cost Mich. seat in House

*"If this were 2020, Michigan would lose one of its 14 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, according to population estimates released by the U.S. Census Bureau today."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/raw-data/2015/12/22/population-estimates-would-cost-mich-seat-house/77740932/>

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## Lincoln Park is last Michigan city out from under EM

*"LANSING — The City of Lincoln Park is returning to self-government, meaning that for the first time in 15 years, no Michigan city is under the control of a state-appointed emergency manager, Gov. Rick Snyder said Tuesday."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/22/last-michigan-city-out-under-emergency-management/77763798/>

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## Andy Dillon's gubernatorial committee fined \$1,000

*"LANSING — Former state Treasurer Andy Dillon has paid a \$1,000 fine to settle an investigation by the Bureau of Elections into the financing of his unsuccessful 2010 campaign for governor."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/22/andy-dillons-gubernatorial-committee-fined-1000/77743408/>

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## Lincoln Park's financial emergy over, state says

*"For the first time in 15 years, no Michigan city is under emergency financial management."*

**Source:** *Detroit News* **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne->

[county/2015/12/22/lincoln-parks-financial-emergency-state-saves/77758476/](http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/12/22/michigan-budget-surplus-roads-schools/77784192/)

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## Michigan's surplus tax revenue may boost roads

*"Lansing — Michigan lawmakers may have more than \$700 million in surplus tax revenue on their hands when they return to the Capitol next month after a four-week holiday break."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/michigan/2015/12/22/michigan-budget-surplus-roads-schools/77784192/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Lawmakers leave roads a wreck, risk other funding

*"After years of delay, neglect and political posturing, the Legislature and governor recently trumpeted their success in passing a plan that will fix Michigan roads. Unfortunately, they did no such thing."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/22/road-funding/77778516/>

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## Editorial: Hasten help to Flint

*"Flint's financial crisis became a health crisis with the decision to unhook from the Detroit water system and start delivering water to residents itself. Since the city was under state emergency management at the time, much of the responsibility for fixing the problem rests with Lansing."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/12/22/editorial-hasten-help-flint/77778316/>

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## Howes: Best, worst of Mich. found around Lansing

*"And, lo, in the closing days of the year 2015 AB — after bankruptcy — the call went out to all those not yet gone and making merry: Who are the best (and worst) in Michigan business and politics?"*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/12/22/howes-best-worst-michigan-found-around-lansing/77783618/>

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## Why Do These Top-Ranked Schools Have Zero Top-Ranked Teachers?

*"Central Academy, a charter school in Ann Arbor, was rated by The Center for Michigan's Bridge magazine as the top school in the state. Ashley Community Schools, a district some 40 miles north of Lansing, placed fourth. Yet, in 2014-15, neither Central Academy nor Ashley Community schools rated any of their teachers as "highly effective," the highest rating available to teachers."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22027>

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## **Don't Blame Employees for Pension Underfunding**

*"It is unfortunate that government employees are often blamed for underfunded government pension systems. When concerns are raised that retirement systems owe members billions more than has been saved, high-earners and early retirees are viewed as the culprits. Policymakers in return cut the generosity of the plans. Yet these policy reforms will not fix the basic problems faced by pension systems."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21895>

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## **Press Releases**

### **2015 Population Estimates**

*"As many of you have heard, the U.S. Census Bureau released the National and State total populations and voter age populations. I wanted to drop everyone a note to remind them of this release. This is the first release in the 2015 series. The remainder of the 2015 estimates will be release on a flow basis through the first half of 2016. My notes on the release are attached here:*

- [Notes on the 2015 State Estimates.pdf](#)

*As always, please let me know if you have any questions,"*

**Source:** Department of Technology, Management and Budget **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450825328\\_dtmrb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450825328_dtmrb.pdf)

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## **Clean energy leaders urge stronger role for renewable energy to comply with Clean Power Plan**

*"LANSING—Liesl Clark, president of the Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council (EIBC) urged Governor Rick Snyder and his team to ensure a detailed and robust stakeholder input process on Clean Power Plan (CPP) state implementation, and cautioned against overreliance on natural gas at the expense of renewable energy like wind and solar – a strategy that puts Michigan families and businesses at risk for higher energy bills."*

**Source:** Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450825232\\_meibc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450825232_meibc.pdf)

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## **Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will give remarks at Wish Upon a Teen's Winter Wishes**

## event

"Wednesday, Dec. 23 at 8:55 p.m. Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will give remarks at Wish Upon a Teen's Winter Wishes event, supporting teenagers with life-limiting medical conditions and learning disabilities. Location: Saint Andrews Hall 431 E. Congress St. Detroit, MI"

**Source:** Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450825178\\_calley.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450825178_calley.pdf)

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## Clean energy leaders urge stronger role for renewable energy to comply with Clean Power Plan

"LANSING—**Liesl Clark**, president of the **Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council (EIBC)** urged **Governor Rick Snyder** and his team to ensure a detailed and robust stakeholder input process on Clean Power Plan (CPP) state implementation, and cautioned against overreliance on natural gas at the expense of renewable energy like wind and solar – a strategy that puts Michigan families and businesses at risk for higher energy bills."

**Source:** Byrum & Fisk **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450821155\\_bf.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450821155_bf.pdf)

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## Gov. Rick Snyder signs bills making court paperwork more simple, accessible using e-filing

"LANSING, Mich. – Six bills signed by Gov. Rick Snyder today will modernize the Michigan court filing system by taking it online, and provide efficiency and cost benefits to local municipalities."

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450819083\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450819083_gov.pdf)

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## Michigan vendors protect youth from dangers of tobacco 15 years in a row

"LANSING, Mich. – A statewide survey indicates that 84.5 percent of retailers did not sell tobacco products to youth under age 18, according to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Office of Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (OROSC)."

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450816769\\_dhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450816769_dhhs.pdf)

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## Gov. Rick Snyder appoints Judge John Hallacy to 37th Circuit Court

"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Judge John Hallacy to the 37<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court, Calhoun County."

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450815972\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450815972_gov.pdf)

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## **SENATE FISCAL AGENCY - Michigan Economic Indicator - September 2015**

*"A Senate Fiscal Agency newsletter on key economic indicators"*

**Source:** Senate Fiscal Agency **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450815593\\_sfa.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450815593_sfa.pdf)

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## **Peters Calls on Obama Administration to Prioritize Funding to Cut Off Terrorist Financing**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI), a member of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, today announced that he has sent a letter to President Obama urging him to increase and prioritize funding for programs that combat terrorist financing in the Administration's upcoming budget request. Peters called for increased funding for the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) and the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence (TFI), which houses the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC). In the letter, Peters highlighted the need for expert personnel to have the capabilities to keep our homeland safe in the face of an increase in well-financed terrorist organizations across the world."*

**Source:** Sen. Gary Peters **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450815473\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450815473_peters.pdf)

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## **ICBA Bench Bar Conference**

*"The ICBA welcomes both its members and non-members to attend the Bench-Bar Conference. This event is scheduled to take place at the Veterans Memorial Courthouse on Saturday, February 20, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please mark the date on your calendar."*

**Source:** Ingham County Bar Association **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450815389\\_icba.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450815389_icba.pdf)

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## **DNR honors Waterford engineer Jack Stockbridge with Partners in Conservation Award**

*"The Department of Natural Resources recently honored Jack Stockbridge of Waterford with a Partners in Conservation Award."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450815092\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450815092_dnr.pdf)

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## **MDOT extends timeline for development of state long-range transportation plan**

*"December 22, 2015 -- Due to the recent state and federal transportation revenue packages signed into law, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has extended the timeline for the development of the state long-range transportation plan (SLRP), known as the 2040 MI Transportation Plan. This extension will allow MDOT to assess the impacts and implications of pending policy changes. As MDOT continues to work on the development of the plan, the new adoption date is expected to be July 23, 2016 (previously May 19, 2016)."*

**Source:** MI Department of Transportation **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450814704\\_MDOT\\_Extends.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450814704_MDOT_Extends.pdf)

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## **January 20th public policy forum, Detroit Public Schools**

*"Please accept this special invitation to a January 20th public policy forum, Detroit Public Schools: Quality, Accountability, and Governance. The luncheon forum will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in downtown Lansing at the Anderson House Office Building. There is no charge to attend but registration is required. Details are attached."*

**Source:** Michigan State University IPPSR **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450814601\\_IPPSR.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450814601_IPPSR.pdf)

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## **Board of State Canvassers to meet Tuesday, Dec. 29**

*"The Board of State Canvassers will meet at 1:30 p.m., Dec. 29 in room 426 of the state Capitol in Lansing."*

**Source:** Secretary of State **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450814467\\_State\\_Board\\_of\\_Canvassers.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450814467_State_Board_of_Canvassers.pdf)

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## **Social Workers Endorse Earned Paid Sick Day Campaign**

*"MICHIGAN — The Michigan Time to Care Coalition has landed another big endorsement of the campaign to put an earned paid sick time question on the November 2016 ballot as the Michigan Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW-Michigan) officially endorsed the campaign."*

**Source:** MI Time to Care Coalition **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450805722\\_mtcc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450805722_mtcc.pdf)

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## **TAKE ACTION - Would you eat a Frankenfish? - Martin Heinrich for Senate**

*"As you may have heard, the FDA recently said that "Frankenfish" salmon - fish that has been genetically modified to grow faster - does not have to be labeled as genetically engineered food."*

**Source:** Martin Heinrich for Senate **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

## **Public comment requested on Michigan's Pathway to Integration section 1115 waiver proposal**

*"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is requesting public comment on its 1115 Pathway to Integration Waiver application. "*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450803768\\_dhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450803768_dhhs.pdf)

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## **MLA Urges Gov Snyder to Veto SB 571**

*"LANSING – Michigan Library Association (MLA) is urging Governor Rick Snyder to Veto SB 571. This legislation would bar library employees and library boards from sharing factual and unbiased information about local ballot issues for 60 days prior to an election."*

**Source:** Michigan Library Association **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450803211\\_mls.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450803211_mls.pdf)

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## **Still time to enter the Wetland Wonders Challenge**

*"The Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters to finish gathering their punches for the Consumers Energy-sponsored Wetland Wonders Challenge during the Zone 3 waterfowl hunting weekend Dec. 26 and 27. The Harsens Island, Shiawassee River and Fennville Farm managed waterfowl hunt areas will have staff members available to validate punch cards both days. The contest runs until Jan. 31, 2016. "*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450802998\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450802998_dnr.pdf)

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## **Stabenow, Peters, Kildee: New Resources to Fight Blight will Help Strengthen Neighborhoods, Decrease**

*"FLINT – U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Senator Gary Peters and Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) today announced new efforts recently signed into law to help remove and repurpose thousands of abandoned properties in Flint and other cities across Michigan. "*

**Source:** Sen. Debbie Stabenow, Sen. Gary Peters, Rep. Dan Kildee **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450802011\\_stabenow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450802011_stabenow.pdf)

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## State Police Releases 2015 Preparedness Gift List

**"LANSING.** With Christmas only days away, the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) has released its annual list of emergency preparedness gift ideas."

**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450795489\\_msp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450795489_msp.pdf)

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## Jan 20 Urban School Forum - MSU

*"This forum provides policymakers with insights on how research can be used to help urban schools succeed. Current research activity, both domestic and international, helps us to understand what is needed for school principals to successfully lead, teachers to effectively teach, and students to highly achieve. Specifically, panelists will explore recommendations for empowering the Detroit Public Schools as well as all urban schools in Michigan to demonstrate how schools can become a national model for urban education."*

**Source:** Michigan State University **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450795406\\_msu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450795406_msu.pdf)

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## Gov. Rick Snyder and First Lady Sue Snyder wish Michiganders happy holidays

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder and First Lady Sue Snyder wished Michiganders a safe and happy holiday season. [Click here to watch the video.](#)"*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450793670\\_Michigan\\_Information\\_&\\_Research\\_Service\\_Inc.\\_Mail\\_-\\_NEWS\\_RELEASE\\_Gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450793670_Michigan_Information_&_Research_Service_Inc._Mail_-_NEWS_RELEASE_Gov.pdf)

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## Grants available for volunteer efforts to clean Michigan's waters

*"The DEQ and Great Lakes Commission today announced the availability of \$25,000 for small grants to support local efforts to clean up Michigan rivers, streams and creeks."*

**Source:** Department of Environmental Quality **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450793600\\_deq.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450793600_deq.pdf)

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## Stabenow, Peters, Kildee to Hold Press Conference TODAY in Flint Discussing New Hardest Hit Funding

*"FLINT – Senator Debbie Stabenow, Senator Gary Peters and Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05), along with local housing officials will hold a press conference **today, Tuesday, December 22, 2015, at 11 a.m. ET in Flint** to provide an update on removing blight in cities like Flint and discuss new resources available to remove and*



repurpose additional abandoned properties."

**Source:** Sen. Debbie Stabenow, Sen. Gary Peters, Rep. Dan Kildee **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450793535\\_stabenow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450793535_stabenow.pdf)

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## MI Tech Hub Created to Attract Data Center to Muskegon County

"Muskegon, MI – With the recent announcement of Switch's \$5 billion SUPERNAP data center in neighboring Kent County, and Michigan's new legislation helping attract data centers to the state, West Michigan is positioning itself to support an emerging data center industry."

**Source:** Muskegon County Wastewater Management **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450793403\\_muskegon.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450793403_muskegon.pdf)

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## Audit Report Released - MDOT, Traffic and Safety Section (591-0162-15)

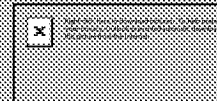
**"Report title:** Performance audit report on the Traffic and Safety Section, Michigan Department of Transportation  
**Project number:** 591-0162-15 The complete audit report and/or report summary can be viewed or downloaded in Adobe Acrobat file format from our Internet site at: <http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/recently-released-audit-reports.html> Please direct any questions or comments to Kelly C. Miller, State Relations Officer  
[atkcmiller@audgen.michigan.gov](mailto:atkcmiller@audgen.michigan.gov)"

**Source:** Auditor General Doug Ringler **Date:** 12-23-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1450793269\\_auditor.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1450793269_auditor.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirnews.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 11, 2015 10:54 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **First lady christens Navy sub named after Illinois**

*"Groton, Conn. — First lady Michelle Obama has christened a Navy submarine named after her home state by breaking a bottle of champagne against the hull of the USS Illinois."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/10/first-lady-christens-navy-sub-named-illinois/73737802/>

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### **Concerns block Plymouth ordinance to deter bullying**

*"Plymouth Township — A proposed anti-bullying ordinance has been shelved after concerns about its constitutionality, but township officials said the idea isn't dead."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/10/10/free-speech-concerns-block-plymouth-anti-bullying-ordinance/73740810/>

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### **Mich. cops seized \$24M in 2014 in drug cases**

*"Michigan police agencies seized some \$23.9 million last year from suspected drug traffickers, according to a forfeiture report released by the Michigan State Police."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/10/asset-forfeitures-michigan-police-drugs/73740104/>

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## Where does the Line 5 oil pipeline go from here?

*"A controversial 62-year-old oil pipeline at the bottom of the Straits of Mackinac has a future that's up in the air."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2015/10/10/line5-enbridge-pipeline-straits-mackinac/73389606/>

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## Young doc takes on state over lead in Flint water

*"Under the steady gaze of a watercolor giraffe and tissue paper butterflies, a Flint pediatrician and mother of two last month forced the state of Michigan to snap to attention."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/10/hanna-attisha-profile/73600120/>

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## Allred: Cosby deposition lasted hours; second will be sought

*"BOSTON (AP) — The lawyer for a woman who's accused Bill Cosby of sexually abusing her at the Playboy Mansion when she was 15 says she'll seek a second deposition of the comedian."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/life/people/2015/10/10/gloria-allred-cosby-deposition-lasting-hours/73748188/>

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## Barack Obama gives political 'advice' to Kanye West

*"President Obama is handing out some free political advice — and wisecracks — for music mogul and potential White House candidate Kanye West."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** <http://onpolitics.usatoday.com/2015/10/11/barack-obama-gives-political-advice-to-kanye-west/>

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## Reports: Iran issues verdict in Washington Post reporter case

*"Iran issued a verdict Sunday in the espionage trial of Washington Post reporter Jason Rezaian, according to local media reports."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/10/11/iran->

## **Supreme Court considers reprieve for kids who kill**

*"On his 16th birthday, Robert Holbrook tagged along on a drug deal in hopes of making a quick \$500. Instead, he became an unwitting accomplice to murder and received a mandatory sentence of life without the possibility of parole."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/11/supreme-court-juvenile-life-without-parole-murder/73594976/>

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## **Report: Iran test fires long-range missile**

*"TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's semi-official Fars news agency is reporting the country has successfully test fired a new guided long-range ballistic surface-to-surface missile."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/10/11/report-iran-tests-missile/73770628/>

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## **Iraq says it bombed Islamic State leader's convoy**

*"An Iraqi Air Force has bombed the convoy of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi in Iraq's western Anbar province, the Iraqi military said Sunday."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/10/11/iraq-says-bombed-islamic-state-leaders-convoy/73772608/>

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## **'It's like a disaster scene' says Bay City historian on restoration of items in time capsule**

*"BAY CITY, MI — When crews opened a time capsule entombed in Bay City earth for 50 years, they expected to gaze upon pristine artifacts from days gone by."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/10/its\\_like\\_a\\_disaster\\_scene\\_says.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/10/its_like_a_disaster_scene_says.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Howard Meyerson: Pigeon River returning to its natural flowing state**

*"VANDERBILT — Anglers who like free-flowing streams got a chance to celebrate in September 2014*

*when the Song of the Morning Yoga Retreat dam was permanently opened on the Pigeon River allowing it to return to a free-flowing state."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2015/10/post\\_11.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2015/10/post_11.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Why you should vote yes on the \$175M GRPS bond proposal**

*"Grand Rapids needs a public school system befitting the city's rising reputation. We must, as a community, support efforts to make our city's schools first-rate institutions of learning in any way we reasonably can."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/grand-](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/why_you_should_vote_in_favor_o.html#incart_river_home)

[rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/why\\_you\\_should\\_vote\\_in\\_favor\\_o.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/why_you_should_vote_in_favor_o.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Trust needed for Flint to rebound from water crisis, say those who know**

*"FLINT, MI – Life has mostly returned to normal nearly two years after a disastrous chemical spill thrust Charleston, W.V., into the national spotlight."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/trust\\_needed\\_for\\_flint\\_to\\_full.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/trust_needed_for_flint_to_full.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Rick Haglund: Finding funds for road repair not an easy fix**

*"The Michigan state government has budgeted to spend \$53.6 billion in the fiscal year that started Oct. 1."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/rick_haglund_finding_funds_for.html#incart_river_home)

[news/index.ssf/2015/10/rick\\_haglund\\_finding\\_funds\\_for.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/rick_haglund_finding_funds_for.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

### **Editorial: GOP should beg Boehner to stay**

*"As the song says, sometimes you don't know what you've got till it's gone. If Republicans aren't feeling that way about the departure of John Boehner as their House speaker, they should, after failing spectacularly to elect a successor last week."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/10/editorial-gop-beg-boehner-stay/73739704/>

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## Finley: Millennials should love GOP

*"It's political gospel that young voters are more inclined to be liberal, and thus aligned with the Democratic Party. The hope for Republicans is that they wise up as they grow older, and that families, careers and perhaps business ownership turn them more conservative."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/10/10/finley-millennials-gop/73739494/>

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## Battle is on for control of Michigan's marijuana market

*"Nearly eight years after Michigan voters overwhelmingly concluded that marijuana should be available to patients whose doctors prescribe it, state lawmakers are finally addressing some of the most egregious defects in Michigan's Medical Marijuana Act."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/10/michigan-marijuana/73534858/>

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## Rochelle Riley: State must stop robbing Detroit schools

*"To understand the Detroit Public Schools budget, you need a calculator, a ouija board and a Bible — because it takes math, magic and a little prayer."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/columnists/rochelle-riley/2015/10/10/state-must-stop-robbing-schools-michigan-funding-education-detroit/73223736/>

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## Growing like a weed: Dispensaries sprout south of 8 Mile

*"Drive the Detroit side of 8 Mile Road, and you can't get too far without finding a medical marijuana dispensary — places like Area 51, Reef, Club Medz, House of Dank — more than 30 dispensaries line the south side of the iconic road, the northern border between the city and its suburbs."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaffer/2015/10/10/growing-like-weed-dispensaries-sprout-south-8-mile/73607020/>

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## Was Schuette's \$2-million lesson a bargain?

*"Bill Schuette went to the U.S. Supreme Court, and all Michigan taxpayers got was a bill for \$2 million."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/10/10/same-sex-legal-fees/73574616/>

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## **Mitch Albom: What's in a name? Skin, ethnicity, ego?**

*"This past week on "The View," a TV host named Raven-Symoné made headlines when she said she wouldn't hire anyone with a name that sounded too black."*

**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/sports/columnists/mitch-albom/2015/10/10/raven-symone-black-name/73734706/>

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## **Pete Hoekstra, John Boehner often were at odds, but not out to get even**

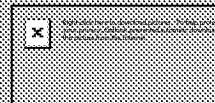
*"Raise your hand if you are a good-government-type. That is, you do not believe compromise is a four-letter word and it's OK to work with the other party to get stuff done. If your hand is not up, you may excuse yourself from what follows, for it will surely upset your tummy."*

**Source:** *M-Live* **Date:** 10-11-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_ohio\\_congressmen\\_offe.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_ohio_congressmen_offe.html#incart_river_home)

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### **Debate: What Clinton, Sanders and the rest need to do**

*"The only participant at the first Democratic debate of the 2016 presidential campaign with nothing to prove is Sheryl Crow, the singer slated to open the evening by singing the National Anthem."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2015/10/11/debate-what-clinton-sanders-omalley-webb-chafee-need-to-do/73776998/>

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### **Through executive orders, Obama tests power as purchaser-in-chief**

*"WASHINGTON — As he tries to increase the minimum wage, ensure paycheck fairness and provide paid time off for American workers, President Obama is turning to an arcane but powerful tool: the power of the purchaser."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/11/obama-executive-orders-federal-contractors/22466397/>

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### **Obama says Clinton email server a mistake, but not security threat**

*"President Obama called Hillary Clinton's use of a private server for official emails during her time as secretary of State a "mistake" in an interview on CBS's 60 Minutes Sunday, but said the political scandal around it has been "ginned up" by her Republican opponents and that it was not a threat to national security."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://onpolitics.usatoday.com/2015/10/11/obama-says-clinton-email-server-a-mistake-but-not-security-threat/>

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## Reports: Washington Post reporter convicted in Iran

*"Washington Post reporter Jason Rezaian — who has been held in Iran for over a year on charges including espionage — has been convicted, a spokesman for the Iranian judiciary said Sunday."*

**Source:** USA Today **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2015/10/11/iran-issues-reporter-verdict/73771144/>

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## Major reforms afoot for juvenile offenders

*"LANSING — A bipartisan group of lawmakers in the state House of Representatives introduced a package of bills last week which makes major reforms to how juvenile offenders are treated."*

**Source:** Lansing State Journal **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/11/major-reforms-afoot-jvenile-offenders/73728942/>

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## Michigan House looks at banning microbeads

*"LANSING — Since mid-2014, nine states have passed laws that will phase out the manufacture and sale of personal care products, like toothpaste and facial cleansers, that contain plastic microbeads."*

**Source:** Lansing State Journal **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/story/news/local/capitol/2015/10/12/michigan-house-looks-banning-microbeads/73799396/>

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## 8 facts about property assessments and tax rates in Michigan

*"The average property-tax rate in Michigan is at its highest point since the passage of Proposal A in 1994, according to data collected by the [Michigan Department of Treasury](#)."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/8\\_facts\\_about\\_property\\_assessm.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/8_facts_about_property_assessm.html#incart_river_home)

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## Detroit-area law enforcement join AG Bill Schuette to oppose parole reform

*"PONTIAC, MI — Despite support in the state House of Representatives for a law that would increase paroles issued to low-risk Michigan inmates, many Detroit-area law enforcers, and state Attorney General Bill Schuette, are*

in opposition.

"

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/detroit-area-law-enforcement-j.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/detroit-area-law-enforcement-j.html#incart_river_home)

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## Piles again rise along Detroit River — but not pet coke

*"Those black piles that have recently appeared along the Detroit River are not a reprise of the petroleum coke controversy of two years ago. This time it's something different — coke breeze — a coal-based by-product that city officials say was initially stored without permission."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/11/piles-again-rise-along-detroit-river-but-not-pet-coke/73586160/>

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## Southwest Airlines says tech issues delay some flights

*"DALLAS — Southwest Airlines is asking travelers to arrive at least two hours before their scheduled departures as technical issues are forcing it to check-in some customers manually."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/11/southwest-airlines-says-tech-issues-delay-some-flights/73786748/>

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## Cushingberry wants changes to weed dispensary rules

*"Detroit Councilman George Cushingberry Jr. wants to loosen certain aspects of proposed regulations for the city's medical marijuana dispensaries."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/11/cushingberry-wants-changes-weed-dispensary-rules/73743128/>

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## Chemical testing could have predicted Flint's water crisis

*"Chemical tests could have predicted the corrosion in the pipes that is now being blamed for endangering the health of thousands of vulnerable Flint residents by elevating lead levels in their water supply, experts say."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/10/missed-opportunities-flint-water-crisis/73688428/>

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## Michigan's Energy Evolution: A Special Report

*"Michigan Business Sunday is dedicated this week to the state's energy evolution. With 25 coal-fired power plants to be retired, and utilities required to produce more energy from renewable sources, the state's energy profile is evolving. Read about the pros and cons, the environmental implications, the jobs produced, and the energy debates underway."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/2015/10/11/line-5-enbridge-dfe-renewables-michigan-energy-evolution-special-report/73772194/>

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## UAW steps up social media to avoid another failed vote

*"With a new tentative agreement to ratify with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, the UAW has another chance to prove itself to members, some of whom helped kill the first proposal by filling a vacuum of information on social media with criticism and information of varying degrees of accuracy."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/11/uaw-steps-up-social-media-avoid-another-failed-vote/73601110/>

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## Cutbacks in mental health services hit west Michigan

*"Holland — J.R. Robinson rubbed his hands together. A hollow sadness sits behind his eyes, punctuating a broken expression."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/life/wellness/2015/10/11/cutbacks-mental-health-services-hit-west-michigan/73796784/>

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## ATM fees soar 21% in last 5 years as transactions fall

*"If you have an unquenchable thirst for beer but your billfold is empty, think twice before using that ATM in the corner of the bar — it might end up costing you more than your drink."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/personal-finance/2015/10/11/atm-fees-soar-last-years-transactions-fall/73789328/>

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## 6K inmates convicted on drug charges to be freed early

*"Washington — A push to overhaul criminal sentencing is prompting the early release of thousands of federal drug prisoners, including some whom prosecutors once described as threats to society, according to an Associated*

*Press review of court records."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/nation/2015/10/11/drug-inmates-long-rap-sheets-freed-early/73786652/>

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## **House hardliners would consider Ryan for House speaker**

*"Washington — Republican hardliners on Sunday said they could support Rep. Paul Ryan for House speaker, opening a potential bridge between bitterly divided GOP factions."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/11/house-hardliners-consider-ryan-house-speaker/73777090/>

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## **State under mounting scrutiny for Flint's water crisis**

*"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder and his administration face mounting scrutiny for Flint's drinking water crisis, which began when a state emergency manager switched the supply source to save money and has culminated with high lead levels in some children."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/11/state-mounting-scrutiny-flints-water-crisis/73774024/>

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## **Lower gas prices make cost of living increase unlikely**

*"Washington — For just the third time in 40 years, millions of Social Security recipients, disabled veterans and federal retirees can expect no increase in benefits next year, unwelcome news for more than one-fifth of the nation's population."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/2015/10/11/lower-gas-prices-means-social-security-increase/73778192/>

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

### **Michigan utilities want to end renewable energy mandate**

*"LANSING — Since Michigan's energy law was adopted in 2008, billions of dollars have been spent in the state's emerging renewable energy industry — building infrastructure, adding jobs and lowering costs."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/michigan-utilities-want-to-end-renewable-energy-mandate/>

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## How Much Overtime is There in Detroit?

*"A series of Detroit News reports on an internal investigation by the Detroit Police Department on allegations of overtime abuse began last November with a look at the homicide department before moving on to other departments. The newspaper reported that prosecutors filed criminal charges against Sgt. Myron Weathers in May of this year, asserting that he falsified overtime claims. The newspaper reported that Weathers was accused of submitting 29 fraudulent reports related to court appearances."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21820>

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## Some Detroit Cops Claim They Are Working 16+ Hours a Day, 365 Days a Year

*"A Detroit police lieutenant reported that he worked the equivalent of nearly 17.3 hours on all 365 days of the city's most recent fiscal year, according to records obtained from the city."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21819>

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## Heroes turned gun situation in Saginaw school into 'shining moment' (Guest column)

*"According to a news release issued by the City of Saginaw Police Department, at approximately 11:40 a.m. on Monday Oct. 5, students at Thompson Middle School reported that a 15-year-old male student had a gun in the building. Let me say that again: Students reported that a 15-year-old male student had a gun. "*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/kevin\\_gregory\\_guest\\_column.html](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/kevin_gregory_guest_column.html)

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## Prison time, forfeiture and medical pot: Lansing is on a bipartisan roll

*"The Michigan Legislature has been on a bipartisan binge lately, passing legislation that not everybody may like, but at least they have found a way to build consensus around three controversial issues."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/prison\\_forfeiture\\_and\\_medical.html#incart\\_story\\_package](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/prison_forfeiture_and_medical.html#incart_story_package)

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## Battle is on for control of Michigan's marijuana market

*"Nearly eight years after Michigan voters overwhelmingly concluded that marijuana should be available to patients whose doctors prescribe it, state lawmakers are finally addressing some of the most egregious defects in*

*Michigan's Medical Marihuana Act."*

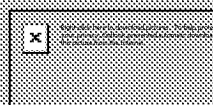
**Source:** *Detroit Free Press* **Date:** 10-12-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/10/10/michigan-marijuana/73534858/>

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### **Ousted Rep. Cindy Gamrat, 6 others set for candidates forum**

*"FENNVILLE, MI – A full house is expected to hear former Michigan Rep. Cindy Gamrat and six other candidates for 80th District representative at the Allegan County Republican Party's candidates forum Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Fennville High School."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/ousted\\_rep\\_cindy\\_gamrat\\_6\\_othe.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/ousted_rep_cindy_gamrat_6_othe.html#incart_river)

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### **AG Bill Schuette rallies against parole reform, proposes more privatization**

*"PONTIAC, MI – Attorney Bill Schuette joined Detroit-area law enforcers Monday to urge the state Senate not to pass a law that Schuette believes puts public safety at risk."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/ag\\_bill\\_schuette\\_rallies\\_again.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/detroit/index.ssf/2015/10/ag_bill_schuette_rallies_again.html#incart_river)

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### **Midland Rep. Moolenaar votes to de-fund Planned Parenthood, repeal Obamacare**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. — A bill that seeks to de-fund Planned Parenthood and repeal much of President Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act was passed by the U.S. House Budget Committee Friday, Oct. 9, with a little help from a Republican congressman from Midland."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/midland\\_congressman\\_votes\\_obam.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2015/10/midland_congressman_votes_obam.html#incart_river)



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## Concealed guns in schools? Bill gets hearing this week

*"LANSING, MI – A bill that would trade open carry weapons for concealed weapons in areas like schools and day care centers is up for a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee this week."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/concealed\\_guns\\_in\\_schools\\_bill.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/concealed_guns_in_schools_bill.html#incart_river)

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## GOP presidential candidate uses UM-MSU football analogy to describe Donald Trump

*"CASCADE TOWNSHIP, MI – Ohio Gov. John Kasich compared job skills to the talents of NBA basketball players and talked about how his religious faith motivated him to run for president during a campaign stop this afternoon outside Grand Rapids."*

"

**Source:** Grand Rapids Press **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/gop\\_presidential\\_candidate\\_use.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2015/10/gop_presidential_candidate_use.html#incart_river_home)

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## GOP's Kasich: Political accomplishments matter

*"Grand Rapids — Ohio Gov. John Kasich drew a contrast here Monday with the non-politician front runners in Republican presidential campaign by saying he is "a reformer who's actually gotten things done." during a campaign stop here with auto industry factory workers."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/12/kasich-plans-visit-grand-rapids-factory/73819370/>

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## Lansing's handgun swap will let weapons in schools

*"At 3 p.m. Tuesday, the chairman of the state Senate Judiciary Committee expects to see members of the public wearing Glocks and Lugers and other handguns in his hearing room. It's going to be lawmaking, with an authentic frontier ambiance."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/laura-berman/2015/10/12/open-carry-causes-controversy/73850854/>

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## **Mich. House may ban bits in soaps that hurt Great Lakes**

*"LANSING — Since mid-2014, nine states have passed laws that will phase out the manufacture and sale of personal care products, like toothpaste and facial cleansers, that contain plastic microbeads."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/12/michigan-house-looks-banning-microbeads/73508700/>

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## **Officials slam bill to automatically parole prisoners**

*"Citing public safety concerns, several top law enforcement officials are joining forces — and launching a very public campaign — to protest legislation that would make it easier for thousands of state prisoners to be released on parole."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/12/officials-slam-bill-automatically-parole-prisoners/73828880/>

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## **UAW sets 2-day voting period for new FCA contract**

*"The UAW has decided to condense the voting process on its new agreement with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles to just two days as it tries to avoid some of the problems that led to the rejection of its first agreement with the automaker earlier this month."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/chrysler/2015/10/12/uaw-sets-two-day-voting-period-new-fca-contract/73809086/>

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## **Guns in Michigan churches? Bars? Schools? Maybe**

*"LANSING — A packed hearing is expected at the Capitol today as state lawmakers take up the issue of guns and a bill that would allow concealed-pistol-license holders to carry weapons in places now off-limits, such as schools, churches and taverns."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/13/michigan-gun-bill-legislature-debate/73819462/>

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## **U.S. Sen. Gary Peters makes first Bay City visit since taking office**

*"BAY CITY, MI — U.S. Sen Gary Peters stood on the back deck at Real Seafood Co., looking over the Saginaw River in a navy blue suit. The sun was shining, and there were a few leftover shrimp tails left on the plate in his hand. "*

**Source:** Bay City Times **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/10/us\\_sen\\_gary\\_peters\\_makes\\_first\\_html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2015/10/us_sen_gary_peters_makes_first_html#incart_river_home)

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### What happens to Flint kids poisoned with lead?

*"Just take little sips."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/contributors/2015/10/12/what-happens-flint-kids-poisoned-lead/73820368/>

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### Michigan has no real solution to gun violence

*"A slew of Democratic state representatives have introduced a bill that would give schools and other public institutions the ability to ban firearms on their premises; current law allows only individuals, private institutions and public universities to decide who can bring guns onto their premises."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/nancy-kaifer/2015/10/12/michigan-has-no-real-solution-gun-violence/73440340/>

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## Press Releases

### FINAL BEAM PLACED FOR THE NEW DEVOS LEARNING CENTER AT THE GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM

*"GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Oct. 12, 2015 – The final beam for the new DeVos Learning Center at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum was ceremonially placed on Monday, Oct. 12, 2015. Steven Ford, son of President and first lady Ford, was joined by Rich DeVos, Amway co-founder; Doug DeVos, Amway president and Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation trustee; Red Cavaney, chairman of Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation; and Dr. Jim Gardner, National Archives and Records Administration executive for legislative archives, presidential libraries and museum services as steel workers from Grand Rapids based Pioneer Construction secured the 30-foot beam. The topping off ceremony also marked the museum's closure for several months as crews install new permanent interactive exhibits and begin renovations to the facility. "*

**Source:** Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444682127\\_gerald.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444682127_gerald.pdf)

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### CRIMINAL JUSTICE STAKEHOLDERS OPPOSE PRESUMPTIVE PAROLE REFORMS

*"October 12, 2015 (Oakland County, Mich.) Criminal justice stakeholders and law enforcement officials*

*gathered today to join together in opposition against legislation to allow for presumptive parole in the state of Michigan. Attorney General Bill Schuette, Sheriff Michael J. Bouchard, and Prosecutor Jessica R. Cooper gathered stakeholders together in order to draw attention to their concerns."*

**Source:** Oakland County Sheriff **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444682001\\_sheriff.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444682001_sheriff.pdf)

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## **CAPPS MEMO: FACT-CHECKING HB 4138: The "Presumptive Parole" Bill**

*"Opponents of HB 4138, the "presumptive parole bill", are circulating massive amounts of misinformation in an effort to defeat the bill in the Senate. It is unfortunate that prosecuting attorneys and sheriffs upon whom the public relies to enforce the law have not taken the time to carefully read the bill and honestly convey what this law would and would not do. "*

**Source:** Grassroots Midwest **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444680990\\_grassrootsmid.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444680990_grassrootsmid.pdf)

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## **Justice Viviano to introduce "Veterans Treatment Courts in Michigan: A Manual for Judges"**

*"On Monday, Oct. 19, WMU-Cooley Law School, the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) and the Michigan Supreme Court's State Court Administrative Office will introduce a new resource for Michigan judges and members of the court interested in developing Veterans Treatment Courts (VTCs). "Veterans Treatment Courts in Michigan: A Manual for Judges" is a compilation of best practices to address the special circumstances of veterans confronted with non-violent criminal charges and is designed to serve as a blueprint for the further development of specialty courts for veterans."*

**Source:** Western Michigan University **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444675965\\_mich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444675965_mich.pdf)

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## **LARA Summarily Suspends a Family Child Care Home Certificate of Registration in Kent County**

*"**For Immediate Release** - The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS), issued an order of summary suspension and notice of intent to revoke the certificate of registration of a Kent County family child care home provider, Terri Kowalczyk, License #DF410360652, 3584 Leonard Street NW, Walker, Michigan 49534. This action resulted from a recent investigation of a complaint of the family child care home."*

**Source:** Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444674487\\_LARA.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444674487_LARA.pdf)

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## JEB BUSH TO VISIT NEW HAMPSHIRE THIS WEEK

*"Miami, FL – This week, Governor Jeb Bush will visit New Hampshire. On Tuesday, Governor Bush will deliver a speech on his policy to repeal and replace Obamacare in Manchester, NH. Following the speech, Governor Bush will hold an employee town hall at Smiths Medical in Keene, NH. That evening, he will participate in a town hall in Lebanon, NH. On Wednesday, Governor Bush will tour Next Step Bionics & Prosthetics in Manchester, NH and later hold a town hall in Concord, NH. On Thursday, he will participate in the Domestic Violence Prevention Roundtable at the University of New Hampshire Law Center in Concord, NH. "*

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444671546\\_bush.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444671546_bush.pdf)

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## Cruz Raises \$1 Million in First 9 Days of Fourth Quarter

*"HOUSTON, Texas – Today, the Cruz for President campaign announced it raised \$1 million in the first 9 days of the fourth quarter. Cruz's impressive haul in just over a week comes off his successful third quarter fundraising, in which he pulled in more than \$12 million. The early start in the fourth quarter brings his campaign's total to more than \$27.5 million."*

**Source:** Ted Cruz **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444669697\\_cruz.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444669697_cruz.pdf)

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## Attorney General Schuette, Genesee County Prosecutor Leyton Joint Statement on Presumptive Parole

*"PONTIAC — Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette and Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton today released the following statement in opposition of HB 4138, legislation calling for the implementation of presumptive parole in Michigan: "*

**Source:** Attorney General Schuette **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444669649\\_AG.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444669649_AG.pdf)

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## Nominations sought for Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award; honor recognizes outstanding wor

*"LANSING, MI, October 12, 2015 – Nominations are being accepted for the Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award honoring exceptional service to Michigan's children."*

**Source:** Michigan Courts **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444665872\\_court.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444665872_court.pdf)

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## Michigan Veterans Foundation To Unveil Dramatic Plans For New Facility

*"SOUTHFIELD, MI -- The Law Offices of Goodman Acker proudly announces their 2nd annual event this*

*Veterans Day to honor our Veterans, as well as help reduce the problem of Veterans' homelessness. Like many communities around the country, our area has people who are homeless. In Detroit alone, 2 out of 5 of homeless veterans are single and over half are part of a homeless family. Many veterans said they became homeless for the first time since 2012."*

**Source:** Michigan Veterans Foundation **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444664780\\_Veterans.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444664780_Veterans.pdf)

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## **LARA Summarily Suspends the Family Child Care Home Certificate of Registration of Sandra LaFortune**

**"For Immediate Release** - The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), Bureau of Community and Health Systems (BCHS), issued an order of summary suspension and notice of intent to revoke the child care certificate of registration of Kent County family child care home provider, Sandra LaFortune, Registration #DF410298088, at 122 Wadsworth Street SW, Wyoming, MI 49548. This action resulted from a recent investigation of a complaint of the family child care home."

**Source:** Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444664529\\_lara.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444664529_lara.pdf)

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## **Detroit Man Buys Fantasy 5 Ticket to Change Luck, Wins \$100,000 Jackpot**

**"LANSING, Mich., Oct. 12, 2015** – After struggling through a bad year, a Detroit man bought a Fantasy 5 ticket – only his second Lottery purchase ever – hoping it would bring him some good luck."

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444662328\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444662328_lottery.pdf)

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## **Michigan Inland Lakes Convention set for April in Boyne Falls**

*"The 2016 Michigan Inland Lakes Convention, "Science and Leadership: A Formula for Successful Lake Protection and Management," will be held April 28-30 at Boyne Mountain Resort in Boyne Falls. This biennial convention is a great opportunity for lake enthusiasts, professionals, researchers, local government officials and others interested in protecting Michigan's water resources."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444662153\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444662153_dnr.pdf)

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## **MITA Organizes Effort to Help Flint Residents with Water Crisis**

*"The Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association today announced a financial donation to help the citizens of Flint with their water crisis, and they are reaching out to their membership to do the same."*

**Source:** Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444661229\\_mita.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444661229_mita.pdf)

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## **Sprinkle Road "Walkabout in the Roundabout": New bridge and roundabouts open to public for a nonmoto**

*"The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the Road Commission of Kalamazoo County (RCKC) are hosting a public event at the new Sprinkle Road roundabouts and bridge over I-94 in Kalamazoo. Residents, business owners and media will be able to walk the roundabouts and bridge to get familiar with the new construction before the barrels are removed."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444661161\\_mdod.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444661161_mdod.pdf)

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## **State Police Training New Motor Carrier Officers**

*"LANSING, MICH. Yesterday, 21 prospective motor carrier officers reported to the Michigan State Police (MSP) Training Academy for the first day of the 20th Motor Carrier Officer Recruit School."*

**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444661105\\_police.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444661105_police.pdf)

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## **Sparrow cardiologist's work is published in New England Journal of Medicine**

*"Sparrow cardiologist, John Ip, M.D., has been published in the prestigious New England Journal of Medicine for his role in a groundbreaking study on an innovative new pacemaker. Please read the attached release and contact us with any questions."*

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444661056\\_sports.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444661056_sports.pdf)

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## **Consumers Energy Forecasts Lower Winter Heating Costs**

*"JACKSON, Mich., Oct. 12, 2015 – Lower heating costs are expected this winter for Consumers Energy's natural gas customers. Total savings could be more than \$100 for an average residential customer, depending on weather and actual usage. Business customer savings will depend on their gas usage."*

**Source:** Consumer Energy **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444660990\\_CONSUMER.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444660990_CONSUMER.pdf)

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## TOPPING OFF CEREMONY PLANNED FOR NEW DEVOS LEARNING CENTER AT THE GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL MUSEUM

*"The final beam for the new DeVos Learning Center at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum will be placed during a topping off ceremony on Oct. 12, 2015. The ceremony will also mark the museum's closure for several months as crews install new permanent interactive exhibits and begin renovations to the facility. The museum will reopen to the public during the summer of 2016. The 8,000 square-foot DeVos Learning will be complete in fall 2016. "*

**Source:** V2 DeVos Learning Center **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444658601\\_v2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444658601_v2.pdf)

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## State Representative Jon Bumstead Brunch - TODAY

*"State Representative Jon Bumstead's October 13th Brunch."*

**Source:** Rep. Jon Bumstead **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444657908\\_jb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444657908_jb.pdf)

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## Cruz Scores Major Upset Among Libertarian Voters

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**HOUSTON, TEXAS** - Presidential candidate Ted Cruz continues to shore up his strong support among libertarian voters, earning 51 percent support from voters participating in the straw poll held at the Republican Liberty Caucus in Nashua, NH over the weekend.

"

**Source:** Ted Cruz **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444655142\\_cruz.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444655142_cruz.pdf)

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## Flint Water Crisis

*"If you are outraged over our state government's response to the water crisis in Flint, I am right there with you. The water crisis in Flint is a national disgrace and an abject failure of leadership. **Children and families are sick and elected officials in Lansing are responsible.**"*

**Source:** Michigan League of Conservation Voters **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444654866\\_mlcw.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444654866_mlcw.pdf)

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## Mossy Oak Joins Sportsmen's Alliance as Business Partner



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## **Mossy Oak Joins Sportsmen's Alliance as Business Partner**

Sportsmen's Alliance is proud to announce a new partnership with the iconic outdoor brand. [read more](#)

"

**Source:** Sportsman's Alliance **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444654792\\_sports.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444654792_sports.pdf)

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## **Ed Bills Ready for Vote?; AFP on OSP; Special Elections Heat Up; DPS Reform Update; Dems Skip Ed For**

### **"K-3 Reading and Teacher Evaluation Bills Ready for Floor Vote**

*It appears that HB 4822 (Price), the K-3 Reading bill, and SB 103 (Pavlov), the teacher evaluation bill, are both prepped for a vote on the floor of the House of Representatives as early as next week. Behind-the-scenes negotiations and fine-tuning of floor amendments for both bills has been occurring this past week. Stay tuned for more details!!"*

**Source:** Great Lakes Education Project **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444654728\\_education.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444654728_education.pdf)

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## **Upton Statement on EPA WOTUS Court Ruling**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today released the following statement after the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit issued a nationwide stay to block the Environment Protection Agency's (EPA) enforcement of its final Waters of the United State (WOTUS) rule."*

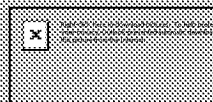
**Source:** Congressman Fred Upton **Date:** 10-13-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444654585\\_upton.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444654585_upton.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnnews.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 14, 2015 6:59 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Ex-emergency manager says he's not to blame for Flint River water switch**

*"FLINT, MI — Former emergency manager Darnell Earley says he's not to blame for the decision to use the Flint River as the city's source of drinking water."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/ex\\_emergency\\_manager\\_earley\\_sa.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/ex_emergency_manager_earley_sa.html#incart_river)

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### **Powdered alcohol ban passes Michigan House**

*"LANSING, MI — A ban on powdered alcohol in Michigan is one step closer to becoming law after winning approval from the House of Representatives on Tuesday."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/powdered_alcohol_ban_passes_mi.html#incart_river)

[news/index.ssf/2015/10/powdered\\_alcohol\\_ban\\_passes\\_mi.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/powdered_alcohol_ban_passes_mi.html#incart_river)

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### **Senate panel approves bill to allow concealed guns but stop open carry in Michigan schools**

*"LANSING, MI — A Michigan Senate panel on Tuesday approved gun bills that would allow concealed carry instead of open carry in schools, moving ahead despite concerns from education officials who fear the proposal will do little to shield students from possible violence."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/senate_panel_approves_bill_to.html#incart_river)

[news/index.ssf/2015/10/senate\\_panel\\_approves\\_bill\\_to.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/senate_panel_approves_bill_to.html#incart_river)

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## Cindy Gamrat says a Republican lock-out would be a slap in the face

*"FENNVILLE, MI – Ousted Michigan Rep. Cindy Gamrat said that if she is re-elected, it would be a slap in the face of Allegan County voters for other lawmakers to try to lock her out of the House Republican caucus."*

**Source:** Kalamazoo Gazette **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/cindy\\_gamrat\\_says\\_a\\_republican.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/10/cindy_gamrat_says_a_republican.html#incart_river_home)

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## Rep. Levin aide placed on leave after assault charges

*"Washington — An aide to Democratic U.S. Rep. Sander Levin of Royal Oak was placed on unpaid leave Friday after being arrested on charges of beating his boyfriend with a shovel."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/13/sander-levin-aide-leave-assault-charges/73881322/>

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## Gun control debate draws voters' attention in Mich.

*"Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton went after her main rival Bernie Sanders on gun control during a heated exchange Tuesday in the first Democratic presidential candidates debate."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/13/gun-control-debate-draws-voters-attention-mich/73905150/>

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## Treasurer could add \$82M to Wayne Co.'s general fund

*"Wayne County's Treasurer plans to transfer \$82 million from the county's delinquent tax revolving fund to the county's general fund."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/wayne-county/2015/10/13/treasurer-may-add-wayne-county-general-fund/73906018/>

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## GM CEO vows further changes ahead of federal monitoring

*"Washington — General Motors CEO Mary Barra said she is still trying to change the culture of the Detroit automaker more than 18 months after she took the reins of the company."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/general-motors/2015/10/13/gm-ceo-vows-changes-federal-monitoring/73890426/>

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## Snyder: Road fund talks hit dead end

*"Lansing — Gov. Rick Snyder and legislative leaders declared an impasse Tuesday on how to raise an additional \$1.2 billion annually to improve Michigan roads despite months of talks."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/13/michigan-roads/73870236/>

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## Senate panel OKs concealed guns in 'gun-free' zones

*"Lansing — Individuals with special permits would be allowed to bring concealed firearms inside schools and other 'gun-free' areas under legislation advanced Tuesday by a Senate committee."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/13/senate-panel-oks-concealed-guns-gun-free-zones/73899132/>

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## Different pay for new hires under latest UAW-FCA deal

*"The latest four-year tentative agreement between the United Auto Workers and Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV includes a different pay structure for some new hires than current employees doing the same work."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/autos/chrysler/2015/10/13/different-pay-new-hires-latest-uaw-fca-deal/73905502/>

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## Michigan to launch lead education effort statewide

*"The state — in the wake of the Flint water crisis — is launching an education campaign soon to help schools statewide learn how to get their water tested to determine whether it contains dangerously high levels of lead."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/13/lead-water-flint-michigan-testing/73871480/>

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## Road funding talks break down over income tax cut

*"LANSING — Negotiations over a long-sought road funding plan were close to an agreement Tuesday but reached an impasse when Democratic leaders balked at an across-the-board income tax cut proposed by Republican legislative leaders and agreed to in principle by Gov. Rick Snyder, officials said."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/13/gov-snyder-michigans-road-funding-talks-impasse/73869510/>

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## **Barra: GM will lead self-driving revolution**

*"WASHINGTON — Despite being one of the oldest names in the car business, General Motors is "among the leaders" in the development of self-driving cars along with Silicon Valley's best — from Apple to Tesla, GM CEO Mary Barra said Tuesday in a wide-ranging interview with USA TODAY."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/money/cars/general-motors/2015/10/13/barra-general-motors-technology-volkswagen-tesla/73892324/>

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## **Michigan Senate panel OKs concealed weapons in schools**

*"LANSING — Over strong objections from educators, a Senate panel approved legislation Tuesday to allow concealed weapons in schools and other places that are now off-limits for hidden weapons."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/13/concealed-carry-bills-spark-war-words-mich-senate/73889076/>

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## **Sen. Knezek's bill to protect veterans with service dogs heads to governor's desk**

*"Legislation authored by State Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) to protect Michigan veterans' use of service dogs in public is on its way to Gov. Rick Snyder's desk to be signed into law."*

**Source:** Dearborn Press and Guide **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.pressandguide.com/articles/2015/10/13/news/doc561c80b46ba0b685282489.txt>

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## **Ann Arbor schools chief asks lawmakers to keep concealed guns out of schools**

*"The Ann Arbor Public Schools superintendent asked Michigan lawmakers to keep schools safe by preventing concealed carry in schools."*

**Source:** Ann Arbor News **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2015/10/ann-arbor-schools-chief-asks-1.html#incart-m-rpt-2>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### An obscure failure of government

"

*Flint water crisis: There's good news: The City of Flint could soon reconnect to the Detroit Water and Sewer Department, a water source that doesn't leach lead from aging pipes into the municipal water supply.*

"

**Source:** Escanaba Daily Press **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.dailypress.net/page/content\\_detail/id/566430/An-obscure-failure-of-government.html?nav=5052](http://www.dailypress.net/page/content_detail/id/566430/An-obscure-failure-of-government.html?nav=5052)

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### Hoffa: Central States shouldn't cut pensions

*"Michigan workers and retirees should be allowed to live comfortably in their golden years. But increasingly, nest eggs that everyday people contributed to are being threatened. And retirement security is being taken away."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/13/hoffa-labor-voices-central-states-pension-cuts/73898620/>

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### Yanez: Prevailing wage good for Michigan

*"There is a great deal of pressure in our state Legislature to repeal Michigan's prevailing wage law. My fellow legislators must not cave under the pressure. The reality is that repealing Michigan's prevailing wage law would harm not just those in the skilled trades, but all Michiganders."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/13/yanez-prevailing-wage-good-michigan/73898686/>

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### Finley: Court checks EPA water grab

*"The federal courts have not been perfect in blocking President Barack Obama's regulatory overreach, but they have been the only limiting force on the expansion of his powers."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/nolan-finley/2015/10/13/finley-epa-water-grab/73898154/>

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### Column: Presumptive parole isn't safe for Michigan

*"Public safety is the first responsibility of government. Unfortunately, legislation now being debated by the Michigan legislature could put the public's safety at risk. Last week, the House passed legislation that dramatically changes our criminal justice system, and now the Senate is considering this package of bills. We strongly oppose these bills,*

*because they will allow the release of violent offenders back onto our streets."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/10/13/schuettle-leyton-presumptive-parole-unsafe-michigan/73898124/>

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## **For GOP, bloodying unions comes before fixing roads**

*"The morning after last May's special election, state lawmakers in both parties agreed on one thing: No one should mistake the defeat of the fatally convoluted Proposal 1 as a sign that voters were satisfied with the dismal state of Michigan's roads and bridges."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/brian-dickerson/2015/10/14/road-funding-obstacle/73869980/>

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## **Bill Would Ban Advertising to Get More People on Medicaid**

*"A bill introduced by Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker, R-Lawton, would prohibit the state from advertising "Healthy Michigan," which is the title the Snyder administration gave to its adoption of the Obamacare Medicaid expansion."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21821>

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## **Stretch Taxpayer Dollars and Promote Equality in Government: Repeal the Prevailing Wage**

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*On Sept. 14, organizers to repeal Michigan's prevailing wage law submitted almost 400,000 signatures to the state elections bureau."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/21757>

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## **Poll: Michigan voters strongly favor state prison reform**

*"Michigan residents overwhelmingly support criminal justice reform, and believe the state should invest in efforts to help ex-cons get jobs as a way to lower recidivism."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/poll-michigan-voters-strongly-favor-state-prison-reform/>

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## **'Clean slate' law for offenders could be boon for business**

*"Mike Jardine was convicted of stealing a video projector from Grand Valley State University in 2004. His probation lasted 18 months, but in some ways, his sentence never ended."*

**Source:** Bridge Magazine **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** <http://bridgemi.com/2015/10/clean-slate-law-for-offenders-could-be-boon-for-business/>

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## **Press Releases**

### **Sen. Casperson welcomes Escanaba native Brian Swift to state Capitol**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba, welcomed Brian Swift, originally from Escanaba, to the state Capitol last week to testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee."*

**Source:** Sen. Tom Casperson **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444769791\\_casperson.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444769791_casperson.pdf)

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### **Equality Michigan Announces New Executive Director**

*"DETROIT, MI, October 13, 2015 —Equality Michigan announced today that its Board of Directors has named Stephanie A. White as executive director effective October 19, 2015. Ms. White joins Equality Michigan with 23 years of experience that includes the United States military, as well as political and national non-profit sectors. "This is the perfect time to have Steph White become our next executive director," said Dave Wait, Equality Michigan board chair. "Steph's vision, strategic mind, relationship skills, and program execution track record make her the perfect leader for Equality Michigan considering the current political landscape in Michigan and where we are in the equality movement." "*

**Source:** Equality Michigan **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444767686\\_equality.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444767686_equality.pdf)

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### **Rep. Jacobsen optimistic after MSP, MDOT testimony on speed limits legislation**

*"State Representative Brad Jacobsen, R-Oxford, and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee today listened to additional testimony on a bipartisan bill package to ensure the safety of Michigan motorists by increasing speed limits on certain highways."*

**Source:** Rep. Brad Jacobsen **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444766580\\_jacobsen.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444766580_jacobsen.pdf)

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### **Detroit Marijuana Licensing Ordinance Passes City Council**

*"Detroit, Michigan: The Detroit City Council today adopted a new ordinance, licensing and regulating Medical*

*Marijuana Centers. Council members expressed strong support for patients who need access to medical marijuana as well as to community groups who are concerned with over-proliferation of the centers. The Council will vote on an additional ordinance in the coming weeks that will address zoning of Medical Marijuana Centers. This will provide safe and convenient access to medicine for patients while simultaneously addressing community concerns. The licensing ordinance adopted today was introduced by Councilman James Tate of Detroit's first district."*

**Source:** National Patients Rights Association **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444766530\\_npra.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444766530_npra.pdf)

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## **Citizens, Elected Officials to Call on U.S. Senate Finance Committee to Commit to Corporate Tax Refo**

*"LANSING - On Wednesday, October 14, citizen's groups and Representative Henry Yanez will host a press conference calling on the U.S. Senate Finance Committee to commit to ensuring that corporations pay their fair share and to close offshore tax loopholes."*

**Source:** Engage Michigan **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444764829\\_engage.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444764829_engage.pdf)

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## **Detroit Marijuana Licensing Ordinance Passes City Council**

*"Detroit, Michigan: The Detroit City Council today adopted a new ordinance, licensing and regulating Medical Marijuana Centers. Council members expressed strong support for patients who need access to medical marijuana as well as to community groups who are concerned with over-proliferation of the centers. The Council will vote on an additional ordinance in the coming weeks that will address zoning of Medical Marijuana Centers. This will provide safe and convenient access to medicine for patients while simultaneously addressing community concerns. The licensing ordinance adopted today was introduced by Councilman James Tate of Detroit's first district."*

**Source:** National Patients Rights Association **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444765340\\_npra.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444765340_npra.pdf)

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## **Colleges and Universities to Participate in Workshop on Online Education Wednesday, October 14 in La**

*"October 13, 2015 – Representatives from Michigan's colleges and universities will gather Wednesday, October 14 at the University Club in Lansing to learn how participation in the Midwestern State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (M-SARA) can make their school's offering of online distance education more efficient and less costly. Michigan recently joined M-SARA with approval from the Midwestern Higher Education Compact resulting in streamlined regulation and greater student access to quality programs. With M-SARA, students can now be assured of access to, and quality of, their distance education provider, and should there be difficulties, students now have a complaint process available to them through the State of Michigan."*

**Source:** Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444763988\\_lara.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444763988_lara.pdf)

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## **Lake sturgeon releases put more than 6,300 fish into Michigan waters**

*"The Department of Natural Resources and several partners released more than 6,300 juvenile lake sturgeon into various public waters across Michigan this summer and fall in an effort to rehabilitate this culturally significant fish species."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444763929\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444763929_dnr.pdf)

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## **Rep. Yonker invites Allegan, Kent county residents to budget town hall**

*"Budget town hall meeting to inform local residents about the state budget and outline fiscal year appropriations."*

**Source:** Rep. Ken Yonker **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444763681\\_yonker.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444763681_yonker.pdf)

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## **PPSR Director Retires in 2015; Next IPPSR Director Takes Helm 2016**

*"Matt Grossmann, a nationally known political scientist and associate professor at Michigan State University, will become the next director of MSU's Institute for Public Policy and Social Research."*

**Source:** Michigan State University **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444762145\\_msu.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444762145_msu.pdf)

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## **Eastern Michigan University regents approve more than \$54 million in student aid for 2016-2017**

*"Total represents a 130 percent increase over past eight years as EMU maintains commitment to helping students and families afford a college education"*

**Source:** Eastern Michigan University **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444761916\\_east.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444761916_east.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill allowing municipalities to maintain electronic property tax rolls**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder has signed legislation that will allow local governments to maintain electronic property tax rolls instead of requiring them to routinely print lengthy paper copies."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444761863\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444761863_gov.pdf)

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## Retirement Planning Events Announced for Securing Mi Financial Future Month

"LANSING – On October 1, 2015, Governor Snyder proclaimed October as "Securing Mi Financial Future Month" and encouraged Michigan residents to take advantage of free, non-commercial financial education events throughout the month. Spearheaded by the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS), the **Securing Mi Financial Future** initiative will be holding several events across the state throughout the month. The second wave of events being offered is called **Reinventing Mi Retirement** and is geared toward residents 49 years and older."

**Source:** Department of Insurance and Financial Services **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444760128\\_DIFS.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444760128_DIFS.pdf)

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## Salmon, trout egg-take efforts recently finished or just starting at DNR facilities

"The Department of Natural Resources has been working hard this fall, and will continue to this winter, to gather necessary eggs to maintain the production of hatchery fish to support management objectives for Michigan's world-class fisheries. Fall egg-takes have been completed or soon will start for wild Chinook and coho salmon and for captive broodstocks of brown, rainbow, brook and lake trout."

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444757674\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444757674_dnr.pdf)

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## UM Students to Tackle FGM, "Honor" Violence with Film, Discussion

"Oct. 13, 2015, Ann Arbor, Mich. – Students at UM-Ann Arbor will host a screening and panel discussion on Thursday (Oct. 15) at 6 p.m. of the groundbreaking documentary Honor Diaries, which breaks the silence on female genital mutilation (FGM) and other "honor" violence against girls and women in Muslim-majority societies around the world. The event will take place in the Pendleton Room of the Michigan Union, 530 S. State St."

**Source:** University of Michigan **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444756690\\_um.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444756690_um.pdf)

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## Peters Leads Letter Urging Departments of State and Homeland Security to Improve U.S. Capability to

"WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (MI) today announced he has joined his colleagues Senator Richard Blumenthal (CT) and Congressman Bill Pascrell (NJ) in leading a letter to the U.S. Departments of State and Homeland Security (DHS), urging both departments to take immediate action to address the burdensome processes that unnecessarily delay refugee processing in the country. In the letter, Peters and his colleagues commended the Administration's plan to increase the number of refugees brought to the U.S. and also advised the Departments to make changes to the current processing systems to ensure that the greater numbers of refugees

can be accepted and processed in a timely and effective manner. Joining Peters, Blumenthal and Pascrell on the letter were 11 Senators and 70 Representatives."

**Source:** Sen. Gary Peters **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444756645\\_peters.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444756645_peters.pdf)

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## **Progress Michigan Echoes Call For Flint Accountability**

"LANSING – Today, Progress Michigan is calling on Governor Rick Snyder to hold himself and Emergency Manager Darnell Earley accountable for their decision to use the Flint River as the source of drinking water in Flint. Progress Michigan is calling on Gov. Rick Snyder to fire Darnell Earley from his current job as Detroit Public Schools emergency manager and ban him from working as an Emergency Manager in Michigan. In addition, Gov. Snyder should hold the people of Flint harmless and ensure that the people of Flint do not have to pay for his mistake."

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444755883\\_progress.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444755883_progress.pdf)

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## **Michigan Announces Regional Managed Care Health Plans**

"LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) today announced the Medicaid Health Plans (MHPs) recommended for Michigan's Comprehensive Health Plan contract. The Comprehensive Health Plan contract provides health care services to approximately 1.7 million Medicaid managed care beneficiaries."

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444750708\\_mdhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444750708_mdhhs.pdf)

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## **Michigan Operating Engineers Deliver 600 Cases of Water to Flint Families**

"FLINT - Over last weekend, Michigan Operating Engineers delivered six pallets of water to Pastor Brian Willingham at Charity United Methodist on Clio Road in Flint. Over 600 cases of water were handed out to 270 Flint families in roughly one hour at the church on Saturday morning, October 10."

**Source:** Michigan Operating Engineers **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444750548\\_oper.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444750548_oper.pdf)

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## **Eastern Michigan University shows significant improvement in retention and graduation rates after im**

"YPSILANTI – A comprehensive plan to enhance support for student retention and degree completion at Eastern Michigan University is showing significant progress."

**Source:** East Michigan University **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444750483\\_mich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444750483_mich.pdf)

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## **Pheasant season offers growing opportunities for hunters**

*"With pheasant hunting just under way, the Department of Natural Resources reminds hunters that there are a growing number of opportunities to take part in this treasured Michigan tradition."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444749494\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444749494_dnr.pdf)

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## **'Ask The DNR' to air Thursday on Lower Peninsula's WCMU**

*"'Ask The DNR' comes to CMU Public Broadcasting (WCMU) Thursday, Oct. 15, at 7:30 p.m. The show will focus on fisheries, wildlife and law enforcement issues in Michigan."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444748453\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444748453_dnr.pdf)

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## **Bishop Introduces New Resolution Urging NATO Alliance to Honor Commitment**

*"WASHINGTON – Last week, Congressman Mike Bishop (MI-08) introduced the bipartisan H. Res. 469, Urging North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) member countries to meet or exceed the 2 percent gross domestic product commitment to spending on defense. He issued the following statement in response:"*

**Source:** Rep. Mike Bishop **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444748363\\_bishop.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444748363_bishop.pdf)

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## **Ottawa County Educator Wins Excellence in Education Award from the Michigan Lottery**

*"LANSING, Mich., Oct. 13, 2015 – An Ottawa County educator who created a program for sixth graders to research a local waterway's ecosystem and helped launch a community science field day has been honored with an Excellence of Education award from the Michigan Lottery."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444748314\\_ottawa.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444748314_ottawa.pdf)

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## **Oakland County Leaders Propose Oakland County Time to Care Initiative**

"OAKLAND COUNTY – In an effort to ensure working people have time to take care of themselves and their families, a group of Oakland County Commissioners have introduced a proposal to expand paid time off to area workers."

**Source:** Oakland County Commissioners **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444748256\\_oak.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444748256_oak.pdf)

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## **WMU-COOLEY LAW SCHOOL PROFESSOR HONORED WITH 'LEGACY AWARD'**

"LANSING, Mich., Oct. 12, 2015 – Joseph Kimble, a distinguished professor emeritus at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School, received the State Bar of Michigan's John W. Reed Michigan Lawyer Legacy Award on Oct. 7 at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, Michigan. He is the fourth recipient of the award, which is "given periodically to an educator from a Michigan law school whose influence on lawyers has elevated the quality of legal practice in the state." Also at the state bar's annual meeting, WMU-Cooley Law School graduate and board of directors chairman, Lawrence P. Nolan, was sworn in as the organization's president-elect."

**Source:** Michigan State Bar **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444748192\\_bar.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444748192_bar.pdf)

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## **Casperson invites U.P. residents to participate in committee hearing via videoconference**

"LANSING, Mich. — The Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee on Thursday will consider legislation designed to make state government more accountable and act more responsibly by requiring departments to repay the court costs of residents and businesses who prevail against a department in court, said Sen. Tom Casperson, sponsor of one of the bills."

**Source:** Sen. Tom Casperson **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444744237\\_casperson.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444744237_casperson.pdf)

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## **Rep. Hughes announces program to increase school bus safety**

"LANSING - State Rep. Holly Hughes, R-Montague, will be discussing a pilot program to help reduce vehicle "pass-bys" of school buses during a news conference on Friday, Oct. 16 in Ravenna."

**Source:** Rep. Holly Hughes **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444743874\\_HUGHES.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444743874_HUGHES.pdf)

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## **Physicians Highlight Patient Needs on Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day**

"LANSING—Members of the Michigan State Medical Society commemorate Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day on Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> by announcing their participation in the It's About Time social media campaign."

**Source:** Michigan State Medical Society **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444743430\\_msms.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444743430_msms.pdf)

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## **TOMORROW: Dingell to Hold Information Session for Yemeni Nationals Applying for Temporary Protected**

*"DETROIT, MI – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) will hold an information session **tomorrow, October 14 from 3-5 p.m.** to help Yemeni nationals who wish to apply for temporary protected status (TPS) through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Staff members from USCIS and Dingell's office will be on hand to provide information about the application process and eligibility requirements, as well as a list of accredited organizations qualified to complete the forms."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444742591\\_dingell.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444742591_dingell.pdf)

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## **JEB BUSH: INNOVATION, NOT MANDATES, WILL BRING DOWN HEALTH CARE COSTS**

*"Today, I'm rolling out an aggressive plan to repeal Obamacare once and for all and replace it with conservative reforms that lower health care costs. One of the biggest flaws of Obamacare — something that was easily predicted by those who read the bill before it became law — is that it resulted in skyrocketing health care premiums across the country."*

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444742508\\_jeb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444742508_jeb.pdf)

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## **MDP Statement: Those Responsible for Flint Water Crisis Must Be Held Accountable**

*"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, demanding those responsible for the Flint water crisis be held accountable and calling on Governor Snyder to immediately fire former Flint EM, and current EM for Detroit Public Schools, Darnell Earley: "*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444741979\\_mdp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444741979_mdp.pdf)

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## **I-275 survey feedback results**

*"October 12, 2015 -- The public answered the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) call and provided valuable input regarding traffic control options for next year's I-275 project in Wayne and Oakland counties. MDOT ran an online survey Oct. 2 - 9 to gather feedback, receiving 3,765 responses. The department will proceed with the most popular option."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**



[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444741924\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444741924_mdof.pdf)

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## Statement on Yesterday's Death of Detroit Highway Construction Worker

*"MICHIGAN — The Michigan Laborers' District Council issued the following statement regarding yesterday's tragic highway construction accident that resulted in the death of Rafael Castillo-Saavedra."*

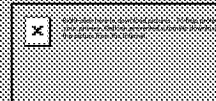
**Source:** Michigan Laborer's District Council **Date:** 10-14-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444741807\\_labor.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444741807_labor.pdf)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnnews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2015 6:43 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS' Statewide Headlines & Press Releases



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### **Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder backs presumptive parole proposal as AG Bill Schuette leads opposition**

*"LANSING, MI — Gov. Rick Snyder has long supported "smart justice" but came out specifically in favor of presumptive parole legislation this week, something Attorney General Bill Schuette has been leading the charge against."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/presumptive\\_parole\\_gets\\_a\\_boos.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/presumptive_parole_gets_a_boos.html#incart_river)

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### **Michigan road funding talks postponed as lawmakers 'cool off' after latest setback**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder and legislative leaders postponed a scheduled road funding meeting on Wednesday, a day after confirming that bipartisan negotiations had reached an impasse."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_road\\_funding\\_talks\\_po.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_road_funding_talks_po.html#incart_river)

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### **Michigan House OKs \$9.35M for Flint water switch, crisis response**

*"LANSING, MI — The Michigan House on Wednesday unanimously approved a \$9.35 million spending plan to help Flint switch water sources and address a public health crisis fueled by contaminated drinking water."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan\\_house\\_oks\\_935m\\_for\\_fl.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/10/michigan_house_oks_935m_for_fl.html#incart_river)

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## **Flint's \$2 million share for Detroit water reconnection a done deal**

*"FLINT, MI – The city of Flint has locked into spending \$2 million for a temporary connection to the Detroit water system after approval of a budget amendment Wednesday, Oct. 14, by Flint's Receivership Transition Advisory Board."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/state\\_oversight\\_board\\_makes\\_fl.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/10/state_oversight_board_makes_fl.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Right to Life sits out Gamrat, Courser GOP primaries**

*"Right to Life of Michigan is sitting on the sidelines of the Nov. 3 special primary elections for the Michigan House seats left vacant by the departures of former Reps. Cindy Gamrat and Todd Courser."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/15/right-life-sits-gamrat-courser-gop-primaries/73967146/>

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## **Howes: Roads impasse 'embarrassing' for leaders, GOP**

*"In Michigan's long-running roads saga, Detroit Democrat Harvey Santana nails it: "People are really starting to look at this Legislature in a negative way because of this issue. It's just embarrassing at this point.""*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/business/columnists/daniel-howes/2015/10/14/howes-roads-impasse-just-embarrassing-leadership-gop/73969764/>

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## **House OKs \$9.3M for Flint water switch**

*"Lansing — The House late Wednesday voted to allocate about \$9.3 million in state funding to address Flint's drinking water crisis, including \$6 million needed to help reconnect the city to a Detroit system through June."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/14/house-oks-flint-water-switch/73969886/>

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## **Fed corruption probe targets DPS, EAA officials**

*"The FBI has launched a corruption investigation involving Gov. Rick Snyder's K-12 reform district and Detroit Public Schools, the latest blemish for districts struggling with low test scores, falling enrollment and funding shortfalls."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/14/dps-eea-probe/73967136/>

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## House OKs bill shielding youth who report drug overdoses

*"LANSING — People under age 21 could avoid prescription drug-related criminal charges when reporting a medical emergency under legislation advancing in Michigan."*

**Source:** Associated Press **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/14/michigan-bill-prescription-drug-overdose/73959086/>

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## Dingell, Conyers urge U.S. to help Yemeni civilians

*"WASHINGTON — U.S. Reps. Debbie Dingell and John Conyers were among a group of House members who sent a letter to President Barack Obama on Wednesday urging his administration to work with American allies to limit civilian casualties in Yemen and find a diplomatic solution to the conflict."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/10/14/dingell-conyers-urge-us-help-yemeni-civilians/73945236/>

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## State jobless rate below national average

*"Michigan's economic recovery reached a new high after the unemployment rate in September bested the nation's average for the first time in 15 years."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/money/business/michigan/2015/10/14/michigan-unemployment-falls-below-national-average/73933978/>

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## Road funding talks enter 'cooling off' phase

*"LANSING — After a brief flurry of blame and recriminations when discussions hit an impasse Tuesday, legislative leaders from both parties declared a "cooling off period" in road funding talks Wednesday and expressed confidence a \$1.2-billion deal is still within reach."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/14/road-funding-talks-enter-cooling-off-phase/73935602/>

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## Michigan House OKs \$9.35M to aid in Flint water crisis

*"The state House of Representatives upped the ante on helping Flint pay for solving its water crisis, approving \$9.35 million for the beleaguered city."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/10/14/michigan-house-oks-915m-aid-flint-water-crisis/73932980/>

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## Advocacy/Opinion

### Snyder, Schuette must act now to take oil out of Straits pipeline

*"Gov. Rick Snyder and Attorney General Bill Schuette must act immediately on their legal duty to shut down the oil flowing through the Enbridge Line 5 pipelines in the Straits of Mackinac just west of the Mackinac Bridge."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/snyder\\_schuette\\_must\\_act\\_now\\_t.html#incart\\_river](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/10/snyder_schuette_must_act_now_t.html#incart_river)

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### Gamrat's campaign takes its cue from Kardashians

*"Cindy Gamrat's having a fundraiser in Lapeer at a bowling alley next week – in the heart of Todd Courser's once-and-he-hopes-future district, more than a hundred miles from her own."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/columnists/laura-berman/2015/10/14/gamrats-campaign-takes-cue-kardashians/73967114/>

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### Cops Retiring in Their 40s While Pension Systems Break Cities' Backs

*"A husband and wife who were both Ann Arbor police officers retired within a year of each other. The husband, a lieutenant, retired in 2009 at age 46. His wife, whose job title was telecommunicator, started collecting pension checks in 2010 at age 51."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michiganconfidential.com/21822>

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## Press Releases

### Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich Statement on House Passage of Flint

## Water Fix Funding

*"LANSING — Following today's House passage of resources that help address the public health crisis in Flint and that appropriates \$9.3 million to return the city of Flint to Detroit water, Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) issued the following statement: "*

**Source:** Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444872340\\_ananich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444872340_ananich.pdf)

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## Former Congressman Bentivolio Nears End of Trek to DC for Vets' Rights

*"(Closing in on D.C.) - Former U.S. Representative and decorated Army Sergeant First Class Kerry Bentivolio is coming to the end of the road in a month long journey for justice for his fellow veterans. The 64 year old Congressman and veteran of two wars, Vietnam and Operation Iraqi Freedom departed his home in Milford, MI on the morning of Friday, September 18 and began walking and biking to Washington, D.C."*

**Source:** Congressman Kerry Bentivolio **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444868588\\_kerry.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444868588_kerry.pdf)

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## House unanimously approves Rep. Pscholka's 'Good Samaritan' prescription drug legislation

*"The Michigan House today approved House Bill 4843, legislation introduced by State Rep. Al Pscholka, R-Stevensville to safeguard individuals under 21 years of age against drug-related legal charges when reporting a medical emergency."*

**Source:** Rep. Al Pscholka **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444863693\\_psci.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444863693_psci.pdf)

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## Paul Pressler: "Get Behind Ted Cruz for President"

*"HOUSTON, Texas – Today, the Cruz for President released an endorsement video from Judge Paul Pressler, a longtime conservative and evangelical leader and activist."*

**Source:** Ted Cruz **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444860790\\_cruz.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444860790_cruz.pdf)

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## Sen. Colbeck voices opposition to Iran Deal

*"LANSING, Mich. — State Sen. Patrick Colbeck, R-Canton, voiced opposition to Barack Obama's Iran Deal on the Senate floor on Wednesday."*

**Source:** Sen. Patrick Colbeck **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

## **JEB BUSH, JR. TO VISIT NEW YORK TOMORROW**

*"Miami, FL – Tomorrow, Jeb Bush Jr. will visit New York. In the morning, he will attend the Hispanic Heritage Month Fiesta at Westchester Community College. Later in the afternoon, he will attend a College Republicans event at New York University."*

**Source:** Jeb Bush **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444856329\\_bush.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444856329_bush.pdf)

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## **Green: Concealed carry legislation moves before full Senate**

*"LANSING, Mich. — The Senate Committee on Judiciary on Tuesday approved [Senate Bill 442](#) in a 4-1 vote. Sponsored by [Sen. Mike Green](#), this legislation would allow individuals holding a valid Concealed Pistol License (CPL) to carry a concealed pistol in pistol free zones (PFZs)."*

**Source:** Sen. Mike Green **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444856179\\_green.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444856179_green.pdf)

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## **Michigan United Convention 2015**

*"DETROIT- Michigan United held its annual statewide convention Saturday in Southwest Detroit. The theatre across from St. Francis D'Assisi church was filled to the rafters with immigrants, faith leaders and union members from the UAW, SEIU, Teamsters and the Michigan Nurses Association. There was also a strong contingent from the Detroit Area Commonwealth, low-income and homeless people fighting for their right to live with dignity. "No one else is working to build a statewide multi-racial organization like ours." said Freddy Polanco, SEIU organizer and Michigan United board member. "No one else is taking on the toughest issues of poverty, racism, and inequality head on. I am so proud to be part of this team."*

**Source:** Michigan United **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444856044\\_united.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444856044_united.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder makes appointments, reappointments**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the appointment of Elaine Didier, of Plymouth, and the reappointment of Judith Houser, of Waterford, to the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444855986\\_snyder.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444855986_snyder.pdf)

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## **Honorable James M. Biernat, Jr., Reappointed Chief Judge**

*"The Michigan Supreme Court reappointed Judge James M. Biernat, Jr. as Chief Judge of the 16th Circuit, Macomb Probate and 42nd District Courts today, pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2015-01. His appointment is effective January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017."*

**Source:** Macomb County Probate Court **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444855891\\_macomb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444855891_macomb.pdf)

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## **Precision Metalforming Association, MIOSHA Renew Alliance to Advance Workplace Safety**

*"October 14, 2015 – The East and West Michigan Districts of the Precision Metalforming Association (PMA), a trade association representing the metalforming industry, renewed its formal alliance with the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) today to help protect Michigan workers. The MIOSHA program is a part of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA)."*

**Source:** Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444854205\\_lara.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444854205_lara.pdf)

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## **MRP Chairman statement on unemployment rate**

*"LANSING, Mich., Oct. 14, 2015 – Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel on Wednesday released the following statement regarding Michigan's September unemployment rate of 5 percent, the first time in 15 years the state's unemployment rate is below the national rate."*

**Source:** Michigan Republican Party **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444853593\\_mrp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444853593_mrp.pdf)

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## **Reps. Dingell, Ellison & Lieu Lead Letter to President Obama Expressing Concern over Growing Civilia**

*"WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Representatives Debbie Dingell (MI-12), Keith Ellison (MN-05), Ted Lieu (CA-33), and 10 additional Members of Congress sent a letter to President Obama urging greater efforts to avoid civilian casualties in Yemen and achieve a diplomatic solution to the conflict. Last week, airstrikes conducted by a Saudi Arabia-led coalition struck a wedding reception in Sanban village, killing at least 23 Yemini civilians. The attack comes just over a week after an even deadlier attack on a wedding party in Wahijah village, which killed at least 131 people."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444851972\\_dingell.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444851972_dingell.pdf)

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## Three Sparrow Medical Group practices earn statewide recognition for quality care in diabetes

*"LANSING, MI – Sparrow Medical Group (SMG) DeWitt, SMG Holt, and SMG St. Johns received awards for having among the top diabetes care in the state at the recent Michigan Primary Care Transformation (MiPCT) Project Summit."*

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444851863\\_sparrow.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444851863_sparrow.pdf)

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## MEDA's The Fall Economic Development Toolbox is Open for Registration

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**Please join us for a day full of**

- Motivation
- Case Studies on Crowdfunding, Placemaking and Trade Missions
- Ideas on Using Local Resources, Working with Higher Education
- Training on Working with Entrepreneurs, Using the Right Marketing Tools, Make the Most of your Time Spent on RFP's



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**Source:** Michigan Economic Developers Association **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444851665\\_meda.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444851665_meda.pdf)

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## USDA Announces \$5.8 Million to Support Rural Cooperatives

*"WASHINGTON, Oct. 14, 2015 –Agriculture Under Secretary Lisa Mensah today awarded 30 grants totaling \$5.8 million to help rural cooperatives create jobs and support business expansion. The funds are being provided through the Rural Cooperative Development Grant program, which helps fund non-profit groups, such as rural cooperative development centers and higher education institutions."*

**Source:** USDA **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444848479\\_usda.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444848479_usda.pdf)

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## Michigan Trails Advisory Council to meet Oct. 21 in Roscommon

*"The Michigan Trails Advisory Council will hold its next regular meeting Wednesday, Oct. 21, at the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center, 104 Conservation Drive in Roscommon, Michigan. The public meeting will begin at 10 a.m."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444848426\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444848426_dnr.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder: Unemployment rate drop reflects success as Michigan continues looking forward**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today issued the following statement after the announcement that Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September fell to 5.0 percent – which is below the national average of 5.1 percent. This is the first time Michigan has been below the national average since August 2000."*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444848367\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444848367_gov.pdf)

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## **Michigan's September Unemployment Rate Declines**

*"Lansing – Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in September edged downward over the month by one-tenth of a percentage point to 5.0 percent, according to data released today by the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget (DTMB). Total employment increased in September by 10,000 as the number of unemployed decreased by 7,000. The state's workforce rose slightly by 3,000 over the month."*

**Source:** Department of Technology, Management and Budget **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444848310\\_dtmb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444848310_dtmb.pdf)

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## **Senate approves Zorn's firefighter certification bill**

*"LANSING, Mich. — The Michigan Senate on Wednesday approved Sen. Dale Zorn's legislation to provide firefighter certification reciprocity with states that have the same certification as Michigan."*

**Source:** Senator Dale Zorn **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444843625\\_dz.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444843625_dz.pdf)

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## **Statewide disability hiring successes touted during Investing in Abilities Month**

*"LANSING, Mich. – Michiganders who work to make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities and individuals with disabilities were honored today with Michigan Rehabilitation Services Champion Awards."*

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**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444843221\\_dhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444843221_dhs.pdf)

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## Chief Judges Appointed to Michigan Circuit, Probate, District, and Municipal Courts

*"LANSING, MI, October 14, 2015 – The Michigan Supreme Court today announced the appointment of chief judges for circuit, probate, district, and municipal courts statewide. With the appointment of 50 multicourt chief judges, the number of single court chief judges appointed to lead trial courts has been cut by two-thirds since 2010 (see table below).*

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**Source:** Michigan Supreme Court **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444842893\\_courts.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842893_courts.pdf)

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## Horn announces October office hours in Fenton

*"LANSING, Mich. — State Sen. Ken Horn, R-Frankenmuth, announced that October office hours are scheduled for the 32nd Senate District."*

**Source:** Senator Ken Horn **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444842607\\_kh.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842607_kh.pdf)

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## ICYMI: Gov. Snyder backs evidence-based parole reform

*"In case you missed it, this afternoon Gov. Rick Snyder endorsed House Bill 4138, evidence-based parole reform sponsored by Rep. Kurt Heise (R - Plymouth Twp). HB 4138 was reported 7-1 out of the House Criminal Justice Committee, and passed the full House with 67 votes, including majorities of the Republican and Democratic caucuses."*

**Source:** Grassroots Midwest **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444842609\\_gmw.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842609_gmw.pdf)

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## Major stage change Thurs night 10-15 at I-96 and US-23 in Brighton

*"On Thursday, October 15, between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m., there will be a double lane closure on eastbound I-96 at US-23. In addition, the ramp from southbound US-23 to eastbound I-96 will be closed, with traffic detoured to Grand River Avenue."*

**Source:** MDOT **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444842309\\_mdof2.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842309_mdof2.pdf)

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## **Progress Michigan on The Passing of Activist & Educator Bonnie Bucqueroux**

*"MICHIGAN — The passing of Bonnie Bucqueroux, an activist, journalist and Michigan State University educator, is a heavy loss for progressive activists and her former students around the state."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444842270\\_pm.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842270_pm.pdf)

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## **CVSC Meeting Cancelled**

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*The October 19, 2015, meeting of the Crime Victim Services Commission has been cancelled by the Commission."*

**Source:** Michigan Dept. of Health & Human Services **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444842215\\_cv.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842215_cv.pdf)

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## **Casperson Update: Committee hearing that was to feature videoconference testimony cancelled**

*"LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Tom Casperson expressed regret Wednesday that a hearing of the Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee that was to be held on Thursday has been cancelled."*

**Source:** Senator Tom Casperson **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444842127\\_tc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444842127_tc.pdf)

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## **House Appropriations committee approves Rep. Pscholka bill to crack down on landfill odor violators**

*"The Michigan House Committee on Appropriations today approved House Bill 4783, legislation introduced by state Rep. Al Pscholka to increase penalties under waste management laws."*

**Source:** Steve Heikkinen **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444840620\\_pscholka.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444840620_pscholka.pdf)

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## **Citizens, Elected Officials Urge U.S. Senate Finance Committee to Commit to Corporate Tax Reform**

*"LANSING – Today, citizen's groups and Representative Henry Yanez hosted a press conference urging the U.S. Senate Finance Committee to close offshore tax loopholes and commit to ensuring that*

corporations pay their fair share."

**Source:** Engage Michigan **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444840563\\_engage.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444840563_engage.pdf)

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## Horn welcomes Saginaw area librarian to Capitol honoring 50 years of service

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Horn welcomes Saginaw area librarian to Capitol honoring 50 years of service **LANSING, Mich.** — State Sen. Ken Horn, R-Frankenmuth, welcomed Ruth Ann Reinert to the Capitol Tuesday to celebrate her 50 years of service to the Saginaw community. Reinert has served five decades in the Saginaw library system. Reinert currently serves as the head of Circulation Acquisition and Technological Services at Hoyt Library and was joined by friends and co-workers as her service was honored during Tuesday's session."

**Source:** Sen. Ken Horn **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444840517\\_hown.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444840517_hown.pdf)

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## Upcoming double lane closure on NB I-75 in Monroe Co

"I-75, Monroe County This week, there will be an overnight double lane closure on northbound I-75 between Hurd Road and Nadeau Road for a bridge deck pour. The following is the schedule: - Thursday, October 15, double lane closure between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. the following morning - Friday, October 16, double lane closure between 10 p.m. and 10 a.m. the following morning. "

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444840453\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444840453_mdof.pdf)

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## Ted Cruz's Official "Cruz Crew" Campaign App Tops 2016 Field

"**HOUSTON, Texas** - The first official campaign app for a presidential candidate to launch this cycle, the "Cruz Crew" app, which is available on the Apple and Android stores, has been downloaded more than 15,000 times in the three months since it was launched, making it the most popular campaign app of 2016."

**Source:** Ted Cruz **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444840400\\_cruz.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444840400_cruz.pdf)

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## Winning Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle Bonus Drawing Ticket Bought in Gladwin County

"**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 14, 2015** – A lucky Michigan Lottery player has won \$25,000 in the second

Veterans Day 50/50 Raffle bonus drawing."

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444840361\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444840361_lottery.pdf)

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## **Car trunk abortion investigation shows abortion industry scrutiny necessary**

"On October 13, it was reported that long-time Michigan abortionist Michael Roth is under investigation for human tissue and medical equipment found in his vehicle in West Bloomfield."

**Source:** Right to Life of Michigan **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444835348\\_richt.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444835348_richt.pdf)

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## **U.P. roadside parks set to close for season**

"**October 14, 2015** -- Most roadside parks operated by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) in the Upper Peninsula will close for the season on Monday, Oct. 26. The two parks located in Keweenaw County will close on Monday, Oct. 19.

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**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444835285\\_mdott.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444835285_mdott.pdf)

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## **Detroit casino third quarter and September revenues and wagering taxes reported**

"**Detroit** - Aggregate revenue for the three Detroit casinos rose 0.8 percent during the third quarter of 2015 compared with third quarter 2014 results. Year-to-date revenue increased 3.5 percent compared with the same period last year."

**Source:** Michigan Gaming Control Board **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444831481\\_mgcb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444831481_mgcb.pdf)

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## **2015 state Christmas tree to come from Wakefield**

"**LANSING** – A 66-foot spruce from the western Upper Peninsula will travel to Lansing this month to become Michigan's 30th official Christmas tree. The tree, which was selected by staff from the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget, will arrive at the Capitol the morning of Saturday, Oct. 31."

**Source:** Department of Technology Management and Budget **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

## **DNR showcases cougars in two new displays in Luce County**

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### **Confirmed reports reach 31 in Michigan**

*Two cougar mounts recently provided to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources have attracted a lot of attention in Luce County this summer."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444831112\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444831112_dnr.pdf)

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## **Dingell to Hold Information Session for Yemeni Nationals Applying for Temporary Protected Status**

*"DETROIT, MI – Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI-12) will hold an information session **today, October 14 from 3-5 p.m.** to help Yemeni nationals who wish to apply for temporary protected status (TPS) through U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Staff members from USCIS and Dingell's office will be on hand to provide information about the application process and eligibility requirements, as well as a list of accredited organizations qualified to complete the forms."*

**Source:** Rep. Debbie Dingell **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444829275\\_dingell.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444829275_dingell.pdf)

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## **Recent Court of Appeals Opinion Releases**

*"The Michigan Court of Appeals released the following opinion(s) on 10/13/2015.*

*For information on downloading a zip file containing the entire release, see <http://courts.mi.gov/courts/coa/opinions/pages/zipfiles.aspx>"*

**Source:** Michigan Court of Appeals **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444828772\\_courts.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828772_courts.pdf)

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## **South M-10 from W Grand Blvd through I-94 mid-day lane closures**

*"Travel Advisory for Detroit area — for bridge work."*

**Source:** Department of Transportation **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444828674\\_mdof.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828674_mdof.pdf)

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## MRP Chairman statement on first Democratic debate

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**LANSING, Mich., Oct. 13, 2015** – Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel on Tuesday issued the following statement regarding the first Democratic presidential debate:

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**Source:** Michigan Republican Party **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444828593\\_mrp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828593_mrp.pdf)

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## Cruz Third in New Fox News Poll

**"HOUSTON, Texas** – A new Fox News poll shows Cruz continues to move up in national surveys and has taken sole position of third place behind Donald Trump and Ben Carson. Cruz comes in at 10% in the Fox News poll, affirming results from this week's CBS poll, which also had Cruz in third."

**Source:** Ted Cruz **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444828481\\_cruz.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828481_cruz.pdf)

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## \*\*\*CORRECTED\*\*\* Photo Advisory: Sen. Casperson welcomes Escanaba native Brian Swift to state Capitol

**"LANSING, Mich.** — Sen. Tom Casperson, R-Escanaba, welcomed Brian Swift, originally from Escanaba, to the state Capitol last week to testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee."

**Source:** Sen. Tom Casperson **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444828319\\_casperson.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828319_casperson.pdf)

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## Sen. Jim Ananich responds to road funding negotiations

**"LANSING, Michigan** — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) issued the following statement about how road funding negotiations in the Michigan Legislature reached an impasse Tuesday:"

**Source:** Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444828252\\_ananich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828252_ananich.pdf)

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## Speaker Cotter on presumptive parole



*"House Speaker Kevin Cotter, R-Mt. Pleasant, issued the following statement on House Bill 4138, also known as 'presumptive parole:' "Presumptive parole is a responsible way to reform our broken prison system and protect the rights and safety of Michigan residents. Contrary to many reports, the proposed bill simply requires parole boards to give a compelling reason to deny parole when prisoners with a high probability of success have completed their minimum sentence. "The process is even simplified for parole boards by filtering out prisoners who don't have a high enough probability of success, including repeat offenders and prisoners who face additional charges. Any parole board willing to deny a man his freedom and keep him locked up beyond the court-ordered sentence ought to at least have a reason for doing so.""*

**Source:** Rep. Kevin Cotter **Date:** 10-15-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1444828093\\_cotter.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1444828093_cotter.pdf)

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## **Jones bill to ban powdered alcohol heading to the governor**

"<sp

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 30, 2015 6:50 AM  
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### **Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, legislative leaders name biggest disappointments of 2015**

*"LANSING, MI — The Flint drinking water crisis was the biggest disappointment of 2015, according to Gov. Rick Snyder and Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich, who have very different perspectives on the situation."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan\\_gov\\_rick\\_snyder\\_legis\\_1.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/michigan_gov_rick_snyder_legis_1.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Fair Michigan gay rights, anti-discrimination petition approved for circulation**

*"LANSING, MI — An initiative petition that would amend the Michigan Constitution to prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender, gender identity, sex or sexual orientation has been cleared for circulation."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/fair\\_michigan\\_gay\\_rights\\_anti.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/fair_michigan_gay_rights_anti.html#incart_river_index)

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### **Rep. Fred Upton to help lead broad review of concussion effects, treatments**

*"The U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee is about to undertake a broad review of causes, effects, and treatments for concussions, committee Chairman Fred Upton said."*

"

**Source:** Kalamazoo Gazette **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/12/rep\\_fred\\_upton\\_to\\_help\\_lead\\_br.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2015/12/rep_fred_upton_to_help_lead_br.html#incart_river_index)

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## **DEQ spokesman also resigns over Flint water crisis, says city 'didn't feel like we cared'**

*"LANSING, MI — Michigan Department of Environmental Quality spokesperson Brad Wurfel has joined director Dan Wyant in resigning after a task force cited department failures in addressing the Flint water crisis."*

**Source:** M-Live **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/deq\\_spokesman\\_also\\_resigns\\_ove.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/12/deq_spokesman_also_resigns_ove.html#incart_river_index)

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## **Flint leaders applaud DEQ director's resignation, governor's apology**

*"FLINT, MI — Mayor Karen Weaver and other local leaders say the resignation of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant and release of Flint Water Task Force findings Tuesday are the first steps toward holding people accountable for Flint's water crisis."*

**Source:** Flint Journal **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/gov\\_rick\\_snyder\\_accepts\\_mdeg\\_h.html#incart\\_river\\_home](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/12/gov_rick_snyder_accepts_mdeg_h.html#incart_river_home)

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## **Rep. Upton plans congressional review of concussions**

*"U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, plans to use his House Energy and Commerce Committee chairmanship to launch a congressional review of concussions in 2016, his office said Tuesday."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/29/rep-upton-plans-congressional-review-concussions/78030500/>

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## **Canvassers OK petition forms for gay rights measure**

*"Lansing — Supporters of amending Michigan's constitution to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity cleared an initial procedural step."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/29/gay-rights-ballot/78008436/>

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## **Flint water report prompts apologies, resignations**

*"Michigan's top environmental official resigned Tuesday after an independent task force delivered its initial findings on the Flint water contamination crisis — conclusions that also prompted an apology from Gov. Rick Snyder."*

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/12/29/deq-director-wyant-resigns-due-flint-water-crisis/78028616/>

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## **Mich. elections board approves gay rights petition**

*"LANSING — Supporters of amending Michigan's constitution to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity cleared an initial procedural step Tuesday when the Michigan Board of State Canvassers approved the form and wording of the petition."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/29/elections-board-to-consider-form-of-gay-rights-petition/78008638/>

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## **Snyder apologizes, Wyant resigns in Flint water crisis**

*"LANSING — Gov. Rick Snyder apologized to the City of Flint on Tuesday for the drinking water crisis that has left children poisoned by lead and announced that he accepted the resignation of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant."*

**Source:** Detroit Free Press **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/12/29/deq-director-wyant-resigns-over-flint-water-crisis/78027052/>

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## **Advocacy/Opinion**

### **Lawmakers reinforce contempt for voters**

*"The Center for Public Integrity, in its annual November report card, said Michigan has the worst state government in the nation in terms of ethics, lobbying, political financing, transparency and accountability."*

**Source:** Escanaba Daily Press **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** [http://www.dailypress.net/page/content\\_detail/id/568931/Lawmakers-reinforce-contempt-for-voters.html?nav=5052](http://www.dailypress.net/page/content_detail/id/568931/Lawmakers-reinforce-contempt-for-voters.html?nav=5052)

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## **Editorial: Emergency management law working for cities**

*"Michigan will start the year with not one of its local communities under emergency management, with the emergence of Lincoln Park from state control last week. While Detroit Public Schools and other school districts, as well as Wayne County, still are operating under some form of state financial oversight, for the first time in 15 years no cities have emergency managers."*

"

**Source:** Detroit News **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2015/12/29/editorial->

## House Democrats Oppose 'Trapping' Detroit Students in Non-Union Schools

*"Members of the Michigan House of Representative's Democratic caucus appear to have conflicting views toward Detroit schoolchildren, who, they say, are "trapped" in a failing school district."*

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22036>

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## Archaic Prevailing Wage Law Should Be Repealed

*"In Michigan, government entities, such as school districts, must pay all contractors union wages for construction projects — the so-called prevailing wage. This wage rate is established by the state and is based on wages collectively bargained for by unions in the region where the construction work is being done. Market wages set by open competition are explicitly forbidden. The law was first enacted in 1965 when a much larger portion of Michigan's construction force was unionized, but today, in the construction industry, only one-fifth of workers belong to labor unions."*

"

**Source:** Capitol Confidential **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** <http://www.michigancapitolconfidential.com/22029>

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## Press Releases

### MDP Statement on Resignation of MDEQ Director Dan Wyant

*"LANSING – The Michigan Democratic Party issued the following statement today, on behalf of Party Chair Brandon Dillon, regarding the resignation of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant over his handling of the Flint water crisis:"*

**Source:** Michigan Democratic Party **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451433422\\_mdp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451433422_mdp.pdf)

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### Rep. Jim Runestad December 2015 E-newsletter

*"It is my wish that you enjoyed merry times with your friends and families this last week. I enjoyed my visits with the great residents, school districts and business owners of my district. The ribbon cutting at Blossoms, and hearing from our senior citizens at the Milford Senior Center, were a few of many great highlights from December."*

**Source:** Rep. Jim Runestad **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451429991\\_runestad.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429991_runestad.pdf)

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## **Rep. Neeley statement on the resignation of DEQ Director Dan Wyant**

**"Statement from state Representative Sheldon Neeley (D-Flint) on the resignation of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant:"**

**Source:** Rep. Sheldon Neeley **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451429893\\_neeley.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429893_neeley.pdf)

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## **Presidential Candidate Makes Alzheimer's Part of the National Conversation**

*"Hillary Clinton has announced an aggressive approach to Alzheimer's that includes a \$2 billion annual commitment to research. That's the level championed by the dementia movement, which includes the LEAD Coalition to which OWL belongs. Her plan also includes the goal of finding a cure by 2025, and ways to aid caregivers."*

**Source:** OWL **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451429839\\_owl.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429839_owl.pdf)

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## **Rep. Gowdy: I Found My Candidate. It's Marco Rubio.**

"

**"The son of a bartender and the son of a housekeeper, who knows what it means to live the American Dream. I found my candidate. It's Marco Rubio."  
- Rep. Trey Gowdy**

"

**Source:** Marco Rubio **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451429781\\_rubio.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429781_rubio.pdf)

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## **Progress Michigan Statement on Wyant Resignation**

*"MICHIGAN — Progress Michigan released the following statement regarding the resignation of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant and the ongoing Flint Water Crisis."*

**Source:** Progress Michigan **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451429692\\_mich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429692_mich.pdf)

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## **Flint Water Advisory Task Force Letter to Governor Snyder**

*"The Flint Water Advisory Task Force, which you appointed on October 21, 2015, has devoted considerable effort and countless hours to our review of the contamination of the Flint water supply: what happened, why it occurred, and what is needed to prevent a recurrence in Flint or elsewhere in the state. We have also been assessing ongoing mitigation efforts to help assure that short- and long-*

*term public health issues and water management concerns will be properly addressed to safeguard the health and well being of the Flint community."*

**Source:** Flint Water Advisory Task Force **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451429557\\_fwatf.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429557_fwatf.pdf)

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## **FWATF letter to Governor Snyder**

*"Lansing, MI—The Flint Water Advisory Task Force today released a letter sent to Governor Rick Snyder advising him of the Task Force's finding that the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality is primarily responsible for failing to ensure safe drinking water in Flint and must be held accountable. A copy of the letter is attached."*

**Source:** Flint Water Advisory Task Force **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451429474\\_fwatf.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429474_fwatf.pdf)

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## **AG Schuette Statement on Resignation of DEQ Director Wyant**

*"LANSING – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette today released the following statement regarding the resignation of Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant:"*

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuette **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451429367\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451429367_ag.pdf)

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## **Statement from Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on DEQ Director Dan Wyant's Resignation**

*"FLINT — Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) released the following statement after Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant resigned over his handling of the Flint water crisis:"*

**Source:** Sen. Jim Ananich **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451421506\\_ananich.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451421506_ananich.pdf)

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## **OAKLAND COUNTY PROBATE JUDGE LINDA HALLMARK RECEIVES NOMINATION FOR 2015 DANIEL J. WRIGHT LIFETIME**

*"Oakland County, MI (12/29/2015) – Oakland County Probate Judge Linda S. Hallmark was recently nominated for the 2015 Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award. Chief Justice Robert Young of the Michigan Supreme Court and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director Nick Lyon signed the certificate of Honorable Mention in recognition of Judge Hallmark's distinguished service to Michigan children and families."*

**Source:** Oakland County Circuit Court **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451420785\\_court.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451420785_court.pdf)

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## **SENATE FISCAL AGENCY - Michigan Economic Indicators - October 2015**

*"Michigan Economic Indicators OCTOBER 2015"*

**Source:** Senate Fiscal Agency **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451420555\\_sfa.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451420555_sfa.pdf)

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## **Detroit Lions' Tahir Whitehead shares lunch and tips for school and life success with Detroit teens**

*"FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. – The holiday break was a little more special for a group of Detroit teens in foster care who enjoyed lunch today with Detroit Lions' linebacker Tahir Whitehead."*

**Source:** Department of Health and Human Services **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451419999\\_dhhs.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451419999_dhhs.pdf)

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## **Pscholka maintains perfect voting record entering final year as state Rep.**

*"For the fifth straight year since becoming a state Representative, Al Pscholka has achieved a perfect voting record across the legislative calendar."*

**Source:** Rep. Al Pscholka **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451419900\\_pscholka.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451419900_pscholka.pdf)

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## **Gov. Rick Snyder takes action on initial findings from Flint Water Task Force**

*"In response to initial findings from the Flint Water Task Force, Gov. Rick Snyder today issued the following statement: "*

**Source:** Gov. Rick Snyder **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**

[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451418379\\_gov.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451418379_gov.pdf)

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## **(CORRECTION) New Rules for Multi-Line Phone Systems Will Improve Emergency Response**

*"LANSING, MICH. In an emergency, seconds can save a life, which is why new rules go into effect Dec. 31, 2016, that require all Multi-Line Telephone Systems (MLTS) or Private Branch Exchange (PBX) phone systems in Michigan to provide accurate locations for phones when a user dials 911 from one of these systems."*



**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451416944\\_msp.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451416944_msp.pdf)

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## **DNR conservation officer academy starts Jan. 3 with 24 recruits**

*"Twenty-four potential new conservation officers will report Sunday, Jan. 3, in Lansing to attend the Department of Natural Resources' conservation officer training academy. The Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards-sanctioned academy will be led by the DNR's Law Enforcement Division employment and training section."*

**Source:** Department of Natural Resources **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451413284\\_dnr.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451413284_dnr.pdf)

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## **November Unemployment Rates Down Slightly in Most of Michigan's Regional Labor Markets**

*"Lansing – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in November declined slightly over the month in most of the state's 17 major labor market areas, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment and labor force levels rose moderately in the majority of regions in November."*

**Source:** Department of Technology, Management and Budget **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451406514\\_dtmb.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451406514_dtmb.pdf)

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## **Club Keno Doubler Days Give Players a Chance to Double Their Prizes**

*"LANSING, Mich., Dec. 29, 2015 – Club Keno players will have a chance to double their prizes in January during the Michigan Lottery's Doubler Days."*

**Source:** Michigan Lottery **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451404099\\_lottery.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451404099_lottery.pdf)

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## **Sparrow Hospice honors three Volunteers for their radical, loving care during 2015**

*"LANSING, MI – Three Sparrow Volunteers are being honored by Sparrow Hospice Services for their outstanding service and radical, loving care during 2015."*

**Source:** Sparrow **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:** [http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451400232\\_SPARROW.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451400232_SPARROW.pdf)

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## **REVISED - Criminal Justice Policy Commission Meeting Documents - January**

**6, 2015**

*"CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY COMMISSION MEETING Wednesday, January 6, 2016 Senate Appropriations Room, rd Floor State Capitol Building 3 9:00 a.m. Lansing, Michigan"*

**Source:** Criminal Justice Policy Commission **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451400107\\_cjpc.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451400107_cjpc.pdf)

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## **Schuetzte Puts Crate of Michigan Apples on Line for Wolverine Victory**

*"**LANSING** – Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuetzte and Florida Attorney General Pam Bondi today entered into a friendly wager over the upcoming Citrus Bowl in which the University of Michigan Wolverines will face the University of Florida Gators. Should the Wolverines be victorious, Bondi has pledged to send a crate of Fresh from Florida Oranges to Schuetzte. In the event that the Wolverines do not claim victory, Schuetzte has agreed to send a crate of Pure Michigan Apples to Ms. Bondi."*

**Source:** Attorney General Bill Schuetzte **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451399870\\_ag.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451399870_ag.pdf)

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## **State Police: Stay Smart and Safe during the Winter Storm**

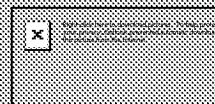
*"Lansing, Mich. – As today's hazardous winter storm starts to taper off, the Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) is asking Michiganders to continue to make safety a priority."*

**Source:** Michigan State Police **Date:** 12-30-2015 **Link:**  
[http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press\\_Releases/1451399815\\_police.pdf](http://mirsnews.com/pdfs/Press_Releases/1451399815_police.pdf)

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## This week on MIRS Monday

If the same municipal water problems Flint residents are experiencing were happening in West Bloomfield or Birmingham would they have been taken care of long ago? Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich answers that question and shares his thoughts that he's getting the feeling from the state that, "These are poor folks, well, we'll get to it when we get to it."

MIRS Editor Kyle Melinn shares his takeaways from Friday's Lapeer Tea Party debate of 82nd House District candidates, the Michigan Freedom Fund hits Rep. Alberta Tinsley-Talabi and how is an empty bowl of stew analogous to the state's road funding talks? This and much more in this week's edition.



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## This week on MIRS Monday

Rep. Sheldon Neeley (D-Flint) sat on the Flint City Council when the city's future water needs were debated. He shares his reflections on what happened during those discussions and why the former emergency manager is responsible for connecting the city to flawed Flint River water.

Also why has the data center tax break legislation split the Republican and Democratic caucuses? One major legislative issue gets kicked into 2016 as another one gets brought back up again with only two weeks left. This and more in this week's edition.



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**Subject:** MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, October 21, 2015



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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, October 21, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **HOUSE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/house\\_action\\_report/show/558](http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/558)

### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/857](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/857)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **House GOP Sends Its Own \$1.2B Road Plan To Senate**

With negotiations on a bicameral, bipartisan road-funding plan essentially stalled, House Republicans took the wheel tonight, approving their own \$1.2-billion transportation proposal.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44772>

#### **Gov's DPS Plan To Start In Hesitant Senate**

If Gov. Rick SNYDER tried to pass his Detroit School reform package in the Senate today, it wouldn't have much chance of passage, based on the observation of key Republican members.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44760>

#### **House Forms New Subcommittee Focused On Medicaid**

The House is officially forming three new Appropriations subcommittees, including one that will be specifically focused on the state's growing Medicaid program.



<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4606#44764>

### **Kowall Tossing Around '18 SOS Bid**

He's not out of a job yet, but apparently for Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike KOWALL (R-White Lake) it's never too late to contemplate your next assignment, and it looks like running for Secretary of State is an option.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4606#44757>

### **Sikkema, Kolb To Lead Gov's Task Force On Flint Water**

Gov. Rick SNYDER today followed up on his call for an independent investigation into actions leading up to the Flint water crisis by announcing the creation of an independent task force to review state, federal and municipal involvement in the situation.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4606#44769>

### **Schuetz Chastises Columnist For Reference To Mom**

Attack Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE all you want for what he's done for the political and professional choices he's made, but when you go after his late mother, Esther Schuetz GERSTACKER, Schuetz says you've "crossed the line."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4606#44756>

### **State Reboots Process To Replace Aging Election Equipment**

It looks like it's going to take longer to replace the state's decade-old election equipment.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4606#44762>

### **HP, State Agree To Work Together On BAM Transition As Case Continues**

The state and Hewlett-Packard (HP) are still at it in court, but have agreed to work out some issues related to the dispute stemming from the Business Application Modernization (BAM) contract.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4606#44761>

### **Biden Properly Read Political Tea Leaves**

Vice President Joe BIDEN's Rose Garden announcement that he'd "run out of time" on mounting a viable presidential campaign solidifies former Secretary of State Hillary CLINTON's position as the Democrats' likely presidential nominee in 2016, political observers told MIRS today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4606#44759>

### **Pavlov To Hold Hearings On Academically Failing Schools**

Starting in November, the Senate Education Committee plans to begin a series of hearings on the state's academically failing schools.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44763>

### **Dianda Unveils Resolution Calling Steudle Unfit To Lead MDOT**

On the same night the House approved a \$1.2 billion road plan, Rep. Scott DIANDA (D-Calumet) announced a resolution that asks the House to formally voice a "lack of confidence" in the director of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44773>

### **Moroun's Goal Of Building Second US-Canada Bridge Span Edges Closer**

The Detroit International Bridge Company (DIBC) was able to celebrate a victory in court today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44767>

### **Parole Board Must Consider Prisoners' Cases First, Court Of Appeals Rules**

Prisoners do not have to seek approval from the court that originally sentenced them before being considered for parole, the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44765>

### **Large Dog Breeders Regulated Under Bill Bound For House Floor**

A proposal to allow the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) to register and license large-scale dog-breeding kennels passed the House Appropriations Committee today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44771>

### **Jackson National Unveils HQ Expansion**

Jackson National Life Insurance this morning unveiled their new 1,200-person office structure at 8 Corporate Way, which is between Okemos and Mason in Ingham County.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44770>

### **Bits And Tidbits**

Democrat Announces In 52nd

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44766>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Oct. 21, 1845, future poet Will CARLETON was born in rural Lenawee County. The Hillsdale College graduate is most famous for his work "Over the Hill to the Poor House."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4696#44768>

## Updated Calendar Events:

[http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?cid=4686#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?cid=4686#updated_events)

## House Committee Calendar Events

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015

9:00 AM - **Appropriations**

Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352 HAR

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015

12:00 PM - **Tourism and Outdoor Recreation**

Rendon, Bruce; Rm: 326 HOB

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015

9:00 AM - **Education**

Price, Amanda; Rm: 521 HOB

## Senate Committee Calendar Events

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015

2:30 PM - **Finance**

(CANCELLED) Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015

3:00 PM - **Families, Seniors and Human Services**

Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015

2:30 PM - **Finance**

Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

## Capitol Calendar Events

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015

10:30 AM

Rep. Robert Wittenberg – Brunch Reception

**Location:** Michigan Municipal League

**Contact:** RSVP to Ricardo via email

[whitericardo240@gmail.com](mailto:whitericardo240@gmail.com)

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015

10:30 AM

Rep. LaTanya Garrett – Brunch Reception

**Location:** Michigan Municipal League

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[cte.latanyagarrett@gmail.com](mailto:cte.latanyagarrett@gmail.com)

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015

7:00 PM

Rep. Sheldon Neeley – 2nd Annual Unity Gala

**Location:** Signature Chop House Grand Ballroom

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[neeleyrep34@gmail.com](mailto:neeleyrep34@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015**

8:00 AM

Rep. Sam Singh – Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Michigan Municipal League

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[kornmoll@gmail.com](mailto:kornmoll@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**

10:00 AM

Rep. Sherry Gay-Dagnogo – Lunch Reception

**Location:** Kelley Cawthorne

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[guinney.morgan17@gmail.com](mailto:guinney.morgan17@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

4:30 PM

Rep. Julie Plawecki Fall Reception and Hard Cider Tasting

**Location:** Fundraiser, Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan St., Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** Joseph Sullivan 5179172985

[jsull86@hotmail.com](mailto:jsull86@hotmail.com)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**

5:00 PM

Rep. George Darany – Annual Fall Reception

**Guest Speakers:** Former Congressman John Dingell

**Location:** LaPita Banquet Hall

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[wdrake@gmail.com](mailto:wdrake@gmail.com)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

8:00 AM

Rep. Jon Hoadley – Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Governors Room

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[heather.ricketts@gmail.com](mailto:heather.ricketts@gmail.com)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

8:30 AM

Rep. Kristy Pagan – Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Michigan Health and Hospital Association

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[kristy@kristypagan.com](mailto:kristy@kristypagan.com)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**

5:30 PM

Rep. Derek Miller – Evening Reception

**Location:** Warren Fraternal Order of Police Hall

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[ryanberdoni@gmail.com](mailto:ryanberdoni@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

11:30 AM

Rep. Marcia Hovey-Wright – Lunch Reception

**Location:** Michigan Health and Hospital Association

**Contact:** RSVP to Marcia 231-740-8492 - OR -

[gregalmcc79@gmail.com](mailto:gregalmcc79@gmail.com)

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015**

11:00 AM

Rep. Jon Hoadley –Thanksgiving Brunch

**Location:** The Law Offices of Miller Canfield

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[heather.ricketts@gmail.com](mailto:heather.ricketts@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015**

8:30 AM

Rep. Tim Greimel – Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Michigan Health and Hospital Association

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[hillkipp@gmail.com](mailto:hillkipp@gmail.com)

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2015**

4:00 PM

Rep. Erika Geiss –Autumn Afternoon of Classical Music

**Guest Speakers:** Featuring Erika Geiss on violin and Tim Michling on oboe

**Location:** Geiss Residence

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[electgeiss@electgeiss.com](mailto:electgeiss@electgeiss.com)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015**

9:00 AM

Rep. Sam Singh Coffee Hour

**Location:** Meridian Senior Center

**Contact:** Sam Singh

[votesamsingh@gmail.com](mailto:votesamsingh@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

11:00 AM

Rep. Wendell L. Byrd – Lunch Reception

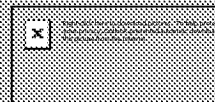
**Location:** Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, 332 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[repwendellbyrd@gmail.com](mailto:repwendellbyrd@gmail.com)

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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, October 14, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

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### **HOUSE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/house\\_action\\_report/show/852](http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/852)

### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/851](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/851)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Meekhof, Greimel Point At Each Other As Reason For 'Impasse'**

Senate Majority Leader Arlan MEEKHOF (R-West Olive) said he was surprised when House Minority Leader Tim GREIMEL (D-Auburn Hills) raised concerns Tuesday about the fiscal impact of an income tax rollback attached to a \$1.2 billion road funding package.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44688>

#### **Dems Push Change To 3rd-Grade Bill That Would Alter Retention Policy**

For hours today, the House stood at a standstill as Republican leadership faced a crossroads on a wide-ranging bill to get elementary school students to read at a third-grade level before passing to the fourth grade.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44697>

#### **House OKs Flint Water Switch; Move To Senate For Swift Action**

With a unanimous 105-0 vote, the House returned to the Senate a supplemental appropriations bill

fulfilling Gov. Rick SNYDER's commitment to pick up half the \$12 million cost of switching the city of Flint back to the Detroit water system.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44683>

### **Proposed State Employee Contracts For 1 Year, 1% Raise**

The state's employee unions this week have reached tentative deals with the state on new contracts.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44686>

### **Meekhof Advises Schuette To Tone Down Rhetoric On House**

Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE told reporters last week he sees an "anti-cop sentiment" taking shape in the House-passed presumptive parole legislation and the Senate Majority Leader says the state's top cop's "over-the-top" rhetoric isn't wise.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44682>

### **Can We Afford Even A Triggered Income Tax Cut?**

House Appropriations Committee Chair Al PSCHOLKA (R-Stevensville) knows former Sen. Harry GAST agitated former Gov. John ENGLER a number of years ago when he pointed out that cutting the income tax creates a two-to three-year window of "budget tightness."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44691>

### **Civil Rights Unveils 3 Finalists For Director Job**

After selecting its candidates to interview for the civil rights director job, the Michigan Civil Rights Commission (MCRC) has made their names public for the first time.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44687>

### **House Approps Approves Increased Fines For Landfills**

Inspired by an odor problem caused by a West Michigan landfill, a bill that would increase financial penalties on solid waste facilities advanced to the House floor today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44692>

### **State Jobless Rate Dips Below U.S. Rate, First Time Since 2000**

The state's unemployment rate for September ticked down a tenth of a percentage point to 5 percent, putting it below the national rate for the first time since 2000.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44690>

### **No Promises On State Revenue From Legalized Sports Betting**

The idea of legalized sports betting got a committee hearing this afternoon in the House. And while there was no opposition voiced, there were also no promises on how much the state could actually gain



from the proposition.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44684>

### **Gamrat Holding Fundraiser In Courser's District**

Former Rep. Cindy GAMRAT is hosting a bowling alley fundraiser this Sunday in the home district of the former House member with whom she had the scandalous affair that sparked the investigation into her expulsion.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44685>

### **Senate Approves Considers Success Of Boilerplate Program Metrics**

The Senate Appropriations Committee today embarked on a new mission to discuss the overall success of performance metrics for boilerplate programs funded at or above \$500,000 in the state budget.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44686>

### **Michigan Senate Opposes Iran Deal In Partisan Vote**

The Senate today voted out a resolution urging Congress to reject the nuclear agreement President Barack OBAMA and his administration reached with Iran over the protests of all but one Democrat.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44689>

### **Talbot Tapped For Full Term As Chief Appellate Judge**

Court of Appeals Judge Michael J. TALBOT was reappointed today as the chief judge of the Michigan Court of Appeals for a two-year term starting Jan. 1, 2016.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44691>

### **Bits And Tidbits**

Calley Honored For Encouraging Hire Of More State Workers With Disabilities

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44694>

### **Attention MIRS Subscribers**

In the Oct. 13, 2015, edition, as part of "Bits And Tidbits," it should be noted that Stephanie A. WHITE was named executive director for Equality Michigan.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44699>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Oct. 14, 1922, at a national airplane meet at Selfridge Field (Mount Clemens), Lt. Lester James MAITLAND flew an airplane over 200 miles per hour for the first time in aviation history.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#44666>

## Updated Calendar Events:

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4691#updated_events)

## House Committee Calendar Events

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015

9:00 AM - **Health Policy**

Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015

12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**

Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

## Senate Committee Calendar Events

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015

1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**

Rocca, Tory; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015

9:00 AM - **Elections and Government Reform**

(CANCELLED)Robertson, David B; Rm: 210 FB

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015

12:30 PM - **Energy and Technology**

Nofs, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015

3:00 PM - **Families, Seniors and Human Services**

Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

## Capitol Calendar Events

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015

11:00 AM

Annual 2015 Michigan Rehabilitation Services Champions Award Ceremony(Sponsored by Michigan Rehabilitation Services and the Michigan Council for Rehabilitation Services)

#### **Location:**

**Contact:** Bob Wheaton 517-373-7394

[wheatonb@michigan.gov](mailto:wheatonb@michigan.gov)

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015

7:00 PM

Hailing a Solution to Ridesharing in Michigan(Sponsored by Generation Opportunity)

**Guest Speakers:** State Rep. Brandt Iden, Mike Van Beek, Carla Jacobs, Dr. Ross Emmett

**Location:** James Madison College Library, 3rd Floor of Case Hall, 842 Chestnut Road, East Lansing, MI 48825

**Contact:** Kevin Gardner 517-375-9029

[KGardner@genopp.org](mailto:KGardner@genopp.org)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015**

10:00 AM

Senator Ken Horn October Office Hours

**Location:** Fenton Township Office, First Floor Conference Room

**Contact:** Sen. Horn Staff 517-373-1760

[senkhorn@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senkhorn@senate.michigan.gov)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

7:00 PM

Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence Birthday Celebration(Sponsored by Brenda Lawrence for Congress)

**Location:** Tom O'Shanter Country Club, 5051 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, MI 48037

**Contact:** RSVP to Shannon Salk at 248-262-7502 - OR - by email

[ShannonMSalk@gmail.com](mailto:ShannonMSalk@gmail.com)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015**

7:00 PM

50TH Anniversary NEH/NEA Celebration(Sponsored by Michigan Humanities Council)

**Guest Speakers:** Multiple

**Location:** The Wharton Center, Cobb Hall Theatre

**Contact:** For more information visit the website

[go.cal.msu.edu/nehnea](http://go.cal.msu.edu/nehnea)

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2015**

11:30 AM

Michigan House Democrats Brunch Reception

**Guest Speakers:** Congresswoman Debbie Dingell and former Congressman John Dingell

**Location:** Home of Renee & John Greden

[events@mihousedems.com](mailto:events@mihousedems.com)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

8:00 AM

Senate Republican Caucus Fall Fundraiser

**Location:** Governors Room

**Contact:** Dawn Blakslee 517-371-2006

[srcc@misrcc.com](mailto:srcc@misrcc.com)

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### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Quote Of The Year/Who's Most Quotable**

Lawmakers, staffers and others in and around the Lansing community love to lob interesting and quippy quotes at MIRS staffers - all in pursuit of earning a "Quote of the Day."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45380>

#### **Memorable Quotes Of The Day - 2015**

Much of the first year of Michigan's 98th Legislature was dedicated to dealing with the scandal surrounding former Reps. Todd COURSER and Cindy GAMRAT.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45381>

#### **Ananich: Legislative Oversight Of Flint Water Crisis Remains Priority In `16**

For Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH (D-Flint), the Flint water situation is not a past tense conversation.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45376>

#### **Snyder Picks Creagh To Be Interim MDEQ Director**

A day after the former director resigned amid growing criticism about water contamination in Flint, Gov. Rick SNYDER announced today a new interim director for the Michigan Department of Environmental

Quality (MDEQ).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45374>

### **Equality Michigan Director: Irresponsible to Join Petition Drive**

The executive director of Equality Michigan says it would be "irresponsible" for her organization to join the push for a ballot proposal to ban discrimination based on gender, gender identity and sexual orientation.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45375>

### **Johnson Aims To Combat Arson In Detroit With Senate Legislation**

Insurance companies could refuse payments on fire damage claims if there is insufficient proof that the fire wasn't intentional under legislation put forward by Sen. Bert JOHNSON (D-Highland Park).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45372>

### **House Oversight Panel Planning Hearing On Audit Of Water Office**

As a crisis over water quality in the City of Flint continues, the chair of the House Oversight Committee says he plans to hold a hearing on an upcoming audit of the state's Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45379>

### **Runestad Wants To Revisit Campaign Finance Bill That's Before Snyder**

At least one of the 58 House Republicans who voted for a wide-ranging set of campaign finance reforms on the last night of session says he would support Gov. Rick SNYDER allowing the Legislature to "revisit" the matter.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45377>

### **Gubernatorial Appointments And Reappointments**

Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45378>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Dec. 30, 1936, the Flint sit down strike began. Spurred by an unfounded rumor that work was going to be transferred to plants with weak union support, autoworkers began a spontaneous sit down strike at General Motors' plants in Flint. Often described as the most important strike in American labor history, the Flint sit down strike ended in early February when General Motors recognized the United Auto Workers to represent its workers.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#45373>

### **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4741#updated_events)

## House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

## Senate Committee Calendar Events

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2016

9:00 AM - CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY COMMISSION|Bruce Caswell

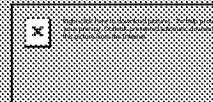
Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

## Capitol Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

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**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 1:48 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, December 16, 2015



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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Wednesday, December 16, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **HOUSE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/house\\_action\\_report/show/894](http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/894)

### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/895](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/895)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Dems Cry Foul As Senate Moves Straight Ticket Voting Repeal**

Senate majority leadership called it an attempt to get things moving faster. Senate Democrats called it a shameful political ploy that limited their constitutional rights as lawmakers.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45285>

#### **Campaign Finance Bill Balloons By 41 Pages; Blows Out Of Legislature**

As the last voting night of the 2015 legislative year wound down, Republican lawmakers signed off on a newly unveiled, 53-page bill to make numerous changes to the Michigan Campaign Finance Act (MCFA).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45284>

#### **HICA Put On Crowded Shelf For 2016**

A bill extending the state's health insurance claims tax into 2025 was shelved today, the Legislature's



final day of voting for 2015, joining a series of other major policy initiatives that were pushed into 2016.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45283>

### **Gov Signing Off On Flint Water 'Process' Changes**

Gov. Rick SNYDER's special task force on lead contamination in the Flint water supply is suggesting some "process" changes and the Governor appears to be buying into the suggestions.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45278>

### **State Nurses Say They Need Raises To Address Staff Shortages**

Some nurses working in state hospitals say they are overworked and underpaid, leading to recruitment and retention problems, but the state has denied there's any issue.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45275>

### **Snyder Puts On 'Nerd' Hat In Looking At Data Center Tax Credit**

For Gov. Rick SNYDER, the future of two bills providing sales and use tax exemptions for data center equipment as part of an effort to lure a \$5 billion investment to the Grand Rapids community comes down to the answers he finds to two questions.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45273>

### **Fracking Ban Campaign Testing Theory In Resuming Sig Collection**

The campaign looking to put a fracking ban on the 2016 ballot said it's resuming its signature-collecting operations after collecting just 150,000 signatures in six months (See "Ban Fracking Group Falls Short On Signatures A Third Time," 11/18/15).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45277>

### **Love, Geiss: House Dems Forced Choice Of Siding With Caucus Or District**

Reps. Erika GEISS (D-Taylor) and Leslie LOVE (D-Detroit) say they feel like their caucus forced them last week to choose between siding with the caucus or voting with their home communities.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45282>

### **Dispensary Stings Not Entrapment If Business Is Violating MMMA, Court Rules**

An Oakland County marijuana dispensary isn't getting out of charges stemming from a police sting operation by claiming entrapment as its defense, the Michigan Court of Appeals ruled today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45279>

### **MSF-MEDC-MSHDA Merger Of Community Development Ops Completed**

In what one official said was an "important date in state government," three state entities have officially

finalized a merger of their community development services.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45276>

### **State Police To Add Six New Dogs, Increasing Forces By Three**

For many college students finishing their degrees, graduation is just a few days away. But at the Michigan State Police Training Division, the same is true for six pairs of canines and the officers who have spent the last 14 weeks training together.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45272>

### **Appeals Court Affirms Ford's Tax Victory Over Treasury**

Ford Motor Co. is entitled to a \$10.7 million refund for state use taxes it paid under protest on its test vehicles, and a Department of Treasury bill sent to Ford in 2008 on the same matter was "frivolous," the Court of Appeals ruled today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45269>

### **Republican Calls For Expanding FOIA To Legislature**

It's been in and out of the legislative hopper for years and Rep. John BIZON (R-Battle Creek) is hoping this time will be different.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45274>

### **November Saw Small Rise In Unemployment Rate**

Michigan's unemployment rate is up for the first time since May, but just slightly.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45271>

### **Governor Signs Good Samaritan Expansions**

Gov. Rick SNYDER today signed into law legislation, which would exempt individuals under 21 from prescription drug-related charges in the event they are reporting a life-threatening emergency connected to drug abuse.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45280>

### **Bits And Tidbits**

Franchise Bill Passes Along Mostly Party Lines

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45281>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Dec. 16, 1999, U.S. District Court Judge Victoria ROBERTS dismissed a lawsuit brought against MIRS by former Rep. Roland JERSEVIC.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#45279>

## Updated Calendar Events:

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4733#updated_events)

## House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

## Senate Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

## Capitol Calendar Events

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015

11:00 AM

Attorney General Bill Schuette Year End Media Roundtable

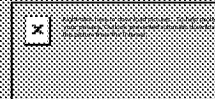
**Location:** Williams Building

**Contact:** Andrea Bitely (517) 373-8060

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<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

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### **HOUSE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/house\\_action\\_report/show/837](http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/837)

### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/838](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/838)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Bills To Criminalize Abortion Coercion Move To The Floor**

Bills that would criminalize the act of coercing a woman to have an abortion against her will gained the approval of a House committee today, moving the debate to the House floor.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44529>

#### **Snyder 'Exploring' Prospect Of Bringing Middle East Refugees To MI**

Gov. Rick SNYDER revealed today his administration is at least "exploring" the idea of bringing an unknown number of refugees from the Middle East to Michigan.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44534>

#### **O'Brien Appointed To Court Of Appeals**

Colleen O'BRIEN, the Oakland County Circuit Court judge who made a stab at the state Supreme Court as a Republican-nominated candidate, was appointed today by Gov. Rick SNYDER to replace retiring

Court of Appeals Judge Pat DONOFRIO.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44527>

### **Murray Joins Equality Michigan Board**

AT&T Michigan President Jim MURRAY is joining the board of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) group that went after him and his company last year for pushing an expansion to the state's civil rights law that didn't include transgender individuals.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44524>

### **Kowall Bill Ending Sanctuary Cities Given Senate Hearing**

Legislation from Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike KOWALL (R-White Lake) to cut designated sanctuary cities in Michigan off from state revenue sharing was given a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44540>

### **Bill To Hike Max Speed Limit To 80 MPH Off To Slow Start**

A five-bill package that includes a proposal to hike the state's current maximum speed limit to 80 mph isn't going to speed out of a House committee.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44531>

### **Snyder Pledges 'Action Steps' On Flint Water Issues**

As attention on Flint water problems trickles into Lansing, Snyder today said he's got a "team" of people working on the matter and promised some "action steps" to come soon.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44535>

### **Non-Married Partner Benefits For State Employees End Under Bill**

An upcoming proposal from Sen. Rick JONES (R-Grand Ledge) would end benefit opportunities for unmarried partners of state employees and their dependents.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44533>

### **Rubio's Lead Over Clinton In Michigan Narrows**

Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio's lead over Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton in Michigan has dropped from 9 percentage points to 3, 43 to 40 percent, which is very close to the margin of error at 2.5 percent.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44528>

### **Detroit Parents Rally For School Reforms**

Greg POSEY of Northwest Detroit has three grown children who went through the Detroit Public School

(DPS) system. One son received his masters in electrical engineering. One daughter is a teacher and going for her masters at Wayne State University.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44525>

### **Critical Shortage Areas Taken Up In Senate Committee**

Retired teachers can come back as substitutes and schools could tap non-certified and non-endorsed teachers to fill in in "critical shortage" areas under legislation considered in the Senate Education Committee today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44537>

### **Homeowner Can Sue Unlicensed Builder For Shoddy Work**

A pair of Detroit homeowners can sue an unlicensed builder for providing shoddy restoration work on their flood-damaged home, despite cashing \$128,000 in insurance money to cover the cost of the work.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44526>

### **Backed By New Poll, Reformers Claim Public 'Mandate' For Forfeiture Fix**

With supportive new poll numbers and everyone from Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE to the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) on board, backers of civil asset forfeiture reform say there's an "overwhelming mandate" from the public to get it done.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44532>

### **Reps. Eye Extending Good Samaritan Protections To Drug Overdoses**

Three years after the Governor signed legislation protecting those under 21 from criminal charges for getting medical attention for their overly intoxicated buddies (See "Snyder Signs Taser Bills, Medical Amnesty For Minors," 5/8/12), lawmakers are looking are offering similar protections to drug-related emergencies.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44536>

### **Bits And Tidbits**

GLEP Supports Peabody For 82nd, Whiteford For 80th

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44538>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Sept. 29, 1844, the U.S.S. Michigan, the first iron warship built for the U.S. Navy, was commissioned. The 16-gun steamer patrolled the Great Lakes until 1911 when she was decommissioned, then during World War I went back into service as a training ship.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4680#44539>

## Updated Calendar Events:

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?cid=4680#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?cid=4680#updated_events)

## House Committee Calendar Events

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

8:30 AM - **LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**|Sen Meekhof  
Rm: SAR

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015

9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**  
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015

12:00 PM - **Judiciary**  
Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

9:00 AM - **Appropriations**  
Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS, CB

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

12:00 PM - **Local Government**  
Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015

9:00 AM - **Insurance**  
Leonard, Tom; Rm: 519 HOB

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015

10:30 AM - **Military & Veterans Affairs**  
Barrett, Tom; Rm: 308 HOB

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

10:30 AM - **Financial Services**  
Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 326 HOB

## Senate Committee Calendar Events

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

8:30 AM - **Commerce**  
(CANCELLED)Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015

3:00 PM - **Judiciary**  
Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

3:00 PM - **Families, Seniors and Human Services**  
Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**

Rocca, Tory; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Health Policy**

Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

2:00 PM - **Appropriations**

Hildenbrand, Dave; Rm: SAR

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

11:00 AM - **Appropriations**

Hildenbrand, Dave; Rm: SAR

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

10:30 AM

Rep. Jon Bumstead Brunch

**Guest Speakers:** Senate Majority Leader Meekhof; Senators Stamas, MacGregor, Shirkey, Hansen and Schmidt; Rep. Callton

**Location:** The Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan Street, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** RSVP to Karen at 989-751-9559 - or via email at

[karenwhite009@gmail.com](mailto:karenwhite009@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**

10:00 AM

Weatherization Day at the Capitol(Sponsored by Michigan Community Action)

**Location:** State Capitol, North Corridor

**Contact:** Michael F. Shalley 517-679-6403

[mshalley@michigancommunityaction.org](mailto:mshalley@michigancommunityaction.org)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

6:00 PM

Rep. Yonker Budget Town Hall

**Guest Speakers:** House Appropriations Chair Rep. Al Pscholka

**Location:** Wayland Union High School

**Contact:** Rep. Yonker 888-347-8072

[kenyonker@house.mi.gov](mailto:kenyonker@house.mi.gov)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

7:30 AM

Rep. Michael Webber Leadership Breakfast Reception

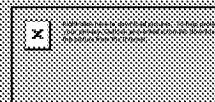
**Location:** Michigan Restaurant Association, 225 W. Washtenaw St., Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** RSVP to Trisha at 517-703-4930 - or by email at

[tkosloski@grassrootsmidwest.com](mailto:tkosloski@grassrootsmidwest.com)

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### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/862](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/862)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **House Road Funding Plan Stuck In Senate Traffic Jam**

Senate Republicans were not able to pull together enough support to vote out a road funding plan approved by House Republicans last week, with leadership pointing to proposed increases in registration fees as the primary holdup.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44627>

#### **State Treasurer: 'Inaction Is Not An Option' On DPS**

State Treasurer Nick KHOURI described the theme of his comments to a House panel this morning as "inaction is not an option" when it comes to the financial crisis facing Detroit Public Schools (DPS).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44624>

#### **Worst Case For Medicaid Is A \$1B Hole By FY '18**

If the Legislature passed no laws addressing the state's Medicaid program in the next three years, lawmakers would be staring at close to a \$1 billion in costs by Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 that aren't being paid today, according to numbers presented to a new House panel this morning.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44817>

## **State On First-Ever M-STEP Results: Not As Bad As We Thought**

No better than half of the state's students in grades 3-8 and the 11th grade are proficient in any subject at any grade level, according to results of the new statewide assessment released publicly today by the Department of Education.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44815>

## **Earley Declares Clean Hands On Flint Water Decision**

Former Flint Emergency Manager Darnell EARLEY was in charge when Flint left the Detroit water system, but today he absolved himself of any role in the decision, which eventually resulted in the city's current lead contamination problem.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44816>

## **Pscholka Hints At Prop A Reboot**

The far-reaching school reform/property tax cut plan known as Proposal A has not been reviewed since it's inception in 1994. Former Gov. Jennifer Granholm promised to "tweak" it when she was elected but it was never done.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44823>

## **Snyder Order Will Consolidate Oversight Of State Retirement Systems**

Gov. Rick SNYDER today moved to consolidate oversight of three state retirement systems under one board via the executive order.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44821>

## **DHHS Reports \$2.4M In Savings From Lease Changes**

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) saved \$2.4 million, including about \$1 million from the General Fund, by rearranging the leases of 15 of its offices, state officials told a House committee today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44814>

## **Strategic Fund Pulls Some Funding Away From Battery Manufacturer**

The Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) today voted to yank some funds back from an advanced battery manufacturer that hasn't come through on the number of jobs it projected it would create.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4700#44820>

## **Courser Files FOIA For Info On 'Extortionist'**

Former Rep. Todd COURSER on Monday filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) with the Michigan State Police (MSP) in which he asks for public records related to the telephone number from which text

messages arrived threatening to reveal information about his affair with Rep. Cindy GAMRAT if he didn't resign.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4700#44829>

## **Straight Dope On Marijuana Legalization**

On Nov. 12, MIRS along with Citizen's Research Council of Michigan and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce Foundation will be hosting "The Straight Dope On Legalization," a look at issues surrounding legalizing marijuana for recreational use.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4700#44816>

## **Bits And Tidbits**

Tilley Announces In 96th District

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4700#44825>

## **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Oct. 27, 1972, Pontiac became the first Michigan city to ban lead-based paint, which can cause brain damage if eaten by children. The Pontiac ordinance forbid the use or sale of lead-based paints and required corrective action on existing homes.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4700#44822>

## **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4700#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4700#updated_events)

## **House Committee Calendar Events**

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Financial Services**

Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 326 HOB

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**

Barrett, Tom; Rm: 308 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Local Government**

Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Elections**

Lyons, Lisa Posthumus; Rm: 308 HOB

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Workforce and Talent Development**

Johnson, Joel; Rm: 519 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Tourism and Outdoor Recreation**

Rendon, Bruce; Rm: 326 HOB

**Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015**

2:30 PM - **Finance**

(CANCELLED)Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Transportation**

Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

2:00 PM - **Insurance**

Hune, Joe; Rm: 100 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015**

2:30 PM - **Banking and Financial Institutions**

(CANCELLED)Booher, Darwin L. ; Rm: 100 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Local Government**

Zorn, Dale; Rm: 100 FB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

3:00 PM - **Families, Seniors and Human Services**

Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Commerce**

Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

2:00 PM - **Elections and Government Reform**

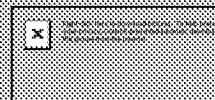
Robertson, David B; Rm: 110 FB

**Capitol Calendar Events**

No events have been updated on this calendar

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 20, 2015 9:33 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, October 20, 2015



Right-click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of this picture from the Internet.

## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, October 20, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **HOUSE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/house\\_action\\_report/show/856](http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/856)

### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/855](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/855)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Meekhof Calls On House To Vote On 'Last, Best' Road Deal**

Senate Majority Leader Arlan MEEKHOF (R-West Olive) called today on the House to advance and hold a vote on a \$1.2 billion road-funding plan that's been in negotiations behind closed doors for weeks.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695#44752>

#### **Draft Details Of DPS Plan Emerges, A-F Grade Scale Floated For Schools**

The proposed Detroit Education Commission (DEC) and its chief education officer (CEO) would evaluate Detroit schools on an A-F grading scale, and have the ability to close, move or restructure schools, according to a draft details of the Detroit education legislation to be introduced soon.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695#44754>

#### **Ananich Suggests Auditor, Oversight Committees Get Involved On Flint**

get="\_blank">ANANICH (D-Flint) continued his calls to pry deeper into the Flint water crisis today,

suggesting the legislative oversight committees take up an investigation and asking the state auditor general to dig in.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4695#44746>

### **Teacher Evaluation Bill Earns Passing Grade In Senate**

A bill creating a state standard in how public teachers are evaluated that once was too political to move out of a House committee went to Gov. Rick SNYDER's desk today after the Senate, like the House, passed it with no commotion.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4695#44750>

### **Colbeck Rolls Back Road Funding Need To \$700K In Debate**

If Michigan were to adopt new road building technologies, Sen. Patrick COLBECK (R-Canton) today said only \$700 million in additional funding is needed to gradually improve the state's roads, which is a number the House and Senate has already agreed to find within the state's existing revenue for the roads.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4695#44742>

### **Shirkey Supportive Of Presumptive Parole But Many Senators Still Leery**

Many GOP senators have expressed concerns over the presumptive parole legislation pending in the Senate Government Operations committee, but at least one believes it's something he can get behind.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4695#44753>

### **House Approves Changes To 'Kevin's Law' On Mental Health Care**

Changes aimed at boosting a 10-year-old law that outlines criteria for outpatient treatment of adults with severe mental illnesses gained overwhelming support this afternoon from the House.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4695#44745>

### **Steudle: MDOT Is Making Good On Legislature's Asks**

Facing further scrutiny from lawmakers today, Kirk STEUDLE, director of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), maintained that his department has hit the standards the Legislature has asked it to hit.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4695#44747>

### **Bills Eliminating Dower Law Advance To Full Senate**

A bill package removing all references to the state's little-used dower law regarding marital property rights moved to the Senate floor from the Senate Judiciary Committee today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4695#44749>

### **Snyder Signs Civil Asset Forfeiture Bills Into Law**



Police would need to follow a higher standard before seizing and permanently retaining a person's property during a criminal investigation under legislation that was signed into law by Gov. Rick SNYDER today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695#44753>

### **Straight Dope On Marijuana Legalization**

On Nov. 12, MIRS along with Citizen's Research Council of Michigan and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce Foundation will be hosting "The Straight Dope On Legalization," a look at issues surrounding legalizing marijuana for recreational use.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695#44744>

### **Senate Ed Hits 'Send' On Ban Student Data Collection For Marketing**

Legislation preventing web browsers and online service providers from collecting data on individual K-12 students was unanimously reported from the Senate Education Committee today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695#44751>

### **MIRS Expands, Hires Missouri Legislative Service Director**

MIRSnews.com, Lansing's leader in Capitol news, has expanded with the addition of Chris GALLOWAY as the company's Director of Legislative Services.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695#44743>

### **Bits And Tidbits**

Snyder Makes Appointments To Oakland County Court

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695#44755>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Oct. 20, 2001, the "Gateway to Freedom" sculptures were dedicated at the Detroit River, commemorating the critical role of Detroit and Windsor in the Underground Railroad.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695#44748>

### **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4695#updated_events)

### **House Committee Calendar Events**

#### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

10:30 AM - Tax Policy

Farrington, Jeff, Rm: 521 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Appropriations**

Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352 HAR

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Local Government**

Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Families, Children and Seniors**

Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Tourism and Outdoor Recreation**

Rendon, Bruce; Rm: 326 HOB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Education**

Price, Amanda; Rm: 521 HOB

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

2:30 PM - **Finance**

(CANCELLED) Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**

Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Local Government**

Zorn, Dale; Rm: 100 FB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015**

1:30 PM - **Economic Development and International Investment**

Horn, Ken; Rm: 210 FB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Elections and Government Reform**

Robertson, David B; Rm: 210 FB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

3:00 PM - **Families, Seniors and Human Services**

Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015**

2:30 PM - **Finance**

Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

12:00 PM

Rep. Scott Dianda Lunch Reception  
**Location:** Michigan Municipal League  
**Contact:** RSVP via email  
[curtsaudette@gmail.com](mailto:curtsaudette@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

8:30 AM  
Rep. Chris Greig Breakfast Reception  
**Location:** Governors Room  
**Contact:** RSVP via email  
[jjgreening@gmail.com](mailto:jjgreening@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015**

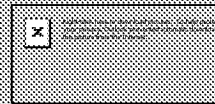
8:30 AM  
Michigan Railroads Association Winter Board Meeting  
**Location:** Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, MI 48911  
**Contact:** Barbara Russell 517-482-9413  
[mra@michiganrailroadsassociation.com](mailto:mra@michiganrailroadsassociation.com)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

11:30 AM  
Rep. Stephanie Chang Lunch Reception  
**Location:** Governors Room  
**Contact:** RSVP via email  
[ellen.heinitz@gmail.com](mailto:ellen.heinitz@gmail.com)

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From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source.



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<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **HOUSE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/house\\_action\\_report/show/849](http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/849)

### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/848](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/848)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Tax Relief Component Sends Road Talks To 'Impasse'**

Leadership discussions on an annual \$1.2 billion road funding package hit "an impasse" today over an income tax rollback component Republican leaders want included in the final deal.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44670>

#### **Bills Allowing Concealed Carry In Schools Head To Senate Floor**

The Senate Judiciary Committee today reported two bills on 4-1 votes allowing individuals to carry a concealed firearm in schools and other pistol-free zones while banning concealed carry in those areas.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44675>

#### **Consultants See 'Adult Debate' From Democratic Prez Exchange**

Tonight's first Democratic presidential debate showed the country why former Secretary of State Hillary CLINTON and U.S. Sen. Bernie SANDERS are up big in national polls and why lower-tier candidates

like Lincoln CHAFEE and Jim WEBB are struggling at around 1 percent.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44679>

## **75 MPH Max, Pilot Projects Floated As Compromise For Speed Reforms**

Lawmakers have begun floating details of a potential compromise that could help bills to reform how speed limits are set across Michigan motor on through the Legislature.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44679>

## **Committee Not Rushing To Advance D&E Abortion Ban**

A proposed ban on a common second-trimester abortion procedure that some have labeled "barbaric" drew heavy debate in a House committee today, but not a vote. And it could be a while before a vote happens, if it happens at all.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44679>

## **MDE: 43% Of Districts Go Their Own Way As Part Of Teacher Evals**

Some 43 percent of school districts are still using some sort of locally developed tool -- or some other tool besides four state-embraced models -- as part of their methods to evaluate teachers.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44677>

## **Did The Legislature Mess Up When Creating The MCCA?**

If the 1978 Legislature wanted to exempt the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association (MCCA) from the state's freedom of information law, it should have amended the latter law, too, the attorney for a group supporting the state auto no-fault law told the Michigan Supreme Court today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44668>

## **Mandatory Expulsion For Threats Against Teachers Debated In Committee**

Former Godwin Heights Public Schools teacher Diane JELKE remembers exactly where she was when a seventh grade student threatened to kill her.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44674>

## **MDP, Progress Michigan Calls For Earley's Firing**

The Michigan Democratic Party (MDP) and the progressive action group Progress Michigan today called on Gov. Rick SNYDER to fire Darnell EARLEY from his job as the Detroit Public Schools' emergency manger (EM) for signing off on the Flint water switch as Flint's EM.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44671>

## **SBE Puts Two Cents In On Teacher Evals, 3rd Grade Reading, Flint Water**

The SBE today lent its latest thoughts on the third grade reading and teacher evaluation bills as they

move closer to possible action in the House.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44676>

## **Bits And Tidbits**

Snyder Congratulates Michigan Legislative Consultants Turning 50

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44672>

## **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Oct. 13, 1813, Lewis CASS was appointed the governor of the Michigan territory following the Oct. 5 United States' victory over British and Indian forces "as far as Michigan was concerned" as part of the War of 1812. Cass had been the brigadier general under William Henry HARRISON.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#44669>

## **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4690#updated_events)

## **House Committee Calendar Events**

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

10:30 AM - **General Government**

Cox, Laura; Rm: 307 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

10:30 AM - **General Government**

Cox, Laura; Rm: 307 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**

Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Health Policy**

Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**

Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**

Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Appropriations**

Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352 HAR

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Workforce and Talent Development**  
Johnson, Joel; Rm: 519 HOB

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

#### **3:00 PM - Judiciary**

Jones, Rick; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

#### **1:00 PM - Regulatory Reform**

Rocca, Tory; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

#### **9:00 AM - Elections and Government Reform**

Robertson, David B; Rm: 210 FB

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

#### **12:30 PM - Natural Resources**

Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

#### **2:00 PM - Appropriations**

Hildenbrand, Dave; Rm: SAR

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

#### **12:30 PM - Energy and Technology**

Nofs, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

#### **3:00 PM - Families, Seniors and Human Services**

Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

### **MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2015**

6:00 PM

How The Courser-Gamrat Story Broke: Presented by the Mid-Michigan SPJ Pro Chapter(Sponsored by Mid-Michigan SPJ Pro Chapter)

**Guest Speakers:** Chad Livengood, Kyle Melinn, and David Waymire

**Location:** , Kelly's in Downtown, Lansing, MI 48915

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

11:00 AM

Annual 2015 Michigan Rehabilitation Services Champions Award Ceremony(Sponsored by Michigan Rehabilitation Services and the Michigan Council for Rehabilitation Services)

**Location:**

**Contact:** Bob Wheaton 517-373-7394

[wheatonb@michigan.gov](mailto:wheatonb@michigan.gov)

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

5:00 PM

State Senator Jack Brandenburg Fall Reception

**Location:** Governors Room

**Contact:** Jack Brandenburg 586-465-7144  
[jbrandenburg@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jbrandenburg@sbcglobal.net)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

7:00 PM

Hailing a Solution to Ridesharing in Michigan(Sponsored by Generation Opportunity)

**Guest Speakers:** State Rep. Brandt Iden, Mike Van Beek, Carla Jacobs, Dr. Ross Emmett

**Location:** James Madison College Library, 3rd Floor of Case Hall, 842 Chestnut Road, East Lansing, MI 48825

**Contact:** Kevin Gardner 517-375-9029  
[KGardner@genopp.org](mailto:KGardner@genopp.org)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

8:00 AM

Senator Steven Bieda Fundraiser(Sponsored by Committee to Elect Steven Bieda Senator)

**Location:** MI Beer & Wine Wholesalers

**Contact:** J. Platte  
[jplatte@comcast.net](mailto:jplatte@comcast.net)

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

5:00 PM

Senator Tory Rocca Evening Reception

**Location:** Tavern & Tap

**Contact:** Scott 517-881-0013  
[toryrocca@yahoo.com](mailto:toryrocca@yahoo.com)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

5:30 PM

Fall for Detroit 2015(Sponsored by Mike Duggan for Mayor Committee)

**Guest Speakers:** Mayor Mike Duggan

**Location:** Eastern Market, Shed 3

**Contact:** Carrie 313-462-0808  
[carrie@dugganfordetroit.com](mailto:carrie@dugganfordetroit.com)

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

5:00 PM

Senator Jim Stamas Reception

**Location:** Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Sq., Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** Holy Tatman 517-267-9012  
[htatman@sterlingcorporation.com](mailto:htatman@sterlingcorporation.com)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

7:00 PM

Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence Birthday Celebration(Sponsored by Brenda Lawrence for Congress)

**Location:** Tom O'Shanter Country Club, 5051 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, MI 48037

**Contact:** RSVP to Shannon Salk at 248-262-7502 - OR - by email  
[ShannonMSalk@gmail.com](mailto:ShannonMSalk@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

10:00 AM

Advocacy Training and Legislative Day(Sponsored by Michigan Nonprofit Association)

**Guest Speakers:** Multiple

**Location:** Anderson House Office Building, 5th Floor Mackinac Room

**Contact:** Joan Bowman 517-230-8110



[jbowman@mnaonline.org](mailto:jbowman@mnaonline.org)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

6:00 PM

Education Town Hall(Sponsored by Rep. Sam Singh)

**Location:** Hannah Community Center

**Contact:** Sam Singh

[votesamsingh@gmail.com](mailto:votesamsingh@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

8:00 AM

Senator Rick Jones Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** RSVP to 517-420-5417 - OR

[smccormick87@gmail.com](mailto:smccormick87@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

8:00 AM

Senate Republican Caucus Fall Fundraiser

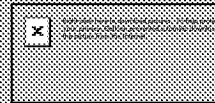
**Location:** Governors Room

**Contact:** Dawn Blakslee 517-371-2006

[srcc@msrcc.com](mailto:srcc@msrcc.com)

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[www.mirsnews.com](http://www.mirsnews.com)

**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirnews.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 04, 2015 1:51 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
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MIRS News

## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, November 3, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Snyder Says He's 'Ready' To Sign \$1.2B Road Plan Into Law**

Holding up a pen during a press conference tonight, Gov. Rick SNYDER announced that he's "ready" to sign the Legislature's \$1.2 billion road funding plan into law.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44887>

#### **Howell, Whiteford Advance By Knocking Off Courser, Gamrat**

The curtain closed on former Reps. Todd COURSER and Cindy GAMRAT's strange melodrama tonight when both former state representatives failed in their individual bids to return to a state House that chased them away two months ago.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44894>

#### **Mayoral Incumbents Unseated In Flint, East Lansing**

A political newcomer in Flint with less than a fifth of her rivals' funding won 55 percent of the vote. And in East Lansing, former mayor Mark MEADOWS is back on city council after the current mayor, Nathan TRIPLETT, lost.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44899>

#### **Nesbitt's New Energy Plan Yields Same Claims From Choice Advocates**

A new proposed substitute to House Energy Policy Chair Aric NESBITT's (R-Lawton) energy reform bill circulated around town today on the eve of a potential committee vote, but the arguments coming from those following the issue are anything but new.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44882>

### **Voters Approve 56% Of Local Road Requests, New Money Asks Go 67%**

On the night lawmakers passing a statewide road funding plan, local road millage proposals were rejected almost as much as they were accepted.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44890>

### **Bombs Being Lobbed Early In 8th**

The way the bombs are flying in the budding 2016 8th Congressional District race, you'd think the district made up of Ingham, Livingston and northern Oakland counties was a 50/50 seat.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44876>

### **Compromise, Desire To 'Solve Roads' Helped Gather Votes For Funding Plan**

There were multiple closed-door caucus meetings and about 11 hours of session today. But in the end, House Republicans were able to find the needed votes for a \$1.2 billion transportation funding plan.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44869>

### **Ohio Voters Snuff Out Recreational Marijuana**

Ohio voters today voted almost 2:1 against a proposal to legalize marijuana in its state.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44885>

### **Detroit Pastor Demands Snyder Recall, Citing Flint Water 'Tragedy'**

A Detroit pastor is seeking to mount a recall campaign against Gov. Rick SNYDER, pointing to the Flint water crisis and what he said is the Governor's alleged culpability for it.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44881>

### **Former Senate Republican Leader, GCSI Founder Robert VanderLaan Dies**

Robert VANDERLAAN, a longtime state senator, former Senate Majority Leader and co-founder of the lobbying firm Governmental Consulting Services, Inc. (GCSI), died Sunday at 85 years old.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44883>

### **New Cop Killer Alert System Signed Into Law**

A federal program designed to track at-large suspects who have injured or killed a police officer will be

created in Michigan under legislation signed today by Gov. Rick SNYDER.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44686>

### **Priebus Heralds MRP's 2-Year-Old Detroit Office**

Republican National Committee Chair Reince PRIEBUS was in Detroit today celebrating the 2-year birthday of the Michigan Republican Party's (MRP) Detroit office off Livernois Avenue.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44678>

### **Michigan Small Towns Fall Average In Middle Of National Survey**

A national survey released today listed Allen Park as the Michigan small city with the best mix of "quality of life" and affordable living costs. Pontiac was Michigan's worst small city based on 22 metrics ranging from school system quality to the number of restaurants per capita.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44677>

### **Straight Dope On Marijuana Legalization**

At noon on Nov. 12, MIRS along with Citizen's Research Council of Michigan and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce Foundation will be hosting "The Straight Dope On Legalization," a look at issues surrounding legalizing marijuana for recreational use.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44680>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Nov. 3, 1930, the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel between Michigan and Canada officially opened to car traffic. The world's only international subaqueous tunnel made it possible to "pass from one great country to the other in the short space of three minutes," according to Windsor Mayor Frederick JACKSON.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#44679>

### **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4705#updated_events)

### **House Committee Calendar Events**

#### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

3:00 PM - **Licensing and Regulatory Affairs**  
(CANCELLED) Afendoulis, Chris; Rm: 424 CB

#### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Families, Children and Seniors**  
Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

#### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Energy Policy**

Nesbitt, Aric; Rm: 519 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

10:30 AM - **AGRICULTURE, JOINT MEETING WITH APPROPS: AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Nesbitt, Aric; Rm: 519 HOB

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Education**

Price, Amanda; Rm: 521 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Local Government**

Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Appropriations**

Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352 HAR

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Government Operations**

Jacobsen, Bradford; Rm: 327 HOB

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Workforce and Talent Development**

Johnson, Joel; Rm: 519 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**

Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

2:30 PM - **Banking and Financial Institutions**

(CANCELLED)Booher, Darwin L. ; Rm: 100 FB

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

2:00 PM - **Appropriations**

Hildenbrand, Dave; Rm: HARRY T. GAST APPROPRIATIONS ROOM, CB

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Transportation**

Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

3:00 PM - **Families, Seniors and Human Services**

Emmons, Judy K.; Rm: 210 FB

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

9:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Fennville City Hall  
**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564  
[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

12:30 PM  
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours  
**Location:** Plainwell City Hall  
**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564  
[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015**

2:00 PM  
Military Service Academy Information Session(Sponsored by U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell)  
**Guest Speakers:** Reps. from the U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Military Academy and U.S. Naval Academy  
**Location:** Taylor Sportsplex, Room C  
**Contact:** Hannah Smith 202-315-8446  
[Hannah.smith@mail.house.gov](mailto:Hannah.smith@mail.house.gov)

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

10:00 AM  
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours  
**Location:** Antwerp Township Hall  
**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564  
[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

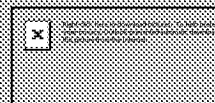
10:30 AM  
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours  
**Location:** Mugshots Coffeehouse  
**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564  
[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

11:30 AM  
Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours  
**Location:** Paw Paw District Library  
**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564  
[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 17, 2015 7:17 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, November 17, 2015



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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, November 17, 2015**

<http://www.mirnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirnews.com/handheld/>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Sparrow, HAP Protest Exclusion From State's \$35B Medicaid Contract**

The state's decisions on who will serve Michigan's Medicaid patients has some firms saying their exclusion from the new contracts will disrupt care for tens of thousands of patients and result in lost jobs.

<http://www.mirnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45014>

#### **Quick Action Planned For \$5B Data Center Project Tax Breaks**

When lawmakers return in December, committees in both the House and the Senate will begin considering new tax exemptions inspired by a Grand Rapids-area project that would purportedly bring the largest data center campus in the eastern United States to Michigan.

<http://www.mirnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45015>

#### **Medically Frail Inmates Cleared For Parole Under Bills Up Next Month**

Next month, the House Appropriations Committee will take up bills that would allow prisoners deemed "medically frail" a chance at parole, the committee's chair, Rep. Al PSCHOLKA (R-Stevensville), says.

<http://www.mirnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45017>

#### **Smith Apologizes To Legislative Black Caucus**



Sen. Virgil SMITH, Jr., (D-Detroit) personally apologized to the Legislative Black Caucus last week for the incident that spurred four criminal charges leveled against him six months ago (See "Virgil Smith In Police Custody Following Weekend Shooting Incident," 5/11/15).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45011>

### **Bentivolio Approached About Trott Rematch, Not Ruling It Out**

Former Congressman Kerry BENTIVOLIO said some "high-dollar contributors" have approached him about challenging U.S. Rep. David TROTT (R-Birmingham) in 2016, and "I haven't ruled it out."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45009>

### **Fed Suit Goes After State, Flint Officials For Water Woes**

A suit has dropped in federal court seeking class action relief against the state and city of Flint for the "deliberate decision to expose (Flint residents) to the extreme toxicity of water pumped from the Flint River."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45010>

### **Courser Believes MSP 'Looking To Get Me In Prison'**

Former Rep. Todd COURSER said he believes the Michigan State Police (MSP) went on a "fishing expedition" of the last five years of his life to try to get something on him they could use to charge him with something that would "get me in prison."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45012>

### **Lead Bullets Put Wildlife At Risk Experts Say**

Hunting Michigan wildlife can mean bringing down game with bullets, but not just in the way you think.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45008>

### **Poll: 60% Support \$1 Hike In Cig Tax**

Sixty percent of registered Michigan voters would support a \$1-a-pack increase in the state's \$2-a-pack cigarette tax, according to EPIC-MRA polling of 600 voters paid for by several health-related associations between Oct. 25-31.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45013>

### **Chamber Runs Ads Backing GOP Lawmakers Who Backed Roads**

The Michigan Chamber of Commerce is providing a bit of friendly air cover for two House Republicans in vulnerable districts who voted for the recently passed \$1.2 billion road funding package.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45018>

### **Bits And Tidbits**

## Anti-Fracking Group Holding Press Conference

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45019>

## On This Day In Michigan History

On Nov. 17, 1836, the newspaper known as the Detroit Advertiser used its circulation to argue that Michigan's Legislature couldn't legally issue the call for a second convention to consider accepting statehood in the union. At the first convention, voters had rejected the terms of admission offered by the U.S. Congress.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#45019>

## Updated Calendar Events:

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4714#updated_events)

## House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

## Senate Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

## Capitol Calendar Events

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2015**

12:30 PM

Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren to Preview Research on Improving Detroit School Landscape(Sponsored by Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren; Truscott Rossman)

**Guest Speakers:** onya Allen, Skillman Foundation president & CEO; David Hecker, president of AFT Michigan/AFLCIO; John Rakolta Jr., CEO of Walbridge; Clark Durant, cofounder and former CEO, Cornerstone

**Location:** Truscott Rossman, Cain Conference Room

**Contact:** Josh Hovey 517-487-9320

[jhovey@truscottrossman.com](mailto:jhovey@truscottrossman.com)

### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2015**

11:00 AM

Progress Michigan to Announce Launch of New Transparency Campaign(Sponsored by Progress Michigan)

**Location:** Progress Michigan Office

**Contact:** Sam Ingot 616-916-0574

[sam@progressmichigan.org](mailto:sam@progressmichigan.org)

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2015**

1:00 PM

Detroit Lions\ Tahir Whitehead to speak about succeeding in school; Player visiting Martin Luther King Jr. High School in Detroit on Tuesday(Sponsored by Michigan Department of Health and Human Services)

**Guest Speakers:** Detroit Lions' Tahir Whitehead; Carol Viventi, MDHHS Director; Principal Deborah Jenkins

**Location:** Martin Luther King Jr. Senior High School

**Contact:** Bob Wheaton 517-373-7394

[wheatonb@michigan.gov](mailto:wheatonb@michigan.gov)

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2015**

5:30 PM

2015 MVCA Annual Awards Dinner(Sponsored by Michigan Venture Capital Association)

**Guest Speakers:** Gregg Kaplan from Pritzker Group

**Location:** The Inn at St. John's, 44045 Five Mile Road, Plymouth, MI 48170

**Contact:** Emily Heintz

[Emily@michiganvca.org](mailto:Emily@michiganvca.org)

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2016**

5:00 PM

Michigan Soft Drink Association Annual Legislative Reception(Sponsored by Michigan Soft Drink Association)

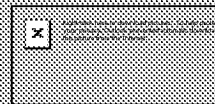
**Location:** 9th Floor, Capitol View Building

**Contact:** Derek Bajema 517-371-4499

[bajema@misofdrink.net](mailto:bajema@misofdrink.net)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
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**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, November 10, 2015



## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, November 10, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710>

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### **HOUSE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/house\\_action\\_report/show/876](http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/876)

### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/877](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/877)

### **PUBLIC ACTS**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/public\\_acts/all](http://www.mirsnews.com/public_acts/all)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Snyder Signs Long-Awaited Road Funding Plan Into Law**

The long-desired plan to eventually inject \$1.2 billion into the state's roads was officially made law today, thanks to the stroke of Gov. Rick SNYDER's pen.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710#44959>

#### **Straight Ticket Voting Repeal Fast Tracked Out Of Senate**

An amended version of a bill to do away with straight ticket voting in Michigan was fast tracked out of the Senate today over protests from Democrats and some officials in charge of local elections.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710#44955>

#### **After Compromise, Biosimilars Bill Passes House**

A bill that outlines how new types of medicines will be handled in Michigan passed the House this afternoon after a compromise with supporters of a competing proposal.

<http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?id=4710#44967>

### **Bill To Ban 2nd Trimester Abortion Procedure Reported To House Floor**

A proposal that would ban what many consider to be a common second trimester abortion procedure advanced to the House floor this morning.

<http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?id=4710#44964>

### **Bills Prohibiting Union Leave Time On Public Dime Pass Senate**

Legislation preventing paid leave time for union officials on union business from being a part of collective bargaining conversations passed out of the Senate today.

<http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?id=4710#44963>

### **Senate OKs Oakland County Executive Election Switch**

A controversial bill to switch Oakland and Bay counties' executive elections to gubernatorial years starting in 2018 easily sailed off the Senate floor today -- but not without dispute from Democrats.

<http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?id=4710#44966>

### **State Ed Board OKs Science Standards, Social Studies Under Further Review**

The State Board of Education (SBE) approved new statewide standards for science today, but the state officials again delayed the timeline to approve social studies standards after receiving a flurry of input on them.

<http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?id=4710#44969>

### **Kivela Arrested For Drunken Driving, Plans To Seek Treatment**

Rep. John KIVELA (D-Marquette) revealed today that he was arrested late Monday night for operating a vehicle under the influence.

<http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?id=4710#44963>

### **Khouri: 'Very Remote' Chance Of EM Or Bankruptcy For Wayne County**

It's not producing nearly as many headlines nor producing as much angst as the Detroit bankruptcy story, as efforts to slice the Wayne County deficit appear to be on track with Gov. Rick SNYDER's administration giving good marks to County Executive Warren EVANS for getting there.

<http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?id=4710#44962>

### **House Panel Looking Into Changes To Teacher Retirement System**

The House Appropriations School Aid Subcommittee is diving into a new round of discussions on changes that could be made to save money on the Michigan Public School Public Employees Retirement System (MPERS).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710#44963>

### **EPA Audit Of DEQ Joins Flint Water Investigations**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today it would be auditing Michigan's drinking water program in the wake of the Flint water crisis.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710#44960>

### **Robinson To Depart As Head Of Campaign Finance Network**

There will soon be someone new digging for dark money and poring through state campaign finance records, as Rich ROBINSON said he's stepping aside as the executive director of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network (MCFN).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710#44957>

### **Bills Defining Franchisees As Employers Passes Senate**

A pair of bills stipulating that a franchise owner -- not the franchising company itself -- is the direct employer of its employees in response to a federal ruling still working its way through court today cleared the Senate floor.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710#44964>

### **Bits And Tidbits**

Mielke Announces Campaign In Competitive 99th

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710#44965>

### **MIRS Subscribers Please Note**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710#44962>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710#44961>

### **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4710#updated_events)

### **House Committee Calendar Events**

#### **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Health and Human Services**

VerHeulen, Rob; Rm: 352 HAR

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

8:15 AM - **Financial Services**

Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 307 HOB

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Insurance**

(CANCELLED)Leonard, Tom; Rm: 521 HOB

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**

Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Workforce and Talent Development**

(CANCELLED)Johnson, Joel; Rm: 519 HOB

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Communications and Technology**

Jacobsen, Bradford; Rm: 519 HOB

**Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Elections and Government Reform**

Robertson, David B; Rm: 110 FB

**Capitol Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

8:00 AM

Rep. Jon Hoadley Breakfast Reception - 8:45 AM

**Location:** Governors Room

**Contact:** PLEASE NOTE CORRECT TIME IS 8:45 AM

[heather.ricketts@gmail.com](mailto:heather.ricketts@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015**

7:00 AM

2nd Annual Caring for Our Homeless Veterans Walk/Run and Collection Drive(Sponsored by Goodman Acker, P.C.)

**Guest Speakers:** PLEASE NOTE TIME 6 AM TO NOON

**Location:** Detroit Tough Gym

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015**

11:00 AM

Rep. Jon Hoadley Thanksgiving Brunch - 11:15 AM

**Location:** The Law Offices of Miller Canfield

**Contact:** PLEASE NOTE CORRECT TIME IS 11:15 AM - RSVP via email

[heather.ricketts@gmail.com](mailto:heather.ricketts@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015**

8:00 AM

Veterans Day Ceremony(Sponsored by Holland Community and U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga)

**Guest Speakers:** Gunnery Sergeant David Pizana, West MI Veterans and Congressman Bill Huizenga

- special tribute to Staff Sergeant Andrew Seif  
**Location:** West Ottawa High School, North Gymnasium  
**Contact:** Brian Patrick 202-225-4401

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 03, 2015 9:50 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, February 3, 2015



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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Tuesday, February 3, 2015**

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### **HOUSE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/house\\_action\\_report/show/688](http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/688)

### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/687](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/687)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Santana Says He's Been Expelled From Dem Caucus**

Rep. Harvey SANTANA (D-Detroit), the new minority vice chair of the House Appropriations Committee, says he's been kicked out of Democratic caucus meetings.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42154>

#### **Lease Increase Approved For MDOT Railcars, Snyder Studying The Issue**

A state board today increased the Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) lease payments for some commuter railcars that currently aren't being used by the state.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42157>

#### **Young Wants Local Judges' Pay Unlinked From Justices' Salaries**

Local judicial salaries would be given the same type of pay increase as state government's non-union management as opposed to being a flat percentage like a Supreme Court Justice's salary under

legislation endorsed today Michigan Chief Justice Robert YOUNG, Jr.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42156>

### **Lawmakers Drill Down On MDOT Expenses As Ballot Proposal Looms**

Planes. Trains. And government buildings. The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) spends money on all of them, and some state lawmakers are examining those expenses closely this month.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42158>

### **Senate OK's Gun Board Elimination In First Vote This Session**

Revised versions of Sen. Mike GREEN's (R-Mayville) bills to repeal concealed pistol licensing boards sailed through the Senate today, making them the first bills voted off the floor this session.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42160>

### **Sports Officials Urge Senators To Make Referee Assault A Felony**

A screaming coach at a game full of 10-year-olds was all it took to bring Kris BIENIEWICZ back to the moment that altered her family's life forever.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42165>

### **Snyder, Some Lawmakers Won't Commit To Mandatory Vaccinations**

Gov. Rick SNYDER and other elected officials today shied away from the idea of mandating the vaccination of children, although the Governor said he "would hope" people get their children vaccinated.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42162>

### **Right To Life Launches Statewide TV Ad Campaign**

The Right to Life of Michigan Educational Fund is running TV ads across the state this month that tell the stories of two women who oppose abortion and were conceived from rape.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42161>

### **Report: Feds Nearing Deal To Build NITC Plaza**

The President might not have included federal funding for a New International Trade Crossing customs plaza in his budget unveiled Monday, but federal officials say they are close to a deal.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42159>

### **SOS Johnson Waiting To Take Stand On Prop 1**

First Bill SCHUETTE.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42153>

## **Senate Democrats Urge Snyder To Scrap Gay Marriage Appeal**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42152>

## **Flint Given \$2M To Fix Water System**

The city of Flint, under fire from residents for having too much disinfection byproduct in its water system, received \$2 million in grants from Gov. Rick SNYDER today to help detect leaks in its water lines and replace the water control facility's incinerator.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42150>

## **Bits And Tidbits**

Number Of Customers Waiting For Electric Choice Still Around 11K

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42151>

## **MIRS Subscribers Please Note**

Due to difficulties with the contractor MIRS' uses for SMS or text message delivery of breaking news alerts, an errant alert went out 11:35 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2015 about state offices closing Monday.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42163>

## **On This Date In Michigan History**

On Feb. 3, 1838, the Michigan Central Railroad began service.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#42164>

## **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4513#updated_events)

## **House Committee Calendar Events**

### **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Appropriations**

Pscholka, Al; Rm: HAR

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

### **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Transportation**

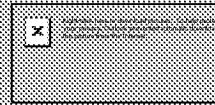
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

No events have been updated on this calendar

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 8:00 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, October 8, 2015



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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, October 8, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **HOUSE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/house\\_action\\_report/show/847](http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/847)

### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/848](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/848)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Legislative Leaders Begin Ironing Out Road Plan Details**

After participating in one of their longest closed-door meetings yet, House and Senate leaders reported this afternoon that they've begun agreeing to some details of what's expected to be a \$1.2-billion road-funding plan.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44632>

#### **Flint To Return To Detroit Water, Gov Asks Lawmakers To Help Cover Cost**

(FLINT) -- The city of Flint will transition back to getting its water from Detroit within weeks, and Gov. Rick SNYDER said today he is in "full support."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44634>

#### **Speaker Says He's 'Committed To Taking Action' On Flint Water**

Just hours after Gov. Rick SNYDER requested that the Legislature provide \$6 million to help connect

Flint to a different water source, key lawmakers seemed more than open to the idea today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44635>

### **Miller As Caretaker Speaker?**

So who is going to replace retiring U.S. House Speaker John BOEHNER at the end of the month now that U.S. Majority Leader Kevin McCARTHY said he's not the person for the job?

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44631>

### **Schuetz Takes A Pair Of Disclosure-Related Hits**

Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE's office suggested a state agency attach a \$52,000 fee to a perceived bothersome Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request and a "dark money" group that advocated for his re-election is now the subject of a federal complaint.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44640>

### **Meekhof: How Do We Make Medical Marijuana Process Better?**

The current way in which medical marijuana is distributed in Michigan is a "messy, messy thing" that is leaving "a lot of people not satisfied," said Senate Majority Leader Arlan MEEKHOF (R-West Olive).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44639>

### **'Out-Of-Whack' Insurance Code Revamped Under New Bills**

A new three-bill package that spans some 234 pages would "modernize" state health insurance laws and would help them to make more sense for companies and regulators alike, supporters told a House committee today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44636>

### **Michigan Corporations Split On Senate Energy Plan**

Even some of Michigan's largest users of energy remain divided over how to move forward with the state's energy plan.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44641>

### **Senate OK's Anti-Breed Discrimination Bill**

Legislation preventing local governments from banning or restricting ownership of pit bulls and other so-called "dangerous" dog breeds was passed out of the Senate today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4687#44633>

### **Students Would Need Six Hours Of Genocide Teaching Under Bill**

Public school students need to be exposed to at least six hours of teaching on genocide and the Holocaust by the time they graduate, according to legislation that has re-emerged in the House this

term.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4667#44629>

### **Liberal Group Files Complaint Involving 3 MI Reps.**

A publicly identified liberal watchdog group filed a congressional ethics complaint against 23 members, including U.S. Reps. Dan BENISHEK (R-Crystal Falls), Tim WALBERG (R-Tipton) and Mike BISHOP (R-Rochester) for filling out a political form that asked for information on members' legislative strategy.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4667#44630>

### **Bits And Tidbits**

Buiteweg Becomes New President Of State Bar

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4667#44630>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Oct. 8, 2007, in the wake of the budget debacle, Gov. Jennifer GRANHOLM told reporters she thought there was no need to revisit the expansion of the use tax on services, which had been part of the 12th hour budget solution.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4667#44637>

### **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4667#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4667#updated_events)

## **House Committee Calendar Events**

#### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Education**

Price, Amanda; Rm: 521 HOB

#### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

10:30 AM - **General Government**

Cox, Laura; Rm: 307 HOB

#### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**

Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

#### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Health Policy**

Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

#### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Families, Children and Seniors**

Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

#### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**  
Inman, Larry C.; Rm: 424 CB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**  
Inman, Larry C.; Rm: 424 CB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**  
Inman, Larry C.; Rm: 424 CB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**  
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

2:30 PM - **Finance**  
Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Education**  
Pavlov, Phil; Rm: 110 FB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**  
Rocca, Tory; Rm: 210 FB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

1:30 PM - **Economic Development and International Investment**  
Horn, Ken; Rm: 210 FB

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2015**

11:00 AM  
Senator Patrick Colbeck October Office Hours  
**Location:** Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48154  
**Contact:** Sen. Colbeck Staff 517-373-5713  
[senpcolbeck@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senpcolbeck@senate.michigan.gov)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015**

7:00 PM  
19th Annual Charles Hamilton Houston Black Tie Affair(Sponsored by Cooley Law School)  
**Guest Speakers:** New York Police Commissioner William J. Bratton  
**Location:** , Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, 219 South Harrison Rd., East Lansing, MI 48933  
**Contact:** Yanique Kennedy (407) 414-4337  
[kennedyv@cooley.edu](mailto:kennedyv@cooley.edu)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015**

5:30 PM  
West Michigan Meet the Players(Sponsored by MICPA, State Bar of Michigan Taxation Section, Michigan Women's Taxation Section)



**Location:** , Cascade Hills Country Club, 3725 Cascade Road SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

**Contact:** Shane Barry 248.267.3700

[sbarry@micpa.org](mailto:sbarry@micpa.org)

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2015**

6:30 PM

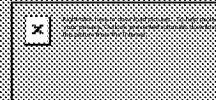
2015 ACLU of Michigan Annual Dinner(Sponsored by American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan)

**Guest Speakers:** Charles M. Blow

**Location:** , The Henry Ford Museum, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, MI 48124

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<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

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### **HOUSE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/house\\_action\\_report/show/860](http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/860)

### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/859](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/859)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Will House Republicans Face Primary Heat For Road Tax Votes?**

Fifty-four House Republicans signed off Wednesday night on both a gradual 3.3 percent gas tax and 40 percent driver registration increase, moves that infuriated conservative activists, but left them in a position to do little about it, in the short term.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44775>

#### **Senate R's Still Studying House Road Plan, D's Call It A 'Step Backwards'**

Senate Republican leadership largely remained pensive on ideas laid out in the House's \$1.2 billion road plan that moved out of the chamber late Wednesday night, but several Democrats are unconvinced the plan as written is an effective solution.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44781>

#### **Disagreement Rules In House On What To Do About Gun Violence**

As Senate Republicans prep a bill that would allow for the concealed carry of guns inside schools and

churches, House Democrats touted their own proposals this morning that would go in a far different direction.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44777>

### **Lawmaker Sees `Child Kidnappers' Bill Of Rights' In Domestic Abuse Bill**

One House member said the bill looks out for the best interest of children. Another said it would provide a "Child Kidnappers' Bill Of Rights."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44778>

### **AG: Counties Need Vote Of People To Levy Certain Taxes Past Limit**

Counties aren't allowed to levy certain taxes past their constitutional limitations without a vote of the people, according to an opinion issued today by Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44776>

### **Is Flint Water Snyder's PBB Issue?**

Some observers in town think Gov. Rick SNYDER's handling of the Flint lead-in-the-water controversy may be analogous to former Gov. William MILLIKEN's PBB challenge back in the `70s.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44782>

### **Amateur MMA Regulation Bills En Route To Governor**

Two bills aiming to regulate amateur boxing and mixed martial arts (MMA) fights are headed to Gov. Rick SNYDER's desk after several years of back-and-forth on the matter between the House and Senate.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44783>

### **Snyder Appoints Two Judges To Wayne County Courts**

Gov. Rick SNYDER announced today the appointments of Adel HARB to the Wayne County 3rd Circuit Court and Lawrence PAOLUCCI to the Wayne County Probate Court.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44780>

### **State Must Pay Legal Bill Under Bills**

State government would pick up the legal bill of residents who prevail in a regulatory lawsuit against a state agency, under legislation that saw its first hearing in a Senate committee this morning.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44774>

### **Gamrat, Courser Campaign Against House Roads Plan**

Within 90 minutes of each other, former Reps. Todd COURSER and Cindy GAMRAT sent out separate emails this afternoon claiming they would have been no votes on a pair of House bills that propose

raising the gas tax and vehicle registration fees.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44785>

## Bits And Tidbits

Candidate For Civil Rights Director Drops Out Ahead Of Interview

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44784>

## On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 22, 1996, funeral services were announced for Rep. Bob DeMARS (D-Lincoln Park) who died suddenly the previous day outside an American Legion Post. DeMars, a 15-year House member, was up for re-election at the time.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#44779>

## Updated Calendar Events:

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4697#updated_events)

## House Committee Calendar Events

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015

9:00 AM - **Health Policy**

Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015

12:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015

9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**

Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

## Senate Committee Calendar Events

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015

9:00 AM - **CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY COMMISSION**|Bruce Caswell

Rm: HARRY T. GAST APPROPRIATIONS ROOM, CB

## Capitol Calendar Events

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015

10:30 AM

Rep. Robert Wittenberg – Brunch Reception

**Location:** Michigan Municipal League

**Contact:** RSVP to Ricardo via email

[whitericardo240@gmail.com](mailto:whitericardo240@gmail.com)

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015

10:30 AM

Rep. LaTanya Garrett – Brunch Reception

**Location:** Michigan Municipal League

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[cte.latanvagarrett@gmail.com](mailto:cte.latanvagarrett@gmail.com)

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015**

7:00 PM

Rep. Sheldon Neeley – 2nd Annual Unity Gala

**Location:** Signature Chop House Grand Ballroom

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[neeleyrep34@gmail.com](mailto:neeleyrep34@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015**

8:00 AM

Rep. Sam Singh – Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Michigan Municipal League

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[kornmoli@gmail.com](mailto:kornmoli@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**

10:00 AM

Rep. Sherry Gay-Dagnogo – Lunch Reception

**Location:** Kelley Cawthorne

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[quinney.morgan17@gmail.com](mailto:quinney.morgan17@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

4:30 PM

Rep. Julie Plawecki Fall Reception and Hard Cider Tasting

**Location:** Fundraiser, Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan St., Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** Joseph Sullivan 5179172985

[jsull86@hotmail.com](mailto:jsull86@hotmail.com)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**

5:00 PM

Rep. George Darany – Annual Fall Reception

**Guest Speakers:** Former Congressman John Dingell

**Location:** LaPita Banquet Hall

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[wdrake@gmail.com](mailto:wdrake@gmail.com)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

8:00 AM

Rep. Jon Hoadley – Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Governors Room

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[heather.ricketts@gmail.com](mailto:heather.ricketts@gmail.com)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

8:30 AM

Rep. Kristy Pagan – Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Michigan Health and Hospital Association

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[kristy@kristypagan.com](mailto:kristy@kristypagan.com)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**

5:30 PM

Rep. Derek Miller – Evening Reception

**Location:** Warren Fraternal Order of Police Hall

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[ryanbardoni@gmail.com](mailto:ryanbardoni@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

11:30 AM

Rep. Marcia Hovey-Wright – Lunch Reception

**Location:** Michigan Health and Hospital Association

**Contact:** RSVP to Marcia 231-740-8492 - OR -

[gregalmcc79@gmail.com](mailto:gregalmcc79@gmail.com)

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015**

11:00 AM

Rep. Jon Hoadley –Thanksgiving Brunch

**Location:** The Law Offices of Miller Canfield

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[heather.ricketts@gmail.com](mailto:heather.ricketts@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015**

8:30 AM

Rep. Tim Greimel – Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Michigan Health and Hospital Association

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[hilkippe@gmail.com](mailto:hilkippe@gmail.com)

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2015**

4:00 PM

Rep. Erika Geiss –Autumn Afternoon of Classical Music

**Guest Speakers:** Featuring Erika Geiss on violin and Tim Michling on oboe

**Location:** Geiss Residence

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[electgeiss@electgeiss.com](mailto:electgeiss@electgeiss.com)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015**

9:00 AM

Rep. Sam Singh Coffee Hour

**Location:** Meridian Senior Center

**Contact:** Sam Singh

[votesamsingh@gmail.com](mailto:votesamsingh@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

11:00 AM

Rep. Wendell L. Byrd – Lunch Reception

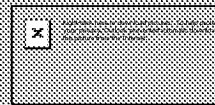
**Location:** Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, 332 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[repwendellbyrd@gmail.com](mailto:repwendellbyrd@gmail.com)

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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, October 1, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4662>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

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### **HOUSE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/house\\_action\\_report/show/841](http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/841)

### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/840](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/840)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Presumptive Parole Bill Passes House In Face Of AG's Opposition**

A bill to ensure that more low-risk prisoners get parole after serving their minimum sentences passed the House today as supporters argued that some inmates are being forced to stay behind bars too long.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44565>

#### **House Committee Goes Its Own Way, Advances Ed Evaluation Bill**

The push to define a system for evaluating teachers in Michigan took a step forward today in the House. But lawmakers are expecting that some old obstacles could still lie ahead.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44568>

#### **State Tries To Soothe Growing Alarm Over Flint Water**

State officials have scheduled a Friday afternoon press conference during which they will announce an action plan designed to calm concerns caused by a study claiming Flint's municipal water supply is



elevating lead levels in the city's kids.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44571>

### **Funding Placeholder For Flint Water Supply Added In Senate**

A supplemental appropriations bill passed in the Senate included a \$100 placeholder for potential solutions to address the city of Flint's water supply.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44566>

### **Sweeping Reforms To Michigan Tax Tribunal Proposed Under Senate Bill**

The makeup and proceedings of the Michigan Tax Tribunal would be shaken up under a new Senate bill supporters say is a starting point to streamline the quasi-judicial agency and fix its longstanding issues.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44570>

### **Senate Leaders Not Enthusiastic About Presumptive Parole**

The day the House passed legislation making it easier for some prison inmates to receive parole for keeping their noses clean, the chair of the Senate committee likely receiving the bills threw water on the proposal.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44563>

### **Cotter: Leaders On 'Good Pace' To Get Road Plan In October**

House Speaker Kevin COTTER (R-Mt. Pleasant) says he believes legislative leaders are on pace to get a road-funding plan to the House floor some time this month.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44569>

### **Senate Caucus Focuses On BAM**

Senate Republicans went behind closed doors today not to get an update on a long-term road funding package, but to open a discussion on the legal dispute between the Secretary of State's office and computer giant Hewlett Packard (HP).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44561>

### **Calley Leading Trade Mission To India**

The Gov. Rick SNYDER administration is making its third international trade mission three months Friday when Lt. Gov. Brian CALLEY goes to India in an effort to expand markets for Michigan-made products and encourage direct investments.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44562>

### **Hackel Up 8 On Schuette In New Poll**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44560>

## **MSHDA Aims To Heal `Culture' Problems With New Employee Initiative**

The state's housing agency has launched its own employee services office in an effort to revamp the agency's "culture," as its leader put it this week.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44564>

## **Prisoner Store Reshuffling Results In 4 Temp Worker Losses**

Only four employees working on a temporary basis didn't come back as a result of the restructuring of the state's prisoner store operations.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44567>

## **Garcia Highlighted By National Republicans**

Rep. Daniela GARCIA (R-Holland) is being recognized on the National Republican Committee's (RNC) website Friday as part of a nationwide push to reach out to the Hispanic community during Hispanic History Month.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44569>

## **Bits And Tidbits**

MDE To Hold Additional Hearings On New Social Studies, Science Standards

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44572>

## **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Oct. 1, 2007, Gov. Jennifer GRANHOLM signed into law a pair of tax increases at 4:20 a.m. that prevented a prolonged state government shutdown, which had started at midnight when the Legislature had not passed a Fiscal Year 2008 budget by 11:59 p.m. Sept. 30.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#44568>

## **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4682#updated_events)

## **House Committee Calendar Events**

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

10:30 AM - JOINT MEETING APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND  
APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON LARA|

Rm: 307 HOB

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015**

9:00 AM - Insurance

(CANCELLED)Leonard, Tom; Rm: 519 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Financial Services**

(CANCELLED)Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 326 HOB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Education**

Price, Amanda; Rm: 521 HOB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

12:00 PM - **JOINT MEETING COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY AND APPROPS**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON STATE POLICE|Rep. Jacobsen**

Price, Amanda; Rm: 519 HOB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Transportation & Infrastructure**

Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**

Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**

Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

8:30 AM - **LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL|Sen. Meekhof**

Rm: SAR

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Education**

Pavlov, Phil; Rm: 110 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

3:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

2:30 PM - **Finance**

Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

11:30 AM

Wolverine Caucus forum of 2015 - Preserving Our Great Lakes(Sponsored by University of Michigan)

**Guest Speakers:** Dr. John Callewaert and Nicole Berg

**Location:** Christman/MML Building

**Contact:** Register by calling 517-372-7801 - or by emailing

[amccullu@umich.edu](mailto:amccullu@umich.edu)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015**

12:00 PM

Michigan Says Thanks - Honoring Michigan Vietnam Era Veterans(Sponsored by Senator Mike Kowall)

**Location:** Michigan State Capitol Lawn

**Contact:** Lynn OBrien 517-373-0563

[LOBrien@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:LOBrien@senate.michigan.gov)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015**

10:00 AM

Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour

**Location:** Colasantis Market

**Contact:** Rep. Runestad Staff 517-373-2616

[JimRunestad@house.mi.gov](mailto:JimRunestad@house.mi.gov)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015**

8:00 AM

Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour

**Location:** Dave and Amys

**Contact:** Rep. Runestad Staff 517-373-2616

[JimRunestad@house.mi.gov](mailto:JimRunestad@house.mi.gov)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015**

12:00 PM

Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour

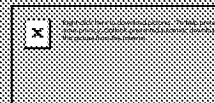
**Location:** Bakers

**Contact:** Rep. Runestad Staff 517-373-2616

[JimRunestad@house.mi.gov](mailto:JimRunestad@house.mi.gov)

**MIRS: Michigan's oldest and most comprehensive newsletter covering the activities of Michigan state government**

From the legislature to the governor, from the state bureaucracy to Michigan's courts, MIRS provides our subscribers with more news and insight than any other source



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[www.mirsnews.com](http://www.mirsnews.com)

**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 05, 2015 10:50 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, November 5, 2015



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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, November 5, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **HOUSE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/house\\_action\\_report/show/874](http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/874)

### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/875](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/875)

### **PUBLIC ACTS**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/public\\_acts/all](http://www.mirsnews.com/public_acts/all)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Juiced-Up Energy Efficiency, Renewable Goal Added To House Energy Bills**

A stronger energy efficiency program and a goal that 30 percent of the state's power comes from renewable sources by 2025 were two of the major changes made to legislation that cleared the House Energy Policy Committee this evening after a stop-and-start, six-hour meeting.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44017>

#### **Snyder Considers Floating Bonds For Roads**

Gov. Rick SNYDER is considering selling bonds to start repairing roads next year while he waits for the higher gas tax and registration fees to kick in starting in 2017.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44005>

#### **Both Sides Maintain They're The Winner In Road Funding Politics**

In Facebook posts and press conferences, the battle to frame Tuesday's votes on a \$1.2 billion road-funding plan is on, and both sides think they're going to win.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44913>

### **Elections Director Suggests Review Of Failed Prevailing Wage Repeal Petition**

Both the state elections director and a union-backed group called for further review into what went wrong with the prevailing wage repeal group's petitions and the number of signatures found to be invalid.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44914>

### **Lawmakers Call For Hearing On Grand Rapids Veterans Home**

Amid allegations that a contractor that helps staff the Grand Rapids Veterans Home isn't providing enough workers to offer adequate care, lawmakers called today for a hearing on the facility's operations.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44916>

### **Ananich Requests Legislative Hearings On Flint Water Fallout**

As various groups continue to investigate the state's role in exposing Flint residents to unsafe levels of lead in their water, Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH (D-Flint) has called for the Legislature to conduct its own review.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44911>

### **Carson Beats Clinton But Clinton Beats Trump In Michigan**

Republican presidential candidate Ben CARSON beats Democrat Hillary CLINTON, 46 to 40 percent in an Oct. 25 and 31 EPIC-MRA survey of 600 Michigan voters for The Detroit Free Press and a number of TV stations.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44906>

### **Supremes Ponder If McCotter Staffer Committed Felony Conspiracy**

The Michigan Supreme Court (MSC) dove into the weeds about what constitutes "committing a felony conspiracy," as the high court heard oral arguments in a case involving a staffer for former U.S. Rep. Thad McCOTTER (R-Livonia).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44915>

### **Teamsters Warn That Public Will Pay For Higher Diesel Tax**

Lawmakers have been trying for years to increase the state's 15-cent diesel tax to match the 19-cent gas tax, which would have truckers paying the same state tax as motorists.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44907>

### **Snyder Signs Teacher Evaluation Bill**

Public school teachers will be evaluated through a state standard based 40 percent on how well their students perform on standardized test data, under legislation Gov. Rick SNYDER signed into law today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44908>

### **Senate Votes To Do Away With 'Archaic' Dower Law**

An obscure legal concept giving women some claims on their husband's property would be struck from state statute under legislation approved by the full Senate today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44910>

### **Bill To Extend Commercial Rehab Tax Incentive Advances**

A bill that would extend the sunset on a tax incentive to improve vacant commercial properties advanced out of the House Government Operations Committee this morning.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44909>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Nov. 5, 1975, voters in four communities around the Upper Peninsula voiced their opposition in margins of up to eight to one against a U.S. Navy proposal to build an enormous low-frequency transmitter in the Upper Peninsula.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#44912>

### **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4707#updated_events)

## **House Committee Calendar Events**

#### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Local Government**

Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

#### **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Government Operations**

Jacobsen, Bradford; Rm: 327 HOB

#### **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015**

8:00 AM - **Energy Policy**

Nesbitt, Aric; Rm: 519 HOB

#### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Natural Resources**

LaFontaine, Andrea; Rm: 326 HOB

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015**

8:15 AM - **Financial Services**

Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 307 HOB

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Health Policy**

Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Commerce and Trade**

Graves, Joseph; Rm: 519 HOB

**Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Local Government**

Zorn, Dale; Rm: 100 FB

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Education**

Pavlov, Phil; Rm: 110 FB

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

2:30 PM - **Banking and Financial Institutions**

Booher, Darwin L. ; Rm: 100 FB

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

3:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Jones, Rick; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Health Policy**

Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

**Capitol Calendar Events**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015**

10:30 AM

Rep. Robert Wittenberg Brunch Reception

**Location:** Michigan Municipal League

**Contact:** RSVP to Ricardo via email

[whitericardo240@gmail.com](mailto:whitericardo240@gmail.com)

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015**

7:00 PM

Rep. Sheldon Neeley 2nd Annual Unity Gala

**Location:** Signature Chop House Grand Ballroom

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[neelevrep34@gmail.com](mailto:neelevrep34@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015**

10:30 AM

Rep. Pam Faris Lunch Reception



**Location:** Governors Room  
[sporuski@gmail.com](mailto:sporuski@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015**

10:30 AM

Rep. LaTanya Garrett Brunch Reception

**Location:** Michigan Municipal League

**Contact:** LaTanya Garrett

[cte.latanagarrett@gmail.com](mailto:cte.latanagarrett@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015**

8:00 AM

6 for '16(Sponsored by Callton Action Fund)

**Guest Speakers:** Rep. Mike Callton with Special Guests: Reps. Barrett, Bizon, Howrylak, Hughes, Iden and Sheppard

**Location:** Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** RSVP to James Klein 313-399-1342 - or via email

[jamesklein44@gmail.com](mailto:jamesklein44@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015**

8:00 AM

Rep. Sam Singh Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Michigan Municipal League

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[kornmoli@gmail.com](mailto:kornmoli@gmail.com)

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2015**

11:00 AM

Senator Patrick Colbeck November Office Hours

**Location:** Civic Park Senior Center

**Contact:** Sen. Colbeck Staff 517-373-5713

[senpcolbeck@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senpcolbeck@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

8:00 AM

Rep. Jon Hoadley Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Governors Room

[heather.ricketts@gmail.com](mailto:heather.ricketts@gmail.com)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

8:30 AM

Rep. Kristy Pagan Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Michigan Health and Hospital Association

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[kristy@kristypagan.com](mailto:kristy@kristypagan.com)

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015**

7:30 AM

Rep. John Kivela Yooper Breakfast

**Location:** Michigan Restaurant Association

**Contact:** Craig Brunet

[craig.a.brunet@gmail.com](mailto:craig.a.brunet@gmail.com)

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015**

11:00 AM

Rep. Jon Hoadley Thanksgiving Brunch  
**Location:** The Law Offices of Miller Canfield  
**Contact:** RSVP via email  
[heather.ricketts@gmail.com](mailto:heather.ricketts@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015**

8:30 AM  
Rep. Tim Greimel Breakfast Reception  
**Location:** Michigan Health and Hospital Association  
**Contact:** RSVP via email  
[hillkipp@gmail.com](mailto:hillkipp@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015**

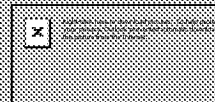
10:30 AM  
Rep. Winnie Brinks Brunch Reception  
**Location:** Michigan Municipal League  
[eric@winniebrinks.com](mailto:eric@winniebrinks.com)

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2015**

4:00 PM  
Rep. Erika Geiss Autumn Afternoon of Classical Music  
**Guest Speakers:** Featuring Erika Geiss on violin and Tim Michling on oboe  
**Location:** Geiss Residence  
**Contact:** RSVP via email  
[electgeiss@electgeiss.com](mailto:electgeiss@electgeiss.com)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 03, 2015 8:51 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, December 3, 2015



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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, December 3, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **HOUSE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/house\\_action\\_report/show/883](http://www.mirsnews.com/house_action_report/show/883)

### **SENATE ACTION REPORT**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/senate\\_action\\_report/show/884](http://www.mirsnews.com/senate_action_report/show/884)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Data Centers Get Full Tax Exemption Under Senate-Passed Bill**

Bills designed to kick off an estimated \$5 billion development in Kent County by providing tax breaks for data centers were passed out of the Senate today following committee approval this morning.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45143>

#### **House Panel To Study Straight-Ticket Voting Bill Over The Weekend**

A bill to end Michigan's straight-ticket voting option inspired more than two hours of debate today, but a House committee wasn't ready to follow the Senate's support for the change.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45142>

#### **Recall Language Filed Against Schmidt**

An Antrim County man filed recall petition language Wednesday with the Secretary of State against Sen. Wayne SCHMIDT (R-Traverse City) for voting in favor of a road funding package that will raise the gas tax 7.3 a per gallon and raise driver registration fees 20 percent.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45137>

### **Deficit Districts Down 26%, But Some Heading For Review**

The number of deficit districts saw a 26 percent drop this year from last year, but new early warning legislation is going to send 11 of those districts into Treasury's preliminary review process for emergency management.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45138>

### **Federal Transportation Bill Means 15% Increase By 2020**

A month after state lawmakers passed a \$1.2 billion road funding package, Congress passed its own five-year transportation reauthorization bill, which one Michigan transportation advocate said will mean a 15 percent boost by 2020.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45147>

### **Group Of House R's Object To Planned Parenthood Grant Increase**

Conservatives opposed to government funding for Planned Parenthood could see a test in Michigan this month as the state considers a proposed grant increase for the organization.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45148>

### **Hank Wants Easier Process To Verify Older Petition Sigs**

An attorney wants to make it easier to verify signatures on ballot proposals that come after the initial 180-day window for collecting petitions.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45138>

### **Canvassers Consider Clarifying Out-Of-State Circulator Policy**

If a Michigan resident collects petitions for a ballot campaign, but checks a box saying he or she lives out of state, those signatures would be thrown out.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45139>

### **Aviation Fuel Tax Bills Have A Safe Flight To House**

Airports would see more state revenue through an arguably clearer aviation fuel tax system under a six-bill package Senate supported unanimously today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45140>

### **House Delivers Plan To Have State License Midwives**

A proposal that would set up a system for licensing and regulating midwives won the approval of the House this afternoon.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45150>

## **Former Rep. Ferguson Dead At Age 95**

Former Rep. Rosetta FERGUSON (D-Detroit), the former chair of the House Civil Right Committee and one of the few anti-abortion Democrats to serve in the House, died Nov. 18 at age 95.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45144>

## **Capitol Staff Experience Security Drill**

In the wake of the California shooting this week that left 14 dead, MIRS checked into the state Capitol's latest safety procedures considering more than 100,000 visitors, including thousands of school kids, visit the building every year.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45146>

## **Bits And Tidbits**

2% Of Flint Adults, Children Have Elevated Blood Lead Levels

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45149>

## **Gubernatorial Appointments**

Gov. Rick SNYDER today announced the following appointments and reappointments:

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45145>

## **Attention MIRS Subscribers**

In the Dec. 2, 2015, edition, in the story "How Bad Must A Sidewalk Be Before A City Can Be Sued?" it should be made clear that the State Bar of Michigan's Negligence Law Section authored the analysis submitted to the House Local Government Committee regarding HB 4686, legislation to change the liability standard regarding injuries caused by broken-up public sidewalks.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45134>

## **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Dec. 3, 1978, the state's bottle bill went into effect.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#45141>

## **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4724#updated_events)

## **House Committee Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

9:00 AM - **State Police**  
(CANCELLED)Miller, Aaron; Rm: 308 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015**

11:45 AM - **Financial Liability Reform**  
(CANCELLED)Somerville, Pat; Rm: 327 HOB

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**  
Barrett, Tom; Rm: 308 HOB

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Elections**  
Lyons, Lisa Posthumus; Rm: 327 HOB

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Health Policy**  
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**  
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015**

1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**  
Rocca, Tory; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Transportation**  
Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Health Policy**  
Shirkey, Mike; Rm: 210 FB

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

1:00 PM - **Judiciary**  
Jones, Rick; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015**

2:00 PM - **Insurance**  
Hune, Joe; Rm: 100 FB

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015**

10:30 AM  
Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks during the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Mary Free Bed YMCA dedication celebration  
**Location:** Mary Free Bed YMCA - Gym  
**Contact:** Dave Murray 517-335-6397

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015**

9:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Fillmore Township Hall

**Contact:** Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793

[sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015**

11:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Fennville City Hall

**Contact:** Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793

[sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015**

12:00 PM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Mugshots Coffee House

**Contact:** Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793

[sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015**

2:30 PM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Plainwell City Hall

**Contact:** Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793

[sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov)

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015**

8:30 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Daily Brews Gourmet Coffee

**Contact:** Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793

[sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015**

8:30 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** The Breakfast Place

**Contact:** Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793

[sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015**

10:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Antwerp Township Hall

**Contact:** Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793

[sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015**

12:00 PM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Railroad Café

**Contact:** Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793

[sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015**

2:00 PM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Saugatuck-Douglas Library

**Contact:** Collin McDonough (517) 373-0793

[sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:sentschuitmaker@senate.michigan.gov)

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2015**

10:00 AM

Secretary of State Ruth Johnson, state and private sector officials to unveil resource for aging drivers(Sponsored by Secretary of State Ruth Johnson)

**Guest Speakers:** Secretary of State Ruth Johnson; Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue, Michigan State Police Director; David Wresinski, Transportation Planning Bureau Director, Michigan Department of Transportation; Paula Kartje, occupational therapist and driver rehabilitation speci

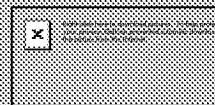
**Location:** Michigan Library and Historical Center Forum

**Contact:** Gisgie Dávila Gendreau or Fred Woodhams 517-373-2520

[woodhamstf@michigan.gov](mailto:woodhamstf@michigan.gov)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 7:27 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, December 17, 2015



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MSO News

## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Thursday, December 17, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **PUBLIC ACTS**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/public\\_acts/all](http://www.mirsnews.com/public_acts/all)

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Feds, State Reach Compromise To Keep Healthy Michigan In Place**

Gov. Rick SNYDER's administration and the federal government have reached a deal on a crucial waiver that will keep the state's Medicaid expansion program in place. But the way the program will unfold is likely not exactly how some state lawmakers originally envisioned it.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45293>

#### **SB 571 Bans Unions From Using Corporate Payroll To Raise PAC Money**

Corporations with their own corporate political action committees (PAC) would no longer be allowed to administer the PACs of their employees' labor unions through their payroll system, under a hidden provision baked into the reworked version of legislation rushed through the Legislature Wednesday night.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45286>

#### **Schuetten On Fundraising: 'I've Still Got The Itch'**

Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE today acknowledged he spent time fundraising out of state last week but remained coy about any intentions he may have to run for governor in 2018.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45282>

## **State's Servers Vulnerable, According To Audit**

The security settings on 94 percent of State of Michigan's computer servers, the data warehouses for the state records, were not properly set, according to audit released today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45287>

## **Gov: I've Been Asked for Endorsement**

Gov. Rick SNYDER endorsed 2012 presidential candidate Mitt ROMNEY days before the Michigan GOP primary four years ago and he told MIRS this week he sees himself doing the same thing in early 2016.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45287>

## **Snyder Signs Bill Expanding Distribution Of Epi-Pens**

A bill signed by Gov. Rick SNYDER today will allow Epi-Pens and other auto-injectables of epinephrine to be available in more public places to address severe allergic reactions.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45283>

## **Ananich Not Impressed With Flint Task Force's Round 1**

Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH (D-Flint) was looking for more from Gov. Rick SNYDER's Flint Water Force in its first significant correspondence with the Governor on how the state should move past Flint's lead-in-water issue.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45285>

## **DeVos Money Doesn't Mean Endorsements**

Some eyebrows were raised when it was learned that a DeVos family member threw a fundraiser for to Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, who up to now has not counted the prominent DeVoses as one of his closer benefactors.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45286>

## **Fabiano: Trump Is American Original**

She is not ready to endorse him, but mid-Michigan Tea Party activist Joan FABIANO is clearly thankful that Donald TRUMP is running for president because, "he has raised the most vital issue in our country, illegal immigration (and) he is an American original."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45289>

## **Governor's Appointments**

City of Pontiac Receivership Transition Advisory Board

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45291>

## **Bits & Tidbits**

Small Business Association Of Michigan Announces Staff Changes

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45294>

## **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Dec. 17, 1798, Michigan's first participation in an American election began in Detroit, with each voter verbally announcing his choice for a delegate to the Northwest Territorial Assembly. At the conclusion, the loser accused the winner of buying votes with whiskey and threatening voters.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#45290>

## **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4734#updated_events)

## **House Committee Calendar Events**

No events have been updated on this calendar

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

No events have been updated on this calendar

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015**

11:00 AM

Attorney General Bill Schuette Year End Media Roundtable

**Location:** Williams Building

**Contact:** Andrea Bitely (517) 373-8060

[nurenbergb@michigan.gov](mailto:nurenbergb@michigan.gov)

### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2016**

10:00 AM

Rep. Jeff Irwin Coffee Hours

**Location:** Espresso Royale

[jeffirwin@house.mi.gov](mailto:jeffirwin@house.mi.gov)

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2015**

12:30 PM

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Detroit Central City Community Mental Health's annual meeting

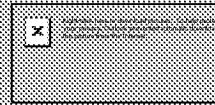
**Location:** Detroit Port Authority - Waterview Loft

**Contact:** Dave Murray 517-335-6397

[murrayd1@michigan.gov](mailto:murrayd1@michigan.gov)

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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, September 28, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **REGULATORY REPORT**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/regrep.php>

### **CAPITOL CALENDAR**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capcal.php>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Road Lobbyist: 'It's Common Knowledge That We Need More Money'**

Being the road funding lobbyist for the last four years could make one feel like Bill MURRAY in Groundhog's Day — asking lawmakers to find \$1.2 billion in new revenue for road construction day after day after day.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44510>

#### **Consultant Urges Courser To Drop Out Of Race For Gamrat's Benefit**

A "truth seeking" consultant from Cleveland has spoken to former Rep. Cindy GAMRAT about working with her in her quest to regain the 80th House District seat she lost Sept. 11 when she was expelled.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44521>

#### **Dems Propose Pumping Up Tax Credits For Individuals By \$1 Billion**

The tax burden on families, seniors and individuals would plummet about \$1 billion under a plan that

Democratic lawmakers in the House and the Senate announced today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44513>

### **Sanders Dominates Student Dems Organizing For 2016**

The Democrats' top two presidential candidates -- Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders -- have support groups forming at the state's two highest profile universities and the atmosphere couldn't be more different.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44520>

### **Michigan Dems Plan To Drop Jefferson-Jackson Dinner Moniker**

Michigan Democrats will likely be the latest in a string of state parties to change the name of its Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner events.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44515>

### **Construction Workers, Managers Make Case Against Prevailing Wage Repeal**

A coalition of construction-related groups came together today to argue that repealing Michigan's prevailing wage law -- which is being proposed through a citizens' initiative currently in the Bureau of Elections' hands -- would be bad for their industry.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44522>

### **Ananich Urges Snyder To Get Involved With Flint Water Situation**

Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH (D-Flint) today called on Gov. Rick SNYDER to get involved in resolving a water supply issue in his home city that he said is "dangerous for our citizens, especially our most vulnerable young people."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44523>

### **Senate Bill Calls For Statewide Recycling Reporting**

Recycling establishments would have to beef up its annual reporting on how much recyclable materials are collected under a recently introduced Senate bill.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44519>

### **Bill To Add Default Criminal Intent Standard Now On House Floor**

A bill that would require authorities to more frequently prove that someone had criminal intent to commit wrongdoing before convicting that person has made it out of committee and is awaiting action on the House floor.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44513>

### **Retailers Lose Suit Against Marathon**

Three small retailers in Southwest Detroit have lost their federal lawsuit that blames an oil refinery for killing their businesses and creating environmental hazards.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44509>

### **Snyder Announces Rising Tide Pilot**

Some ten Michigan communities have been selected to participate in what Gov. Rick SNYDER is dubbing a pilot program to develop new economic growth strategies.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44517>

### **Bishop Telephone Survey**

While most Michigan folks were focused on the nice weather and football this past Saturday, the office of Congressman Mike BISHOP was busy gathering data on his re-election bid, even though that is not until a year from last month.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44511>

### **Bits And Tidbits**

State Confirms More EEE Cases In Calhoun/Van Buren Horses

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44516>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Sept. 28, 1912, the Muskegon High School football team defeated Hastings High 216-0 in what was believed at the time to be the most lopsided drubbing of a high school football team in world history.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#44514>

### **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4679#updated_events)

### **House Committee Calendar Events**

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**

Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

#### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Transportation & Infrastructure**

Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

#### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015**

8:45 AM - **FISCAL AGENCY GOVERNING COMMITTEE|Rep. Pscholka**

Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 352 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS, CB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

10:30 AM - JOINT MEETING APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON LARA|

Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 307 HOB

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Appropriations**

Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS, CB

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Local Government**

Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Insurance**

Leonard, Tom; Rm: 519 HOB

**Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Energy and Technology**

Nofs, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Outdoor Recreation and Tourism**

Hansen, Goeff; Rm: 110 FB

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Commerce**

(CANCELLED)Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

3:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Transportation**

Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Transportation**

Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**

Rocca, Tory; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Health Policy**

Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER



**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

2:00 PM - Appropriations

Hildenbrand, Dave; Rm: SAR

**Capitol Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

10:30 AM

Rep. Jon Bumstead Brunch

**Guest Speakers:** Senate Majority Leader Meekhof; Senators Stamas, MacGregor, Shirkey, Hansen and Schmidt; Rep. Callton

**Location:** The Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan Street, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** RSVP to Karen at 989-751-9559 - or via email at

[karenwhite009@gmail.com](mailto:karenwhite009@gmail.com)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**

10:00 AM

Weatherization Day at the Capitol(Sponsored by Michigan Community Action)

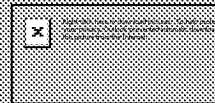
**Location:** State Capitol, North Corridor

**Contact:** Michael F. Shalley 517-679-6403

[mshalley@michigancommunityaction.org](mailto:mshalley@michigancommunityaction.org)

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<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Some Groups Question Feds' Ability To Approve Michigan Medicaid Waiver**

The federal government's public comment period on Michigan's key second Medicaid expansion waiver ended this weekend, and while most remarks were glowing, some openly questioning whether the proposal can be approved.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44591>

#### **Ananich: Feels Like State Is Dragging Its Feet Because Flint Is Poor**

Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH (D-Flint) said he doesn't know why state officials are not aggressively pushing to hook Flint's municipal water supply back to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD), but it feels like the city's impoverished residents is a factor.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44593>

#### **State On Planned Parenthood: 'No Evidence To Date' Of Illegal Practices**

Two state departments say their review of Planned Parenthood in Michigan has found "no evidence to date that illegal practices are occurring."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44595>

#### **Ex-Courser, Gamrat Aides Sue, Say They Told House Staff Of 'Wrongdoing'**

In a new lawsuit, Keith ALLARD and Ben GRAHAM, two staffers for former Reps. Todd COURSER and Cindy GAMRAT, allege that they were wrongfully fired and that they had informed "House management

staff" about their former bosses' wrongdoing.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44589>

### **Supporters Claim Bill Would Lower Interest Costs On Bonds**

A House bill currently before the Senate Finance Committee aims to lower interest costs on voter-approved bonds by beefing up assurances to bondholders and investors, but the administration contends it isn't necessary.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44592>

### **Anesthesiologists, Nurses Battle Over Bill Using Competing Websites**

Arguments over a Senate bill that would give nurse anesthetists more ability to put patients to sleep without physician oversight have spilled over into separate attack websites.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44593>

### **State Audit Of Flint Elections Suggests More Staff, Fewer Precincts**

The state today published its audit looking into Flint's election operations after a mistake made by the Flint City Clerk nearly led to a complete write-in mayoral election for the city this November.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44594>

### **Schuetz: No Hidden Agenda in New Book**

It took him just over four years to do it, but Michigan Attorney General Bill has written a book in order to "help others" learn from the life lessons he learned while growing up in Midland.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44595>

### **GLEP Sends Out 4 Mailers In 80th, 82nd Districts**

Todd COURSER is a "recipe for disaster" while Cindy GAMRAT is "deceptive, deceitful and dishonest," according to a pair of mailers sent out in the former House members' districts by the pro-school choice political action committee of the Great Lakes Education Project (GLEP).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44596>

### **Kelly's Wife Dies At Age 67**

Nancy KELLEY, wife of former Attorney General Frank KELLEY, died Sunday at the age of 67.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44597>

### **Courser Attorney Grievance Update**

The Attorney Grievance Commission (AGC) will not confirm that it has launched an investigation into the conduct of lawyer and former lawmaker Todd Courser, but it is telling the gentleman who filed a complaint with the commission that it is thankful for "ensuring that this matter is brought to our

attention."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44687>

## Bits And Tidbits

Cotter, Wife Celebrate Birth Of Son, Joseph

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44693>

## On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 5, 1835, Michigan voters went to the polls and elected its first governor and state legislature. The winner was 24-year-old Stephen T. MASON. His closest competitor received 814 votes. Only "free, adult, white male taxpayers" could vote.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#44699>

## Updated Calendar Events:

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4684#updated_events)

## House Committee Calendar Events

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015

12:00 PM - JOINT MEETING COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY AND APPROPS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON STATE POLICE|Rep. Jacobsen  
(CANCELLED)|Rm: 519 HOB

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015

12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**  
Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015

9:00 AM - **Insurance**  
Leonard, Tom; Rm: 519 HOB

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015

9:00 AM - **Health Policy**  
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015

9:00 AM - **Appropriations**  
Pscholka, Al; Rm: 352

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015

12:00 PM - **Judiciary**  
Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015

10:30 AM - **Commerce and Trade**  
Graves, Joseph; Rm: 519 HOB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Natural Resources**

LaFontaine, Andrea; Rm: 352

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**

LaFontaine, Andrea; Rm: 210 FB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**

Barrett, Tom; Rm: 308 HOB

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Health Policy**

Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Commerce**

Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015**

1:30 PM - **Economic Development and International Investment**

Horn, Ken; Rm: 210 FB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**

Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Transportation**

Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Local Government**

Zorn, Dale; Rm: 100 FB

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

8:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** The Breakfast Place

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

5:00 PM

Michigan House Democratic Evening Reception(Sponsored by Dem. Leader Tim Greimel, Dem. Floor Leader Sam Singh, Campaign Chair Rep. Adam Zemke, Finance Chair Rep. Andy Schor and members of the House Democratic Caucus)

**Location:** Henrys on the Square

**Contact:** RSVP via email to Hillary Kipp

[hillkipp@gmail.com](mailto:hillkipp@gmail.com)

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2015**

5:30 PM

Jake Davison For State Representative Fundraiser Concert

**Location:** Cavellis

**Contact:** Jake Davison 810-406-1709

[jd@youradvantage.org](mailto:jd@youradvantage.org)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015**

10:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Biggby Coffee

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

5:30 PM

Third Annual Innovation in Conservation Awards Gala(Sponsored by Michigan League Of Conservation Voters)

**Location:** Westin Book Cadillac Hotel , 1114 Washington Blvd., Detroit, MI 48226

**Contact:** Kristina Pepelko 734-222-9650

[events@michiganicv.org](mailto:events@michiganicv.org)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

12:30 PM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Plainwell City Hall

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

9:30 AM

Michigan Laborers\ Training & Apprenticeship Institute\'s Mobile Training Unit Event(Sponsored by Michigan Laborers District Council)

**Location:** Capitol Building

**Contact:** Chris Hennessy 989-284-3649

[hennessy.chris@gmail.com](mailto:hennessy.chris@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

10:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Railroad Cafe

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

9:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Fennville City Hall

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

10:30 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Mugshots Coffeehouse

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

10:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Antwerp Township Hall

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

11:30 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Paw Paw District Library

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

12:00 PM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Fillmore Township Hall

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2015**

10:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Fillmore Township Hall

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015**

8:30 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Daily Brews Gourmet Coffee

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015**

5:00 PM

Senator Tory Rocca Evening Reception

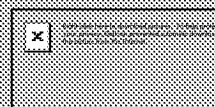
**Location:** Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Square, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** Scott Bean 517-881-0013

[toryrocca@yahoo.com](mailto:toryrocca@yahoo.com)

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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, October 19, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4694>

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<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **REGULATORY REPORT**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/regrep.php>

### **CAPITOL CALENDAR**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capcal.php>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Snyder: \$715M Over 10 Years Needed For Old DPS Debt, New District Costs**

(DETROIT) -- Gov. Rick SNYDER today released updated details about his plans to financially stabilize Detroit Public Schools (DPS) that feature a bigger ask from the state and a longer payback period than estimates that had been floated back in April.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4694#44740>

#### **DEQ Takes Blame On Flint Water; Ananich Unforgiving**

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) top official today admitted his department mishandled the city of Flint's water crisis, pointing to departmental issues with experience and protocol in corrosion control efforts.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4694#44734>

#### **Flint Mayoral Election Rests On Who Residents Blame For Its Water**

(FLINT) -- The Department of Environment Quality (DEQ) admission of fault in the Flint water crisis may

have come today, but in the city, which is two weeks from a municipal election, the blame game is far from over.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4694#44741>

### **In Wake Of Scandal, Dems Run Against History In Courser, Gamrat Seats**

One of David GERNANT's friends volunteered to research a question that came up as Gernant launched his campaign this fall to represent Allegan County in the State House.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4694#44732>

### **House Fiscal: Healthy Michigan Could Cost \$117M GF/GP Next Budget**

The state's Medicaid expansion program, Healthy Michigan, will cost the state about \$117 million in General Fund (GF) dollars in the next budget year, according to numbers from the House Fiscal Agency (HFA) today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4694#44737>

### **How Tennessee Went From Worst To Near The Top In Education**

In 2009, no state had worse 8th grade math scores than Tennessee. Only Georgia had worse reading scores.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4694#44735>

### **DPS To Legislators: District Is Making Progress**

Even though Gov. Rick SNYDER released his revised blueprint to fix the Detroit schools today (see related story), a behind-the-scenes strategy has been in place for weeks as district leadership conducts one-on-one skull sessions with key legislative leaders trying to drum up yes votes on the deal.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4694#44739>

### **Forsmark Working For Courser Opponent**

David FORSMARK, the political consultant former Rep. Todd COURSER once fingered as being the person behind harassing text messages earlier this year, is now providing consulting services for one of Courser's Republican opponents in the special 82nd House race (See "Courser-Gamrat Story Takes More Strange Turns," 8/20/15).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4694#44729>

### **Ex-Gov Engler On State Issues**

Now the head of the Business Roundtable in the nation's capitol, former Gov. John ENGLER suggests, "I don't get involved in the Michigan political scene anymore," but having said that, he did weight in on two issues now on the state agenda.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4694#44739>

## FLOW Launched Fundraiser

A Traverse City based special interest group has launched a fundraising effort to advance its agenda of shutting down Enbridge Pipeline 5 underneath the Straits of Mackinac in conjunction with Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4694#44731>

## Bits And Tidbits

State Nets \$980K For Community Behavioral Health Clinics

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4694#44736>

## On This Day In Michigan History

On Oct. 19, 1903, voters in Kalamazoo voted by an 8-to-1 margin to support construction of the Western State Normal School, later known as Western Michigan University. Kalamazoo was selected as the site because of its central location in southwest Michigan.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4694#44730>

## Updated Calendar Events:

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4694#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4694#updated_events)

## House Committee Calendar Events

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015

10:30 AM - **School Aid**

(CANCELLED) Kelly, Tim; Rm: 426 CB

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015

10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**

Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015

10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**

Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015

10:30 AM - **Agriculture**

Lauwers, Dan; Rm: 519 HOB

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015

12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**

Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015

12:00 PM - **Local Government**

Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015

9:00 AM - **Families, Children and Seniors**

Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

3:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Health Policy**

Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**

Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Local Government**

Zorn, Dale; Rm: 100 FB

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015**

1:30 PM - **Economic Development and International Investment**

Horn, Ken; Rm: 210 FB

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Elections and Government Reform**

Robertson, David B; Rm: 210 FB

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

12:00 PM

Rep. Scott Dianda Lunch Reception

**Location:** Michigan Municipal League

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[curtisaudette@gmail.com](mailto:curtisaudette@gmail.com)

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

8:30 AM

Rep. Chris Greig Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Governors Room

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[jjgreening@gmail.com](mailto:jjgreening@gmail.com)

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

8:00 AM

Michigan Pancreatic Cancer Briefing(Sponsored by Celgene Corporation, Hosted by Pancreatic Cancer Action Network)

**Guest Speakers:** Megan Gordon Don - PCAN; Diane Simeone, M.D., U of M; Rosemary Ireland-Black, Pancreatic Cancer Survivor

**Location:** Anderson House Office Building, 5th Floor Mackinac Room, 124 N. Capitol Avenue, Lansing, MI 48909

**Contact:** RSVP by October 30, 2015 via email

[advocacy@pancan.org](mailto:advocacy@pancan.org)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015**

8:30 AM

Michigan Railroads Association Winter Board Meeting

**Location:** Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, MI 48911

**Contact:** Barbara Russell 517-482-9413

[mra@michiganrailroadsassociation.com](mailto:mra@michiganrailroadsassociation.com)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

11:30 AM

Rep. Stephanie Chang Lunch Reception

**Location:** Governors Room

**Contact:** RSVP via email

[ellen.heinitz@gmail.com](mailto:ellen.heinitz@gmail.com)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015**

10:00 AM

Rep. Jeff Irwin Coffee Hour

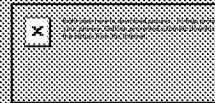
**Location:** Espresso Royale

**Contact:** Rep. Jeff Irwin Staff 517-373-2577

[jeffirwin@house.mi.gov](mailto:jeffirwin@house.mi.gov)

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### **REGULATORY REPORT**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/regrep.php>

### **CAPITOL CALENDAR**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capcal.php>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **On The Ground In Detroit, Lawmakers Hear Of Schools' Hurdles, Needs**

(DETROIT) -- Light shines in through the glass storm door of Rep. Harvey SANTANA's (D-Detroit) home as his living room begins to fill up with state lawmakers.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44051>

#### **State's `F' Grade on Gov't Accountability A `National Embarrassment'**

When it comes to state government transparency and accountability, Michigan fails.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44950>

#### **Casperson Announces Congressional Run In 1st District**

Sen. Tom CASPERSON (R-Escanaba) formally announced plans for a Congressional run in the 1st District this morning in a bid to replace U.S. Rep. Dan BENISHEK (R-Crystal Falls).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44937>

## **Testing Shows Flint Lead Limited To Buildings/Faucets**

Tests from over 400 individual homes and businesses released by the state today suggest the Flint water lead issue is tied to individual buildings and or water fixtures.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44946>

## **Dems Want Super PAC Donors Disclosed, Lower Contribution Limits**

House Democrats today announced their push for campaign finance reforms that include disclosing information about donors to super political action committees (PACs) as well as rolling back the campaign contribution limits that were increased in 2013.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44944>

## **Anderson Economic Group Study Pegs MI As 4 And A Half Leaf State**

If Michigan voters ultimately decide to approve of the recreational use of marijuana, Michigan would rank would have one of the top ten markets for the product according to a study expected to be released this week by Anderson Economic Group.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44949>

## **Schuetz Touts Environmental Record In Response To Bloomberg Ad**

Responding to an ad that said he sided with polluters, Attorney General Bill today ticked off what he described as his “very strong record on the environment.”

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44945>

## **New Report Follows Energy Industry Contributions**

The Michigan Campaign Finance Network has turned its attention to the energy lobby. The non-profit released a report detailing the contribution from what Rich ROBINSON deemed “prominent energy companies” from Nov. 2014 to Oct. 2015.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44939>

## **69 Percent Oppose Open Carry In Schools EPIC Survey Finds**

According to new polling results released today, nearly seven out of ten Michigan voters oppose open carry pistols in schools with 27 percent supporting.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44940>

## **Rob Blackshaw Named Capitol Facilities Director**

Rob BLACKSHAW will replace Dan BROCKLEHURST as the new Capitol Facilities Director later this month, the Michigan State Capitol Commission determined today.



<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44936>

## **Ananich to Governor: Fire DPS-EM**

If the Senate Minority Leader had his way, Darnell EARLEY would be fired and not be any part of Gov. Rick SNYDER's to push through a state aid package for the financially stressed Detroit Public Schools.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44941>

## **Who Likes Sanders in Michigan?**

Democratic presidential candidate and self-described democratic socialist U.S. Sen. Bernie SANDERS (D-VT) enjoys more favorable ratings in Michigan than former Secretary of State Hillary CLINTON.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44939>

## **Bits and Tidbits**

Jones Honored By Probate Judges

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44946>

## **On This Day In Michigan History**

On November 9, 1913, the most devastating storm in Great Lakes history began with winds blowing hurricane-force for 16 straight hours. When the storm finally rolled eastward after three long days, it had sunk 40 ships and killed 235 seamen.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#44942>

## **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4709#updated_events)

## **House Committee Calendar Events**

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

8:15 AM - **Financial Services**

Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 307 HOB

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**

Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

### **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Insurance**

(CANCELLED)Leonard, Tom; Rm: 521 HOB

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**

Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Kesto, Clint; Rm: 521 HOB

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Workforce and Talent Development**

Johnson, Joel; Rm: 519 HOB

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Communications and Technology**

Jacobsen, Bradford; Rm: 519 HOB

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Judiciary**

Jones, Rick; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Elections and Government Reform**

Robertson, David B; Rm: 402 AND 403 CB

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015**

7:30 AM

Senator Marty Knollenberg Breakfast Reception

**Location:** Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** RSVP to Mike Murray via email

[contact@murrcomm.net](mailto:contact@murrcomm.net)

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015**

6:00 PM

55th Annual Philip A. Hart Dinner(Sponsored by Oakland County Democratic Party)

**Guest Speakers:** Former Michigan Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer

**Location:** UFCW Banquet Hall, 876 Horace Brown Drive, Madison Heights, MI 48071

[chair@ocdp.org](mailto:chair@ocdp.org)

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

8:00 AM

Rep. Jon Hoadley Breakfast Reception - 8:45 AM

**Location:** Governors Room

**Contact:** PLEASE NOTE CORRECT TIME IS 8:45 AM

[heather.ricketts@gmail.com](mailto:heather.ricketts@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015**

7:00 AM

2nd Annual Caring for Our Homeless Veterans Walk/Run and Collection Drive(Sponsored by Goodman Acker, P.C.)

**Guest Speakers:** PLEASE NOTE TIME 6 AM TO NOON

**Location:** Detroit Tough Gym

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015**

11:00 AM

Rep. Jon Hoadley Thanksgiving Brunch - 11:15 AM

**Location:** The Law Offices of Miller Canfield

**Contact:** PLEASE NOTE CORRECT TIME IS 11:15 AM - RSVP via email

[heather.ricketts@gmail.com](mailto:heather.ricketts@gmail.com)

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2015**

4:30 PM

Special Screening of the Film 'Suffragette' (Sponsored by Jill Faber-Bramson, Planned Parenthood Advocates of MI, League of Women Voters, Northland Family Planning Centers, MI Lead, Oakland/Macomb Co. NOW)

**Guest Speakers:** Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer, PPAM CEO Lori Carpenter, and League of Women Voters President Judy Karandjeff

**Location:** The Maple Theater, 4135 W. Maple Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301

**Contact:** Tickets at website below

[themapletheater.com](http://themapletheater.com)

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015**

8:00 AM

Veterans Day Ceremony (Sponsored by Holland Community and U.S. Congressman Bill Huizenga)

**Guest Speakers:** Gunnery Sergeant David Pizana, West MI Veterans and Congressman Bill Huizenga - special tribute to Staff Sergeant Andrew Seif

**Location:** West Ottawa High School, North Gymnasium

**Contact:** Brian Patrick 202-225-4401

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015**

3:30 PM

Free Viewing for Veterans of Movie 'Unbroken' (Sponsored by Senator Jim Marleau)

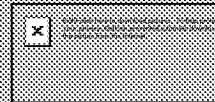
**Location:** AMC Theater, Great Lakes Crossing Outlets, 4000 Bladwin Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326

**Contact:** Sen. Marleau Staff 248-724-2442

[jimmarleau@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:jimmarleau@senate.michigan.gov)

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### **REGULATORY REPORT**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/regrep.php>

### **CAPITOL CALENDAR**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capcal.php>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Speaker: House GOP Working On List Of DPS Reforms `Longer Than My Arm'**

A plan to use state dollars to financially rescue Detroit Public Schools (DPS) will have to include a "tremendous amount of reforms," according to House Speaker Kevin COTTER (R-Mt. Pleasant).

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4739#45352>

#### **Auditor General: State Responsible For Flint River Water Hookup**

It was state, not local officials that made the final call to switch water sources for City of Flint residents, according to a letter from Auditor General Doug RINGLER.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4739#45355>

#### **Storm Leads To Early Warnings/Office Closures**

A storm the National Weather Service expected to drop a foot of wet snow on Michigan's Upper Peninsula and cause up to a quarter of an inch of freezing rain in the Lower Peninsula led Gov. Rick

SNYDER to activate the state's emergency operations center and send state workers home early.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4739#45354>

### **MDP Chair Floats Potential For Legal Challenge To Straight Ticket Bill**

If Gov. Rick SNYDER signs a bill to do away with automatic straight-ticket voting in Michigan, there's a possibility that a legal challenge could follow, Michigan Democratic Party (MDP) Chair Brandon DILLON said in a recent interview.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4739#45355>

### **Heavily Amended Campaign Finance Bill Presented To Snyder**

Legislation that would bar public entities from sharing information about local ballot issues for 60 days prior to an election was formally presented to Gov. Rick SNYDER for consideration this morning.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4739#45359>

### **Governor Waits On Flint Apology**

Gov. Rick SNYDER describes it as "one of the greatest challenges since I've been governor." The lead contamination of the Flint water supply has dogged this Snyder administration and the governor indicates he is withholding any apology for mistakes that might have been made until after a task force report is completed.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4739#45357>

### **Colbeck 'Will Not Sit Idle' If Healthy Michigan Compromise Inconsistent**

Following the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) compromise with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to approve the required second waiver for Healthy Michigan, one senator has expressed concerns that the new language is inconsistent with current state statute.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4739#45356>

### **Meekhof Named MIRS Senator Of The Year/Glenn Freshman**

In the final broadcast of MIRS Monday, the podcast of MIRSnews.com, MIRS selected Senate Majority Leader Arlan MEEKHOF (R-West Olive) as the most effective member of the Senate in 2015.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4739#45351>

### **Kelley: Didn't Want to Do It**

It's not often that you bump into a politician running for an office and he or she confesses they don't want to be doing it.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4739#45350>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Dec. 28, 2012, Gov. Rick SNYDER vetoed a bill that would have required employers to purchase insurance coverage for elective abortions through optional riders.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4739#45353>

## Updated Calendar Events:

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4739#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4739#updated_events)

## House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

## Senate Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

## Capitol Calendar Events

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2016

5:00 PM

Senator Mike Kowall Evening Reception(Sponsored by Friends of Mike Kowall for State Senate)

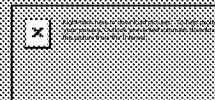
**Location:** The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** RSVP to Heather 517-927-3706

[hlombardini@terlingcorporation.com](mailto:hlombardini@terlingcorporation.com)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 14, 2015 10:55 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, December 14, 2015



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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Monday, December 14, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **EXECUTIVE BRANCH CALENDAR**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/exec\\_branch\\_events/all](http://www.mirsnews.com/exec_branch_events/all)

### **CAPITOL CALENDAR**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capcal.php>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Office Tasked With Services For Deaf Residents Faces Daunting Hurdles**

"This state office concentrates on helping to improve the lives of Michigan's one million Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing citizens. Our mission is affirming the indisputable right of Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing Persons to secure effective communication."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45246>

#### **New City Income Tax Exemption Plan Being Popped In Senate**

The Senate is poised to discharge legislation Tuesday that is being drastically overhauled to allow certain employers to negotiate with Michigan's 22 cities with an income tax a special annual pre-payment that would be capped at that city's non-resident rate.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45238>

#### **Data Center, Energy Reforms Still Have A Chance In House This Week**

With three session days left in 2015, the House could still hold votes on proposals to bring tax



exemptions for data centers and major energy reforms to the state.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45247>

### **House Dem Campaign Targets Cotter: 'Tell Him It's Time To Resign'**

A new fundraising email from the Michigan House Democrats' campaign says that House Speaker Kevin (R-Mt. Pleasant) "should make good on his own words and resign."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45248>

### **Cops Not Bound To State Law In Marijuana Decriminalized Cities**

>Local prosecutors and police are not forced to push the state's criminal marijuana laws in those 18 cities where local voters relaxed law enforcement on such offenses after the Michigan Supreme Court on Friday declined to take up a Court of Appeals ruling on the matter.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45239>

### **Banks' New Auto No Fault Plan Intrigues CPAN**

Auto insurance rates would be rolled back 12 percent in certain urban and rural locations for good drivers, under Rep. Brian BANKS (D-Harper Woods) legislation introduced Thursday.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45240>

### **Group Issues 'Malicious' Attack On Heise Over Presumptive Parole**

A mysterious nonprofit organization that's previously reported a focus on competitive bidding has begun slamming Rep. Kurt HEISE (R-Plymouth) over his support for presumptive parole.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45244>

### **Detroit Public Schools Reform Still Up In The Air**

The oft-discussed plan for Detroit Public Schools remains a hot topic in the Senate as the end of the year approaches, although it's still unclear whether bills outlining the upper chamber's take on the issue will be introduced before the Legislature breaks.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45242>

### **Schmidt Recall Petition Language Batted Away By Canvassers**

Petition language proposing to recall Sen. Wayne SCHMIDT (R-Traverse City) was swept away by the Board of State Canvassers (BSC) today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45241>

### **Marsden Pledges Update On Pot Campaign By December's End**

Matt MARSDEN, leader of one of the marijuana legalization ballot proposal campaigns, said his team

would have some kind of "announcement" to make by Dec. 31.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45245>

### **Greens: Pipeline 5 Not Needed**

Last July when Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE released a task force report on Pipeline 5 that runs under the Straits of Mackinac, he argued the energy flow into Michigan would be interrupted if the line were shutdown.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45249>

### **Wyant: We'll Test All Schools for Lead**

Reflecting that the state has learned a lot from the lead water contamination problem in Flint, the state's Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) director promised that all schools will be tested for lead year round.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45249>

### **Bits And Tidbits**

UAW Members Ratify Proposed Contract With State

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45251>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Dec. 14, 1836, Michigan delegates signed a letter to Congress agreeing to give away the Toledo Strip in exchange for the Upper Peninsula at a meeting at the original Washtenaw County courthouse dubbed the Frostbitten Convention.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#45250>

### **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4731#updated_events)

### **House Committee Calendar Events**

#### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**

Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

### **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

#### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015**

9:30 AM - **Local Government**

Zorn, Dale; Rm: 100 FB

#### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015**

11:00 AM - **Banking and Financial Institutions**

Booher, Darwin L. ; Rm: 100 FB

## Capitol Calendar Events

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2015**

12:00 PM

Protest and press conference to demand a policy of ceasing all authorizing activities until the creation of a community oversight board(Sponsored by 482Forward and Students in Solidarity)

**Guest Speakers:** Students from Grand Valley State, Central Michigan, Eastern Michigan and University of Michigan

**Location:** Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers, 201 Townsend, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** Nikki Kleiman-Moran 303-815-3359

[nikkkm@umich.edu](mailto:nikkkm@umich.edu)

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2015**

10:00 AM

Sen. Ken Horn Office Hours

**Location:** St. Charles Public Library, 104 W. Spruce St., St. Charles, MI 48655

**Contact:** Melanie Ellison 517-373-1760

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2015**

10:00 AM

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Grand Valley State University's commencement

**Location:** Van Andel Arena

**Contact:** Dave Murray 517-335-6397

[murrayd1@michigan.gov](mailto:murrayd1@michigan.gov)

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015**

3:00 PM

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Christmas in Ionia, a show that pays tribute to military personnel

**Location:** Ionia Theatre

**Contact:** Dave Murray 517-335-6397

[murrayd1@michigan.gov](mailto:murrayd1@michigan.gov)

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015**

10:00 AM

Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks at the Governor's Talent Investment Board meeting to discuss building a stronger workforce system aligned with state education policies and economic development goals

**Location:** Operating Engineers Local 324 - Detroit Stationary Training Facility

**Contact:** Dave Murray [murrayd1@michigan.gov](mailto:murrayd1@michigan.gov)

[517-335-6397](tel:517-335-6397)

### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 28 - 29, 2016**

0

2016 MPA Annual Convention(Sponsored by Michigan Press Association)

**Guest Speakers:** Bill Frakes

**Location:** Amway Grand Plaza

[roselie@michiganpress.org](mailto:roselie@michiganpress.org)

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015**

1:00 PM

Huizenga To Participate In Naturalization Ceremony In Grand Haven On Monday

**Location:** The Loutit District Library  
**Contact:** Brian Patrick (202) 225-4401  
[Brian.Patrick@mail.house.gov](mailto:Brian.Patrick@mail.house.gov)

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015**

9:00 AM

Rep. Sam Singh Coffee Hours(Sponsored by Rep. Sam Singh)

**Location:** Okemos Public Library

**Contact:** Rep. Sam Singh  
[votesamsingh@gmail.com](mailto:votesamsingh@gmail.com)

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015**

11:00 AM

A team of Great Lakes advocates and scientists will release a set of illustrated reports concluding that the twin Line 5 oil pipelines in the Mackinac Straits are not vital to Michigan's energy infrastructure and security - Telepresser: (517) 999-0409; Pa(Sponsored by For Love of Water)

**Guest Speakers:** Liz Kirkwood, Executive Director, For Love of Water (FLOW); Jim Olson, President, For Love of Water (FLOW); Gary Street, Chemical Engineer & Former Director of Engineering, Dow Environmental - AWD Technologies; Rick Kane, Hazardous Materials Risk-manageme

**Location:** Michigan Environmental Council

**Contact:** Liz Kirkwood 231-944-1568  
[liz@flowforwater.org](mailto:liz@flowforwater.org)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2015**

10:30 AM

State Police to Add Six Canine Teams(Sponsored by Michigan State Police)

**Guest Speakers:** Col. Kriste Kibbey Etue

**Location:** MSP Training Academy, 7426 N. Canal Rd., Lansing, MI 48913

**Contact:** Tiffany Brown (517) 241-0970  
[BrownT22@michigan.gov](mailto:BrownT22@michigan.gov)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2015**

10:00 AM

House Returns to Session - 10:00 a.m.

**Location:**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015**

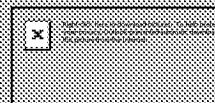
10:00 AM

House Returns to Session - 10:00 a.m.

**Location:**

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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, September 25, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **HOUSE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/hcmte.php>

### **SENATE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/scmte.php>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **U-M Professor Leading Supreme Court Candidate**

A University of Michigan professor and dean for student and graduate activities is among the leading candidates to replace state Supreme Court Justice Mary Beth KELLY when she steps down for a private sector job Oct. 1.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44493>

#### **HP Counter-Claim: State Demanded \$16M 'Ransom' From BAM Contractor**

Hewlett-Packard (HP) is responding to claims it "failed" to oversee the Secretary of State's IT contract by accusing the state of contract breaches and for levying "grave threats" against HP.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44505>

#### **Spreading Private Nude Images Becomes Misdemeanor Under Bills**

Posting sexually explicit material online without appropriate permission would be a 93-day, \$500 misdemeanor under legislation introduced in the Senate this week.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44504>

## **No More Street Clothes For Inmates During Visits**

Next month, state prisoners will have to wear their prison garb rather than their personal attire while hosting the guests that visit them.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44498>

## **Debate Over Big Box Stores' Taxes Coming To A Head In Legislature**

A bipartisan coalition has put the final touches on bills that supporters believe will help rein in a new legal strategy big retailers have been using with much success to fight their tax assessments.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44503>

## **Marijuana Ballot Proposal Takes Breather To Evaluate Data**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44507>

## **Huizenga Takes Credit For Breaking Boehner News**

The U.S. House of Representatives was roiled today by Speaker John BOEHNER's (R-Ohio) announcement he would resign from his position and Congress on Oct. 30.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44495>

## **Firm Selected For Ed Funding Study Defends Prior Work**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44497>

## **18-Year-Olds Could Be Legislators Under New Measure**

Inspired at least in part by Michigan's first governor who took the job at 24 years old, a new proposal in the House aims to lower the age requirements for serving in the Legislature and as the state's governor.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44500>

## **Higher Lead Levels In Flint Kids Spurs Legislator Action**

This week's medical study finding Flint children with elevated lead levels after the city switched its water supply, spurred area lawmakers to call for decisive action from state and federal authorities.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44509>

## **Graduated Income Tax Proposal Still Just In 'Talk' Phase**

An update on the move to install a graduated income tax is right where it's been for some time — going nowhere fast.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44494>

## **McBroom: Ready to Boot Courser And/Or Gamrat Again**

The chair of the select House committee that investigated the conduct of two former lawmakers reported he is ready to remove them again from the Legislature if either or both of them are re-elected.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44501>

## **New FY 2016 Capitol Projects To Focus On Building's Interior**

Now that the exterior of the Capitol is nearly complete, restoration and maintenance work for the next fiscal year is expected to shift inwards under the budget approved by the Michigan State Capitol Commission this week.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44496>

## **Nearly 3 in 4 Believe MI Auto Insurance Rates Are Too High**

That National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) released polling today showing 73 percent of Michigan voters think their auto insurance premiums are too high and 60 percent think auto insurance premiums in Michigan are higher than those of other states.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44502>

## **Bits And Tidbits**

Huizenga: Miller 'Would Make A Great Governor'

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44499>

## **On This Day In Michigan History**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#44503>

## **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4678#updated_events)

## **House Committee Calendar Events**

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Families, Children & Seniors**

Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Health Policy**

Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**

Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

### **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**



Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Transportation & Infrastructure**

Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015**

8:45 AM - **FISCAL AGENCY GOVERNING COMMITTEE|Rep. Pscholka**

Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 352 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS, CB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

10:30 AM - **JOINT MEETING APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON LARA|**

Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 307 HOB

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**

Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Education**

Pavlov, Phil; Rm: 110 FB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Energy and Technology**

Nofs, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Outdoor Recreation and Tourism**

Hansen, Goeff; Rm: 110 FB

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Commerce**

Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

3:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Transportation**

Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Transportation**

Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

11:30 AM

Rep. Derek Miller Lunch Reception

**Location:** Michigan Municipal League, 208 N. Capitol Ave., 1st Floor, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** Ryan Bardoni 734-552-4868

[ryanbardoni@gmail.com](mailto:ryanbardoni@gmail.com)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

10:30 AM

Senator Jon Bumstead Brunch

**Guest Speakers:** Senate Majority Leader Meekhof; Senators Stamas, MacGregor, Shirkey, Hansen and Schmidt; Rep. Callton

**Location:** The Governors Room, 121 W. Allegan Street, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** RSVP to Karen at 989-751-9559 - or via email at

[karenwhite009@gmail.com](mailto:karenwhite009@gmail.com)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

7:30 PM

Rep. Earl Poleski Birthday Celebration

**Location:** Michigan Restaurant Association, 225 W. Washtenaw St., Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** RSVP to Maria by October 12 at 517-256-2139 - or via email at

[m.ostrander08@gmail.com](mailto:m.ostrander08@gmail.com)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

11:30 AM

Liberati Lunch Reception

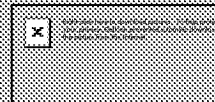
**Location:** Michigan Municipal League, 208 N. Capitol Ave., 1st Floor, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** email RSVP to Travis

[travis.g.greer@gmail.com](mailto:travis.g.greer@gmail.com)

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**Subject:** MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, October 9, 2015



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<http://www.mirnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688>

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### **HOUSE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

<http://www.mirnews.com/home.php>

### **SENATE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

<http://www.mirnews.com/scmtf.php>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **Lawmakers Not Plotting Plan B If Healthy Michigan Waiver Spike**

Key Republican lawmakers say they are so optimistic that the state will get a required federal waiver for its Medicaid expansion program they're not planning a legislative fix if things go awry, which could mean cancelled health coverage for 600,000 Michiganders.

<http://www.mirnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#44651>

#### **Corrections To Combine 3 Big Health Contracts Into 1 With New RFP**

Companies can now bid on a massive new state contract that would cover physical and mental health services -- as well as pharmaceutical services -- for prisoners.

<http://www.mirnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#44652>

#### **Schuetz Feeling 'A Measure Of Anti-Cop' Sentiment**

Attorney General Bill SCHUETTE said he believes there is a measure of "anti-cop, anti-law enforcement that's out there," and it's taking shape in the form of the presumptive parole legislation now

in the Senate and a second package that will prevent those 17 and under from being placed in adult prisons.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4688#44645>

### **Presumptive Parole Going To Government Ops**

House-passed legislation making it easier for prison inmates who have served their minimum sentences to get parole if they keep their noses clean isn't necessarily a dead duck in the Senate.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4688#44647>

### **Poll Has Whiteford 31%, Gamrat 14%, Story 13%**

Last year's second-place winner in the 80th District Republican primary is doubling up last year's first place winner, according to Target Insyght polling results released earlier today.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4688#44642>

### **Prevailing Wage Still Unresolved In Road Talks**

Gov. Rick SNYDER and the legislative quadrant pounded out details to a bipartisan, bicameral agreement to annually funnel \$1.2 billion more into the state's roads, but what the Legislature is going to about a likely citizens initiative on a prevailing wage repeal has not been agreed to.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4688#44644>

### **Breathalyzer Bill Blows Into Senate After Debate**

Sen. Tonya SCHUITMAKER (R-Lawton) legislation to further regulate a type of breathalyzer for vehicles had some pushback from those that sell and install the devices before moving through the Senate Judiciary Committee earlier this week.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4688#44649>

### **Recommended Rate Increase For DTE \$190M Below What It Asked For**

An initial recommendation for how much DTE Energy should raise its electric rates is \$190 million less than what the utility requested.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4688#44650>

### **Senate Panel Recommends Bill Defining Franchisees As Employers**

A pair of bills stipulating that a franchise owner -- not the franchising company itself -- is the direct employer of its employees was recommended to the Senate floor this week in response to a federal ruling still working its way through court.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4688#44653>

### **Miller Out As Fire Marshall, Deprez Named Acting Fire Marshal**

Fire Marshall Richard MILLER resigned from his position, his last day being today, according to the Michigan Bureau of Fire Services. Michael DEPREZ, the deputy director of the state Bureau of Fire Services, was tapped by Gov. Rick to be the interim state fire marshal.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#44643>

## **Flynn Drops Out Of 10th Congressional Race**

Shelby Township Treasurer Michael FLYNN notified federal elections officials this week he is suspending his 10th Congressional District campaign and focusing on a re-election bid in 2016.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#44643>

## **Bits And Tidbits**

State Releases Detailed Results From Lead Water Testing In Flint

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#44656>

## **On This Day In Michigan History**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#44654>

## **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4688#updated_events)

## **House Committee Calendar Events**

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

10:30 AM - JOINT MEETING APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND APPROPS - SUB CMTE ON LARA|  
(CANCELLED)Rm: 307 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2015**

10:30 AM - **General Government**  
Cox, Laura; Rm: 307 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**  
Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Health Policy**  
Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Families, Children and Seniors**  
Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**  
Inman, Larry C.; Rm: 424 CB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**

Inman, Larry C.; Rm: 424 CB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Military and Veterans Affairs**

Inman, Larry C.; Rm: 424 CB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**

Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**

Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Local Government**

Chatfield, Lee; Rm: 307 HOB

**Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

3:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

2:30 PM - **Finance**

Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Education**

Pavlov, Phil; Rm: 110 FB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

1:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**

Rocca, Tory; Rm: 210 FB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2015**

1:30 PM - **Economic Development and International Investment**

Horn, Ken; Rm: 210 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

10:00 AM - **STATE DRUG TREATMENT COURT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**|Amy Ronayne Krause

Horn, Ken; Rm: LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM, BOJI

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Commerce**

Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

## Capitol Calendar Events

### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2015**

11:00 AM

Senator Patrick Colbeck October Office Hours

**Location:** Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48154

**Contact:** Sen. Colbeck Staff 517-373-5713

[senpcolbeck@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senpcolbeck@senate.michigan.gov)

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015**

5:00 PM

An Evening with Frank J. Kelley(Sponsored by Michigan Political History Society)

**Location:** Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, MI 48911

**Contact:** RSVP via telephone 517-371-1400 - OR email

[events@kelley-cawthorne.com](mailto:events@kelley-cawthorne.com)

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015**

5:30 PM

West Michigan Meet the Players(Sponsored by MICPA, State Bar of Michigan Taxation Section, Michigan Women's Taxation Section)

**Location:** , Cascade Hills Country Club, 3725 Cascade Road SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

**Contact:** Shane Barry 248.267.3700

[sbarry@micpa.org](mailto:sbarry@micpa.org)

### **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2015**

6:30 PM

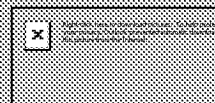
2015 ACLU of Michigan Annual Dinner(Sponsored by American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan)

**Guest Speakers:** Charles M. Blow

**Location:** , The Henry Ford Museum, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, MI 48124

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Phone 517-482-2125 Fax 517-374-0949





**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, October 30, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

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### **HOUSE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/hcmte.php>

### **SENATE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/scmte.php>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **LGBT Civil Rights Ballot Proposal Being Launched**

Advocates pushing for a constitutional equal protection amendment for women and the LGBT community are filing a campaign committee today for the November 2016 ballot.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44856>

#### **Experts: 50-Year Roads Theoretically Possible, But Costly In Michigan**

The idea of setting aside funding to study and eventually implement longer-lasting roads has returned as the Senate continues road-funding talks, but experts aren't sure the added expense the concept would entail is feasible for Michigan.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44864>

#### **Prevailing Wage Repealers Starting From Scratch On Ballot Initiative**

The group pushing for a prevailing wage repeal ballot initiative, Protecting Michigan Taxpayers (PMT), announced today it's starting over on gathering signatures.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44861>

## **Tesla Driving To Change MI's Dealership Law**

Tesla, the California-based luxury electric car manufacturer, is revving up its legislative presence in Lansing in an attempt to sell its made-to-order cars from Michigan storefronts through its current business model as soon as next year.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44857>

## **Doctors, Pharmacists In Tug Of War Over Handling New Medicines Types**

With dozens of interest groups taking sides and watching closely, two bills before a House committee this fall lay out different paths for how to handle new medicines that could eventually save Americans billions of dollars.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44862>

## **1st District Chair, Alpena Chamber Prez In For GOP In 106th**

Two Republican candidates who've known each other since kindergarten are both planning to run for an open House seat representing a swing Northern Michigan district.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44860>

## **Canoeist Denied Grand River Shore Access Can't Sue**

A nonprofit environmental group had the right to deny a canoeist access to its shoreline property to test for contamination in Grand River sediments near Jackson, the Court of Appeals has ruled.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44858>

## **Auditor General To Look Into State's Flint Response**

At Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH's (D-Flint) request, the Auditor General said he would dive into the state's response to the Flint water crisis.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44859>

## **Bits And Tidbits**

Aguilera Pitching For Clinton

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44863>

## **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Oct. 30, 1956, 52 boys at Romeo Community High School faced a deadline to either trim their Elvis Presley-like hairstyles or leave the school. The superintendent of Romeo Community High School imposed the deadline after teachers complained the students' sideburns and ducktail haircuts spawned defiant behavior. Barbers offered free haircuts to boys who could not afford them. All 52 boys reportedly

complied with the deadline.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#44665>

## **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4703#updated_events)

## **House Committee Calendar Events**

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**

Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

3:00 PM - **Licensing and Regulatory Affairs**

Afendoulis, Chris; Rm: 424 CB

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

11:45 AM - **Financial Liability Reform**

Somerville, Pat; Rm: 327 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**

Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Communications and Technology**

Jacobsen, Bradford; Rm: 519 HOB

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Health Policy**

Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Families, Children and Seniors**

Hooker, Tom; Rm: 327 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Financial Services**

Forlini, Anthony; Rm: 326 HOB

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

### **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Judiciary**

Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

### **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Natural Resources**

Casperson, Tom; Rm: 210 FB

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015**

2:30 PM - **Banking and Financial Institutions**

Booher, Darwin L. ; Rm: 100 FB

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Government Operations**

Meekhof, Arlan B.; Rm: 402-403 CB

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015**

1:00 PM

Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court(Sponsored by Oakland County Probate Court (this is a free seminar))

**Guest Speakers:** Probate Register Jill Koney Daly and Attorney Michael Witzke

**Location:** Royal Oak Senior Center

**Contact:** Karen Koshen 248-858-0296

[koshenk@oakgov.com](mailto:koshenk@oakgov.com)

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015**

1:00 PM

Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour

**Location:** Bakers

**Contact:** Jim Runestad 517-373-2616

[JimRunestad@house.mi.gov](mailto:JimRunestad@house.mi.gov)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2015**

8:30 AM

Delegate Training Session(Sponsored by 13th & 14th District Democrats)

**Location:** Northwest Activities Center, 18100 Meyers, Detroit, MI 48235

[info@14thDistrictDems.org](mailto:info@14thDistrictDems.org)

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015**

8:00 AM

Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour

**Location:** Dave and Amys

**Contact:** Jim Runestad 517-373-2616

[JimRunestad@house.mi.gov](mailto:JimRunestad@house.mi.gov)

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2015**

10:00 AM

Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour

**Location:** Colasantis Market

**Contact:** Jim Runestad 517-373-2616

[JimRunestad@house.mi.gov](mailto:JimRunestad@house.mi.gov)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2015**

5:00 PM

Young Professionals Town Hall(Sponsored by Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence)

**Location:** Bootleggers Pig and Whiskey Bar, 15412 Mack Avenue, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

[info@14thdistrictdems.org](mailto:info@14thdistrictdems.org)

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015**

11:30 AM

Issues & Ideas Forum - Why Can't Tesla Sell Cars in Michigan? (Sponsored by Mackinac Center for Public Policy)

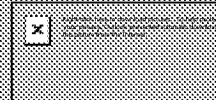
**Guest Speakers:** Daniel Crane, University of Michigan Law School

**Location:** Radisson Lansing at the Capitol - Michigan II & III, 111 North Grand Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** Kimberley Fischer-Kinne, Event Manager 9896981905  
[events@mackinac.org](mailto:events@mackinac.org)

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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, October 2, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?cid=4683>

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### **HOUSE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/home.php>

### **SENATE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/scmta.php>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **State Plan For Flint Water Includes More Testing, \$1 Million For Filters**

(FLINT) -- State and local officials today rolled out a plan to tackle growing concerns over Flint's water supply, acknowledging that some residents with lead pipes are at risk -- but they stopped short of saying the switch from Detroit water to Flint River water played a role.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?cid=4683#44579>

#### **MDOT To Face Further Scrutiny From House Transportation Panel**

The state's transportation department will soon be spending more time in front of a House committee as state lawmakers look for an additional \$1.2 billion in road funding.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?cid=4683#44579>

#### **First Leader Of EAA Executive Committee Resigns**

The first chair of the Education Achievement Authority's (EAA) executive committee has resigned his post on the committee after serving there since its inception.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44563>

### **Attack A Consumers Energy Employee, Get Your Power Shut Off?**

If Consumers Energy had its way, customers who direct violent threats at the utility's employees could have their electric service immediately cut off.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44561>

### **Colleges Eye Higher Tuition For Honors, High-Cost Programs**

To cover the costs of honors and higher-priced degree programs, public universities across the state are moving toward "differential tuition" -- charging more for programs that are more expensive to deliver, have a high demand or high job placement, according to a Michigan Association of State Universities (MASU) report.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44575>

### **Panel Readies Bill To Protect Teens Seeking Help For Overdoses**

A mom sat before a House committee this week and described coming home to find a mailbox stuffed with college applications that she knows will never be filled out.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44560>

### **Gamrat Goes After House Leadership In Flier**

Former Rep. Cindy GAMRAT goes after House leadership in her latest flier featuring a stern-looking Gamrat, arms crossed.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44582>

### **Johnson Likes Biden For President**

Sen. Bert JOHNSON (D-Highland Park) is endorsing Vice President Joe BIDEN for president, saying he's suffering from "fatigue" with the Clintons and likes Biden's personality.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44576>

### **Hoekstra: Boehner Got Raw Deal**

Former Michigan Republican Congressman Pete HOEKSTRA said he believes resigning U.S. House Speaker John BOEHNER (R-Ohio) is making the right decision by stepping down (See "Huizenga Takes Credit For Breaking Boehner News," 9/25/15), but got a raw deal in the process from the 25 or so members of the GOP conference who wanted him out.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44577>

### **Gag Order Lifted In Wayne County Jail Case**

A gag order placed on those involved in the Wayne County jail construction debacle was lifted today by the Court of Appeals, which found Wayne County Judge Vonda EVANS' "overbroad and vague" order



was a freedom of speech restriction.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44685>

## **Bits And Tidbits**

Challenger Announces In Geiss' 12th District

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44674>

## **Attention MIRS Subscribers**

In the Oct. 1, 2015, edition, in the story "State Tries To Soothe Growing Alarm Over Flint Water," it should be noted that Senate Minority Leader Jim ANANICH (D-Flint) was the public official who worked with the United Way to help distribute more than 5,000 water filters Tuesday to Flint residents.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44673>

## **On This Day in Michigan History**

On Oct. 2, 1873, the cornerstone for the new Capitol building was laid.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#44684>

## **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4683#updated_events)

## **House Committee Calendar Events**

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

12:00 PM - JOINT MEETING COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY AND APPROPS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON STATE POLICE|Rep. Jacobsen  
(CANCELLED)Rm: 519 HOB

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

10:30 AM - Transportation and Infrastructure  
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

9:00 AM - Criminal Justice  
Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015**

10:30 AM - Tax Policy  
Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015**

12:00 PM - Regulatory Reform  
Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015**

9:00 AM - Insurance

Leonard, Tom; Rm: 519 HOB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Health Policy**

Callton, Mike; Rm: 519 HOB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Kesto, Klint; Rm: 521 HOB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Commerce and Trade**

Graves, Joseph; Rm: 519 HOB

## **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

2:30 PM - **Finance**

Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Health Policy**

Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015**

8:30 AM - **Commerce**

Schmidt, Wayne A.; Rm: 210 FB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015**

1:30 PM - **Economic Development and International Investment**

Horn, Ken; Rm: 210 FB

## **Capitol Calendar Events**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

8:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** The Breakfast Place

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015**

5:00 PM

Michigan House Democratic Evening Reception(Sponsored by Dem. Leader Tim Greimel, Dem. Floor Leader Sam Singh, Campaign Chair Rep. Adam Zemke, Finance Chair Rep. Andy Schor and members of the House Democratic Caucus)

**Location:** Henrys on the Square

**Contact:** RSVP via email to Hillary Kipp

[hillkipp@gmail.com](mailto:hillkipp@gmail.com)

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2015**

5:30 PM

Jake Davison For State Representative Fundraiser Concert

**Location:** Cavellis

**Contact:** Jake Davison 810-406-1709

[jd@youradvantage.org](mailto:jd@youradvantage.org)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015**

10:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Biggby Coffee

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

12:30 PM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Plainwell City Hall

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

9:30 AM

Michigan Laborers' Training & Apprenticeship Institute's Mobile Training Unit Event(Sponsored by Michigan Laborers District Council)

**Location:** Capitol Building

**Contact:** Chris Hennessy 989-284-3649

[hennessy.chris@gmail.com](mailto:hennessy.chris@gmail.com)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

10:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Railroad Cafe

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

9:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Fennville City Hall

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

10:30 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Mugshots Coffeehouse

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

10:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Antwerp Township Hall

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2015**

12:00 PM

Michigan Says Thanks - Honoring Michigan Vietnam Era Veterans(Sponsored by Senator Mike Kowall)

**Location:** Michigan State Capitol Lawn

**Contact:** Lynn OBrien 517-373-0563

[LOBrien@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:LOBrien@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015**

11:30 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Paw Paw District Library

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

12:00 PM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Fillmore Township Hall

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2015**

10:00 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Fillmore Township Hall

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2015**

8:30 AM

Senator Tonya Schuitmaker Office Hours

**Location:** Daily Brews Gourmet Coffee

**Contact:** Deb Shields 269-303-5564

[DShields@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:DShields@senate.michigan.gov)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015**

10:00 AM

Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour

**Location:** Colasantis Market

**Contact:** Rep. Runestad Staff 517-373-2616

[JimRunestad@house.mi.gov](mailto:JimRunestad@house.mi.gov)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2015**

5:00 PM

Senator Tory Rocca Evening Reception

**Location:** Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Square, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** Scott Bean 517-881-0013

[toryrocca@yahoo.com](mailto:toryrocca@yahoo.com)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015**

8:00 AM

Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour

**Location:** Dave and Amys

**Contact:** Rep. Runestad Staff 517-373-2616

[JimRunestad@house.mi.gov](mailto:JimRunestad@house.mi.gov)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2015**

12:00 PM

Rep. Jim Runestad Coffee Hour

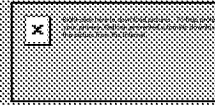
**Location:** Bakers

**Contact:** Rep. Runestad Staff 517-373-2616

[JimRunestad@house.mi.gov](mailto:JimRunestad@house.mi.gov)

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910 W. Ottawa

PO Box 19303

Lansing, MI 48915

Phone 517-482-2125 Fax 517-374-0949

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 16, 2015 9:11 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, October 16, 2015



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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, October 16, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **HOUSE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/hcmte.php>

### **SENATE COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/scmte.php>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **School Leaders: Wide Majority Of Supts Are Against Retention Policy**

When the House voted this week in favor of a bill that holds back students who don't read at a certain level by the third grade, lawmakers did it despite immense opposition from school superintendents.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44724>

#### **EPA Creates Task Force To Assist State, Flint With Water Switch**

A federal agency has convened a task force to lend some "technical expertise" to both Flint and the state as the city moves to reconnect its water back to the Detroit supply.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44720>

#### **School Adequately Responded To Threat Against Teacher, Supe Argues**

Some of the first public testimony on a bill mandating expulsion for students who threaten to kill a teacher or school employee revolved around a teacher claiming her school district didn't do enough to protect her when she faced that situation.

<http://www.mlrnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44723>

## **State Agencies Combatting Invasive Species Take Less Hands-On Approach**

As public awareness about invasive species in Michigan grows, state agencies looking to expand their ability to fight the threat are finding creative ways to do so under budgetary constraints.

<http://www.mlrnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44726>

## **Gov Forms Special Ed Reform Team; Advocate Says Timing Right**

With the creation of a team to continue work on special education reform, one member and advocate said this is the most optimistic she's been in years to see change.

<http://www.mlrnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44725>

## **Supremes Want Appellate Court To Decide If MCCA Is Public Body**

The Michigan Supreme Court kicked back to the appellate court today the case over whether the entity that pays the expenses of those catastrophically injured in car wrecks should open its records to the public.

<http://www.mlrnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44718>

## **Dem Congressional Challengers Posting Competitive Numbers**

The Democrats viewed as the most probable challengers to four Republican congressional incumbents posted notable third-quarter fundraising numbers by the end of Thursday.

<http://www.mlrnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44719>

## **Bishop A 'Big Fan' Of Paul Ryan**

U.S. Rep. Mike BISHOP (R-Rochester) told the Lansing Rotary Club this afternoon he's "a big fan" of U.S. Rep. Paul RYAN (R-Wis.) as the latter continues to be pushed to become the next speaker of the U.S. House.

<http://www.mlrnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44717>

## **MSC Issues Stay On Disclosure Of MSU Student-Athlete Names**

ESPN may have won the last round in court in its quest for the names of hundreds of Michigan State University (MSU) athletes, but the sports network won't be reaping the fruits of its labor just yet.

<http://www.mlrnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44722>

## **Snyder Look-a-Like Visits Lansing**

Former Michigan resident Andy Freeburn stepped off the plane from California last weekend en route to a family church wedding when it hit him.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44714>

### **Legislature Membership Score: MSU 32, U-M 21**

Senate session ended Thursday with a hearty "Go Green" from Senate Majority Floor Leader Mike KOWALL (R-White Lake), who had given some other Spartan senators a heads up that the cheer was coming.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44715>

### **Colbeck-Hertel Road Funding Debate Details Set**

Last week, Sen. Patrick COLBECK (R-Canton) challenged any state legislator to debate him on why new revenue is needed to pay for the \$1.2 billion more the Governor wants annually for roads. One state senator is taking Colbeck up on that challenge.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44716>

### **Attention MIRS Subscribers**

In the Oct. 15, 2015, edition, in the story "Gov's Detroit School Bills Coming Soon," it should be noted that Rep. Harvey SANTANA was speaking for himself when he spoke about the "kids who can rap Dr. Dre but can't read Dr. Seuss, and we socially promoted them along the way."

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44721>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

On Oct. 16, 1997, the AFL-CIO endorsed East Lansing businessman Larry OWEN for governor nearly 10 months prior to the 1998 Democratic primary. Ten months later, fiery defense attorney Geoffrey FIEGER, of Southfield, won the Democratic gubernatorial nomination.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#44727>

### **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4693#updated_events)

### **House Committee Calendar Events**

#### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Natural Resources**

LaFontaine, Andrea; Rm: 326 HOB

#### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

9:00 AM - **Criminal Justice**

Heise, Kurt; Rm: 327 HOB

#### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

10:30 AM - **School Aid**

(CANCELLED) Kelly, Tim; Rm: 426 CB



**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Kesto, Clint; Rm: 521 HOB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

12:00 PM - **COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY JOINT WITH APPROPS SBCMTE ON STATE POLICE|Reps. Jacobsen and A Miller**

Kesto, Clint; Rm: 519 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Tax Policy**

Farrington, Jeff; Rm: 521 HOB

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Oversight and Ethics**

McBroom, Ed; Rm: 326 HOB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**

Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Agriculture**

Lauwers, Dan; Rm: 519 HOB

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Regulatory Reform**

Franz, Ray; Rm: 519 HOB

**Senate Committee Calendar Events**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

2:30 PM - **Finance**

Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 210 FB

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2015**

10:15 AM - **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT JOINT WITH TRANSPORTATION AND COMMERCE|**

Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: SUPERIOR ROOM, THE CISLER CENTER, CAMPUS OF LSSU, 650 W. EASTERDAY AVENUE, SAULT STE. MARIE, MI 49783

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Education**

Pavlov, Phil; Rm: 110 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

3:00 PM - **Judiciary**

Jones, Rick; Rm: 110 FB

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2015**

12:30 PM - **Health Policy**

Shirkey, Mike; Rm: SENATE HEARING ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, BOJI TOWER

## Capitol Calendar Events

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015

8:00 AM

Michigan Pancreatic Cancer Briefing(Sponsored by Celgene Corporation, Hosted by Pancreatic Cancer Action Network)

**Guest Speakers:** Megan Gordon Don - PCAN; Diane Simeone, M.D., U of M; Rosemary Ireland-Black, Pancreatic Cancer Survivor

**Location:** Anderson House Office Building, 5th Floor Mackinac Room, 124 N. Capitol Avenue, Lansing, MI 48909

**Contact:** RSVP by October 30, 2015 via email  
[advocacy@pancan.org](mailto:advocacy@pancan.org)

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015

8:30 AM

Michigan Railroads Association Winter Board Meeting

**Location:** Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, MI 48911

**Contact:** Barbara Russell 517-482-9413  
[mra@michiganrailroadsassociation.com](mailto:mra@michiganrailroadsassociation.com)

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015

10:00 AM

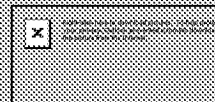
Rep. Jeff Irwin Coffee Hour

**Location:** Espresso Royale

**Contact:** Rep. Jeff Irwin Staff 517-373-2577  
[jeffirwin@house.mi.gov](mailto:jeffirwin@house.mi.gov)

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## **MIRS Capitol Capsule, Friday, November 13, 2015**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirsnews.com/handheld/>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **In Some Counties, A Majority Of Voters Choose Straight Ticket**

As lawmakers ponder doing away with straight ticket voting in Michigan, 2014 election results indicate that in some counties more than half of the voters tend to choose that option.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44989>

#### **Snyder On Concealed Carry In Schools: 'I Vetoed It Once, I'd Veto It Again'**

Gov. Rick SNYDER came out against Senate legislation that would allow individuals to carry concealed weapons in schools and other pistol-free zones this morning, saying he would veto the bills as written.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44984>

#### **Jones Hopes To Move Medical Marijuana Package After Break**

After a series of hearings and visits to local and Canadian marijuana facilities, Senate Judiciary Chair Rick JONES (R-Grand Ledge) has determined a regulated medical marijuana system is the appropriate path to take.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44992>

#### **Primary Challenger Focusing On Inman's Road Vote In 104th**

Calling Rep. Larry INMAN's (R-Williamsburg) support for the \$1.2 billion road-funding plan "the final

straw," a conservative former county commissioner from Traverse City has decided to challenge Inman in the 2016 GOP primary.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4712#44987>

### **Canvassers Reject Snyder Recall Attempt Over Flint Water Fallout**

The Board of State Canvassers (BSC) brushed aside a Detroit pastor's effort to start a recall campaign against Gov. Rick SNYDER, which had cited the Governor's alleged culpability for the Flint water situation as the reason for the recall.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4712#44986>

### **Incoming Capitol Facilities Director To Bring Lansing Experience, Passion**

Rob BLACKSHAW hasn't worked in the Capitol building since 1998, but he still has a picture of it hanging in his current office.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4712#44983>

### **AFP-Michigan Head On Road Plan: 'I Didn't Like It'**

With the Michigan chapter of Americans for Prosperity (AFP) opposed to tax increases, it's not surprising that the group's leader wasn't pleased with the vote to hike the gas tax and vehicle registration fees last week.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4712#44985>

### **Quarter Fee Collected By AG Questioned By Court**

The monthly fee of \$3.50 collected by Friend of the Court offices from those who pay child and spousal support payments isn't a violation of due process, but part of that fee -- 25 cents -- needs further examination, the state Court of Appeals (COA) ruled this week.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4712#44988>

### **Emerson Long Gone From Lansing Lobby Scene**

Last year, former Senate Minority Leader and Budget Director Bob EMERSON went into the office of his lobbying partner Jeff McALVEY and suggested he would hang it up once the budget was completed.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4712#44994>

### **Some Hoping Non-Gov't Money Is Part Of DPS Solution**

Some sources inside and outside of the Legislature are suggesting the Governor turn to outside foundation sources to find some of the money needed to help turn around the Detroit Public Schools' (DPS) finances.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?id=4712#44995>

## Bits And Tidbits

Potential Fourth CWD Case Found In Mid-Michigan Deer

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44890>

## Gubernatorial Appointments

Gov. Rick SNYDER made appointments and a reappointment to state boards in charge of overseeing municipality finances.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44891>

## On This Day In Michigan History

On Nov. 13, 1972, Gov. William MILLIKEN bought the first lottery ticket sold in the state.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#44983>

## Updated Calendar Events:

[http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4712#updated_events)

## House Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

## Senate Committee Calendar Events

No events have been updated on this calendar

## Capitol Calendar Events

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2015

8:30 AM

Gov. Snyder to attend MVAA's Veteran-Friendly Employer Awards and Recognition Breakfast - Ceremony begins at 9:00 AM(Sponsored by Michigan Veteran's Affair Agency)

**Guest Speakers:** Gov. Rick Snyder and Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency Director Jeff Barnes

**Location:** Heritage Room, Michigan State University's University Club

**Contact:** Lauren DeVol 517-284-5236

[Devol.L@michigan.gov](mailto:Devol.L@michigan.gov)

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015

11:00 AM

Rep. Jon Hoadley Thanksgiving Brunch - 11:15 AM

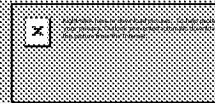
**Location:** The Law Offices of Miller Canfield

**Contact:** PLEASE NOTE CORRECT TIME IS 11:15 AM - RSVP via email

[heather.ricketts@gmail.com](mailto:heather.ricketts@gmail.com)

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<http://www.mirnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730>

### **PDA Friendly Web Version:**

<http://www.mirnews.com/handheld/>

### **INSIDE TODAY'S MIRS:**

#### **No-Fault Reform Expected To Move Back Into The Spotlight**

The once quiet debate over how to reform Michigan's auto no-fault system has been getting louder this month, and some say the issue could return to the forefront as soon as early 2016.

<http://www.mirnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45231>

#### **RTL Michigan: Defunding Planned Parenthood A Process, Not Event**

Right to Life of Michigan lobbyist Ed RIVET this week told key Republican leaders that there "will be no cry from Right to Life of Michigan to 'Defund Planned Parenthood,'" but that doesn't mean the group doesn't want dollars reprioritized.

<http://www.mirnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45229>

#### **Did MRP Chair Reach Out To Lawmakers On Straight-Ticket Bill?**

A spokesperson for the Michigan Republican Party (MRP) didn't deny today an allegation that the party's chair reached out to House members to encourage them to support ending automatic straight-ticket voting.

<http://www.mirnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45235>

#### **Moody's Rates MI's School Districts Lower Than Any U.S. Public Entity**



Michigan's public schools' Baa financial rating score is lower than any other U.S. public finance sector rated by Moody's Financial Services. Michigan also is home to seven of the 20 school districts nationwide with below-investment grade rating, according to a recent report.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45224>

### **DTE Electric Rates Hiked \$238M, \$132M Below What It Wanted**

Striking middle ground like it did with Consumers Energy, the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) granted DTE Energy about \$238 million in electric rate increases, which was \$132 million below what the utility wanted.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45234>

### **Mandatory Training Proposed For Security Guards**

The Michigan Contract Security Association is pushing to establish the first statewide training requirements for security guards.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45232>

### **Snyder Makes Former GOP Chair Schostak An Oakland Trustee**

Gov. Rick SNYDER announced Thursday he would name former Michigan Republican Party chair Bobby SCHOSTAK to the Oakland University Board of Trustees.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45225>

### **Allard-Graham Lawyer Goes Public**

As far as Grand Rapids attorney Sarah Riley HOWARD is concerned this was a no-brainer and her two clients quickly signed off on her going public to explain their side of the whistleblower suit filed earlier this week against the GOP-controlled House of Representatives.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45230>

### **Ruth Johnson: What's Next**

She still has three years left in her current gig as Secretary of State but as everyone in town knows it's never too early to think about the next one and Ruth JOHNSON is there.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45223>

### **United Health Foundation Pegs MI Health 35th**

When it comes to Michigan's annual health check-up, the state isn't even in the top half of all states.

<http://www.mirsnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45227>

### **Students Want Detroit Authorizers To Stop Authorizing Schools**

A band of college students from across the state want charter authorizers to stop opening or closing schools in Detroit until a "local oversight board" is put in place to monitor such activities.

<http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45236>

### **Report: State Lags In Per-Pupil Funding**

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities this week released a new report looking at per-pupil K-12 funding across the country and found Michigan ranks 12th worst in cuts to education.

<http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45229>

### **Governor Checking His List**

While this is the time of the year to compile your gift list for the season, Gov. Rick SNYDER already has his list ready to go as he finishes the year with a check list of -- count them -- 23 "Highlights From 2015."

<http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45233>

### **Bits And Tidbits**

Percentage Of Flint People With High Lead Levels Stays Flat In New Data

<http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45237>

### **On This Day In Michigan History**

<http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#45226>

### **Updated Calendar Events:**

[http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#updated\\_events](http://www.mirsnnews.com/capsule.php?gid=4730#updated_events)

### **House Committee Calendar Events**

#### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015**

12:00 PM - **Communications and Technology**  
Jacobsen, Bradford; Rm: 519 HOB

#### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015**

10:30 AM - **Transportation and Infrastructure**  
Pettalia, Peter; Rm: 521 HOB

### **Senate Committee Calendar Events**

#### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015**

9:15 AM - **Finance**  
(CANCELLED) Brandenburg, Jack; Rm: 100 FB

## Capitol Calendar Events

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2015**

11:00 AM

Sen. Patrick Colbeck Office Hours - Livonia

**Location:** Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia, MI 48154

**Contact:** Penny Crider 517-373-5713

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2015**

10:30 AM

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks and join Blue Cross Blue Shield in announcing that the health and wellness Building Healthy Communities program will be expanded to 100 additional Michigan schools(Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield)

**Location:** Ridge Park Charter Academy

**Contact:** Dave Murray 517-335-6397

[murrayd1@michigan.gov](mailto:murrayd1@michigan.gov)

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015**

11:00 AM

For Love of Water Press Conference - New Report Reveals Alternatives to Line 5 at the Straits(Sponsored by For Love of Water)

**Guest Speakers:** Liz Kirkwood, Executive Director, For Love of Water (FLOW); Jim Olson, President, For Love of Water (FLOW); Gary Street, Chemical Engineer & Former Director of Engineering, Dow Environmental - AWD Technologies; Rick Kane, Hazardous Materials Risk-manageme

**Location:** Michigan Environmental Council - Telepresser: Dial (517) 999-0409; Passcode 497786

**Contact:** Liz Kirkwood 231-944-1568

[liz@flowforwater.org](mailto:liz@flowforwater.org)

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015**

4:00 PM

The Ann Arbor Interfaith Vigil to #EndGunViolence to commemorate the three year mark of the Sandy Hook tragedy and to honor all survivors and victims of gun violence(Sponsored by Moms Demand Action)

**Guest Speakers:** Barb McRae, Faith Outreach Lead, Michigan Chapter of Moms Demand Action; State Senator Rebekah Warren; Volunteers with the Michigan chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America

**Location:** Ann Arbor Friends Meeting House, 1420 Hill Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

**Contact:** Lizzie Ulmer 269-271-2331

[press@everytown.org](mailto:press@everytown.org)

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015**

7:00 PM

The Midland Evening of Remembrance to #EndGunViolence to commemorate the three year mark of the Sandy Hook tragedy and to honor all survivors and victims of gun violence with the Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence(Sponsored by Moms Demand Action)

**Guest Speakers:** Kristen Moore, volunteer chapter Leader with the Michigan chapter of Moms Demand Action; Linda Brundage, Executive Director, Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence; Reverend Jeff Liebmann, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Midland; Volunteers with

**Location:** Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Midland, 6220 N Jefferson Ave, Midland, MI 48640

**Contact:** Lizzie Ulmer [press@everytown.org](mailto:press@everytown.org)

[269-271-2331](tel:269-271-2331)

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015**

4:00 PM

The West Michigan Orange Walk to #EndGunViolence to commemorate the three year mark of the

Sandy Hook tragedy and to honor all survivors and victims of gun violence(Sponsored by Moms Demand Action)

**Guest Speakers:** Dr. Erica Michiels, Associate Medical Director of the Pediatric Emergency Department at Helen Devos Children's Hospital; Raynard Ross, Member of the Grand Rapids Public School Board; Jerline Riley, Co-Founder of Mothers on a Mission, gun violence survivor

**Location:** Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain St NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

**Contact:** Lizzie Ulmer 269-271-2331

[press@everytown.org](mailto:press@everytown.org)

#### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2015**

12:00 PM

Protest and press conference to demand a policy of ceasing all authorizing activities until the creation of a community oversight board(Sponsored by 482Forward and Students in Solidarity)

**Guest Speakers:** Students from Grand Valley State, Central Michigan, Eastern Michigan and University of Michigan

**Location:** Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers, 201 Townsend, Lansing, MI 48933

**Contact:** Nikki Kleiman-Moran 303-815-3359

[nikkkm@umich.edu](mailto:nikkkm@umich.edu)

#### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2015**

10:00 AM

Sen. Ken Horn Office Hours

**Location:** St. Charles Public Library, 104 W. Spruce St., St. Charles, MI 48655

**Contact:** Melanie Ellison 517-373-1760

#### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2015**

10:00 AM

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Grand Valley State University's commencement

**Location:** Van Andel Arena

**Contact:** Dave Murray 517-335-6397

[murrayd1@michigan.gov](mailto:murrayd1@michigan.gov)

#### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015**

3:00 PM

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley will offer remarks at Christmas in Ionia, a show that pays tribute to military personnel

**Location:** Ionia Theatre

**Contact:** Dave Murray 517-335-6397

[murrayd1@michigan.gov](mailto:murrayd1@michigan.gov)

#### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015**

10:00 AM

Gov. Rick Snyder will offer remarks at the Governor's Talent Investment Board meeting to discuss building a stronger workforce system aligned with state education policies and economic development goals

**Location:** Operating Engineers Local 324 - Detroit Stationary Training Facility

**Contact:** Dave Murray [murrayd1@michigan.gov](mailto:murrayd1@michigan.gov)

[517-335-6397](tel:517-335-6397)

#### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 28 - 29, 2016**

0

2016 MPA Annual Convention(Sponsored by Michigan Press Association)

**Guest Speakers:** Bill Frakes

**Location:** Amway Grand Plaza

[roselie@michiganpress.org](mailto:roselie@michiganpress.org)

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2015**

1:00 PM

Huizenga To Participate In Naturalization Ceremony In Grand Haven On Monday

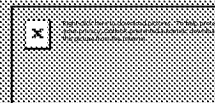
**Location:** The Loutit District Library

**Contact:** Brian Patrick (202) 225-4401

[Brian.Patrick@mail.house.gov](mailto:Brian.Patrick@mail.house.gov)

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 29, 2015 3:23 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS Breaking News: Wyant Resigns As MDEQ Director -- 3:09 PM



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## **MIRS BREAKING NEWS: Wyant Resigns As MDEQ Director -- 3:09 PM**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/alert.php?alert\\_id=2154](http://www.mirsnews.com/alert.php?alert_id=2154)

Dan **WYANT**, the director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), is resigning in the wake of criticism about how the state handled elevated lead levels in Flint drinking water.

Gov. Rick **SNYDER** announced Wyant's resignation in a statement today. Also, in the statement, the Governor said his administration would invite scientists who have been tracking the situation "to be our partners in helping us improve Flint water."

"I want the Flint community to know how very sorry I am that this has happened," Snyder's statement added. "And I want all Michigan citizens to know that we will learn from this experience, because Flint is not the only city that has an aging infrastructure."

On Wyant, Snyder said Wyant offered his resignation, "and I've determined that it's appropriate to accept it."

"I'm also making other personnel changes at MDEQ to address problems cited by the task force," Snyder's statement said.

Those other changes haven't been finalized yet, according to Laura **BIEHL**, a spokesperson for the Governor.

The news of Wyant's resignation comes as a task force continues to work on a report about the Flint water crisis, which occurred after the city's water source was switched to the Flint River in 2014.

"Although the task force's final report is not yet completed, members have made me aware of some interim findings and corrective steps that I have decided to take immediately in order to restore trust in how the state keeps its citizens safe and informed," Snyder said today. He continued, "We'll continue to work with the community members to make sure we hear and respond to their concerns."

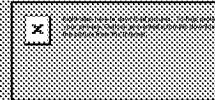
Snyder also noted the he called Flint Mayor Karen **WEAVER** last week and the two are going to meet soon to discuss other ways the state can offer assistance.

Wyant has been MDEQ director since Snyder took office in 2011.

Previously, Wyant was the director of the Department of Agriculture under former Govs. John **ENGLER** and Jennifer **GRANHOLM**.

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**From:** MIRS Delivery <mirsdelivery@mirsnews.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 19, 2015 10:38 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** MIRS BREAKING NEWS: DEQ Staff 'Made A Mistake' In Dealing With Flint Water, Director Says -- 10:22 a.m.



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## **MIRS BREAKING NEWS: DEQ Staff 'Made A Mistake' In Dealing With Flint Water, Director Says -- 10:22 a.m.**

[http://www.mirsnews.com/alert.php?alert\\_id=2112](http://www.mirsnews.com/alert.php?alert_id=2112)

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Director Dan **WYANT** today admitted staffers in his department mishandled the city of Flint's water situation, pointing to departmental issues with experience and protocol in corrosion control efforts.

Wyant said in a statement that staff used a federal protocol they believed was appropriate. Those testing steps "would have been correct for a city less than 50,000 people, but not for a city of nearly 100,000," he said.

In response to that finding, DEQ Chief Deputy Jim **SYGO** was named the interim chief of the department's Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance.

Wyant said he was convinced the staff involved in the program believed they were doing their job right, and that the state took appropriate steps once it became clear there could be a health threat to Flint residents.

"We are now embarked on an unprecedented effort to safeguard Flint residents and families with near-term, intermediate and long-term actions to protect and educate city residents," he said. "We will learn from this. We will make necessary changes to see to it that our program becomes a national leader in public health protection."

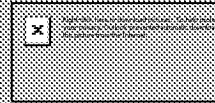
In addition to the staffing change, Gov. Rick **SNYDER** has reportedly called for an independent, third party after-action review. The department is also working with the federal government and is "committed to being part of the U.S. EPA's effort to strengthen its Lead and Copper Rule," Wyant said.



"All who brought this issue to the department deserve credit for bringing it forward," he added. "Lead is a serious issue, particularly for young people, and we take it seriously."

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**From:** Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 10:21 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Wednesday, September 30, 2015  
**Attachments:** Sep30.htm; Sep30House.htm; Sep30Senate.htm; 150930dayplan.htm



## Michigan Report for Wednesday, September 30, 2015

Cotter Said Now To Back \$800M New Revenue For Roads

Tinsley-Talabi Implicated In Bribe While On Detroit Pension Board

Question Raised On Bush-Era Memo As Larsen Named To Court

Supplemental Sees \$7M For State Police Lawsuit, \$6M For BAM Continuation

Appeals Court: Retroactive Exit From Compact Constitutional

Federal Court Rejects Arguments Against New Bridge

Snyder: Details On Flint Water Action Coming

Bill Creating More Safety Requirements For Boats, Jet Skis Gets Pushback

Board Approves Contracts Despite Protests Over Protest Process

MSHDA Board Approves \$3M Toward Improvements In Detroit

State: No Long-Term Health Effects Expected From Breathing Oil Spill Chemicals

Howrylak Offers Bill To Re-open Maxey

Senate Appropriations Renames Room For Gast

Senate Approves Electronic Proof Of Insurance

Heise To Run For Plymouth Township Supervisor

Capital Notebook

Signed by the Governor

Supplemental Event Planner

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

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## Volume #54, Report #194 -- Wednesday, September 30, 2015

### Cotter Said Now To Back \$800M New Revenue For Roads

One of the key pieces for legislative leaders to resolve as they negotiate a road funding package appears to have cleared a key marker with several sources telling Gongwer News Service that House { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1>" } supports raising \$800 million in new revenue.

There is no agreement, no deal, not even a framework, not yet, for the long-sought roads package.

But six weeks ago, when the House attempted to pass a plan relying on \$600 million in new revenue and \$600 million shifted from the General Fund to roads, it was plainly clear - from both House Republican sources and sources among others close to the negotiations - that \$800 million in new revenue was not under consideration at that point in the House.

In fact, one source close to the negotiations said at the time that { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" }, Senate { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1>" } (R-West Olive) and the Democratic legislative leadership were willing to work toward a framework of \$800 million in new revenue and \$300 million shifted from the General Fund, but that Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) was not part of the talks leading to that conclusion.

Now, however, sources, who spoke on condition they not be named given the sensitivity of the negotiations, say Mr. Cotter is there on \$800 million in new revenue. Exactly how much would come from the General Fund is less clear, but sources said the \$400 million figure seems likely because it would mean not putting any additional pressure on the General Fund than it will devote to roads in the 2015-16 fiscal year that starts Thursday and it would meet the \$1.2 billion figure long cited as the target for new road funding. The 2015-16 fiscal year budget contains \$400 million from the General Fund for roads.

Mr. Cotter, asked Wednesday whether he has embraced an 800/400 dynamic, did not directly answer.

"There are a lot of variables, so we haven't settled on a framework just yet, but are working through all of the individual pieces of it," Mr. Cotter said in an interview. "We had a very good meeting today, and I think we are getting very close. Each meeting has been productive, but I think now we are down to a period of maybe a couple of weeks and we could have something."

The frequency of the meetings has picked up. Mr. Snyder and the Legislative Quadrant met twice Tuesday and again Wednesday.

If the leadership and Mr. Snyder can in fact check off the box on how much new revenue to raise, it leaves two major unfinished components.

One: what other bills and issues would be part of an overall deal? Two: once the complementary pieces come together, can Mr. Cotter and House { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1" } (D-Auburn Hills) persuade enough members of their caucuses to vote yes to reach the 54 votes needed for passage?

Those following the issue say Mr. Cotter will likely want something in the vicinity of half his caucus, which has 61 members, before proceeding. And that would mean needing about half the Democratic caucus to get to 54.

### Tinsley-Talabi Implicated In Bribe While On Detroit Pension Board

Questions about whether { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=259701&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=259701&locid=1" } could face legal scrutiny in the wide-ranging federal criminal investigation of corruption in the Detroit pension system came roaring back to life Wednesday.

Roy Dixon, an investor who brought several investment proposals before the city's two pension boards, was sentenced to more than three years in prison for disbursing more than \$244,000 in bribes to secure support from the pension boards for his proposals. Federal authorities concluded that Mr. Dixon embezzled millions from those investments for personal gain.

At the time of these offenses, Ms. Tinsley-Talabi (D-Detroit) was a member of the Detroit Police and Fire Retirement System Board. George Stanton, who was her chief of staff while she served on the city council and pension board, already has pleaded guilty to accepting a \$20,000 bribe from Mr. Dixon and has cooperated with authorities.

Questions have lingered for years about whether Ms. Tinsley-Talabi herself might face trouble, but she has never been charged. In 2013, The Detroit News reported that Ms. Tinsley-Talabi took "a Caribbean trip, campaign cash and a donation from a businessman while supporting his \$10 million city pension fund deal." At the time, Ms. Tinsley-Talabi said authorities had not contacted her, but she would cooperate if they did.

The sentencing memorandum from the U.S. attorney in Detroit, filed a week ago, sheds more light on what allegations have been leveled against Ms. Tinsley-Talabi. Mr. Dixon contributed \$1,000 to Mack Alive, a nonprofit tied to Ms. Tinsley-Talabi.

And the sentencing memorandum for Mr. Stanton, who faces sentencing Thursday, was more specific. That memorandum says that in 2006, Mr. Stanton agreed to accept more than \$100,000 from Anmar Sarafa, an owner of Steward Capital Management and Munros Capital, in exchange for Mr. Stanton helping Mr. Sarafa's \$20 million Steward Capital investment proposal pending before the Police and Fire Retirement System Board.

Mr. Sarafa is a member of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation Executive Committee.

"Stanton passed on to Sarafa directions from Tinsley-Talabi," the memorandum from the government says. "Tinsley-Talabi directed Sarafa, through Stanton, that Sarafa needed to donate \$3,000 to Tinsley-Talabi's political campaign. She also directed that Sarafa should give money to former Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick's Civic Fund in order to secure the votes of Treasurer Jeffrey Beasley and the votes of the mayoral bloc. Finally, Sarafa was told to give money to the Detroit Police Officers Association in order to secure the votes of co-defendant and Trustee Paul Stewart and Trustee Martin Bandemer."

The memorandum says the contributions were made, and the board approved his proposal.

The sentencing memorandum from Mr. Stanton's attorney indicates that Mr. Stanton at one point secretly recorded Ms. Tinsley-Talabi, but no incriminating information emerged.

A spokesperson for the U.S. attorney in Detroit did not respond to a message seeking comment about whether a decision has been to charge Ms. Tinsley-Talabi.

Ms. Tinsley-Talabi did not respond to a message left with her seeking comment, nor one left for her via a spokesperson.

#### Question Raised On Bush-Era Memo As Larsen Named To Court

Newly named Supreme Court Justice Joan Larsen was hailed by { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) } and others as an outstanding choice for the court, but her co-authorship of a memo during the administration of former President George W. Bush dealing with habeas corpus rights of terrorism suspects quickly came to the forefront with some individuals calling for her to disclose her role in the controversial actions following September 11, 2001.

During a press conference where she was introduced, Ms. Larsen was asked if she had been involved in any advice to the president on "enhanced interrogation techniques," and Ms. Larsen said she had "no role in interrogation techniques" and only learned about some of the controversy after she came to Michigan to teach at the University of Michigan.

However, after her appointment to the Supreme Court was official, the Michigan chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union released a list of memos the national organization had sought when it questioned whether the Bush administration had authorized torture and constitutionally questionable detention methods of Al Qaeda members and other terrorism suspects, many held at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.

Among those memos is one from March 5, 2002, co-authored by Ms. Larsen - who was then a deputy assistant U.S. attorney general in the Office of Legal Counsel - and Gregory Jacob, an attorney advisor in the office of legal counsel, on the availability of habeas corpus rights to

detainees. The memo was addressed to other attorneys in the U.S. Department of Justice and the memo itself has never been released to the public.

Kary Moss, executive director of the Michigan ACLU, said the organization took no position on judicial appointments, but, "this appointment should be accompanied by full disclosure about the role Larsen played in the development" of policies that authorized "torture, warrantless wiretapping, indefinite detention and other abuses."

A spokesperson for Mr. Snyder - who was asked after the press conference if the governor was aware of the questioned memo when Ms. Larsen was selected - said in an email, "Justice Larsen was fully vetted and we are confident in the decision and her talent, background and abilities."

Ms. Larsen succeeds { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=298201&locid=1" }, who officially leaves the Supreme Court on Thursday. Ms. Kelly was the top vote getter for the court when she was elected in 2010, and Ms. Larsen will have to run in 2016 to complete Ms. Kelly's term on the court.

Ms. Kelly is resigning to return to private practice and advocate for juvenile justice issues.

Ms. Larsen's name caught many by surprise when it was revealed she was Mr. Snyder's top choice for the court. She has no judicial experience herself - but neither did { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=334301&locid=1" } (who Ms. Larsen described as a friend and one of her biggest backers for the court) nor { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=11701&locid=1" } when they were elected - and she said in a press conference it had been "years and years and years" since she had argued a case in court.

That should not matter, she said, since teaching and preparing lectures was described by a friend of hers as arguing in front of the Supreme Court.

Ms. Larsen is a graduate of the Northwestern Law School. Her undergraduate degree is from the University of Northern Iowa. She clerked for U.S. Appeals Judge David Sentelle and then U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. Ms. Larsen called them both great role models "in terms of thinking through the cases carefully, taking every case as if it is the most important case to be decided, treating the litigants with respect, knowing that their arguments are important to the litigants and to the court."

She also practiced law with the Washington, D.C., firm of Sidley and Austin.

Ms. Larsen joined the U-M law faculty in 2003, and her husband, Adam Pritchard, is also a faculty member. She joked that he was giving up his sabbatical to take over teaching her classes after her appointment to the court.

Asked about her judicial philosophy, Ms. Larsen said, "In short, I believe in enforcing the laws as written by the Legislature, signed by the governor. I believe in enforcing the text as written. I

don't think that judges are a policy-making branch of government, and our role is to serve the people by enforcing the laws in the way they were written by the Legislature."

But when asked if she was a member of the conservative law group The Federalist Society, her answer was indefinite and roundabout.

"So, that's a great and interesting question, and I'm not actually sure I know the answer to it. ... If you look on the web you'll see I'm on their speakers list; I occasionally do programs for them. But, whether I'm actually a member or I pay dues, I honestly don't know the answer. So, I, I'm not dodging the question, I just don't actually know the answer. I've done some events for them," she said.

Ms. Larsen has done some events for The Federalist Society, including one in which {  
HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=75601&locid=1>" }  
appeared.

She will also run for election for the first time in 2016 and said she did not think campaign contributions made to her would influence her.

Ms. Larsen was asked if she played any role in the controversy during Mr. Bush's administration on interrogation techniques. "The answer to that is none. I was in the Office of Legal Counsel at the time, but those national security measures in the Justice Department were classified and a close hold. And as you may have read how that process was run there, (there) were only certain people read in those things and I was not one of them. So, I read about the controversial memos when I got back to, when I was here in Michigan. I read them in the newspapers just like I assume you did."

She was not asked specifically about the memo on habeas corpus rights.

Mr. Young called her appointment a "perfect fit with a court that is second to none in its commitment to the rule of law and legal scholarship."

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1>" }  
also said Ms. Larsen would be a "strong voice for rule of law" in Michigan.

But the question of the memo she co-authored did raise hackles.

Lonnie Scott, executive director of the liberal activist group Progress Michigan, said her working in the Office of Legal Counsel during Mr. Bush's administration came at "one of the darkest chapters in American history," and "Michiganders deserve to know whether their new justice believes that torture is legal, that the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment doesn't protect Americans from extensive secret government surveillance and that they can be imprisoned without trial."

Supplemental Sees \$7M For State Police Lawsuit, \$6M For BAM Continuation



The Department of State Police would receive the funds to pay out a massive \$7.7 million settlement for a crash involving a State Police trooper broadsiding another vehicle while in pursuit, killing one woman and injuring the two other women in the vehicle under a supplemental appropriations bill approved Wednesday by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

It is the biggest single settlement or judgment in a single case involving the State Police in the data available online from the Senate Fiscal Agency, which goes back to the 1985-86 fiscal year. In most years, combined settlements and judgments involving the department amount to something in the low hundreds of thousands.

Last year, three women - Jacqueline Nichols, Precious Cochran and Ms. Cochran's daughter, Robbie - were driving to a beauty salon together when State Police trooper Timothy Fagin went in pursuit of an individual driving a car without a seatbelt. After signaling the driver to pull aside, the driver didn't stop, and the chase was on, according to a { HYPERLINK "http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/01/state\_police\_release\_dashcam\_i.html" \t "blank" } by MLive regarding the incident.

Eventually, the driver continued to speed throughout the backstreets of Flint, and Mr. Fagin, in pursuit, struck the vehicle with the three women. One of the women, Ms. Nichols, was thrown from the car and died. The other two women, including the driver, Precious Cochran, survived, albeit injured.

The Nichols family sought to sue the state for \$50 million, according to news reports, and it appears from the supplemental ( { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201" } ) approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee that the eventual payout among four separate cases all stemming from the incident - *Michael Nichols, et al v. Trooper Fagin; Michael Nichols, et al v. Michigan State Police, Robbie Cochran v. Trooper Timothy Fagin, and Robbie Cochran v. Michigan State Police* - that the settlement will cost the state \$7,725,000.

An amendment was adopted to the bill (HB 4102) to allow \$1 million of that to come from the Risk Management Revolving Fund rather than all General Fund. It was estimated that the fund had about \$8.5 million and maximum that could be pulled for a settlement of this nature was \$1 million, said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1" } (R-Lowell), chair of the committee.

"We hope issues like this don't arise, but when they do, it's our responsibility to take care of them," Mr. Hildenbrand said in responding to a question from fellow committee member { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101&locid=1" } (R-Evart) about the situation.

Shanon Banner, spokesperson for the State Police, said she was unsure how the settlement would be divvied up, as that is something for their lawyers to decide. Mr. Fagin was previously cleared of any criminal wrongdoing by the Genesee County Prosecutor's Office, Ms. Banner said, though

the State Police did conduct an internal investigation and found that a violation of department policy had taken place and Mr. Fagin was disciplined accordingly. He remains a trooper.

Ms. Banner was unsure whether the settlement was the largest the State Police had ever seen, but admitted "we don't see settlements this large in our department."

"Michigan State Police does regret the tragic outcome, and while it doesn't change what happened, we hope it will provide some restitution to the affected families," Ms. Banner said.

**BAM PROJECT:** Also contained within the supplemental is boilerplate language for the Department of State is \$6 million for the troubled Business Application Modernization project, which is to be re-appropriated for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015.

An explanation states that provision re-appropriates the funds "as a result of vendor extenuating circumstances associated with the remaining contract deliverables impacting the department's legacy system."

Earlier this month, the state announced it had filed a lawsuit against HP over the project, arguing the company was not complying with requirements that it service the pieces it had completed. A termination of cause letter was issued on August 28, arguing a lack of progress on the project, but HP was to continue providing support for the project.

Hildenbrand Chief of Staff Fred Schaible said the money was appropriated because the BAM project is still going to move forward in some form and this would allow that to continue. Otherwise, those funds would lapse into the General Fund, he said.

Department of State spokesperson Fred Woodhams said none of the money is going to HP.

"The supplemental continues the money set aside for the BAM project. It is money that was not paid to HP due to nondelivery of project items," he said. "The money allows the department to support, to the extent we can, working portions of the project - our online services portal at ExpressSOS.com and the system that serves vehicle manufacturers."

He also said that another vendor had not yet been selected for the project.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY COMMISSION:** Another \$50,000 General Fund was also appropriated to the Legislative Council for its Criminal Justice Policy Commission. Officials with the Senate Fiscal Agency said the money is intended to pay for the commission work itself, not a staff member. The commission is chaired by Republican former Sen. Bruce Caswell of Hillsdale.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1>" } (R-Lawton) raised concerns about the funding, though, and it was ultimately cause for her to abstain from a vote on the S-1 substitute adopted to HB 4102, as well as abstaining from reporting the bill to the full Senate.

## Appeals Court: Retroactive Exit From Compact Constitutional

Michigan violated neither its Constitution nor the U.S. Constitution when it retroactively withdrew from the Multistate Tax Compact in 2014 to avoid the possibility of losing as much as \$1 billion in revenue, the Court of Appeals ruled Wednesday.

The court unanimously upheld a ruling issued late last year by the Court of Claims, in *Gillette Commercial Operations v. Treasury* ( { HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20150929\_C325258\_72\_325258.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" } ).

The decision, written by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=76101&locid=1" } and joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152701&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77401&locid=1" }, encompasses cases brought by dozens of non-Michigan headquartered companies, including IBM.

Given the nature of the case, and what it could prove to be worth to both the companies and the state, an appeal to the Supreme Court is likely.

It was a decision involving IBM from the Supreme Court in July 2014 that led the Legislature to move quickly to take Michigan out of the compact.

In the 4-3 decision (it was a three-justice majority with one justice concurring, a technical issue that led some lawyers at the time to suggest the decision was not so sweeping), the Supreme Court held a non-Michigan based company could pass its income under the now-defunct Michigan Business Tax, which was an income tax and would allow companies to apportion their income under a three-step test. That meant the company's income was less and state budget and finance officials warned that the decision could cost Michigan's General Fund as much as \$1 billion, which would have had to come from the 2014-15 fiscal year.

The Legislature passed a new statute in early September 2014 withdrawing retroactively from the compact so the companies could not claim the tax break for the years the MBT was in place.

In its ruling, the appeals court noted that the Supreme Court said the Legislature could have chosen to retroactively exit the compact when it enacted the MBT in 2007. The court also said it was following a U.S. Supreme Court holding that tax laws may generally be repealed retroactively, and that taxpayers have no vested interest in any tax law at any particular time.

The appeals court rejected arguments that the statute ending the state's presence in the compact violated federal and state constitutional provisions against impairment of contract. The compact was not enacted by Congress, the court said, so Michigan law governs its interpretation and it is not a contract between the states and the companies. Nor did joining the compact give the compact oversight body regulatory authority over the state and its tax laws.

The court said the compact specifically says that any state can withdraw unilaterally and without notice to the other states.

Nor did exiting the compact retroactively violate the companies' due process rights because the property rights in this instance were not vested. Quoting the U.S. Supreme Court, the appeals court said that taxes are not penalties nor liabilities but the way of apportioning the cost of government to those who derive benefits from its operations.

And the Legislature had a legitimate purpose in enacting the retroactive law, given the possible impact that the state would have to cut as much as \$1.1 billion from the General Fund, the court said.

The court also rejected the argument the Legislature violated the constitutional provisions regarding separation of powers. The Legislature did not reverse the Supreme Court's *IBM* decision, the courts said; it enacted a new law. The law did not "impinge" on the Supreme Court, but corrected a mistake the Supreme Court itself noted.

Also rejected was an argument the law violated the Commerce Clause in the U.S. Constitution because the law does not overburden interstate commerce, nor is it discriminatory. While some legislators made comments in the press the plaintiffs said indicated an intent to discriminate, the appeals court said individual comments by legislators do not speak to overall legislative intent.

An argument that the law violated the First Amendment's right to free speech and to redress grievances to the government failed, the appeals court said, because there is no guarantee the speech or advocacy will persuade or be effective.

#### Federal Court Rejects Arguments Against New Bridge

Efforts by the owners of the Ambassador Bridge to get a federal court to block the Gordie Howe International Bridge failed Wednesday, as a U.S. District Court judge in Washington, D.C., rejected most arguments brought by the company.

The decision by Judge Rosemary Collyer, in *Detroit International Bridge Company v. Canada* ( { HYPERLINK "[https://ecf.dcd.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/show\\_public\\_doc?2010cv0476-222](https://ecf.dcd.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/show_public_doc?2010cv0476-222)" \t "blank" } ) did not dispute that construction of the new bridge would hurt the business of the Ambassador Bridge. But she rejected virtually every argument the company made that the 2012 decision between the Canadian government and { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } amounted to an unconstitutional taking of the company's property, or that the Ambassador Bridge was affected by a presidential proclamation to build a new bridge.

She particularly rejected the arguments by the company that it had an exclusive authority to operate bridges between Canada and the Detroit area. The complaints failed to state a claim, Ms. Collyer said.

And Ms. Collyer said an argument by the Ambassador Bridge that any action to build a new bridge should be subject to judicial review would violate the separation of powers.

She rejected an argument that a federal law on international bridges - which allowed for the agreement on the bridge - unconstitutionally delegated powers of dealing with foreign governments. Ms. Collyer said Congress can delegate its authorities and has done so in foreign affairs to the executive branch, so there is no issue on which to base a claim.

Officials with the Ambassador Bridge company could not be reached for comment on the decision or whether they would appeal.

#### Snyder: Details On Flint Water Action Coming

With pressure growing to resolve Flint residents' concerns about their drinking water, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } said Wednesday that later this week there would be more discussion on "more tangible action items" that will involve Flint city government and the federal government.

Mr. Snyder did not outline what will be discussed later this week except Mr. Snyder suggested that the action he and the state took to distribute water filters to Flint residents over the summer - which only came to light this week - may be part of the continuing action to assist the city until it can complete a system that will draw water from Lake Huron instead from the Flint River.

Asked if Flint officials - the city was under the control of an emergency manager appointed by Mr. Snyder - made a mistake is shifting their water system away from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department to drawing water from the Flint River (as it is preparing to have a system drawing from Lake Huron), Mr. Snyder said it was possible the implications "weren't as fully understood" when the switch was made.

Water from the river has been found to have higher concentrations of lead, and many local activists have called for the city to switch back to the Detroit system.

On Wednesday, the Legislative Black Caucus called on Mr. Snyder to issue a state of emergency in Flint because of concerns with the water.

#### Bill Creating More Safety Requirements For Boats, Jet Skis Gets Pushback

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316701&locid=1" } saw resistance from some Republicans on his bill requiring personal watercrafts with individuals in tow to display a flag to help others operating vessels in the water know to keep a look out.

Under { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB453401" } a vessel with a person in tow must display a bright or brilliant orange or red flag that is 12 inches by 12 inches and is visible from all directions.

"In tow" is defined in the bill as an extended towline attached to a vessel for the purpose of engaging in a water sport.

Mr. Kesto (R-Commerce Township) told the House Regulatory Reform Committee Wednesday that he generally is not in favor of additional regulations, but, "in this case I believe it is appropriate," he said.

In 2012, he told the committee, a friend of Mr. Kesto's who lives in his district was towing his three children on tubes from a jet ski. A boat then broke the towline and two of the children were killed and one severely injured.

The operator of the boat was not drunk and no charges were filed against him, Mr. Kesto said.

The vice chair of the committee, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=383601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=383601&locid=1) } (R-Eaton Township) said he does not think a flag will help. He also said the jet skier Mr. Kesto talked about broke a number of laws - particularly not having a spotter when towing his children. And, he said, the boater who broke the tow line was clearly not paying attention.

"I worry that we are regulating everybody," he said. "We're going to be forced to put these flags on, and I know on my vessels that I own right now ... I don't have any place to even put this flag."

Mr. Roberts also said of the more than 5,000 boating accidents last year, only 52 were related to towing.

Mr. Kesto said it's hard to tell if the flag would have helped in the 2012 incident.

"The question is if we can, and it's not overly burdensome, are we still going to say no because it is only 1 percent (of accidents)," he said. "If you save one life, is it worth it?"

The two lawmakers exchanged a lengthy back and forth discussing if an operator of a vessel would see the flag and how effective it might be.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292701&locid=1) } (D-Calumet) wondered if the bill should regulate how many people a person can tow, saying the man towing three of his children was maybe towing too many.

But { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322001&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322001&locid=1) } (D-Lansing) said he thought the bill was a good idea.

The committee did not act on the bill.

**TEAM PHYSICIANS:** The committee did report { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB479201"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB479201) }

☐, which would allow out-of-state sports team physicians to legally treat their team when traveling to the state for competitions.

### Board Approves Contracts Despite Protests Over Protest Process

State officials were warned Wednesday that they could see Freedom of Information Act requests multiply after the Administrative Board's decision to reject protests over two contracts.

The primary focus at Wednesday's meeting was a contract to develop a funding adequacy study for education in the state, but those involved in a bid for incontinence supplies for the Department of Technology, Management and Budget also objected to the abbreviated time to review and protest those bids.

Officials with DTMB said both the bids and the FOIA process were followed for both contracts. Bidders under the current process have five days to file a protest once the bid is announced, and FOIA provides five days for the subject agency to respond to the request.

Both Alex Rosaen, director of public policy and economic analysis for Anderson Economic Group, which had bid in the education adequacy analysis, and Len Wolfe, an attorney with Dykema Gossett representing one of the unsuccessful bidders on the incontinence supplies contract, said they had essentially three days to decide on and file a protest because there was a weekend during the five days to file the protest.

And both said they did not receive requested documents on the winning bid until after the protest deadline had passed.

"The official right to protest this contract has been a sham," Mr. Rosaen said. "No one outside the government knows what was in the winning bid."

Mr. Wolfe said the result in the two contracts would mean more work for the state on future bids. "You are basically creating a FOIA problem," he said. "If you going to basically tell people you've got to file a FOIA ... you're going to have vendors file FOIAs."

Officials said bids were ripe as subjects for FOIA requests once the bid submission deadline passed. Both Mr. Rosaen and Mr. Wolfe indicated they filed requests after the contract winner was announced.

Mr. Rosaen said there had also been concerns raised that the legislation requiring the education cost review had been designed to exclude certain bidders.

The concern was sufficient that { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" }'s representative on the board said he was abstaining from voting on the education review contract. He supported approval of the remaining contracts before the board.

### MSHDA Board Approves \$3M Toward Improvements In Detroit

In two separate projects, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority approved \$3 million total aimed at improving the housing market and economy in Detroit.

But officials said the projects were essentially pilots for ideas that could be used in other communities.

The new programs are designed to boost home values that in many areas of the city are held artificially low by the lack of sales, MSHDA Executive Director Kevin Elsenheimer told the board.

"We have an opportunity coming up that we don't want to let go to make some strategic investments in the city of Detroit," Mr. Elsenheimer said.

The first program, the Detroit Mortgage Program, will use \$1.5 million in MSHDA funds, as well as federal funds and grants from philanthropic groups, to back mortgages that banks would otherwise not be able to issue in the city.

The program is not related to the subprime lending situation that led to widespread foreclosures during the recession, Frank Altman, president of the Community Reinvestment Fund, a lead partner in the project, said. "This is a program primarily for conforming borrowers and nonconforming properties," he said. "We're going to look for borrowers who have the ability to repay it."

But he said the mortgages could be for as much as 150 percent of the value of the house.

In addition to improving values by helping owners rehabilitate their homes, the project is also designed, through using first mortgages for the purchase and second mortgages for the rehabilitation, to increase the number of housing transactions in the city, Mary Townley, director of the MSHDA Home Ownership Division, said.

Part of the reason for the low values, she said, is the lack of comparables real estate appraisers use to set a property value.

Ms. Townley said the agency is working with as many as 10 banks for the program, and Mr. Altman said six banks had committed to issue a total of 1,000 loans.

The board approved \$1.5 million for the coming year, but Mr. Elsenheimer said the agency could need to spend as much as \$6 million over the next five years to keep the program going.

With other funds considered, Mr. Altman said the program had a total potential value of \$250 million.

And Mr. Elsenheimer said it could expand to other cities if it works as hoped.

"We hope this will be proof of concept here in Michigan," he said. "We have some other cities that have similar problems."



Another \$1.5 million was approved for the Public Spaces Community Places Initiative.

The MSHDA funds would be matched by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and expanded through a crowdfunding program, supporters said.

The program would provide communities with traditional downtowns to apply for grants for community facilities.

"Michigan's done a phenomenal job for setting our communities on a path to planning and placemaking," Katharine Czarnecki, MEDC Community Development Director, said. "The funds are for brick and mortar public spaces."

"It aligns with what our division is currently doing," Tiffany King, placemaking development consultant for MSHDA, said.

Mr. Elsenheimer said cooperation between MSHDA and MEDC makes sense.

"MEDC does some community development things that are very similar to the community development things we do here at MSHDA," he said. "We think it's time to talk seriously about how do we best leverage our resources as well as MEDC's."

**RESTRUCTURING:** Mr. Elsenheimer told the board in his first quarterly report on the agency's activities that he had made some structural changes that should save money but also make the agency a better place to work.

A first action, he said, is cutting back some on grants from MSHDA's foundation funds. Mr. Elsenheimer said the agency is running a "technical deficit" that he and his administration are working to erase.

"We are in no way running a general deficit," he said. "Our position is very, very strong."

But he said much of the agency's funds are restricted or committed, leaving them unavailable for general operations or certain grants.

Among other key changes is a new travel policy and a new procurement office, he said.

The travel policy, spurred in part by the excesses that caused the resignation of Mr. Elsenheimer's predecessor, included a move to the state's system from the in-house system the agency had been using, he said. It also has cut travel expenses by some 25 percent.

The new procurement office is overseeing about 120 contracts for the agency and is also producing some savings, he said.

But Mr. Elsenheimer has launched an Office of Employee Services and is developing a formal employee engagement process that he said is designed to make the agency a "destination" workplace in the state.

## State: No Long-Term Health Effects Expected From Breathing Oil Spill Chemicals

Those living around the 2010 oil spill into the Kalamazoo River should not expect long-term health effects from breathing the chemicals released by that spill, the Department of Health and Human Services said in its final report on the issue Wednesday.

The report acknowledged that those living near the spill did experience health effects, including headaches, nausea, respiratory discomfort, and eye irritation, near the time of the spill in July 2010.

"By August 18, 2010, concentrations of oil-related chemicals in the air had fallen below human health screening levels that protect the public, including vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and those with preexisting illnesses," the department said in releasing its { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-54783\_54784\_56159-263152--,00.html" \t "blank" } on the issue.

The report said additional testing in 2011 and 2012 showed no oil-related chemicals in the air around the spill zone at levels exceeding human health protection limits.

## Howrylak Offers Bill To Re-open Maxey

With the 2015-16 budget taking effect Thursday, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=317301&locid=1" } introduced a supplemental appropriations bill Wednesday that would re-open W.J. Maxey Training School for juvenile offenders, which was closed under the budget approved earlier this year for the fiscal year that starts Thursday.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB492501" } was sent to the House Appropriations Committee.

Mr. Howrylak said the school specialized in treating youth with mental health illnesses, and he doesn't believe the two public facilities, nor a private facility, will help those previously in Maxey.

He said at Maxey there was exceptionally low turnover, highly qualified staff and statistics proving their work was effective.

"Closing Maxey, I am quite certain, is going to help increase the possibility that these kids are going to end up in prison in the long term," he said.

He said those who were advocating for the Maxey closure do not have a plan and are simply hoping it won't be a regrettable decision.

Mr. Howrylak said some of the youth would end up in prison because of the closure, but Department of Health and Human Services spokesperson Bob Wheaton said no youth are being placed in prison, from Maxey or the other school, because of the closure.

The 48 youths in Maxey have been sent to one of the other two state facilities - Shawono or Bay Pines - independent living facilities, step-down facilities or "half-way houses," or private residential facilities, Mr. Wheaton said.

He said those who were in Maxey have been assigned to a variety of placements by the judges based in part on recommendations from the department on which facility would best meet the needs of the youths and provide the services that the youths need to rehabilitate.

"The closing of Maxey has resulted in no youths from Maxey going to prison or jail. And no youth were sent to prison or jail from Shawono to make room for youth from Maxey," Mr. Wheaton said.

Mr. Wheaton noted Shawono was not at capacity before the Maxey closure, but it is at capacity now.

He also said some who were in Maxey, and who have completed their treatment, have been sent home. But he said they would have been sent home even if Maxey hadn't closed, because their treatment was finished.

Mr. Wheaton said all of the youth have been transferred to new placements as of Wednesday, the last day of the fiscal year. He said the transfers have been taking place for months since the final decision to close the center was made.

The department will continue to have a small crew of staff members remaining at Maxey to finish closing the facility down, he said.

#### Senate Appropriations Renames Room For Gast

Former Sen. Harry Gast's memory as chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee will live on after the committee on Wednesday officially renamed the room to honor of the Southwest Michigan native that served some 32 years in Lansing, 18 of which were spent working on the budget.

Mr. Gast died at the age of 92 at the end of July (See { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541490101) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\_id=541490101" }).

"He always kept the local focus. If you wanted to meet with him, you'd hope that you could meet with him on his tractor," { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1)

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1" } (R-St. Joseph) said of Mr. Gast on the Senate floor as it adopted a concurrent resolution of tribute ({ [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SCR1601)

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SCR1601" }<sup>9</sup>

). "This family is a unique family - they gave their dad up for us, to have his great service in our chamber."



Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee gather for a picture to rename the room after the late former Sen. Harry Gast, whose daughter (blue coat) was also present for the ceremony.

Once session adjourned, most of the committee members met in their room, joined by { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1>" } (R-Stevensville) and { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=323601&locid=1>" } (R-Berrien Springs), to recall memories of Mr. Gast, who served in both the House and the Senate. Mr. Gast's daughter, Barbara Curtis, was also present.

"With term limits, none of us on this panel got the privilege to serve with Senator Gast. I had an opportunity to meet Senator Gast ... to this day, I have no idea what the meeting was about because I was so nervous," { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1>" } (R-Lowell), chair of the committee, said. "I'll never forget the impression he left on me because of the respect he had of this place ... and how influential he was."

The panel was treated to a history lesson from a Capitol tour guide about the significance of the Senate Appropriations Room, which of course used to be the room for the Michigan Supreme Court to hear cases.

"If we had a Mount Rushmore for public servants, Harry Gast would be on that mountain," Mr. Pscholka said. "He was one of a kind."

Mr. Pscholka later spoke on the House floor at it adopted the Senate's resolution.

Mr. Proos gave one more story about when he spoke in front of Mr. Gast for { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=2401&locid=1>" } (R-St. Joseph), and how after that, Mr. Gast "pulled me by the tie and said, 'you don't have enough damn gray hair yet,'" Mr. Proos said. "And by that, he meant, listen and learn."

Ms. Curtis gave a statement to Mr. Proos to read on behalf of her family and made only a quick comment about her father after.

"He strongly believed there were the right things to do and he could facilitate those things ... by bringing the right people together to talk about those things and the issues for both sides," she said.

Two signs indicating the official name of the room will be split, with one directly outside of it and the other inside, Mr. Hildenbrand noted.

#### Senate Approves Electronic Proof Of Insurance

Legislation enabling drivers to present electronic proof of auto insurance was approved by the Senate on Wednesday and sent to { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" }'s desk.

{ HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB419301](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB419301)" }

☐ would ensure that Michigan is no longer the only state in the Midwest that does not allow drivers to use a phone application for insurance validity. The bill saw unanimous approval from the chamber.

"This legislation simplifies life for Michigan drivers by allowing them to present proof of insurance on their phones and other devices, which they always have with them," said { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201&locid=1>" } (R-Lawton), sponsor of the bill, in a statement. "There are many benefits to allowing electronic proof of insurance, including the fact that electronic coverage is more difficult to falsify, so cases of insurance fraud will go down."

Currently, those who do not have proof of insurance during a traffic stop may later reduce the amount of a fine or fee by visiting the local courthouse with a paper copy of their insurance documents. But with electronic proof, Mr. Nesbitt said, people will save time and money by not having to drive to a courthouse after a traffic stop.

"This bill utilizes the best technology available so drivers don't have to jump through so many hoops if their insurance information is not correct in the LEIN system," he said. "It also allows law enforcement and the SOS to identify people who are skirting the law, which will make our streets and highways safer and save law-abiding motorists money. It's time to bring our insurance enforcement into the 21st century."

#### Heise To Run For Plymouth Township Supervisor

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001&locid=1>" } announced Wednesday he is running for the Plymouth Township supervisor post in 2016.

Mr. Heise (R-Plymouth) cannot seek re-election in the House due to term limits.

"Plymouth Township I really think is on the wrong track right now on many levels," Mr. Heise said on why he running for the post.

Mr. Heise said his skill-set and education - he has two law degrees and will soon be in his 25<sup>th</sup> year as an attorney in the state - set him up to bring accountability to the position. He said the current board is more worried about politics than professionalism.

Mr. Heise said he will be challenging Shannon Price, the current supervisor, who was appointed in April. Mr. Heise said the interview and selection process was controversial. Mr. Price is well-known in Republican circles and is a former Wayne County commissioner, setting up a big-time battle for the GOP nomination.

If elected, the term lasts from 2016 until 2020. Mr. Heise said at this point he is not interested in running for attorney general in the future.

"I am really more of a local government guy," he said. "I think this would be an exciting new chapter of service."

#### Capital Notebook

**MASSASAUGA RATTLESNAKE:** The state might have to make some changes in the management of some of its lands in eastern massasauga rattlesnake territory if the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service enacts proposed rules naming the snake as a threatened species.

But those changes would be minimal, Dan Kennedy, endangered species coordinator for the Department of Natural Resources, told Gongwer News Service, because the DNR has been preparing for the federal rules since they were first recommended in 1999.

"The DNR's been working with the Fish and Wildlife Service on massasauga conservation for 16 years," he said.

The department is in final negotiations on management plan that would allow the state to continue most of its work with some changes, mostly in timing of activities, since it would become illegal to kill the snakes, Mr. Kennedy said.

For instance, the department would have to time prescribed burns to have the least impact on the snakes.

Mr. Kennedy said he did not know what effect the federal rule, expected to take effect in September 2016, might have on private land use in the region.

Massasaugas prefer swampy areas with nearby grasslands and are declining across their range (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Ontario, Canada) largely due to loss of habitat.

**CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE:** The DNR launched a new { [HYPERLINK "https://youtu.be/HoqJRfZkl4k"](https://youtu.be/HoqJRfZkl4k) } Wednesday explaining the neurological disease in deer and how it will affect hunters with the archery season beginning Thursday.

**ONLINE SHOPPING:** The Department of Treasury reminded online shoppers Wednesday that, beginning Thursday, they would need to keep any receipts from their purchases.

New legislation takes effect October 1 that clarifies which online businesses have to collect sales tax and, where the business does not, the customer is required to pay use tax on the purchase.

"It is important for individuals to understand that this is not a new tax; Michigan's tax on these types of sales has been on the books for more than 80 years," { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393601&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393601&locid=1" } said in a statement. "The new provisions simply mean that various on-line and remote sellers, that will now be deemed to have some presence in the state, will begin collecting tax on the sales they make into Michigan."

**CLEAN FUELS MICHIGAN:** Nearly 30 companies and organizations in Michigan on Wednesday announced the formation of Clean Fuels Michigan, a new 501(c)(6) organization aimed at maintaining Michigan's position as a global leader in automotive manufacturing by advancing a "clear vision, strategy and advocacy centered on advanced powertrain technology and innovation," the groups said in a statement. "The overall goal is to promote investment, job growth and sustainable technologies in Michigan."

Michigan is one of relatively few states with no incentives supporting the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles, the group cautioned, and the state must act quickly so it can capitalize on that developing marketplace and improve its overall economic competitiveness.

"Our members collectively believe in economic opportunities that stem from developing this technology and markets in Michigan," Eric Clinton, Manager of NGV Business Development at DTE Energy, said in a statement.


The group will advance clean fuel neutral policies, such as electric, natural gas, propane and hydrogen fuel cell technology, as well as advise policymakers and help commercialization efforts.

**GRAND HAVEN EXPANSION:** GLASSource, a specialty glass and mirror facility in Grand Haven, will expand its facility with the help of \$209,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds for infrastructure improvements heading to the city of Grand Haven.


The street is in very poor condition, a statement from the Michigan Economic Development Committee indicated, and needs to be reconstructed before an expansion can take place. The project - expected to generate nearly \$2 million in private investment and create 21 jobs - will result in the reuse and development of an old manufacturing facility.

MEDC also announced Michigan Strategic Fund approval of \$152,119 in Community Development Block Grant funds for the city of Grand Haven to make facade improvements for buildings located in downtown Grand Haven. The project will generate private investment of \$69,835.

Signed by the Governor

{ RECORDING REQUIREMENTS ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPERLIN "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301&locid=1" })  
K Modifies recording requirements to include electronic signatures.  
"http://www  
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tion\_bill deta  
il.cfm&billi  
d=2015SB6  
201" } PA  
131

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015

{ FILING FEES ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1" })  
LINK Provides for reallocation of portion of certain filing fees paid to the Wayne County  
"http://w retirement system for bailiffs in the thirty-sixth district court under certain  
ww.gon circumstances.  
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2015SB  
28101" }  
 PA  
132

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015

{ PHARMACY TECHNICIAN ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPERLI "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" })  
NK Modifies eligibility for licensure of pharmacy technicians and requirements for  
"http://ww limited license pharmacy technicians.  
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Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: September 30, 2015

{ HYPERLINK PUBLIC OFFICERS ({ HYPERLINK  
"http://www.go "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001&locid=1  
ngwer.com/inde " }) Creates incompatible officers exception for public safety positions.  
x.cfm?link=legi  
slation\_billdetai  
l.cfm&billid=20  
15HB407001" }  
PA 134

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015

Supplemental Event Planner

### **Thursday, October 1**

{ HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1" } (D)  
Fundraiser, 110 West Michigan Avenue, Suite 1200, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.

### **Saturday, October 3**

{ HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316701&locid=1" } (R)  
Fundraiser, 4050 Vanstone, Commerce Township, 1 p.m.

### **Tuesday, October 6**

{ HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1" } (R)  
Fundraiser, 225 Washtenaw Street, Lansing, 8 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=356701&locid=1" } (R)  
Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 5 p.m.

Michigan Senate Democratic Fund, Joe Louis Arena, 19 Steve Yzerman Drive, Detroit,  
5:30 p.m.

### **Wednesday, October 7**

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" } (R)  
Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 7:30 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266701&locid=1" } (R)  
Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 8 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353601&locid=1" } (R)  
Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 11:30 a.m.

### Thursday, October 8

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355201&locid=1" } (R)  
Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 7:30 a.m.

House { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1" } (D)  
Fundraiser, 332 Townsend Street, Lansing, 8:30 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266801&locid=1" } (R)  
Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.

### Wednesday, October 14

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322001&locid=1" } (D)  
Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.

### Thursday, October 15

Canceled: { HYPERLINK

~~"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=359101&locid=1" } (R) PAC  
fundraiser, Michigan Restaurant Association, 225 West Washtenaw Street, Lansing, 7:30  
a.m.~~

### Wednesday, October 21

University of Michigan Graham Sustainability Institute presentations by Wolverine  
Caucus, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 11:30 a.m.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

**Thursday, October 8**

**Board of Dentistry, Conference Room 3, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/2015\_10-8\_Agenda\_Dentistry\_Full\_501419\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }); Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately following ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/2015\_10-8\_Agenda\_Dentistry\_DSC\_501418\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })))**


**Tuesday, October 13**

**Accessibility Advisory Council, Flynn Pavilion, Picnic Way and Loiter Way, Belle Isle Park, Detroit, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Oct\_13\_2015\_Agenda\_501346\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

**Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees**

**Thursday, October 1**

**~~Canceled: ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=94101&locid=1" } { HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=337" \t "blank" }}, (Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=325701&locid=1" }, 373-8538), Room 519, House Office Building, 9 a.m.~~**

**{ LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE ({ HYPERLINK HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201" }) Provides for LINK establishing partnership programs under federal law. "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_bill\_detail.cfm&billid=2015HB483601" } **

{ **HYPERLINK**  
 "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=93601&locid=1" }  
 { **HYPERLINK**  
 "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=328" \t "blank" },  
 (Chr. { **HYPERLINK**  
 "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" }, 373-  
 1260), Room 521, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

{ **EDUCATOR EVALUATIONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801" }) Revises  
**RLIN** performance evaluation requirements for teachers and school administrators.

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 { **HYPERLINK**  
 "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=343" \t "blank" },  
 (Chr. { **HYPERLINK**  
 "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201&locid=1" }, 373-  
 2002), Room 308, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

- **Presentation by Chet Gryczan, project director of Defense Brake Systems**

{ **VETERANS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701" }) Provides for  
**RLINK** employment protections for National Guard members who work outside of the state  
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{ **MILITARY VEHICLE SAFETY** ( { **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201" }) A resolution to  
**ERL** urge the United States Congress and the U.S. Department of the Army to accelerate federal  
**INK** funding to improve military vehicle safety from rollover accidents.

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{ **HYPERLINK**  
"http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=348" \t "blank" },  
(Chr. { **HYPERLINK**  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=86701&locid=1" }, 373-8474),  
Amway Grand Plaza, Hotel Heritage Hill Room, 187 Monroe Avenue Northwest, Grand  
Rapids, 4:30 p.m. or after session

- Presentations given by Experience Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids Chamber, City of Grand Rapids, Kent County and ArtServe/ArtPrize

**Tuesday, October 6**

**{ HYPERLINK**

**"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=89201&locid=1" }**

**{ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/judiciary.html" \t "blank" },**

**(Chr. { HYPERLINK**

**"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" }, 373-1721),**

**Room 110, Farnum Building, 3 p.m.**

**{ WEAPON-FREE ZONES ({ HYPERLINK**

**HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288101" }) Expands**

**RLIN waiver for certain individuals to carry weapons in weapon free zones to include certain**

**K corrections, probation and parole officers.**

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**{ IGNITION INTERLOCK SERVICING CENTERS ({ HYPERLINK**

**HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401" }) Revises motor**

**ERL vehicle service and repair act to provide interlock servicing center to be included within the**

**INK definition of motor vehicle repair facility.**

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 { **IGNITION INTERLOCK DEVICE** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401" }) revises guidelines  
**ERLI** for crime of knowingly providing false information concerning an ignition interlock  
**NK** device.

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 { **IGNITION INTERLOCK SERVICING CENTERS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401" }) Provides for  
**ERLI** department of state oversight of ignition interlock servicing centers.  
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{ **OPERATING WHILE INTOXICATED** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Amends certain  
**ERL** definitions and procedures of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or a  
**INK** controlled substance, or both.

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{ **ALCOHOL IGNITION INTERLOCK MECHANICS** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401" }) Includes breath  
**ERL** alcohol ignition interlock mechanics and servicers in motor vehicle service and repair act.

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{ **ROADSIDE DRUG TESTING** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" }) Creates pilot

**RLIN** program for preliminary drug testing at roadside stop.

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{ **WEAPON-FREE ZONES** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Expands waiver

**ERLI** for certain individuals to carry weapon in weapon-free zones to include certain corrections,

**NK** probation and parole officers.

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{ **ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Authorizes the

**RLIN** state court administrative office to establish electronic filing system.

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 { **JUDICIAL ELECTRONIC FILING FUND** ( { HYPERLINK  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801" } ) Establishes  
**RLINK**judicial electronic filing fund.

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{ **ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO COURTS** ( { HYPERLINK  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401" } ) Allows court or  
**ERLI** court funding unit to charge certain fees for electronic access to courts.

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**Wednesday, October 7**

{ **HYPERLINK**  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88301&locid=1" }  
{ **HYPERLINK** "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/education.html" \t "blank"  
}}, (Chr. { **HYPERLINK**  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" }, 373-5314),  
Room 110, Farnum Building, 8:30 a.m.

{ **PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE**"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219601" }) Eliminates  
**RLIN** sunset on the allowance of retired public school employees to be employed at a reporting  
**K** unit under certain circumstances without forfeiting retirement or health care coverage.

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{ **ECONOMICS CREDIT** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353601" }) Allows 1/2  
**RLIN** credit of personal economics or financial literacy to satisfy economics credit required for  
**K** Michigan Merit Curriculum.

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{ **ALTERNATIVE TEACHING CERTIFICATION** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801" }) **Modifies**  
**RLIN** provisions relating to alternative teaching certification.

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{ **STUDENT ONLINE PERSONAL PROTECTION ACT** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801" }) **Creates student**  
**RLIN** online personal protection act.

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**Subscribers Please Note**

The Draft Biden organization circulated a news release Tuesday with the wrong Michigan legislator backing Vice President Joe Biden running for president. Former Rep. Fred Durhal Jr. is supporting Mr. Biden, not his son, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358001&locid=1" }. The release the Draft Biden organization circulated listed Fred Durhal Jr., but described him as a current, first-term member of the House who is an assistant minority leader (which Mr. Durhal III is). However, it is his father, Mr. Durhal Jr., who is backing Mr. Biden.

A campaign note in the Tuesday Michigan Report incorrectly claimed that the Great Lakes Education Project endorsed Mary Whiteford in the 80<sup>th</sup> House District in the 2014 Republican primary. While GLEP is endorsing Ms. Whiteford in the upcoming special election, it made no endorsement in the 2014 Republican primary.

A story in the Tuesday Michigan Report incorrectly described the penalties for coercing a woman into having an abortion under { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB478701" }☐ and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB483001" }☐. The level of the crime would be tied to the actions constituting the coercion.

**124 West Allegan Street, Suite 1200**

**Lansing Michigan 48933**

**Phone: 517-482-3500 | Fax: 517-482-4367 | Email: { HYPERLINK**

**"mailto:gongwer@gongwer.com" }**

**{ HYPERLINK "mailto:smiller@gongwer.com" }, President | { HYPERLINK**

**"mailto:amiller@gongwer.com" }, Vice President | { HYPERLINK**

**"mailto:jwlindstrom@gongwer.com" }, Publisher | { HYPERLINK**

**"mailto:zgorchow@gongwer.com" }, Editor | { HYPERLINK**

**"mailto:cklaver@gongwer.com" }, { HYPERLINK "mailto:demerson@gongwer.com" }, {**

**HYPERLINK "mailto:kasbena@gongwer.com" }, Staff Writers**

**Click the ☐after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.**

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**From:** Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 6:44 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Wednesday, September 23, 2015  
**Attachments:** Sep23.htm; 150923dayplan.htm



## **Michigan Report for Wednesday, September 23, 2015**

Special Election: Gamrat Claims Win, Lyons Readies Bill To Prevent Similar Situations

Carson Cites Education, God For Nation's Strength

Peters, Stabenow Call For More Protections Against Great Lakes Oil Spills

Report Offers Options For Regulating Fracking

Regional Approach To Economic Development Yielding Dividends, Officials Say

DEQ: Flint Lead Problem From Home Connections

Appeals Court: Restitution In Sex Cases Must Be Based On Facts

Insurance Agents Warned Against 'Sliding'

Handy Middle School Principal To Run In 96th House

PSC Directs Clear Rate Communications To Provide Proof Of Services

Subscribers Please Note

Supplemental Event Planner

## **Calendars**

Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #189 -- Wednesday, September 23, 2015

### Special Election: Gamrat Claims Win, Lyons Readies Bill To Prevent Similar Situations

Former Rep. Cindy Gamrat announced her victory in an Allegan County Tea Party straw poll with just 30 voters, and the chair of the House Elections Committee is getting legislation ready that would block expelled lawmakers in the future from being able to run to fill their vacancy.

Ms. Gamrat trumpeted her victory, though not all the candidates challenging her appeared at the tea party event on Wednesday. She called the meeting a great chance for voters to meet and question candidates. She is running to succeed herself in the 80<sup>th</sup> District.

Meanwhile, { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1>" } (R-Alto), chair of the House Elections Committee, said she is drafting legislation that would ensure candidates who resign or are removed from office would not be able to run in the special election filling the vacancy.

If the legislation were already in place it would affect both Ms. Gamrat and former Rep. Todd Courser in the 82<sup>nd</sup> District. Mr. Courser resigned in the early hours of September 11, and Ms. Gamrat was expelled about an hour later. Both are running to win election back in those seats.

There appears to be nothing in statute now that would block the two from running in the special elections to fill their seats. However, House { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1>" } (R-Mount Pleasant) has expressed openness to not seating her if she were to win in the 80<sup>th</sup> House District, from which she was recently expelled (See { HYPERLINK  
"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=541850104](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541850104)" } ).

Ms. Lyons said she hopes to introduce the legislation in the near future. The bill could not affect the elections now scheduled. The special primary election in each district will be on November 3, and the special general election will be on March 8.

Ms. Gamrat said the forum she attended gave her a chance to show she is fighting to give Allegan County voters a voice and will attend additional candidate forums in the next few weeks.

"Lansing's voice is not Allegan's voice, the Lansing political class has been pushing for more spending and higher taxes, which is out of step with most of the people in Allegan County," Ms. Gamrat said in a statement. "The decision of representation should be made by the voters, not Lansing's political establishment, and last night was a great opportunity for the voters to engage in the process, hear from the candidates, and ask questions."

Republican candidates Mary Whiteford of Allegan and Jim Siver of Fennville did not attend.

Ms. Whiteford said the Allegan County Tea Party is closely aligned with Ms. Gamrat. She said she has been and will continue to attend multiple events throughout the community.

Mr. Siver, an attorney, said the group invited him Monday for a Tuesday evening event and he couldn't make it. He and Ms. Whiteford said they are attending forums with the League of Women Voters and the Allegan County Republican Party in the coming weeks.

Shannon Szukala of Martin, a veteran who did attend the event, said many who showed up were there to support Ms. Gamrat. He said he is unsure at this point if they reflect the majority of voters in Allegan County.

Mr. Szukala also said he holds similar values as Ms. Gamrat and would not have filed to run in the seat if he had known she was running. He said he did not withdraw before the deadline because he thought he should follow through with his candidacy.

Allegan County Commissioner Jim Storey of Holland said he has yet to hear from a single voter who says they are going to vote for Ms. Gamrat.

Ms. Gamrat was expelled from office earlier this month after a scandal was revealed that she was having an affair with former Rep. Todd Courser of Silverwood. Mr. Courser resigned before being expelled and is also running for his old seat in the 82<sup>nd</sup> House District.

A House Business Office investigation said the two former lawmakers misused their offices and taxpayer resources for attempted political and personal gains. Their exit from office came after a 16 hour session where Republican leadership attempted to get enough votes for their expulsion.

Ms. Gamrat and Mr. Courser have both questioned the circumstances surrounding their exits. Ms. Gamrat has also said repeatedly her voters should decide if she is qualified to serve in the House.

To regain her seat, Ms. Gamrat must make it through an eight-person Republican primary and then be seated by the House. Mr. Cotter has expressed openness in refusing to seat her and Mr. Courser.

The Allegan County Tea Party said in a Facebook post three of the candidates, other than Ms. Gamrat, possess the same or close to the same values as the group: Bill Sage of Allegan, Kevin Travis of Hopkins and Mr. Szukala.

The group said Mr. Storey and Eric DeWitt of Holland "would be considered conservative by most Republicans, but not necessarily constitutional."

Of Ms. Whiteford, who did not attend the event, the group said: "(She) is a Democrat running as a Republican."

Carson Cites Education, God For Nation's Strength



SPRING ARBOR - America owes its strength to the founders' focus on education and the influence of God, Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson told a rally of supporters at Spring Arbor University on Wednesday, but the nation needs to get its budget under control to remain great.

Mr. Carson drew his strongest applause from about 2,500 people gathered in the Christian university's fieldhouse for his assertions that he is not politically correct.

Mr. Carson spent much of his half hour address talking about his upbringing in a poor household. He praised his mother both for thrift and for her push that her sons to be educated.

He said she had only a third grade education but made Mr. Carson and his brother read books from the Detroit Library and provide her written book reports "even though she couldn't read them."

Mr. Carson said she only bought new cars to avoid adopting someone else's problems, but only paid cash.

"If my mother were the secretary of treasury, it would not be in deficit," he said.

He said it was that same attention to education that grew the United States into a world power in its relatively brief life.

"When you think about the brain, the incredible human brain, why do we ever talk about what we can't do?" he said. "Early on, we paid a lot of attention to that brain. ... That's the reason that our people were so successful. ... This is the most exceptional nation the world has ever known."

But he said God also drove the development of the nation. He related a story of an opposing commander telling George Washington that he would have to have been under God's protection to have survived the commander's sharpshooters.

"There are many other stories that are well documented that it was more than just us that was involved in the foundation of this nation," he said.

"As a physician and a neurosurgeon, I learned lots of things," he said. "The greatest lesson I learned it is God who does these things."

While he did not directly address his recent comments that a Muslim could not be president under the Constitution, he said there were certain values that do not fit with the American identity.

"I have no intention of being like everybody else and giving away all of our values and principles for political correctness," he said. "Anybody is welcome to come to America, but they don't get to change who we are."

And he said he opposed the recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling that allowed same-sex marriage.

"I personally believe the Supreme Court made a mistake when they voted to change the definition of marriage from what it has been for thousands of years," he said. "If you change the definition of marriage for one group, what right do you have to not change it for the next group and the next group?"

He took a dig at President Barack Obama on the issue. "Even though our president says we're not a Judeo-Christian nation, he doesn't get to decide who we are," he said.

Mr. Carson blamed much of the nation's current economic condition on the national debt. He argued the Federal Reserve Board cannot sufficiently increase interest rates because that would mean increasing costs for the federal government.

"They have to keep the interest rates depressed, which is the only way average people can make money," he said. "Only the rich people with the risk tolerance that can invest in the stock market."

He said government regulations also drive up costs, increasing the income spread between the rich and poor.

Democrats attacked Mr. Carson for his opposition to increasing the minimum wage and to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

"Ben Carson's policies would do a lot to hurt Michigan families," Michigan Democratic Party Chair Brandon Dillon said in a statement. "Unfortunately, the rest of the Republicans running for president are no different."

Meanwhile, the 2016 Committee, a super PAC supporting Mr. Carson, praised him for recent comments on the possibility of electing a Muslim as president.

"Ben Carson is right. A practicing Muslim who observes Sharia Law cannot serve as president," John Philip Sousa IV, chair of the committee, said in a letter. "It is a fact that Sharia law is totally inconsistent with the United States Constitution."

#### Peters, Stabenow Call For More Protections Against Great Lakes Oil Spills

Ensuring that no crude oil is shipped on the Great Lakes and requiring the federal government assess risks to pipelines were two parts of a bill { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=7801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=7801&locid=1) } and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=150701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=150701&locid=1) } said Wednesday they are introducing to provide greater protection for the lakes from the possibility of oil spills.

The two Michigan senators' action comes after the state unveiled its task force report on a pipeline, and in talking with reporters the two said they hoped they could attach their bill to legislation Congress will consider that reauthorizes the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

The two did not call for the closure of the controversial Pipeline 5 that runs under the Mackinac Straits and carries both light crude and liquefied natural gas products.

The state task force report said it anticipated the 60-year old pipeline would have to be closed down someday, and that the state and Enbridge Energy, which owns and operates the pipeline, should plan for that.

But the volume of the materials carried through the pipeline makes it problematic as what would be an acceptable alternative. The task force report looked at the possibility of shipping those products via tankers.

The state already said it has an agreement with Enbridge to not ship heavy crude oil through the pipeline, which the company currently does not anyway.

Ms. Stabenow (D-Lansing) said that agreement "doesn't move the ball down the road."

Hers and Mr. Peters' (D-Bloomfield Township) proposal would bar any tanker or barge from carrying any crude oil on the Great Lakes. Currently, no crude oil is carried on the Great Lakes, and Mr. Peters said the bill would ensure that condition is permanent.

The bill would also cover all pipelines in the region, current and future, and Mr. Peters said he would hope federal reviews of the pipelines would be completed within a year.

The bill also would call for improving response plans in the event of pipeline leaks, and improve public knowledge and transparency of risks.

### Report Offers Options For Regulating Fracking

The state has a number of options for reducing risks from high volume hydraulic fracturing operations, a final report released Wednesday by the University of Michigan's Graham Sustainability Institute said.

The { HYPERLINK "<http://graham.umich.edu/knowledge/ia/hydraulic-fracturing>" \t "blank" } did not make specific recommendations for the state to adopt but provided a variety of options that could improve the state's oversight of fracked oil and gas wells.

"The purpose of this (integrated assessment) is to present information that expands and clarifies the scope of policy options in a way that allows a wide range of decision makers to make choices based on their preferences and values," the report said.

### Environmental Quality { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1>" } thanked the group for including his agency in its discussion groups and accepting some of its suggestions.

"The state of Michigan appreciates the Graham Sustainability Institute's work to produce a comprehensive, thoughtful look at issues around oil and gas production in Michigan," Mr. Wyant

said in a statement. "This report offers some useful information and options for state regulators to consider in the months and years ahead."

Among the recommendations was to provide additional points for public input.

In developing regulations, the report said the state could run facilitated listening sessions as well as increase membership on the Oil and Gas Advisory Committee or appoint a special committee to address fracking.

When issuing permits, the report said the state could improve notice of the pending permits and require public comment periods. It recommended similar changes when leasing state mineral rights.

"To date, Michigan has largely treated HVHF as an extension of other types of oil and gas activities," the report said. "As a result, the public has had few opportunities to weigh in on whether and where HVHF occurs."

On water withdrawals, the report praised the state's Water Withdrawal Assessment Program, but said it could require metering of withdrawals for fracking and include those uses in its permitting program. The state could also require a site-specific review for any fracking withdrawals.

And the state could prevent contamination from the fracking operations by prohibiting use of any chemicals that have not been proven to be minimally toxic, the report said.

"Michigan's existing information policies primarily adopt a remedial approach to uncertainty, the most common approach of the other states surveyed," the report said.

The state could be more remedial by at least requiring more information in advance, but the report also noted that there is limited information available about many of the chemicals used.

Michigan could also require emergency response plans for wells in sensitive areas and could require that bonds be relative to the potential cost of cleanup, rather than a blanket amount, the report said.

## Regional Approach To Economic Development Yielding Dividends, Officials Say

When { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } first announced his regional prosperity initiative in 2013, there was some hesitation and fear from locals that their individual voices may no longer be heard in economic development conversations, an official for Michigan Works! said in an interview Wednesday, but now the system is well on its way toward those 10 regions with few problems to report.

The Michigan Works! system has been in existence since the early 1970s under a different name and has had as many as 25 different agencies, all with the same purpose of connecting employers and talent, at one time. Though it is set up through federal legislation, the agencies work in a

public-private partnership of sorts, and are always locally-driven, said Elaine Wood, CEO of Networks Northwest, the agency serving employers and employees in the Northwest region of the state. Her agency has actually been one that others are looking to as they seek to consolidate their services, because hers has worked in that manner for 30 years, she said.

"Talent is really the highest form of capital for any form of business now. This is the 21<sup>st</sup> century reality," Ms. Wood said. "I think our level of participation has become much broader than it used to be on a local level, and because Michigan Works is very much a demand-driven system - the employer is our primary customer - all we're doing is responding to the needs of our local companies."

Since the governor's announcement in 2013, Michigan Works! agencies have decreased from 25 different offices to about 16 agencies, Ms. Wood said, so they are "almost there as a system" in terms of their end-goal of 10 agencies. And while there have been some concerns from the county commissioners who have to make the decision to reorganize their respective agencies, most have grown to see the benefit of consolidation, Ms. Wood and other officials said.

One example of that can be seen at the Michigan Works! Southwest agency, Ben Damerow, the director of that agency, said. Data collected through a consulting agency around the time the governor announced the Regional Prosperity Initiative concluded that "employers do not care where they get their talent from," Mr. Damerow said.

In Kent County, for example, 75 percent of its workforce lives and works in Kent County. Neighboring Allegan County - known as a "bedroom community," Mr. Damerow said - determined that about 27 percent of those living there lived and worked in Allegan, but in some circumstances that number can shoot up to 68 percent working in the region together.

"Twenty-seven plus the additional percent working the regions shows, hey, it makes sense for Allegan County, as it relates to their labor force, to be in our region," he said of the makeup of Michigan Works! Southwest.

And then there were those who lived in cities that crossed boundaries. Holland, for example, is responsible for 16 or 17 percent of Allegan County's tax revenue, though a portion of Holland is also in Ottawa County.

"The south side of Holland is a precious resource for Allegan County and it made it very difficult for those customers who had to commute from the south side of Holland into the Allegan service center, which is about 20 miles away, when they could have easily commuted two miles north to the service center in Holland," Mr. Damerow explained. "It's those undue hardships we were putting on the customers because of the way the funding had been split up between the two counties."

And the more things are split up in that matter, the less meaningful and successful services are to the public, Ms. Wood said.

"On the other hand, if you go to the opposite extreme and deliver a sort of one-size-fits-all at a state level, let's say, then you're not paying enough attention to the special characteristics of certain communities. So the regional approach is really, in my experience, the best middle ground for that," she said.

Though Ms. Wood said it was too early in the process to determine whether the regional model had done anything to attract or retain businesses in communities, it certainly seems like from general conversations that it will, she said.

"What we hear from our (Michigan Economic Development Corporation) colleagues is when a company is thinking about locating to another state, they want consistency in services from the different players in a particular community," Ms. Wood said. "They want to know that the talent development people and the economic development people and the education people are all in it together to put together the kind of attractive features they want in order to bring their company there. The regional prosperity initiative is really, really helpful in that regard."

And speaking from her own community's experience, Ms. Wood said the regional approach has raised conversations that perhaps were not being had, or being as closely paid attention to, previously.

"Now having shared governance between the public and private sector, the level of conversation our region is having now about attraction, retention, commercial corridor development, about housing problems, costs of living, you name it, that cuts across all these different things that tend to be legislative and funded very siloed, it's our job locally to take all those silos and turn them over and make something ... where all the pieces fit together," she said. "It's just easier to do that when you have common geographic boundaries and you have more integration of all those topics within a community."

#### DEQ: Flint Lead Problem From Home Connections

Officials have found lead in Flint's water system, but it is coming from final service connections, Department of Environmental Quality officials said in response to a push from { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1>" } for additional water testing in the city.

Mr. Kildee (D-Flint) called Tuesday for the DEQ and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to have independent testing conducted on the city's water system after the lead findings and complaints of murky water in the system (See { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=541880113](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541880113)" } ).

Brad Wurfel, spokesperson for the DEQ, said there is a federal rule calling for converting lead pipes to copper, but that the rule is designed to reduce the problem, not eliminate it.

"We felt we were clear that the lead detected in Flint's water is strictly the product of lead in home plumbing," Mr. Wurfel said of the meeting with Mr. Kildee and staff from other elected leaders. "It doesn't come from the river, or the plant, or the cast iron pipes employed for most of

the delivery system. It comes from water passing through lead service connections - more than 15,000 of them in Flint, and it comes from home plumbing in older homes."

But he noted that Mr. Kildee is in the best place to push for change because much of what he would like to see happen would require federal funds.

#### Appeals Court: Restitution In Sex Cases Must Be Based On Facts

Restitution orders in criminal sexual conduct cases must be based on a factual basis of costs a victim may face and not on projections, the Court of Appeals ruled on Wednesday.

The court also said restitution could not be granted to an alleged victim if there is no criminal case dealing with the alleged crime.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=220101&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=220101&locid=1) }, joined by { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152501&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152501&locid=1) } and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=181801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=181801&locid=1) }, overturned a decision by the Leelanau Circuit Court in *People v. Corbin* ( { [HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20150922\\_C319122\\_47\\_319122.OPN.PDF"](http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20150922_C319122_47_319122.OPN.PDF) } \t "blank" } ).

In the case, Jeffrey Corbin was accused of repeatedly sexually assaulting two boys, Shane and Austin (who are both now adults) over a 10-year period. The two brothers revealed the abuse some six years after it ended, and Mr. Corbin admitted to the abuse. He was initially charged with assaulting both brothers, but the charge for assaulting Austin was dropped because the statute of limitations had run out.

After being sentenced to prison, Mr. Corbin was then ordered to pay restitution of \$276,800 to Austin and \$276,805 to Shane. The restitution was to help both undergo psychological therapy needed to deal with the abuse.

But Ms. Gleicher said restitution could not be paid to Austin because there was no conviction of a crime against him.

In terms of the restitution ordered for Shane, the amount was based on estimates of how much it might cost to undergo the therapy and recoup some lost expenses before the crimes were discovered.

But the Appeals Court said the restitution provision had to be based, according to state law, on a reasonable fact-based system. Shane's restitution was not so based, so the case was sent back to the trial court to reconsider the case on the basis of what the facts would show a proper restitution would be.

#### Insurance Agents Warned Against 'Sliding'

Insurance and Financial Services Director Patrick McPharlin issued orders on Wednesday banning "insurance sliding," which keeps an insurance customer for getting full details of insurance policies.

In Bulletin 2015-21-INS, Mr. McPharlin said insurance agents who engage in the practice could be put on probation, suspended, have their license revoked or be fined.

In the bulletin, Mr. McPharlin said it had come to his "attention that some insurance producers are engaging in the practice known as insurance 'sliding.'" He did not identify any agents who may have engaged in the practice.

In cases where "sliding" has occurred, charges for additional coverage the customer is unaware of are hidden in a total premium and the premium is higher than what the customer initially agreed to.

Mr. McPharlin said examples of "sliding" include telling customers that roadside assistance is part of a policy when it is not, or saying that a customer must purchase roadside assistance in their policy, enticing customers to buy auto club memberships, or enticing a customer to buy coverages without explaining all the coverages and their cost.

If an agent is accused of sliding, then the department will commence administrative hearings against that agent.

#### Handy Middle School Principal To Run In 96th House

Democrat Brian DuFresne, principal of Handy Middle School in Bay City, announced on Wednesday he will run in the 96<sup>th</sup> House District, where { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=287701&locid=1" } cannot seek re-election due to term limits.

"We need someone who will continue to work to preserve Bay County as both a community and an economy," Mr. DuFresne said in a statement. "I've lived my whole life in Bay County, and I'm fortunate now to be raising my family here as well, but I remember what this community was and can be again. We need a leader to fight to bring back one of the strongest middle-class economies in our state, a leader who will tell Lansing to stop putting our economic troubles on the backs of our kids and the working class."

Mr. DuFresne said he is entering the race to offer "honest hometown leadership." He attended St. Joseph's Parochial Grade School and graduated in 1986 from Bay City Central High School. He earned an Associate's at Delta Community College, a Bachelor's at Central Michigan University and his Master's in Education Leadership from Saginaw Valley State University.

Mr. DuFresne is a member of both the Michigan Democratic Party and the National Rifle Association.



An announcement rally will take place on September 26 at noon at the Local 362 UAW Hall in Bay City.

### PSC Directs Clear Rate Communications To Provide Proof Of Services

The Public Service Commission has directed Clear Rate Communications, Inc., to provide proof it is complying with state law and PSC regulations requiring telecommunications companies to provide telephone service to deaf and hard-of-hearing residents.

After AT&T Michigan on May 28, 2014 sent letters to basic local exchange carriers in Michigan informing them of its intent to discontinue the telecommunications relay service (TRS) it provided to Michigan carriers, the PSC issued an order that, among other things, required local exchange providers to file customer outreach plans no less than 30 days prior to the transition of its relay customers and to notify the PSC within 10 days of making a change to a new relay service provider by filing a letter in that docket.

The PSC staff questions (case { [HYPERLINK "http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17951&submit.x=0&submit.y=0"](http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17951&submit.x=0&submit.y=0) \t "blank" }) whether Clear Rate customer have had access to TRS since February 7, 2015, and the Commission has not been able to determine if the company is providing TRS to its customers on its own, jointly with other basic local exchange providers, or by contract with other telecommunications providers, the PSC said in a statement about the case.

As such, Clear Rate is to file a response by 5 p.m. on October 8 to each of the PSC staff's allegations. That response is to explain whether it has entered into a TRS agreement, and shall be accompanied by pre-filed direct testimony, exhibits, work papers and affidavits supporting the veracity of its response, PSC said.

The company has also been directed to appear at a pre-hearing conference before an administrative law judge at 9 a.m. on October 29 at the PSC offices in Lansing.

**MICHIGAN GAS UTILITIES CORPORATION:** The Public Service Commission on Wednesday also approved a settlement authorizing Michigan Gas Utilities Corporation to implement its energy optimization plan for 2016 and 2017, resulting in a decrease of 4 cents per month on the bills of residential customers using 100 ccf of natural gas per month. The decrease is effective January 1, 2016 (case { [HYPERLINK "http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17789&submit.x=0&submit.y=0"](http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17789&submit.x=0&submit.y=0) \t "blank" }).

### Subscribers Please Note

A story in the Tuesday Report on { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB424801"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB424801) } to repeal certain outdated provisions of law has been updated to reflect changes made in the House prior to the bill coming before a Senate committee.

## Supplemental Event Planner

### Friday, September 25

U. S. Rep. Dan Kildee (D) Fundraiser, The Durant Hotel, 607 East 2nd Avenue, Flint, 6 p.m.

### Tuesday, October 13

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289301&locid=1" } (R)

Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=264501&locid=1" } (D)

Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 11:30 a.m.

124 West Allegan Street, Suite 1200

Lansing Michigan 48933

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**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 10:18 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Wednesday, September 11, 2013  
**Attachments:** Sep11Senate.htm; 130911dayplan.htm; Sep11House.htm; Sep11.htm



## Michigan Report for Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Bipartisan Backing Carries 'Main Street Fairness' Bills

Educator Effectiveness Plan Has Long Road Ahead, Committee Chairs Say

Committee Again Exploring Religious Freedom For Adoption Agencies

Bills Addressing Unemployment Agency Fraud, Compliance In House Commerce

Bentivolio Leading In Early Poll

Young Couple Charged In Trooper Slaying

Poll Shows Snyder Improving Against Schauer, Peters, Land Tied

Supreme Court Issues Order On Translation Services In Courts

Young: Working Hard To Put Aside Past

Senate Passes Child Abduction Legislation

Courser (Sort Of) Downplays Governor Talk

Audit Praises Prison Mental Health Services, Finds Some Problems

Army Veteran Sues State For Denying Him 'INFIDEL' License Plate

Appeals Court: Law Barring Vehicular Death Instruction Unconstitutional

Snyder Names New Flint Emergency Manager, Darnell Earley

Capital Notebook

Appointments By The Governor

Appointments By The Majority Leader

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## Activity Reports

House

Senate

## Calendars

Day Planner

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Volume #52, Report #178 -- Wednesday, September 11, 2013

## Bipartisan Backing Carries 'Main Street Fairness' Bills

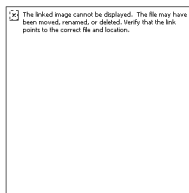
Certain online sellers with a presence in the state could be required to begin collecting the 6 percent sales or use tax under legislation the House Tax Policy Committee reported Wednesday, but with some believing the issue needs to be resolved at the federal level, it is unclear how much traction the bills will have in the full House.

The legislation (HB 4202 and HB 4203) cleared the committee on a 9-1 vote with five abstentions. Six Republicans and three Democrats voted yes.

House Speaker Jase Bolger (R-Marshall) said the issue should really be solved on the federal level, and the question now is if the state's legislation is going to accomplish what the federal government isn't doing.



"You're not hearing opposition from me, but you're not hearing we're going to run this tomorrow," Mr. Bolger said to reporters after House session. "You're hearing me wrestle with what the federal government is not doing. You're hearing frustration from me that once again the federal government is not doing its job, so we're left to pick up their slack. You're hearing also concern about what's the best policy."



The "main street fairness" issue - so named because retailers say their businesses face a 6 percent disadvantage to the Amazons of the world who do not collect sales or use tax - is in the House Republicans action plan for the term. That action plan, unveiled earlier this year, declares, "We will remove the 6 percent competitive advantage that out-of-state online retailers enjoy over Michigan companies."

House  
Speaker Jase Bolger (R-Marshall) and  
Rep. Vicki Barnett (D-Farmington Hills)

Ari Adler, spokesperson for Mr. Bolger, said the speaker has always thought it was a federal issue, and it is still a part of the action plan. Mr. Adler said it is still unclear if the best course of action would involve state legislation.

Rep. Jeff Farrington (R-Utica), chair of the committee, said he abstained on the bills because he agreed it is a federal issue.

"Tax policy should be fair and across the board, and that can only be done at the federal level," he said.

Asked if he thought the federal government would act on legislation soon (a bill passed through the U.S. Senate in May and is now in the U.S. House) Mr. Farrington said: "I've got no confidence at all."

Rep. Vicki Barnett (D-Farmington Hills), minority vice chair of the committee, also abstained. Ms. Barnett said the Department of Treasury still was not certain if the tax collected on Internet sellers would be sales or use tax. She also said it is a federal issue, and something she supports on the federal level.

Most of the sales tax goes to the School Aid Fund, and most of the use tax goes to the General Fund. The House Fiscal Agency analysis says it appears the majority of revenue generated from the bills would be sales tax, but it depends on how it is remitted.

"It's a tax increase on consumers who are looking for efficiency and convenience when they shop," Ms. Barnett said after committee. "There's no clear rules as to who would actually be forced to pay this tax. Probably, most importantly, the 1996 Telecommunications Act explicitly says that states are preempted from acting in this arena."

According to the Department of Treasury, about \$482.4 million in sales and use tax revenue will be uncollected in the 2013-14 fiscal year, and nearly 60 percent of that is due to online sales. Although residents are supposed to remit the taxes in income tax returns, many do not.

The House Fiscal Agency analysis, however, says it is unlikely the bills would generate much revenue because sellers can move affiliated partners and warehouses to other states. To generate more revenue, federal legislation would need to be passed.

Mr. Farrington had the Democrats vote before the Republicans in the committee to make sure they didn't change their votes at the last minute, he said.

Rep. Aric Nesbitt (R-Lawton) was the lone no vote on both bills. Rep. Jon Switalski (D-Warren), Rep. Bob Genetski (R-Saugatuck) and Rep. Pat Somerville (R-New Boston) joined committee leadership in abstaining.

Voting yes were Rep. Harold Haugh (D-Roseville), Rep. Bill LaVoy (D-Monroe), Rep. Jim Townsend (D-Royal Oak), Rep. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage), Rep. Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant), Rep. Frank Foster (R-Petoskey), Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto), Rep. Tim Kelly (R-Saginaw Township) and Rep. Amanda Price (R-Park Township).

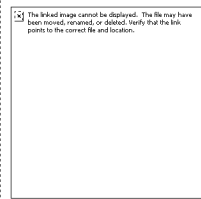
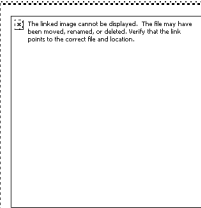
#### Educator Effectiveness Plan Has Long Road Ahead, Committee Chairs Say

The House and Senate Education committees on Wednesday jointly heard testimony in support of a teacher evaluation system that focuses on both in-class hours as well as individual student growth, but chairs of both the committees say there is still some time to go before any legislative action may come as a result.

"We want to hear from the education community," Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-St. Clair), chair of the Senate Education Committee, said after the meeting, noting the Senate committee will travel to Port Huron on September 26 to hear from teachers there who were part of the pilot program of the evaluation system being proposed by the Council for Educator Effectiveness.

"I think the committee will get great value hearing from teachers that have been evaluated on the pilot program," he said.

Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto), chair of the House Education Committee, said she and her members are also looking forward to hearing from educators and administrators before moving forward.



Sen. Phil Pavlov (top) and Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons

"It's just a starting point," Ms. Lyons said after the joint meeting. "Our members are going to be talking with the education folks in their districts. It's important that we make sure we do this right and we do this well because it's that critical, not only to the educators and the administrators involved, but to the kids as well."

And because the committee members have to review the report by the council in addition to talking to educators in their district, there is still much work to be done before any legislative action can take place.

"We have a lot of work to do to break the report down," Mr. Pavlov said. "This is a very important step and it's a very significant reform that has to be done properly."

About half of the nearly three-hour committee was spent discussing - and questioning - conclusions reached by the council, chaired by Deborah Loewenberg Ball, dean of the School of Education at the University of Michigan. In addition to explaining the components of the council's recommendations, she said the state must adopt a tool and stick with it whole-

heartedly.

"Currently, districts use some of these tools," Ms. Ball said, referencing her presentation to the committees. "Many of them adapt the tools a lot, which is to say they use only some of the things included. Our recommendation is that the tool be used as designed by the designer."

That is to say districts should not deviate, for the most part, from either the philosophy or the implementation of any one plan.

And rather than categorizing teachers in four different categories, the state should consider three: professional, provisional and ineffective.

The idea behind fewer categories is that there is less of a chance of misclassifying a teacher in a profession whose variables are always changing, as well as the philosophy that the evaluation system the council proposes seeks to ensure continued improvement for every grade of teacher, even the best (See Gongwer Michigan Report, July 24, 2013).

Most questions from committee members focused on implementation, a point which Ms. Ball noted would have to take time in order to be done right.

For example, to enter a "testing mania" that seems to be trending nationally, according to Rep. Ellen Cogen Lipton (D-Huntington Woods), is something that the state would have to re-examine annually, Ms. Ball said.

And any proposal that will work will work best if it is not tied to pay, particularly merit pay, Ms. Ball said.

"Our system is entirely oriented out of improvement," Ms. Ball said, responding to a question by Rep. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights). "To build a true system of improvement, we recommend this not be tied to pay issues."

Although it may seem counter to conventional wisdom to not pay attention to student and teacher results on a per-school basis, the way the evaluation system is being proposed, "A teacher will not be penalized for having a student below growth if that teacher is producing substantial growth for that student," Ms. Ball explained.

And Sandi Jacobs, with the National Council on Teacher Quality in Washington, D.C., said nationally there are three components to a strong evaluation system: make student learning preponderant criterion, require observations from well-trained observers, and require annual evaluations for all teachers (even the great ones).

"Since 2009, we see states beginning to move forward on these policies," Ms. Jacobs said. "We've seen a great increase in annual evaluations, very big increase in student learning, and more and more using results for tenured learning."

#### Committee Again Exploring Religious Freedom For Adoption Agencies

Faith-based organizations said the change was needed to ensure they could follow their religious tenets, while civil rights groups said the legislation would open potential adoptive parents to discrimination as the House Families, Children and Seniors Committee opened discussion on legislation that would prohibit the state from requiring faith-based adoption and foster care agencies to violate their religious beliefs.

Rep. Kenneth Kurtz, chair of the committee and lead sponsor of the package (HB 4927 and HB 4928), said his goal was to codify the Department of Human Services' current practice for overseeing the private agencies it licenses.

"This state has never required that these agencies abandon their faith, nor do I think it should," Mr. Kurtz said.

The bills would not, he said, change any current practices. "Anyone who can adopt today will be able to adopt under this bill," he said.

Supporters of the legislation said it would head off problems that have arisen in other states where mandates have required agencies to take actions that violated their tenets. The Michigan Catholic Conference, in a fact sheet on the issue (officials voiced their support but did not speak



to the bills) said the church had been forced to close its operations in some other states because of new state mandates brought either through statute or court ruling.

"These bills will ensure the public/private effort to find homes for children exists well into the future," Tom Hickson, vice president for public policy and advocacy for the Catholic Conference, said in a statement. "Faith-based adoption and foster care agencies, Catholic Charities for example, are prevalent in communities throughout the state and offer a multitude of services to destitute and vulnerable persons. It is imperative that the state continues to maintain and strengthen diversity in child placement."

Any future move to require faith-based agencies to violate their faith would mean loss not only of those agencies from the state-supervised system, but also of the families that support them, William Blacquiere, president of Bethany Christian Services, told the committee.

"When faith-based agencies are gone, so are most of the families that will adopt and provide foster care," he said. "We are not denying children a loving home. We are doing the opposite. We are ensuring there will be a loving home."

The bills would, though, allow agencies to turn away potential adoptive parents, opponents said.

"We should not be turning away willing and capable families willing to help a child in need," Emily Dievendorf, managing director of Equality Michigan, told the committee.

"Currently, faith based agencies are denying adoptions for a variety of reasons, including sexual orientation," Jay Kaplan, staff attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union-Michigan LGBT Project, though he could not, when asked by committee members, list any cases where the group had filed complaints based on such discrimination.

The bills, he said, would allow faith-based agencies to be exempt from both state civil rights laws and requirements that they act in the best interests of the child in favor of supporting their religious beliefs.

"No public funds should go to a supposed welfare agency that ignores the best interests of the child," said Nicolette Siragusa, pastor of the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Grand Ledge.

Much of the opposition came from gay rights groups, but some also raised concerns that agencies would turn away couples of other faiths as well.

"I don't believe we should be sending people on a mad search to find an agency that won't discriminate against them," Ms. Dievendorf said.

Mr. Blacquiere acknowledged his agency would not directly serve a Muslim family.

"We would work with the network of agencies we work with," he said, likely finding a Muslim agency to help that family.

Mr. Blacquiere said amendments were being developed to require development of such networks of providers to ensure all potential adoptive families are served.

Mr. Kurtz expected the bills to come up for additional discussion and potential movement in the coming weeks.

#### Bills Addressing Unemployment Agency Fraud, Compliance In House Commerce

A package of bills designed to bring the Unemployment Insurance Agency into compliance with federal standards and to properly handle fraudulent claims were discussed in the House Commerce Committee on Wednesday.

The bills (HB 4949, HB 4950, HB 4951, HB 4952, HB 4953 and HB 4954) did receive some criticism from members of the committee.

The more controversial piece of the package is Rep. Ken Goike's (R-Ray Township) bill, HB 4952, that would end a person's unemployment benefits if he or she failed a prospective employer's drug test.

Delaney McKinley, director of human resource policy for the Michigan Manufacturers Association, said a condition of receiving unemployment benefits is the person must be looking for suitable work, and cannot refuse that work.

"If there is a drug test required as a condition of that employment, if they refuse to take it or they failed it, they are essentially refusing that job," she said.

Ms. McKinley said the bill does not require a prospective employer to give a drug test, and doesn't require the prospective employer to even report the failure.

Tim Hughes, with the United Auto Workers, said in written testimony that the U.S. Department of Labor has not ruled on state legislation linking pre-employment drug tests to refusal of suitable work, but "it is certainly possible that they could find Michigan out of compliance with federal law under the terms of this legislation."

The first bill (HB 4949) would give the Unemployment Insurance Agency the ability to handle fraud and the improper payment of benefits. The agency would be able to receive payments for improper and fraudulent benefits from the moment a person began receiving the benefit.

Under current law, the agency receives the repayment from the time it was notified.

Some members were concerned the bill would force some unemployment claimants to pay for months of benefits that they cannot afford because of a mistake in the system or an appellate decision.

Rep. Jeff Farrington (R-Utica) said he once had an employee who was forced to pay 9 months of unemployment benefits, that the person could not afford, back to the agency through no fault of his own.

Rep. Vicki Barnett (D-Farmington Hills) and Rep. Jim Townsend (D-Royal Oak) raised the same issue with the bill.

Wendy Block, with the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, said she would be willing to look at other language to better separate a mistake made concerning benefits from actual fraudulent activity. But she said it is fair for the money to go back to the employer either way.

"It's not the claimant's money," she said. "At the end of the day it is employers' tax dollars."

Mr. Townsend also was concerned that the first bill could potentially require unemployed persons to pay back money they could not afford to the agency, but HB 4950 allows employers four chances, or 2 percent of their unemployment requests, to fail to provide information to the agency before the employer is penalized.

The bill specifies when an employer or employer's agent has a pattern of failing to respond with timely or adequate information to the agency, the employer would not be credited the funds it sent out for benefits.

Mr. Hughes said the bill allows employers "free passes" for not providing timely and accurate information, and also provides that unemployed workers have to pay back benefits received because of employers violating the law.

Rep. Frank Foster (R-Petoskey), chair of the committee, said there would be another meeting next week on the issue, and more meetings if needed to allow more testimony. The bills need to be in law by October 21 to conform to the federal government's standards.

The other bills in the package would specify funds recovered by the agency because of fraud on behalf of the employer or employee would be credited no less than 15 percent into the Unemployment Trust Fund, which helps ensure sustainability of the program (HB 4951). This is to comply with federal standards and is accompanied by HB 4954, which amends complementary sections in the law. HB 4953 is a complement to HB 4950.

### Bentivolio Leading In Early Poll

If the election was today, U.S. Rep. Kerry Bentivolio would win renomination from Republicans in his 11<sup>th</sup> U.S. House District, a Murray Communications-Portable Insights-Combat Data poll released Wednesday said.

But money could turn those numbers, pollsters said.

Of 717 likely Republican voters, Mr. Bentivolio (R-Milford) led challenger David Trott 59.55-40.45. That lead was higher (62.47-37.53) among women than among men.

The automated poll had an error margin of 3.66 percentage points.

The key takeaway, though, is the two are close enough for Mr. Trott to make up the gap with enough spending. "Bentivolio can hold this seat. Republican primary voters seem to be willing to give him a chance. But, if he doesn't raise enough money to be competitive with Trott, I suspect this 19% margin will begin to evaporate," Christopher Mark of Portable Insights said in a statement.

Patrick Murray of Murray Communications and Brian Bellgowan of Combat Data aired respective surprise over Mr. Bentivolio's lead, given his recent comments in the media, and Mr. Trott's support given he has not yet begun campaigning.

Mr. Bentivolio got national attention for talking about his desire to impeach President Barack Obama and has gotten some bad publicity for showing interest in holding a hearing on a debunked, much-mocked conspiracy called "Chem Trails" whose believers think the government is putting toxic chemicals into jet contrails to conduct experiments on the public.

### Young Couple Charged In Trooper Slaying

19-year-old Eric Knysz shot and killed State Police Trooper Paul Butterfield, and Mr. Knysz's 20-year-old pregnant wife Sarah Knysz aided his getaway afterward, prosecutors charged Wednesday in formally accusing the pair in Mr. Butterfield's death.

The Mason County Prosecutor's Office authorized charges against Mr. Knysz, a Luther resident, of homicide-murder of peace officer, weapons-felony firearm for the possession of a firearm during the commission of a murder of a peace officer, carrying a concealed weapon and unlawful driving away of an automobile.

The murder count is punishable by life in prison without possibility of parole; the weapons charge punishable by two years served consecutively with the life sentence; the CCW charge punishable by up to five years in prison, a \$2,500 fine, or both; and the driving away charge punishable by up to five years in prison. Prosecutors also notified Mr. Knysz of his status as a habitual offender/second felony offense that would multiply the maximum penalties by 1.5.

Mr. Knysz was shot by a State Police trooper at a gas station/convenience store, reportedly in the leg with a non-life threatening injury, and will be arraigned once he is discharged from the hospital and returned to Mason County. He allegedly shot Mr. Butterfield during a traffic stop in Sherman Township in Mason County.

Ms. Knysz was arraigned Wednesday at the 79<sup>th</sup> District Court in Ludington on a charge of accessory after the fact to the murder of Mr. Butterfield, punishable by up to five years in prison, a \$10,000 fine, or both; and unlawful driving away of an automobile, a felony punishable by up to five years in prison.

Magistrate Patricia Baker set bond for Ms. Knysz at \$250,000 cash or surety. Ms. Knysz was remanded to the Mason County Jail pending the posting of that bond and a September 25 preliminary examination.

Mason County Prosecutor Paul Spaniola said in a statement that Manistee County Prosecutor Ford Stone is reviewing the case for crimes the Knyszs might have committed in Manistee County, where they were caught. Mr. Spaniola said Lake County Prosecutor Craig Cooper also is exploring possible charges in his jurisdiction.

The investigation remains ongoing. State Police spokesperson Shanon Banner said she could not disclose any new information about what led to Mr. Butterfield pulling over the Knyszs, what might have led to Mr. Knysz allegedly shooting Mr. Butterfield and what other criminal activity the Knyszs might have committed besides the shooting.

The Muskegon Chronicle reported that Mr. Knysz had a lengthy criminal record, but no outstanding arrest warrants.

#### Poll Shows Snyder Improving Against Schauer; Peters, Land Tied

Governor Rick Snyder has moved out to a lead against his likely Democratic opponent, former U.S. Rep. Mark Schauer, in a new poll after previous surveys showed the pair in a statistical tie.

The survey from EPIC/MRA, released to the Detroit Free Press, put Mr. Snyder at 44 percent and Mr. Schauer at 36 percent. That compares to a 39-39 tie from an EPIC/MRA poll in May and an April poll from the same firm that had Mr. Schauer at 39 percent and Mr. Snyder at 38 percent.

The live operator poll of likely voters was conducted Sunday through Tuesday and had an error margin of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Mr. Schauer still remains unknown to most voters. But notably, Mr. Snyder's favorability and job approval ratings have improved considerably since May, during which time he pushed hard for Medicaid expansion and authorized Detroit to file for bankruptcy.

In May, 45 percent said they had a favorable impression of Mr. Snyder compared to 44 percent unfavorable. Now Mr. Snyder is at 49 percent favorable, 38 percent unfavorable. On job approval, Mr. Snyder was at 44 percent positive, 54 percent negative. That is improved from a 38-58 spread in May.

Meanwhile, EPIC/MRA continues to show the U.S. Senate race close between the presumptive Democratic nominee, U.S. Rep. Gary Peters of Bloomfield Township, and the lone declared Republican candidate, former Secretary of State Terri Land. Mr. Peters had 38 percent to 37 percent for Ms. Land.

#### Supreme Court Issues Order On Translation Services In Courts

In a move it said will help assure access to justice to Michigan residents who have limited English-speaking skills, the Supreme Court unveiled an order Wednesday requiring all courts in the state to provide interpreters for those individuals.

Under the order, persons who can afford translation services will be charged for those services, while lower-income individuals will not.

In a press conference, Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. and Justice Bridget McCormack said the rule would help "every person, every party" have access to the court system. That would include situations such as domestic abuse cases where a spouse needs to request a personal protection order, but has difficulty speaking English.

That would prevent, Mr. Young said, a situation of a judge saying, "Please bring your husband in to translate for you. That would be a problem."

The order was not unanimous. Justice Stephen Markman dissented, arguing the state was effectively being coerced into creating the rule by the U.S. Department of Justice or face the prospect of the state losing federal funds. "The rules being adopted today under the coercive circumstances created by the (Department of Justice) are both unnecessary and ill-advised," Mr. Markman said.

But in the press conference, Mr. Young said former Justice Marilyn Kelly began working on the issue before the federal government sent a letter to all state supreme courts calling on those courts to help assist persons officially designated limited-English-proficient.

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Justice Bridget McCormack discusses the order while Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. listens.

Already a number of counties provide translation service and assistance to persons with actions before the courts, the two justices said, and they praised Wayne County particularly.

But not all counties provide such service, they said, and under the rules and order issued, all the courts must prepare a language access plan as a local administrative order by December 11.

Those affected by the order will be anyone with legal decision-making authority, which could include a parent in juvenile matters. The rules and order also deal with any trial, hearing or appearance before any judge, magistrate, referee or other hearing officer.

The rules require the courts to use certified interpreters for limited English participants. If a certified translator is not available, the court will then have to assess whether the proceeding should be delayed or if the court should use a qualified translator.

Mr. Young and Ms. McCormack also said technology could assist a court by accessing a translator online or by telephone.

Mr. Young said he was unaware of any case where lack of access to a translator had been an issue in an appeal. "But that is not a reason not to act," Mr. Young said.

In his dissent, Mr. Markman said the federal "demands" were "staggering," and effectively would allow a "Gulf state emir or a South American multi-millionaire businessman" who may choose to file a lawsuit have access to free translation services.

Theoretically, he argued, the Supreme Court would also have to have translators available for the court's learning center.

And, Mr. Markman said, the federal government fails to show how the current system has failed to ensure persons have access to justice if they have limited English skills.

## Young: Working Hard To Put Aside Past

With a history of rancor marking the Supreme Court for more than a decade, Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. and Justice Bridget McCormack said the court has worked in an extremely collegial fashion this year.

Meeting with reporters to discuss a new rule and order on translation services (see related story), the two even engaged in some clowning. After Ms. McCormack talked about how her first year on the court had been marked by "incredible collegiality," Mr. Young made a show of handing her a \$10 bill. (She later returned it, and Mr. Young said he would need it for groceries.)

While it is Ms. McCormack's first year on the court, it is Mr. Young's 15<sup>th</sup> year, and he said it had been the best year of his tenure.

"We are respectful of each other's views," he said. "The court is willing to listen to each other."

In some cases, that listening to one another has meant that in some opinions the minority opinion has ended up becoming the majority opinion.

"We have worked very hard to put our past aside," Mr. Young said.

That past included years where opinions nearly smoked with fury expressed by the members for each other. The court has seen significant change in personnel in recent years as former Justice Elizabeth Weaver - who was outspoken in challenging court procedure - resigned in 2010. Former Justice Maura Corrigan - one of Ms. Weaver's targets, but also one who gave as good as she got - left in 2011 to become director of the Department of Human Services.

And in January, former Justice Diane Hathaway resigned before pleading guilty to federal fraud charges. She began serving a prison sentence this summer.

Mr. Young said this is a "wonderful court."

Every top court in every state should have "talented and learned lawyers," he said, and "I hope this is that court."

When one reporter said it was hard to imagine Mr. Young conducting a similar press conference with Ms. Hathaway, Mr. Young said, "You have a limited imagination."

## Senate Passes Child Abduction Legislation

The Senate on Wednesday unanimously passed legislation that would help ensure children would not be abducted by their parents during divorce proceedings.

The bill, SB 325, would establish the Uniform Child Abduction Prevention Act, which is intended to prevent the abduction of children by establishing standards for determining whether a child is at risk for abduction by one of his or her parents.



"My legislation empowers judges to order abduction prevention measures in child custody when evidence of a credible risk of child abduction is established," said bill sponsor Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), in a statement.

If a court determines a credible risk exists that the child will be abducted, it may order provisions and measures to prevent such a thing from happening. Some warning signs of possible abductions could be a parent suddenly getting passports for children, threatening to abduct a child, undergoing a change in citizenship status and other high-risk factors, Mr. Jones said.

Accordingly, the provisions include travel restrictions, prohibiting the individual from removing the child from the state, or placing the child's name on the U.S. Department of State's Child Passport Issuance Alert Program.

Sen. Bruce Caswell (R-Hillsdale) supported the legislation, but warned his colleagues that extending judicial discretion too much could have unintended consequences down the line. The bill passed 37-0 as Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer (D-East Lansing) was absent from session.

#### Courser (Sort Of) Downplays Governor Talk

Speculation prompted by the Right Michigan blog's countdown clock for a Republican primary challenger to Governor Rick Snyder led tea party activist Todd Courser to scoff Wednesday at the idea it would be him.

"Right now there is a little buzz on a primary challenge to Governor Rick Snyder and some are predicting that I am the one that is going to announce at the Mackinac Leadership Conference," he said in an email he also posted to Facebook about the upcoming Republican Party event on Mackinac Island. "I will say that this is news to me."

But Mr. Courser also said: "I believe that at the very least we should not assume that any battle to attempt to unseat this governor is lost. It is imperative that we defend liberty and conservatism at any and all levels."

Mr. Courser urged primary challenges against those compromising the conservative Republican brand.

"But we also need to be more than passionate; we need to be strategic and realistic about where our efforts will have the most impact on the advancement of conservatism," he said. "I have and continue to explore every option available that will advance conservatism and unite the party around those principles. I believe that the Lord will lead and provide for whatever option he directs."

#### Audit Praises Prison Mental Health Services, Finds Some Problems

A performance audit of Mental Health Services in the Department of Corrections resulted in mostly positive reviews for the agency, but criticized it on some aspects of its documentation and meeting required timeframes for evaluations.

The audit concluded that most aspects of Mental Health Services operated effectively.

But it found the agency did not conduct all evaluations and assessments within required time frames and did not document all required evaluations and assessments. The audit cautioned that these problems undermine the ability of the agency to ensure it met prisoners' needs in a timely fashion.

Agency procedures require the completion of an evaluation from a qualified mental health professional and a comprehensive psychiatric evaluation within 14 days of a prisoner being referred to MHS. But auditors, which reviewed records for 90 prisoners, found that 11 percent of qualified mental health professional evaluations occurred from three to 17 days late and 25 percent of comprehensive psychiatric evaluations were three to 114 days late.

Among the documentation problems found among the 58 prisoners reviewed who transferred to a different MHS level of care were that MHS did not document that it conducted 12 percent of the required mental health evaluations, 4 percent of the required psychiatric evaluations and 25 percent of the required activity therapy assessments.

The audit also found that MHS did not document or update all required individual treatment plans within required time frames. Depending on the level of care, those procedures require the updating of an individual treatment plan between one day and 10 days of a prisoner's admission or transfer to a new level of care. In 13 percent of 90 instances, MHS did not document or update individual treatment plans for prisoners admitted or transferred to a different level of care with five coming six to 95 days late and two 11 to 69 days late.

In some cases, MHS did not properly document all required notes, reviews, evaluations and assessments in prisoners' mental health records to ensure mentally ill prisoners received all mental health services consistent with their individual treatment plans.

In 35 of 61 records where MHS recommended case management, MHS did not document 41 percent of the required case manager or progress notes.

MHS officials indicated in the audit that they agreed with all the recommendations and that they are taking steps to comply.

The audit was conducted from April through September 2012 and generally covered operations from October 1, 2009, through August 31, 2012.

Army Veteran Sues State For Denying Him 'INFIDEL' License Plate

A U.S. Army veteran from the Upper Peninsula who served in the Iraq war filed a lawsuit Wednesday in the U.S. District Court in Grand Rapids against the Department of State for denying his request for a personalized license plate saying "INFIDEL".

Sergeant Michael Matwyuk sought the plate as a way to show defiance toward insurgents who labeled him and other U.S. soldiers as infidels. But the department denied the plate under the provision in the Motor Vehicle Code allowing it to do so with requests "that might carry a connotation offensive to good taste and decency."

The American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan, filing [the lawsuit](#) on behalf of Mr. Matwyuk, said that policy violates the First and Fourteenth amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

"As American soldiers in Iraq, we were called 'infidels' on a daily basis. As a way to cope, we decided to take this word, meant to hurt and demean us, as our own," Mr. Matwyuk said in a statement distributed by the ACLU. "It's a point of pride and patriotism that many of us identify with, just as we would identify with the word 'soldier.' This license plate is simply an expression of my service as an Iraqi combat veteran."

#### Appeals Court: Law Barring Vehicular Death Instruction Unconstitutional

A divided panel of the Court of Appeals ruled Wednesday that a state law that prohibits a judge from instructing a jury on a lesser charge in vehicular death cases was unconstitutional.

The court, in *People v. Jones* ([COA docket No. 312966](#)) held the statute violated principles held since the 1840s that a jury may convict an individual of the crime charged or of a lesser included offense.

The decision, by [Judge Amy Ronayne Krause](#) and joined by [Judge Douglas Shapiro](#), upheld a ruling by the Wayne Circuit Court to provide an instruction to the jury that Thabo Jones could be convicted of a moving violation that caused death.

Mr. Jones was charged with reckless driving that caused death, and the prosecutor appealed the circuit court action.

But the court held the law's requirement that an instruction on the lesser crime fails to take into consideration that there is no such limitation if a case is before a judge only or that a jury could still find a defendant guilty of the lesser crime.

The court also said the Legislature can draft a statute so narrowly that the elements of a crime could preclude a lesser offense. But that did not happen in this situation.

Dissenting, [Judge Kirsten Frank Kelly](#) pointed out that the requirement that a jury not be instructed in the lesser charge does not block the jury from deciding to convict on the basis of that lesser charge.

The Legislature may not establish procedural rules but alone has the power to establish substantive law, she said. And, she said, the law in question does not infringe on procedure or practice and therefore was properly adopted.

#### Snyder Names New Flint Emergency Manager, Darnell Earley

Saginaw City Manager Darnell Earley was named by Governor Rick Snyder to be the new emergency manager for Flint after manager Michael Brown resigned.

Mr. Brown will leave the post on October 31. In his resignation letter to Mr. Snyder, which he submitted last week, Mr. Brown cited the death of his brother as a reason to step aside now.

Mr. Snyder praised Mr. Brown, saying he provided calm leadership during a difficult time. During his tenure as emergency manager, the city was able to finish the 2012-13 fiscal year with a surplus.

Mr. Earley has been the Saginaw city manager for eight years. Before going to Saginaw, Mr. Earley was the Flint city administrator and briefly served as the city's temporary mayor in 2002.

#### Capital Notebook

**GRASSROOTS MICHIGAN ANNOUNCES NEW HIRES:** Grassroots Michigan, the new bipartisan political consulting firm, has hired Brian Began as director of research and Trisha Kosloski as office manager and scheduler. Mr. Began comes out of the House Republican political operation and Ms. Kosloski was the manager of the Biggby on Ottawa Street in Lansing.

**UNIONS OFFICIALLY FILE RIGHT-TO-WORK APPEAL:** State employee unions formally filed their appeal to the Supreme Court on the question of whether the right-to-work laws apply to state employees. The Court of Appeals ruled in August that the laws do apply, overturning a lower court ruling. Unions had said then they would appeal to the Supreme Court.

**DEER BAITING:** Deer hunters in Iosco County will likely be able to use bait to attract their prey. The Natural Resources Commission is expected to approve a resolution at its meeting Thursday opening the county to baiting.

Baiting had been banned in several townships as part of the effort to eradicate bovine tuberculosis. Because Iosco County is now designated as TB-free, the Department of Natural Resources has recommended lifting the baiting ban.

#### Appointments By The Governor

**MICHIGAN COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS:** Rich Homberg of Bloomfield Hills succeeds Amanda Van Dusen, Shamita Johnson of Detroit succeeds David Egner, Nikke Nason of Marquette succeeds Nheena Ittner, Susannah Goodman of Detroit succeeds George Bayard III, Kim Dabbs of Grand Rapids succeeds Barbara Kratchman and

Christian Gaines of Grand Rapids succeeds Julia Taubman, who resigned. Mr. Gaines' term expires September 1, 2014. All other appointments expire September 1, 2016. None of the appointments is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL:** Rebecca Parten of Dearborn succeeds Sheila Ashcraft to represent advocates of, and for, individuals with disabilities for a term expiring December 31, 2014. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**TRUCK SAFETY COMMISSION:** Sharon Conklin of Comstock Park succeeds Ken Houck to represent private motor carriers and Timothy Yungfer of Bath fills a vacancy to represent the general public. Reappointed are Robert Ramels of Iron Mountain, Walter Heinritzi of Lansing, Daniel Blower of Ypsilanti, Dave Goller of Rockford and Thomas O'Brien of Fremont. The appointments are for terms expiring August 4, 2015, and are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Appointments By The Majority Leader

Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville (R-Monroe) has appointed Jane Ann Allison of Baldwin to the Baldwin Promise Authority for a term expiring September 9, 2017. Her appointment is effective immediately.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

**Wednesday, September 18**

**Civil Service Commission, Conference Room A, Lower Level, Capitol Commons Center, 400 South Pine Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Agenda)**

**Tuesday, September 24**

**Public Service Commission, Hearing Room 1, 4300 West Saginaw Street, Lansing, 11 a.m.**

**Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees**

**Friday, September 13**


**Senate Economic Development, (Chr. Kowall, M., 373-5323), St. Luke's New Life Center, 3115 Lawndale Avenue, Flint, 48504, 10 a.m.**

- **A discussion of economic development with testimony from: Congressman Dan Kildee, Flint Mayor Dayne Walling, Genesee County Drain Commissioner Jeff Wright; University of Michigan-Flint, Mott Community College, Kettering University, Hurley Medical Center, Genesys Health System, McLaren Health Systems, Diplomat Specialty Pharmacy, Flint Chamber of Commerce, Genesee Chamber of Commerce, Goodwill, Michigan Economic Development Corporation**

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**Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.**

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**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Wednesday, October 7, 2015  
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## Michigan Report for Wednesday, October 7, 2015

House OKs Medical Marijuana Shops, Edibles

Forfeiture Changes Clear Senate

Senate Panel Reports Retired Teacher Legislation

Advisory Committee Recommends Returning Flint To Detroit Water

House Appropriations Considers Regulating Large-Scale Dog Breeders

Natural Resources Gets Back To Aquatic Invasive Species

State Pays DeBoer, Rowse Attorneys \$1.9M

Commission Urges Cautious Reaction To Sentencing Guidelines Ruling

Committee Continues Discussion On Safety Flag For Towing Watercraft

PSC Opens Natural Gas Safety Inquiry

Johnson Announces Funds Double Prior Candidates

Former Rep. Dingell To Remain In Hospital For A Little Longer

Court Orders Hearings On Village Military Bias Question

Revenue Bulletin Defines Total Household Income, Refers To Same-Sex Couples

Capital Notebook: State Has Spent \$4M On Advertising Healthy Michigan

Capitol Jobs Marketplace Updated

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

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## Volume #54, Report #199 -- Wednesday, October 7, 2015

### House OKs Medical Marijuana Shops, Edibles

Medical marijuana patients would pay a 9 percent tax on the drug, but would be allowed to purchase it from a licensed dispensary and be permitted to use topical or edible forms of the drug legally under bills approved by the House Wednesday.

The bills, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB420901" }

and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB421001" }

, cleared the House with huge margins, 95-11 and 96-10, respectively, after months of negotiations.

HB 4209 outlines an entirely new regulatory structure that includes five different types of licenses for growers, processors, testing labs, secure transporters and dispensaries. Local communities would have to pass their own ordinances allowing provisioning centers.

Local governments would get a portion of the revenue from the taxes and be allowed to set up an annual licensing fee. The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs will also set a licensing fee.

The bill would set a 3 percent excise tax on the provisioning center's profits along with the 6 percent sales tax patients would pay at point of sale.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284701&locid=1" } (R-Nashville) said he is confident the Senate will act on the legislation, as the workgroup negotiating the bills has included law enforcement since the beginning of this term. Mr. Callton said law enforcement opposition is what killed the bill in the final days of lame duck last term.

"They were more cooperative to come in because of the real possibility of legalization. They saw it happen in Colorado; they saw it happen in Washington; and they started saying, 'It's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when,'" he said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } (R-Grand Ledge), chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said he expects to take up and report the legislation. But he said he did not support reducing the excise tax to 3 percent from 8 percent.

"I think that was a mistake and we'll revisit that ... because there has to be enough money to make everything work right," he said. "I'm going to make sure that Michigan State Police, the sheriffs and the prosecutors are on board, so I may have to tighten it up a little bit, but I do anticipate passing the bills."

Mr. Callton said legislative Democrats wanted to see the tax reduced. He said the fee to get a medical marijuana card has produced excess revenue for the state and he believes the tax would "more than" pay for the regulations.

Under the bill, the excise tax would disappear if medical marijuana is legalized. Mr. Callton said if the drug is legalized in the state, he would like to see medical marijuana go tax free.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=274601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=274601&locid=1) } (D-Ann Arbor), who did not support the 8 percent excise tax, voted yes on the bills Wednesday. He said they were imperfect, but workable.

The legislation stipulates LARA would be tasked with promulgating rules to implement and enforce the act. The department would also set certain standards, including the minimum levels of insurance operators must carry and testing, qualifications and limits for those who operate facilities.


The bill also would regulate quality, chain of custody, chemical storage, transport and storage. A five-member board would also be created to deal with licensing.

HB 4209 would restrict marketing geared toward minors and, under an amendment approved Wednesday, would bar edible marijuana products from taking a shape that would be attractive to minors.

HB 4210 would allow use of non-smokeable forms of the drug, but would prohibit butane extraction in a residential area.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1) } (R-Alto), sponsor of the bill, said the package is not about whether someone is for or against marijuana or even medical marijuana. She said it is about getting the most effective form of treatment to patients, especially children and elderly who likely cannot smoke.

"This is not a criminal justice issue, this is a health issue, and even more it's a moral issue," she said on the House floor. "Put yourself in these peoples' place. What would you do if it was your child?"

The third and final bill in the package, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482701"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482701) } , which passed 99-7, would create a seed-to-sale tracking system.

The Michigan Cannabis Development Association praised the passage of the legislation, calling it a historic step toward protecting patients and providing a clear framework for businesses.

"Michigan businesses committed to serving our patients and upholding the highest standards applaud the House for ending seven years of chaos and confusion that have affected patients, caregivers, local communities and law enforcement," Willie Rochon, MCDA secretary, said in a statement. "Michigan is now in position to have one of the strongest, most responsible medical

marijuana frameworks in the nation that will promote accountability, transparency and safety. Once signed into law, these safeguards will provide tremendous relief and certainty to patients while eliminating the bad actors who put people and communities at risk."

Mr. Callton said he has been working on the issue for four and a half years and feels good about its passage.

"It's a step toward acceptance of medical marijuana for certain classes of patients," he said.

Mr. Callton also noted the issue has brought both libertarians and liberals together. He said those who have committed against new taxes voted yes on the medical marijuana legislation, including the tax. He said Democrats lobbied for a decrease in the excise tax.

"We saw a lot of things flipped on their head here," he said.

### Forfeiture Changes Clear Senate

The Senate unanimously on Wednesday passed a package of bills overhauling how law enforcement uses civil asset forfeiture support.

The forfeiture legislation ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB449901" }

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450001" }

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450301" }

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and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450701" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\_id=541630103" }) was last taken up at the end of August in the Senate Judiciary Committee (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\_id=541630103" }) but saw few changes.

The bills impose reporting requirements on law enforcement agencies for all forfeitures to increase transparency and raise the evidentiary standard for drug forfeiture and public nuisances from the current "preponderance of evidence" to "clear and convincing."

Holly Harris, executive director for Fix Forfeiture - a coalition that includes the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan and Americans for Tax Reform, among others - applauded the passage of the legislation that will now head to { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } for his signature.

"It is said that sunshine is the best disinfectant and today the Michigan Senate put a bright light on their state's civil asset forfeiture procedure, which will go a long way in protecting innocent property owners," she said in a statement. "Now the state will have a uniform reporting system, bringing transparency and ultimately fairness to the process."

And Jason Pye, director of justice reform at FreedomWorks and partner with Fix Forfeiture, said in a statement that the package was "grounded in common sense."

"The reforms will offer significant protections to innocent property owners from government overreach and bring much-needed transparency to the process," he said.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1) } (R-Grand Ledge), chair of Judiciary, said he will continue to work on the issue as supporters say more reforms need to be made to asset forfeiture laws. And he defended law enforcement, which came under heavy criticism for abusing the civil asset forfeiture process.

"I think if they're given adequate direction, they will do their job appropriately," he said.

Mr. Jones also brushed off criticism that the police just have a profit motive.

"It's always easy to throw rocks at law enforcement. You could say they're writing too many tickets because there's a profit motive," Mr. Jones said. "I think for the most part, the average police officer or sheriff deputy wants to go out and do their job to the best of their ability, and they're not in it for profit."

**MCOLAS:** The chamber also passed a package of bills codifying the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLAS), and prescribed the powers and duties of that commission.

All the bills in the package ({ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9201"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9201) }, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9301"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9301) }, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9401"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9401) }, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9501"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9501) } and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9601"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9601) }) saw unanimous approval.

The bills put into statute MCOLAS, created long ago under a governor's executive order, and update and consolidate various statutes and executive orders currently governing their operation.

"The commission ... is responsible for setting professional standards for law enforcement officers, creating curriculum for law enforcement training, licensing law enforcement officers and administering the Justice Training Fund and training to locals fund," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1" } (R-Lawton), the primary sponsor of the package, said on the Senate floor. "Perhaps now more than ever, it is important to ensure that our law enforcement officers are held to the highest standards and that they are qualified for the important work they do."

She also said the legislation would clearly define which individuals with law enforcement authority are licensed and regulated by MCOLES, and it also gives the commission the ability to "hold officers accountable when they violate the public trust."

#### Senate Panel Reports Retired Teacher Legislation

After some initial hesitation about allowing retired teachers with a background in subjects that have a critical teacher shortage to serve as substitutes, the bill cleared the committee with unanimous support and an S-5 substitute.

The substitute to { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB405901" } would re-enact, until July 1, 2018, expired provisions that allowed a public school retiree to work in an area identified as a critical shortage discipline as a substitute teacher, instructional coach or school improvement facilitator without losing his or her pension. Until that time, the reporting unit in a critical shortage area at which a retiree was hired would be required to pay 100 percent of the contribute rates for unfunded actuarial accrued liability for retiree health care and pension for that employment.

In order to be hired back, a person would have to have retired between June 30, 2010, and September 1, 2015. A retired individual (as of after June 30, 2010) who was rehired back and met certain conditions would have to forfeit his or her pension and health care benefits for the entire month in which he or she was re-employed by a reporting unit.

And the Department of Education must post a listing of critical shortage disciplines on its website.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80001&locid=1" } (R-Troy) raised some concern as to why an individual who retired would go back to work, namely on a full-time basis, but a teacher from Saginaw ISD said if there was a need to service multiple schools for one discipline, especially during a time of shrinking budgets for schools, that might be a district's only option.

The S-5 substitute was adopted with unanimous approval, and the bill was reported similarly.

**INTERIM CERTIFICATIONS:** Without any discussion, the committee also reported { HYPERLINK


"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB49101" }<sup>9</sup>

(the S-2 version it had adopted at previous meeting), which allows the board of a school district or ISD to hire a non-certificated, non-endorsed teacher to teach a course in writing, journalism or health sciences, or a course in a discipline designated as a critical shortage discipline.

More specifically, an individual's service as a full-time instructor in a field of specialization at the college level would be considered occupation experience in that field of specialization.

The bill also requires an alternative teaching program, for an interim teaching certificate, to include training in classroom management, and it eliminates the grade point average requirement for those holding a master's or doctorate degree from a regionally accredited college or university in order to receive an interim teaching certificate.


{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1) } (D-Dearborn Heights) registered the sole vote in opposition of the bill.

**HIGH SCHOOL ECONOMICS:** The committee also discussed but did not report a bill ({ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB439001"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB439001) } ) that would allow the half-credit economics requirement for a high school diploma to be satisfied by completion of a one-half credit course in personal economics.

"What I'm seeking to do is not only bring greater awareness for financial literacy, but also to allow more flexibility for our students," said { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353601&locid=1) } (R-Clarkston), sponsor of HB 4390.

Several members of the committee expressed an interest in making such a course a requirement rather than an elective, but Mr. Tedder greeted that idea with caution.

"I think it's critical we allow flexibility," he noted.

**ONLINE PROTECTION:** The committee also began taking testimony on { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB51001"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB51001) } , which would create the Student Online Personal Protection Act to establish certain prohibitions and requirements that would apply to an operator of an Internet website, online service, online application or mobile application with actual knowledge that the site, service or application is used primarily for K-12 purposes.

Such an "operator" would be prohibited from knowingly engaging in certain targeted advertising, using information gathered by the operator to amass a student profile or selling a student's information. They would also be prohibited from knowingly disclosing covered information - or personally identifiable information or material in any media format - unless the disclosure was made for certain purposes.

"My intent is to be able to protect the kids in our educational system. We're gathering more and more data on our kids and I don't think the opportunity to sell this data should be possible," {

HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1>" } (R-St. Clair), the committee chair and sponsor of the bill, said. "We need to make sure this doesn't go too far and become an enterprise."

### Advisory Committee Recommends Returning Flint To Detroit Water

An advisory committee reviewing the water situation in Flint has recommended that the city return to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department as part of an effort to resolve lead and other contamination issues in the city.

In a tweet, { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } said he would make an announcement regarding the Flint water system although he did not offer any detail as to the details of that announcement.

The city moved to taking water from the Flint River last year in an effort to cut costs, but residents initially complained about taste and clarity and recent tests have shown increased blood lead levels in some areas of the city.

"Reconnecting to the Detroit water system is the right next step if it restores confidence among Flint residents about the quality of drinking water. The lead levels reported in Flint's water are unacceptable and Flint residents deserve access to safe water," { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1>" } (D-Flint), a key proponent of returning to Detroit water, said in a statement.

"However, reconnecting to Detroit does not entirely solve the problem," Mr. Kildee said. "The state's previous decision to go to the Flint River source, and the corrosive nature of its water, could have already done permanent damage to the city's water distribution system. Flint's infrastructure, already aging and in need of repair, very well likely needs major investments."

Mr. Walling said last week that returning to Detroit water was on the table as an option, but, given the \$1 million monthly price tag, would likely require state assistance (See { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=541960101](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541960101)" } ).

Mr. Snyder at the time committed to a one-time \$1 million grant, but not to any long-term assistance on the issue.

Michigan Radio quoted members of the advisory panel saying the switch back would take at least two weeks to complete.

### House Appropriations Considers Regulating Large-Scale Dog Breeders

Large-scale dog breeding kennels with 15 intact female dogs used for breeding would be regulated in the state under a bill in the House Appropriations Committee, but members were concerned the \$25 fee in the legislation was not high enough and that breeders would not register with the state.

Under { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB489801](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB489801)" }

large-scale breeders would be required to register with the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and pay a \$25 fee. However, James Averill, state veterinarian, said the fee is not enough for the department to do inspections.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316901&locid=1>" } (R-Bloomfield Hills), sponsor of the bill, said the bill is essentially a consumer protection measure. He said people buy puppies, with cash, for hundreds or thousands of dollars and won't find out until later if there are genetic defects.

"You only have to set one foot in those facilities and you know it's wrong," he said. "There's no gray area that gets in the way of our action. What's happening in those places is disgusting, unethical and inhumane. It has to stop."

The idea is to eventually inspect the facilities, so members wanted to see the fee at least cover that service. Under the current bill, inspections would be complaint-based rather than annual.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1>" } (R-Stevensville), chair of the committee, noted that passing legislation to increase a fee is usually difficult.

He also said in a statement released later that the existence of "puppy mills" is a result of public demand for good family pets, but a lack of oversight and regulation only exacerbates existing problems with overpopulation and conditions for those animals who are not adopted into a loving home.

"We need to think of unadopted or otherwise homeless dogs, cats, or other domestic animals from the perspective of their potential to be a pet in our homes," he said. "The difference between the ones on the streets and the ones in these mills isn't a big one, and the one thing they definitely both have in common is that they're better off in a loving family than in conditions like these. We have a moral imperative to act."

Vicki Deisner, legislative director for the Midwest region with the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said the fee in Ohio is \$100.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276301&locid=1>" } (R-Clayton) said the Legislature had to increase fees for the Agriculture department this budget year because the fees were not covering the services from the department.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=274601&locid=1>" } (D-Ann Arbor) said he thinks the large breeders would simply not register with the state.

The bill does not have an incentive to register with the state, but there is a \$1,000 fee per violation for those are caught not registering, Mr. Averill said.



Currently, the department is neutral on the bill, but those with the department said they are confident they can get to a position of support.

The bill would also require a breeder to wait until a puppy is eight weeks old before adopting it out, or it would be required to adopt it out with the mother. The bill also limits each facility to 50 intact females.

Ms. Deisner said 30 other states regulate large-scale breeders. She said when neighboring states pass large-scale breeding regulations, some breeders who do not want to comply will move to states without the regulations.

"With Michigan now surrounded by states with regulations, you could see an influx of breeders from Ohio and other Midwest states who want to operate without oversight," she said.

She said dogs from large-scale breeders, like one in Lake City, have a variety of problems including behavioral and health issues. At the breeders found and shut down in Lake City, the dogs lived in poor environmental conditions and did not have food or clean water, she said.

The committee did not act on the bill, but will bring it up again next week.

#### Natural Resources Gets Back To Aquatic Invasive Species

A local government would be able to adopt an ordinance to prevent, control or eradicate aquatic invasive species in waters within its boundaries and impose fees if an aquatic invasive species were present in the waters under legislation discussion by the Senate Natural Resources Committee on Wednesday.

The fees collected - which could be for invasive species prevention, control or eradication; using a boat launch or boat washing station; or parking a motor vehicle and trailer used to haul a boat - would be required to be deposited in a restricted fund for expenditure on aquatic invasive species prevention, control and eradication.

And while most who testified on { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10401](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10401)" }<sup>2</sup> were supportive of its provisions, the Department of Natural Resources took no position on the bill as written, stating that while it can appreciate the intent behind the bill, it does not want to discourage boaters from using any of Michigan's numerous inland lakes.

The ordinance could not impose fees totaling more than \$10 per boat per day or \$45 per boat per year, a Senate Fiscal Agency analysis of the bill states. And the ordinance would have to exempt a pesticide applicator, lake management consultant, or other person engaged in aquatic invasive species management activities from payment of a fee, as well as a government entity or a nonprofit organization.

The DNR also had questions about how the bill would be enforced if it did in fact become law.

But members of the Michigan Waterfront Alliance and the Michigan Aquatic Managers Association said something needs to happen sooner rather than later.

"We've been concerned about the members of Michigan living around the lakes having to bear the brunt of the invasive species war," said Bob Frye, president of the group. "It's very challenging when you have a number of public launch sites at our different lakes and the public contributing to the problem, but the public not given a chance to confront the problem."

Questions arose over how much of a fee would be appropriate and in what manner but to no consensus.

The Michigan Townships Association, Michigan Association of Counties and Michigan Municipal League were among supporters of the bill, as was the Michigan Environmental Council (though the latter said more needed to be done to figure out how to get more funds to the table to address the issue overall).

The committee did not report the bill.

**LIQUID INDUSTRIAL BY-PRODUCT:** The committee did, however, report three bills related to changing liquid industrial by-product laws to bring them up to speed with federal laws. S-1 substitutes making mostly technical changes were adopted to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB40001" }<sup>[9]</sup>, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB40101" }<sup>[9]</sup> and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB40201" }<sup>[9]</sup>.

The bills would refer to what is now liquid industrial waste instead as liquid industrial by-product instead, and exclude from the classification of such a material that is used or reused as an ingredient to make a product and meets certain criteria otherwise.

The bills also eliminate a requirement that a generator of liquid industrial by-product use a site identification number when necessary for transportation and pay the Department of Environmental Quality a \$50 fee for deposit into the Environmental Pollution Prevention Fund for each number the generator uses.

SB 400, specifically, also allows required records and documents to be maintained in an electronic format and allows a transporter to dispose of septage waste or liquid industrial by-product on land if authorized by the DEQ.

The department, at the last committee hearing, was in support of the legislation, and the bills were reported Wednesday with unanimous approval.

State Pays DeBoer, Rowse Attorneys \$1.9M

The price of the state of Michigan's defense of its now nullified prohibition on same-sex marriage is \$1.9 million.

On Wednesday, the state completed payment to the attorneys for April DeBoer and Jayne Rowse, the lesbian couple from Hazel Park who challenged the state's limitation of marriage to couples of the opposite sex. The U.S. Supreme Court, ruling on their case and others, struck down such laws and held that gay couples have the right to marry.

The attorneys had filed during the summer for \$1.9 million in attorneys fees. On Wednesday, both the plaintiffs' attorneys and the Department of Attorney General agreed to stipulate in the U.S. District Court that they had agreed to dismiss the motion on attorneys fees.

Carole Stanyar, one of the plaintiffs' attorneys in the case, said the total cost of the case was between \$2 million to \$3 million. They did not bill the state for costs and some attorneys fees. Donors picked up the rest.

Andrea Bitely, spokesperson for the Department of Attorney General, said the department had no comment on resolution of the legal fees matter.

Supporters of allowing same-sex couples to marry had heavily criticized { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } for deciding to defend the state's limitation on marriage in court. Officials in other states decided not to defend their bans.

### Commission Urges Cautious Reaction To Sentencing Guidelines Ruling

The Criminal Justice Policy Commission will study the effects of a recent Supreme Court ruling that makes statutory sentencing guidelines advisory to trial judges, but it urged the Legislature to avoid, at least for now, trying to correct the ruling.

But the commission also recommended that sentencing guidelines be retained as a way to reduce disparities in sentencing.

The commission named making sanctions within the guidelines as one of its three top priorities for the coming months.

The guidelines ruling, in *People v. Lockridge* (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\_id=541480102" } ), was in line with recent U.S. Supreme Court rulings on guidelines, Solicitor General Aaron Lindstrom told the commission. In both rulings, the courts held that the statutory guidelines allowed factors to affect sentencing beyond the facts determined by the jury, which violates the Sixth Amendment right to trial by jury.

The result, Mr. Lindstrom said, was greater disparity in sentencing in federal courts since the first ruling in 2005. But he noted that the departures from the federal guidelines have tended to

be downward, as federal judges rejected some of the lengthy sentences, particularly for drug crimes.

Mr. Lindstrom did not expect as much deviation from the state guidelines, which the Michigan Supreme Court said judges would still have to consider. "I think people have more of a perception that the state guidelines are more where they should be," he said, though he added the burden would be high for a defendant, or a prosecutor, to show that a sentence was improper.

"I don't think that the reasonableness test is going to lead to overturning many decisions," he said.

Though in its second recommendation for Wednesday it urged maintaining guidelines as a way to ensure some consistency in sentencing, the commission still, in its first recommendation, called on the Legislature to do nothing for now. Rather, the commission said it would track sentencing patterns in the wake of the ruling and make future recommendations based on that data.

As part of the commission's charge to review sentencing, members will be working through the recent recommendations from the Council of State Governments to the Law Revision Commission.

Among the first of the seven CSG findings the commission will tackle is that the guidelines should be structured to produce more consistent sentencing.

CSG had recommended that the state narrow the cells in the guidelines to provide more narrow sentencing recommendations based on the score for a particular conviction.

While commission members agreed there was some need for consistency, they also argued for some room for trial judges to make decisions based on the particular case and local conditions.

Tied to that, the commission will be discussing CSG's finding 6, that the state has to monitor sentencing practices.

To do that, commission members said, the state is going to have to provide the commission with some funds for staff.

Several commissioners argued the state also needs to create a new sentencing commission to meet the federal guidelines ruling. "I don't know if the Court of Appeals is going to say our guidelines are reasonable when they haven't been updated since 1998," St. Joseph Circuit Judge Paul Stutesman said.

Barbara Levine said the policy commission was charged with determining whether the guidelines are proper.

Former Sen. Bruce Caswell, chair of the commission, said discussions on funding for the commission were happening behind the scenes, but he urged members to come together on some

of the recommendations that might involve funding quickly if they are to be factored into the 2016-17 budget.

The commission will also be discussing the recommendation that the state concentrate its funding on programs that reduce recidivism.

But that will first require setting a definition for recidivism, Kent County Sheriff Larry Stelma said.

The state also needs to find ways to better track services provided to inmates after they are released. Both Kyle Kaminski with the Department of Corrections and Andrew Verheek with the Michigan Association of Community Corrections Advisory Boards said there currently is little tracking of people who switch between state and county corrections systems.

Mr. Kaminski said the responsibility lies with the counties.

"We're responsible for them while they're placed under our supervision, but they're not our people, they the community's people," he said.

Mr. Verheek said many counties do not have the capacity to collect the data the commission will need.

Sheryl Kubiak, who represents the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence on the commission, said the commission's recommendation also has to touch on implementation of the programs.

"The department and community corrections have looked at the programs and have for the most part tried to bring those programs to Michigan," Ms. Kubiak said. "It's in the implementation. ... It's not just here's an evidence-based program."

**MEETING TIMES:** It was unclear at the end of Wednesday's meeting whether the commission might change its regular meeting times. { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161801&locid=1>" } (D-Highland Park) urged a change to avoid conflicting with Senate session.

Mr. Johnson said he would have liked to comment on some of the commission's recommendations, but had to leave for session before voting began.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1>" } (R-Canton Township), who joined the meeting after session (Mr. Johnson did not return), said the meeting times were fine for him and he would ask to have some committee meetings adjusted to avoid the commission meetings.

Committee Continues Discussion On Safety Flag For Towing Watercraft

The Department of Natural Resources said Wednesday it is neutral on a bill that would require personal watercraft with individuals in tow to display a flag to help others operating vessels in the water know to keep a look out.

The House Regulatory Reform Committee held its second meeting on { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB453401) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB453401" } Wednesday and did not report the legislation.

The department said it was neutral because there are both positives and negatives associated with the legislation.

Trevor VanDyke, legislative liaison with the department, said some believe the bright colored flag will help, while others believe it could actually distract a boater from looking at the water.

Mr. VanDyke also told the committee anyone born in 1996 or after is required to take a boater safety course before operating a vessel.

Nicki Polan, executive director with the Michigan Boating Industry Association, said if passed, the new requirement could deter those interesting in boating from doing so, as it is another regulation.

**MMA AND BOXING REGULATIONS:** The committee also took up a pair of bills regulating professional boxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts or similar "unarmed combat."

The responsibilities of the Michigan Unarmed Combat Commission are revised in { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15201) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15201" }, and that commission, alongside the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, would have jurisdiction over all boxing or MMA contests. The legislation also revises and establishes new regulations concerning the conduct of the events, as well as revises fee amounts for licenses to have such events.

Among the regulations are ensuring a contestant has been drug tested and having an on-site inspector. Women would also be required to submit a negative pregnancy test before competitions.

The committee did not vote on SB 152 or { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15401) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15401" }, but will next week, said { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701&locid=1" } (R-Onekama), chair of the committee.

## PSC Opens Natural Gas Safety Inquiry

As Public Service Commission staff have become aware of a number of gas service lines servicing residential or commercial gas customers connected directly to gas storage field,

transmission pipelines, regulated and unregulated gathering lines, oil and gas wells, and gas processing facilities, the commission has opened an inquiry into gas safety issues.

The inquiry on natural gas distribution utilities, gas gathering or transmission pipeline operators and gas storage system operators seeks to determine three major points:

- The number and locations or residences or other structures receiving gas under the same or similar circumstances as previously outlined;
- The specific type of interconnection and source of gas for each connection to a residence or other structure; and
- The safety equipment currently installed at each connection.

The connections often occur when the pipeline or storage field operator provides natural gas to a property owner in exchange for paying for a right-of-way or easement across the property, the PSC said in a statement, and such facilities may not be compliant with the Michigan Gas Safety Standards.

Providers will have until December 1 to submit their responses to questions in the table in attachment two of the order (case U-17585), and providers that do not have connections as described in the order shall respond by indicating so, the PSC said.

**ALPENA POWER COMPANY:** The PSC on Wednesday also approved a settlement agreement authorizing Alpena Power Company to implement its 2016-17 energy optimization plan resulting in a decrease of 7 cents a month on the bills of residential customers using 500 kilowatt-hours of electricity a month, effective January 2016 (case { [HYPERLINK "http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17770&submit.x=0&submit.y=0"](http://efile.mpsc.state.mi.us/efile/viewcase.php?casenum=17770&submit.x=0&submit.y=0) } \t "blank" } ).

#### Johnson Announces Funds Double Prior Candidates

Lon Johnson, the former Michigan Democratic Party chair running for the 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. House District, announced Wednesday on Twitter that he had raised more than \$350,000 in the most recent quarter.

Mr. Johnson, who is challenging former Kalkaska County Sheriff Jerry Cannon for the Democratic nomination in the seat, posted a graphic that showed Mr. Cannon had raised only \$130,000 during his first quarter as an announced candidate for the 2014 election. For third quarter of 2013, Mr. Cannon reported \$130,390 and reported \$104,495 on hand (See { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=522040102"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=522040102) } ).

The graphic showed Mr. Johnson had also raised more than Gary McDowell in his second bid against { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=246701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=246701&locid=1) } (R-Crystal Falls) in 2012. The graphic showed Mr. McDowell brought in \$156,000 during that first

announced quarter. Mr. McDowell reported raising \$156,674 during third quarter of 2011, with \$154,213 cash on hand (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\_id=502040103" }).

Quarterly reports are due October 15.

#### Former Rep. Dingell To Remain In Hospital For A Little Longer

Former U.S. Rep. John Dingell remained hospitalized Wednesday after undergoing a heart event that physicians told him was not a heart attack.

As usual, Mr. Dingell, the longest-serving member of Congress in American history, leavened the situation with humor on Twitter.

"It wasn't a heart attack, but doctors are recommending I do all I can to try to forget the end of that Lions game," he said. "Here for a few more days."

On Tuesday, upon declaring he was in the hospital, Mr. Dingell lamented, "Being old sucks."

Physicians determined it was not a heart attack after Mr. Dingell underwent an angiogram Wednesday at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=190901&locid=1" } (D-Dearborn), Mr. Dingell's wife, said via her Facebook page that Mr. Dingell would undergo a procedure on Friday "for some new equipment" with the exact kind still under discussion.

"John Dingell is one tough SOB and he said to tell you he is a tough old Pollack who is going to be around to keep rascality under control for awhile more," she said. "He is feisty as ever, asking a ton of questions, with lots advice for everyone including me on what we have to do for the health care system."

#### Court Orders Hearings On Village Military Bias Question

A ruling for Vicksburg that it did not discriminate against a police officer because of his military service was reversed by the 6<sup>th</sup> U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Wednesday and ordered returned for more proceedings.

In making the decision, Judge Raymond Kethledge, joined by Judge Ralph Guy Jr. and Judge Jane Branstetter Stranch, said there was evidence that Vicksburg village officials had acted against David Eichaker because he was active in the military reserves. The court ruled in *Eichaker v. Vicksburg* ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.ca6.uscourts.gov/opinions.pdf/15a0677n-06.pdf" \t "blank" }).

Mr. Eichaker sued the village after he had been denied the post of chief of police, and then the new chief demoted him first from lieutenant to a sergeant and then a patrol officer. Mr. Eichaker



said the factor that seemed to turn the village officials against him was his service in the military reserves which included a tour in Afghanistan.

He sued under the federal Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. The U.S. District Court for Western Michigan granted summary judgment to the village.

But the federal appeals panel held that in looking at the evidence there was ample evidence to suggest that Mr. Eichaker was subjected to bias because of his military activities, including comments made by the village president in a closed meeting to select a new chief, that Mr. Eichaker should not be selected because he had a young family and was focused on his military career.

### Revenue Bulletin Defines Total Household Income, Refers To Same-Sex Couples

A newly released state revenue administrative bulletin defines total household income in relationship to the state's Homestead Property Tax Credit and home heating credit. But the document is one of the first state documents to refer to same-sex couples.

The bulletin, RAB 2015-18, outlines all forms of income received by persons in a household - including wages, salaries, tips, Social Security payments, business income, alimony and prize winnings - and defines what constitutes a household.

Household is defined as a claimant and the claimant's spouse. The bulletin also says the claimant must have resided in the state for at least six months.

The bulletin also said, "The terms spouse, husband and wife include individuals lawfully married to a person of the same sex whether married in Michigan or another state."

The couple has to include all their income if they are required to file joint returns, even if they live separately, and if they live together in the same residence even if they file tax returns separately.

### Capital Notebook: State Has Spent \$4M On Advertising Healthy Michigan

In response to legislation proposed by { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54201) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54201" } (R-Lawton) to prohibit state departments from advertising the Healthy Michigan (expanded Medicaid) program, a spokesperson with the Department of Health and Human Services said the state funded \$2 million in fiscal year 2014 and the same in fiscal year 2015 to advertise the program to "reach and engage target populations so we can improve health outcomes in Michigan."

Ms. Schuitmaker, speaking to Gongwer News Service on Tuesday, said she introduced her legislation, { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54201)

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54201" }<sup>2</sup>, because "the Medicaid expansion surpassed the expectations, and here we are spending more and

more money to get people more and more dependent upon government," she said (See { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=541980111"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541980111) } ).

Although the department did not give a specific statement on the bill itself, it defended its use of appropriated funds for the program that has provided health care to some 600,000 residents as a provision of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

"When we initially rolled out the Healthy Michigan Plan, we knew how important it was to provide residents with clear, consistent information that would make the enrollment process as smooth as possible for applicants," Jennifer Eisner, spokesperson for DHHS, said in a statement to Gongwer. "In talking to our partners, we know that continued public education efforts play a vital role in ensuring eligible residents are not only getting coverage, but also understanding how to use it to improve their health."

Ms. Schuitmaker's bill was sent to the Senate Health Policy Committee.

**VETERANS HOMES:** Leslie Shanlian has been appointed chief executive officer of the Michigan Veteran Health System, which oversees the state's two veterans homes.

Ms. Shanlian, who takes the post October 26, is a licensed nursing home administrator. She was most recently deputy director of the Aging and Adult Services Agency.

"Leslie has a proven track record of serving Michigan's aging residents and their families, and we are excited to have that level of expertise in the Michigan Veteran Health System," Jeff Barnes, director of the Veterans Affairs Agency, which houses the veterans homes, said. "Her leadership during this transition will reinforce MVAA's core values of innovation, inclusion and customer service for the veterans who live in the homes and the staff who provide quality long-term care there."

**CAPITOL MODILLIONS LOTTERY:** The Michigan State Capitol Commission will conduct a lottery giving 100 winners the right to purchase one of the old modillions replaced as part of this year's restoration.

Those wishing to enter the lottery should contact Valerie Marvin at { [HYPERLINK "mailto:vmarvin@legislature.mi.gov"](mailto:vmarvin@legislature.mi.gov) } or by leaving a message at 517-373-2358.

The cost to purchase one of the old modillions is \$100.

Entrants should include their name, preferred phone number, mailing address and e-mail address. Only one entry is allowed per person. Entries will be accepted from Tuesday, October 6, 2015, until midnight Friday, October 16, 2015.

A public drawing will select the 100 winners. It will be held at noon October 19 in Room H-65 of the Capitol. Entrants do not need to be present to win.

Capitol Jobs Marketplace Updated

Gongwer News Service's Capitol Jobs Marketplace page, a feature Gongwer is pleased to offer advertising jobs available around the Capitol, has been updated.

For details on the new job posting and how to have a job from an organization posted, see { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/programming/jobs.cfm" }.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## **Friday, October 16**

**Commission on Services to the Aging, Upper Peninsula Area Agency on Aging, 2501 14th Avenue South, Escanaba, 10 a.m.** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/October\_2015\_CSA\_Agenda.doc" \t "\_blank" })

## **Monday, October 19**

**Crime Victims Services Commission, Third Floor Conference Room, Lewis Cass Building, 320 South Walnut Street, Lansing, 10 a.m.** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/CVSC\_AGENDA\_10-19-15.pdf" \t "\_blank" })

## **Thursday, October 22**

~~Canceled: Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw, Lansing, 1:30 p.m.~~

## **Thursday, October 29**

**Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw, Lansing, 1:30 p.m.**

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

## **Thursday, October 8**

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=93601&locid=1" }  
{ HYPERLINK "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=328" \t "blank" },  
(Chr. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" }, 373-1260), Room 521, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

- **Testimony only:**

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**Tuesday, October 13**

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(Chr. { **HYPERLINK**  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" }, 373-5312),  
Room 210, Farnum Building, 2:30 p.m.

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**Subscribers Please Note**

A story in Monday's Michigan Report contained the incorrect day for the Kent Circuit Court to hear the state's motion for a preliminary injunction against Hewlett Packard regarding the Business Application Modernization project. The hearing is Friday, October 9.

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2015 12:59 AM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Wednesday, October 14, 2015  
**Attachments:** Oct14.htm; Oct14House.htm; Oct14Senate.htm; 151014dayplan.htm



## Michigan Report for Wednesday, October 14, 2015

Tentative Deals Reached On State Employees Contracts

Meekhof Slams Schuette On Presumptive Parole; Snyder Also Jumps In

On Roads, Meekhof, Greimel Trade Barbs As Meeting Canceled

House Approves Nearly \$10M For Flint Water

Third Grade Reading Bill Delayed In House With Votes Short

Kosowski Proposes Sports Gambling For Road Funding

Michigan Chamber, Which Backed Peabody In 2014, Endorses Howell In 82nd

Revenue From Increased Hunting, Licensing Fees Less Than Expected

Civil Rights Could Again Select Former Commissioner

House Panel Considering Regulation Of Charity Bins

Senate Ends Deadline To Petition For DNA Test, Trial

State Unemployment Rate Falls Below National Rate For First Time Since 2000

Bridge Authority Has 6 Potential Bidders

Committee Roundup

Capital Notebook

Appointments By The Governor

Appointments By The Supreme Court

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees



## **Activity Reports**

House

Senate

## **Calendars**

Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #204 -- Wednesday, October 14, 2015

### Tentative Deals Reached On State Employees Contracts

The state has reached tentative agreements with its bargaining units on new contracts for state employees.

Two unions - the Michigan Corrections Organization and the Michigan State Employees Association - confirmed Wednesday the major aspects of the tentative deals between the state and their unions: a one-year contract for wages and health care starting October 1, 2016, that provides a 1 percent base wage increase, and 1.5 percent lump sum payment for employees in October 2016.

Sources told Gongwer News Service the same provisions apply to tentative agreements between the state and other unions representing state employees.

The Service Employees International Union 517M also announced a tentative agreement but did not publicly offer details.

Officials with the United Auto Workers Local 6000, the state's largest employee union, did not return calls for comment.

"While this agreement isn't perfect, it maintains key pieces of our contract that members said were very important to them, such as their health care costs," MCO President Tom Tylutki said in a statement. "Our negotiations centered on the issues members told us were important. Health care is their number one concern."

The agreements are merely tentative and still require ratification from union members as well as approval from the Civil Service Commission.

But presuming union members ratify them, it will set one key piece of the upcoming 2016-17 fiscal year budget.

Other portions of the contracts would last the traditional three years. However, the Office of State Employer pushed for a one-year deal on the wages and health care components out of concern about what will happen with the federal excise tax on premium health care plans, MCO said in a bulletin to its members.

That is the so-called Cadillac tax in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Under that law, starting with the 2018 tax year, if the aggregate cost of the health care coverage an employer provides exceeds a statutory dollar limit, then the excess is subject to a 40 percent excise tax.

The idea behind the tax was to reduce health care spending. But it is providing a rare point of agreement between Democratic supporters of the law and Republicans who have long called for the Affordable Care Act's repeal. Unions and Democrats have said the tax should be repealed, as have Republicans and business groups, but it is unclear what will happen.

A spokesperson for the Office of the State Employer declined to comment.

Meekhof Slams Schuette On Presumptive Parole; Snyder Also Jumps In

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1) } faced heat from Senate { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1) } Wednesday regarding legislation pending in the Senate on presumptive parole, and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) } also defended the legislation.

In the past week, Mr. Schuette has launched a campaign-style assault on the legislation, referring to it as "early" release, "catch and release" and "autopilot parole." Supporters of the bill have said he is just totally wrong in his characterization of the bills.

"He's been out there on a limb on this, throwing out a direct line and saying stuff like it's anti-cop, which was over the top, and he and I had that discussion yesterday," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) said of Mr. Schuette. "He's certainly within his right to comment on public policy. (But) he doesn't make public policy, he just follows what we do."

Still, Mr. Schuette's fusillade against the legislation may be having an impact. Mr. Meekhof said his caucus is voicing considerable concern about it.

Mr. Schuette has been relentless on the issue. Last week, on WKAR's "Off the Record," he said { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413801"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413801) } was "elitist" because those who live in nicer areas would have fewer worries about criminals being released back into society (See { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542010105"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542010105) }). And his Twitter account gives updates seemingly every hour or two about "autopilot parole" and examples of parolees re-offending once released.

"Public safety is the first responsibility of government. Autopilot release of violent offenders is bad for our neighborhoods, cities and small towns," he said Tuesday in a joint statement with Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton, his Democratic opponent in 2010 for attorney general. "We cannot build a better, stronger, safer Michigan if our public safety is threatened."

Mr. Schuette and Mr. Meekhof are also potential rivals for the Republican gubernatorial nomination in 2018 when Mr. Snyder cannot seek re-election.

Asked if he told Mr. Schuette to keep his nose out of the matter, Mr. Meekhof responded, "I said it was probably not a wise idea to talk the way he talked about the caucus on the other side. He said he'd take that under advisement."

Mr. Meekhof said he was unsure whether Mr. Schuette had apologized to the House members who drafted and supported HB 4138, which passed the House earlier this month 67-39 and currently sits in the Senate Government Operations Committee chaired by Mr. Meekhof.

"But he probably ought to think about how he treats everybody in general, and if he really wants to get public policy done, the best effort would be to work with people," Mr. Meekhof said.

Schuette spokesperson Andrea Bitely declined to comment on Mr. Meekhof's comments.

In addition to comments by Mr. Meekhof, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) } expressed support of the measure in prepared remarks. This came a day after House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1) } (R-Mount Pleasant) also felt compelled to defend the legislation against Mr. Schuette's criticism.

"Michigan needs a smarter criminal justice system that doesn't simply punish people who commit crimes, but frees up resources that can instead be used on effective efforts to reduce criminal activity and make our communities safer," Mr. Snyder said. "House Bill 4138 creates consistency in parole decisions for low-risk offenders by ensuring that they are all subject to the same standards when being considered for parole."

Mr. Snyder also noted the long-term impact of the change could be housing about 3,600 fewer low-risk felons in state prisons a decade from now, freeing up some \$80 million "that can be reinvested in preventing crime rather than continuing to keep low-risk offenders behind bars after they have served their minimum sentence."

HB 4138 currently awaits action in the Senate Government Operations Committee, chaired by Mr. Meekhof, who said he had a "healthy discussion" with his caucus on the matter on Wednesday.

"We're looking at this presumptive parole along with some other corrections reform. Senator Proos has some great ideas that we're probably going to combine with it and come up with a better package," he said.

But Mr. Meekhof also admitted that there was "a lot of concern" among his caucus members, especially since the issue has always started in the House, even last term.

"They needed a lot of information to even understand the terms that were being talked about because we really haven't studied this at all in our caucus," he said.

Given the expectation that { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1) } (R-St. Joseph)

would lead on another package of corrections reform, Mr. Meekhof said it would be "a little while" before there would be any action on the issue in the Senate, though specifics beyond that were not discussed.

### On Roads, Meekhof, Greimel Trade Barbs As Meeting Canceled

Wednesday was meant to be a cooling off day following Tuesday's impasse on talks to generate \$1.2 billion in new funds for roads, but instead the disputes continued.

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1>" } (R-West Olive) said he was surprised at remarks by House { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1>" } (D-Auburn Hills) on road funding talks and how a proposal that the Legislative Quadrant may have on the table is insufficient.

The problem continues to be whether and how to provide income tax relief as a sweetener to an expected gasoline tax increase (See { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542030101](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542030101)" }).

"He sat in the same room, saw the same spreadsheets I did and understood that the way we're doing it by the redirection of revenue going a little bit at a time and tax rollback only when there is over-the-top revenue," Mr. Meekhof said midday Wednesday. "He saw that it worked, so I'm not quite sure where he's coming up with his assertion that it's cutting anything."

The quadrant meeting scheduled for noon was canceled. Snyder press secretary Sara Wurfel said it was too soon on the heels of Tuesday's meeting, after which Mr. Snyder declared the talks at an impasse. But Ms. Wurfel said Mr. Snyder would continue talking to leaders on the issue.

Mr. Meekhof said the rollback has been on the table the whole time, "and now at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour (Mr. Greimel) wants it removed," Mr. Meekhof said. "I'm not going to remove it."

The income tax rollback passed by the Senate helped to garner some Republican votes for the meat of the legislation that seeks, in part, a gas tax hike. The Senate plan is complicated, only allowing a reduction in the tax if revenues grow and putting no bottom on how far the income tax rate could fall.

"The only dispute is, is it the rate of inflation or a little bit more than the rate of inflation?" Mr. Meekhof said of the rollback likely to be included in a final deal on road funding. "But it's the same mechanics."

Asked if he felt as though Mr. Greimel's concerns were "coming out of nowhere," Mr. Meekhof said the first he had heard of such a concern came Tuesday. But he said the Senate stands ready and willing to work on a plan.

"We sent over a plan with an income tax rollback, specifically protecting the things we think are important, and dedicating money towards roads. I think that was a good plan," he said.

Mr. Meekhof said Mr. Greimel ought to "find a way to compromise with Speaker Cotter and get it done."

But Mr. Meekhof wouldn't go so far as to say that if a roads solution doesn't get done soon that it would be solely Mr. Greimel's fault. Pointing fingers, he said, doesn't solve the problem.

"We're trying to solve the problem, and throwing mud around isn't going to make it better or give us a better opportunity to do it," he said.

Greimel spokesperson Katie Carey said Mr. Greimel was disappointed when the governor canceled the quadrant meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday.

On Mr. Meekhof's comments, Ms. Carey said: "We respectfully disagree with the Senate majority leader. We were always concerned with the hit to the General Fund."

Ms. Carey noted public schools, safety and other Democratic priorities are funded through the General Fund.

She also said an income tax cut is going to help the wealthier residents of the state.

"It is not going to help low-income Michiganders," she said.

She also said the Democrats are trying to find a roads solution that focuses mostly on roads.

"We want something that is more concrete that will be a long-term financially sustainable solution to fix the roads," she said.

Cotter spokesperson Gideon D'Assandro said Mr. Cotter and Mr. Snyder met Wednesday and discussed goals on the issue moving forward. Mr. Cotter remains hopeful talks will resume, Mr. D'Assandro said.

#### House Approves Nearly \$10M For Flint Water

The House unanimously voted Wednesday evening to approve \$9.35 million to return Flint to the Detroit water system and pay for additional state staff in the city's schools to gauge exposure to lead, handle evaluation and protocols on drinking water and to assist with plumbing engineers.

{ [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201)" }  
passed the House 105-0.

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1>" } (D-Flint) said

in a statement he attended House session Wednesday and told them the importance of passing the legislation.

"The people of Flint have the same right to clean, safe drinking water as residents in every district," he said. "I appreciate my colleagues on both sides of the aisle recognizing this and moving swiftly to secure resources. This is an important step necessary to fix the current crisis, and once this is complete, it's important that our next priority is getting to the bottom of how this happened. We need to make sure this never happens again."

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } last week called for state funds to be used return to drawing water from the Detroit system and ending a disastrous move to pull water for the city from the Flint River and to pay for additional state staffers from the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs working in the city.

The supplemental appropriations allocates \$6 million to get the city back on Detroit's water system; \$300,000 for DEQ's drinking water and environmental health services; \$1 million for DEQ's laboratory services; \$1 million for DHHS emergency services to purchase and distribute water to Flint residents; \$850,000 for follow up services for children, including testing lead levels and care for those with abnormal levels; and \$200,000 for plumbing inspections.

Of the \$9.35 million allocated, \$7.15 million is from the General Fund.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1>" }, chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said he was pleased to see a unanimous vote for the bill.

"There is a time in this Legislature that we have to have statesmanship and stateswomanship and this was one of those times. This is a public health emergency in Flint," he said.

Mr. Pscholka said some members speculated whether the funds should come from the Budget Stabilization Fund, but said that was not necessary.

"We are in a fiscal position in order to handle something like this," he said.

Insufficient corrosion controls for water drawn from the river, which is inherently more corrosive than water drawn from Lake Huron, where the Detroit system draws its water, caused lead from the city's old service lines to leach into the water, leading to lead levels in the water exceeding the federal standard to trigger remediation and to elevated lead levels in the blood of some Flint children.

The \$6 million will go toward a contract between the city and the Detroit system to pay for water service until next summer when a new regional pipeline to Lake Huron is expected to be completed. The Mott Foundation is putting up \$4 million and the city of Flint the remaining \$2 million.

**PRESCRIPTION DRUGS:** The House unanimously passed { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB484301" } Wednesday, which would protect minors seeking medical treatment, or helping a minor seek medical treatment, for an overdose or other drug-related illness or injury from possession charges.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" } (R-Stevensville) introduced the bill in response to the loss of Mason Mizwicki, a Watervliet teenager whose mother, Lori Mizwicki, has been an advocate for greater awareness of the prescription drug problem.

"Even taking up the legislation has helped to start much-needed conversations about the problem," he said in a statement. "It's not isolated to one town or one portion of the state. This can happen to any teen, anywhere. We have to keep a spotlight on the issue."

The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration.

### Third Grade Reading Bill Delayed In House With Votes Short

The House spent nearly 7 hours Wednesday attempting to gather enough votes to pass a bill designed to get third grade students reading proficiently, but eventually called it quits with a positive outlook on the bill's chances Thursday.

"Very definitely," said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" } (R-Park Township), sponsor of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482201" } when asked if she thought the bill would pass Thursday.

"We're working really hard and a lot of our members had questions today, so we are in the process of answering a lot of those tomorrow," she told reporters after the long session.

Indeed, Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1" } (R-Mount Pleasant), had earlier told reporters the questions coming from members were overwhelming and needed more time to be properly answered.

Both Democratic and Republican House members were in and out of the chamber on Wednesday, clearly attempting to come to some kind of agreement on the bill.

At about 7:30 p.m. the Democrats went into caucus, when they returned to session the House voted on the Flint water fix and then adjourned shortly after.

Ms. Price said it is hard to say what kind of changes might be made to the bill before final passage.



She said members didn't understand how much interaction there would be with the child once they have been identified as having a reading deficiency.

Ms. Price also said some members were concerned because students who were making progress in reading should be promoted from third grade.

"But if you are in third grade and you're still reading at first grade level and you've made progress since the beginning of first grade, is that enough progress?" She said. "You still need to, when you get into fourth grade, be able to read to learn. And if you're not there yet, it's going to be more difficult."

Katie Carey, spokesperson for House Democrats, agreed that there are a lot of questions and concerns from members. She said she is hopeful the chamber can come up with the votes to pass the bill Thursday.

Ms. Carey said Democratic members are looking for some changes in the retention piece of the bill and parental involvement.

"In the end we all have the same goal for this legislation. It's just a matter of how do you get there and what those look like," she said.

The bill, as reported from committee, would retain some third-graders who are reading more than a grade level behind, but it also provides for many intervention services before the third grade assessment and outlines "good cause" exemptions.

Similar legislation was controversial last term and was never able to be voted on by the full House.

#### Kosowski Proposes Sports Gambling For Road Funding

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=312601&locid=1>" } on Wednesday told the House Regulatory Reform Committee one way to get more funding for the state's roads and bridges is to legalize sports gambling and simulcasting horse races at casinos in the state.

{ HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB446901](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB446901)" } and { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB447001](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB447001)" } would allow casinos to accept wagers on sporting events, remove the current prohibition on televising simulcast horse races at casinos and allow for wagers on the races as well.

Mr. Kosowski (D-Westland) said he would be open to expanding the bill to horse racing tracks in the state.

To actually become law, the bills have several obstacles to overcome. First, a two-thirds majority is needed from both chambers and would need voter approval during the general election. Additionally, a federal court found that New Jersey's efforts to legalize sports betting violated federal law.

But Mr. Kosowski said the court is going to re-hear the case and there is a chance the original decision would be overturned.

"There are bookies everywhere. We all know this. Why not regulate it?" Mr. Kosowski said.

Originally, Mr. Kosowski intended to use the legislation to get more road funding. But he said as he has done more research, he would like some of the revenue generated to go to the race tracks in the state, and some funds to go to gambling addiction treatment and prevention.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701&locid=1" } (R-Onekama), chair of the committee, asked Mr. Kosowski what kind of support he had for the bill, noting that he didn't have any co-sponsors. Mr. Kosowski said he doesn't ask for co-sponsors and he believes the support is there.

Joe Asher, CEO of William Hill U.S., a bookmaking company, told the committee regulating the business is best.

Mr. Asher said suspicious activity can be reported and investigated in real time. And, he said, since it is the company's money being used there is incentive to call and report such activity.

"Oversight and protection do not occur in Michigan, however, because the illegal operators ...exist, and are not regulated," he said.

Mr. Asher said if casinos outsource the bookmaking there is little risk to them because companies such as his often front the cost.

He also said there may be losing days or weeks in the business, but there are very few losing months.

George Kutlenios, president of the Michigan Horseman's Benevolent and Protective Association, told the committee in June 2014 that Michigan thoroughbred horses returned to the Hazel Park raceway and saw 10,000 fans. He said attendance on regular days has consistently averaged 6,000 people.

Mr. Kutlenios said he appreciates the bill but would like to see a provision creating a relationship between any venue wishing to simulcast thoroughbred racing and a licensed state track to "ensure sustainability and quality of Michigan thoroughbred racing, and the resulting support to the state's agricultural industry can continue."

**MMA AND BOXING REGULATIONS:** The committee did report { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15201" }<sup>[9]</sup>

and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15401" }<sup>[a]</sup>  
regulating professional boxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts or similar "unarmed combat."

The responsibilities of the Michigan Unarmed Combat Commission are outlined in SB 152, and that commission, alongside the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, would have jurisdiction over all boxing or MMA contests. The legislation also revises and establishes new regulations concerning the conduct of the events, as well as revises fee amounts for licenses to have such events.

Among the regulations are ensuring a contestant has been drug tested and having an on-site inspector. Women would also be required to submit a negative pregnancy test before competitions.

Michigan Chamber, Which Backed Peabody In 2014, Endorses Howell In 82nd

The Michigan Chamber announced on Wednesday its endorsement of Republicans Mary Whiteford in the 80<sup>th</sup> House District and Gary Howell in the 82<sup>nd</sup> House District, where former Reps. Cindy Gamrat and Todd Courser are running for re-election, respectively.

Mary Whiteford of Casco Township lost to Ms. Gamrat (R-Plainwell) in the 2014 Republican primary for the seat. Ms. Gamrat was expelled from the House last month but has said the voters deserve a voice in the process and is attempting to win her job back.

"Mary Whiteford will be a strong supporter of job creation and economic growth and we are pleased to endorse her in this special election," said Michigan Chamber President and CEO Rich Studley, in a statement. "The residents of Allegan County deserve better representation. We believe Whiteford possesses the experience and strength of character necessary to serve the 80th House District well."

Ms. Whiteford also has the endorsement of the Great Lakes Education Project and the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce political action committee.

Mr. Howell of North Branch is the Lapeer County Intermediate School District president and is taking on 11 other candidates in the 82<sup>nd</sup> District primary, including Mr. Courser (R-Lapeer), who resigned before he was able to be expelled from the House.

"Gary Howell understands the importance of pursuing policies based on individual freedom, incentive and opportunity to keep Michigan moving forward," said Jim Holcomb, senior vice president and general counsel for the Michigan Chamber, in a statement. "If elected, Howell will provide the residents of Lapeer County with the effective representation they deserve."

Endorsements in the 82<sup>nd</sup> District are split up more than in the 80<sup>th</sup> District. Former Rep. Kevin Daley has endorsed Chris Tuski of Lapeer, who is a farmer and volunteer firefighter. And GLEP has endorsed Jan Peabody of Lapeer, who lost in the 2014 primary to Mr. Courser.

In the 2014 Republican primary, the state Chamber endorsed Ms. Peabody. It did not endorse in the 80<sup>th</sup>.

The November 3 special election primary comes as Ms. Gamrat and Mr. Courser were participating in an extramarital affair together while serving in the House. An internal House Business Office investigation then found the two were misusing state resources to attempt personal and political gains.

#### Revenue From Increased Hunting, Licensing Fees Less Than Expected

Revenue generated from the increase in hunting and fishing license fees is about \$5 million less than expected, Department of Natural Resources { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=302901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=302901&locid=1) } told the House Appropriations Committee on Wednesday.

Mr. Creagh said the department expected \$18 million from the change in fees in the 2014-15 fiscal year, but only saw \$13 million. And in the 2013-14 fiscal year, which included seven months of the new fee structure, the department expected \$11.8 million in new revenue, but only received \$7.8 million.


Austin Scott, the House Fiscal Agency analyst for the DNR, said he expects to receive more revenue numbers for the fiscal year that ended two weeks ago.

Mr. Creagh said the changes in fees also changed buying patterns, as the licenses are shorter term rather than annual. He also said the increase in the out-of-state licenses has affected those hunters coming into the state.

A non-resident hunter must purchase a \$150 base license and then purchase additional licenses for the species they wish to hunt, which range from \$8 to \$25. Out-of-state fishing licenses also increased from \$42 to \$67.

But, Mr. Creagh told the committee, the state is not out of line in its fees compared to neighboring states, and the fees are a bargain compared to states out west.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316901&locid=1) } (R-Bloomfield Hills) said many groups encouraged the increase in fees when the Legislature began considering them and noted it may simply take time for the increases to set in.

**LANDFILL ODOR VIOLATIONS:** The committee reported { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB478301"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB478301) } , which would increase penalties under Michigan's waste management laws for first and second violations of the law from \$10,000 and \$25,000 each day, to \$25,000 and \$75,000, respectively.

The bill cleared the committee 25-0, with { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322301&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322301&locid=1) } (D-East Lansing) and { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=248901&locid=1>" } (D-Sterling Heights) abstaining.

Mr. Yanez said he abstained from voting because the Department of Environmental Quality is working on updating the waste management laws and an additional series of bills could come up.

And { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1>" } (R-Stevensville), chair of the committee, said he looks forward to working with Mr. Yanez on the issue, because he does not believe the bill increasing the fees will be the last piece of legislation on the issue.

The Michigan Waste and Recycling Association was opposed to the bill, saying it would increase the fines for all firms and all violations, including compost facilities and municipal properties.

Mr. Pscholka, however, said the fines have not been increased since 1987.

"This is not out of the ordinary," he said. "This is something we should have been doing all along."

Mr. Pscholka introduced the bill in response to ongoing odor issues and a citation by the DEQ for inadequate daily cover by the Orchard Hill Landfill in Southwest Michigan.

"Let's go have a barbeque in one of these neighborhoods," he said in a statement. "You have to have a real sense of what it is like to have this in your backyard, for years. If you're not willing to put a little more pressure on these bad actors, you're saying you'd be willing to put a down payment on a house here."

#### Civil Rights Could Again Select Former Commissioner

The Department of Civil Rights could potentially have three of its four most recent directors also be members of the commission that heads it.

Among the three candidates to be interviewed to succeed retiring { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=350501&locid=1>" } is Agustin Arbulu, who succeeded Mr. Wesaw on the commission in January 2013. He left the commission earlier this month and has yet to be replaced.

Mr. Arbulu is president of Metro Care Services, which provides health care and legal consulting in the Detroit area.

The other Michigan candidate is Portia Roberson, who is group executive for ethics and civil rights for the city of Detroit. Ms. Roberson was among those interviewed when Mr. Wesaw was hired and was discussed as a Democratic candidate for attorney general for the 2014 election.

And Akia Haynes is deputy director and general counsel for the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, where she has served since January 2013. She has also served as a deputy attorney general for the state, as well as a private practice attorney.

Mr. Wesaw had been a member of the commission, and so had been Kelvin Scott, who served as director from February 2009 to February 2010 when he died. Both had served as chair of the commission.

## House Panel Considering Regulation Of Charity Bins

What { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1" }, chair of the House Local Government Committee, had thought would be a brief discussion turned contentious as local government groups raised concerns over his legislation to regulate charity donation bins.

All agreed the 6<sup>th</sup> U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals was clear that the bins could not be prohibited (the court found they were charity speech and so protected under the First Amendment), but locals wanted to retain the right to oversee their location and maintenance.

Mr. Chatfield (R-Levering) said the goal of his bills ({ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB486201" }

and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB486301" }

) is to unify regulation of the bins, which allow people to leave clothing, books and other materials for the charity listed on the side.

Local governments had tried to ban the bins, arguing, as some still did Wednesday, that they attract not only legitimate donations but also trash dumping.

Suzanne Schultz, managing director of design, development and community engagement for the city of Grand Rapids, brought pictures of bins overflowing with various materials.

Ms. Schultz said allowing cities to control the locations through zoning would help, but she said communities needed to be able to issue civil infractions for bins that become a nuisance.

"Courts are not going to take this up if it's misdemeanors," she said, echoing others who had argued the penalties as laid out in the legislation would be too costly to enforce.

But Judy Allen with the Michigan Townships Association said limiting the location regulation to zoning would limit townships' ability to regulate the locations because of their lesser planning powers, and it could potentially leave some bins unregulated.

"Everyone who has a bin, they would be grandfathered in and be a nonconforming use," she said.

She also joined others in urging against a cap on the annual licensing fee. The bill provides for no more than \$75, but since local governments cannot charge more than their costs anyway, she said taxpayers would have to subsidize the system if costs rise above that cap.

Mr. Chatfield said his goal with the bill was to create a system and uniformity across the state. But he also said the bills would allow communities to do some of the things their representatives had asked.

"If the bill doesn't prohibit it, there will be more things locals will be able to do," he said.

Officials with Planet Aid, which had been the defendant in the federal lawsuit, said the bill would allow their operations but would help to weed out those not caring for their bins.

Kai Nelson said his group checks its bins once a week and has systems in place to allow response within 24 hours if there is a problem reported.

But he said local government groups' call for agreements between the charity and the property owner are not necessarily workable. He said in many cases the properties where the group places collection boxes have absentee or corporate owners and a local property manager is the right person to make the agreement.

Mr. Nelson said the company would be open to provisions that would require even its existing boxes to be licensed and, if they do not meet siting requirements, moved. He said the company has already done that in some locales that have adopted regulatory ordinances.

Mr. Chatfield said he would continue to work with all of the parties to meet their concerns in the legislation.

**TAX CAPTURE:** In what was intended to be the primary focus of the meeting, libraries said any changes to tax increment financing authority laws have to allow them more say in captured taxes.

And Eric Luper with the Citizens Research Council said the state needs to place more limits on the authorities.

"Libraries are having to return for more millages in the future when their revenues are being captured by tax increment finance authorities," Lance Werner with the Kent District Library, speaking for the Michigan Library Association, said. "We're living within our means but our means are being siphoned away."

He noted, for instance, that the Litchfield library loses 47 percent of its funds to tax capture.

Mr. Werner said the libraries did not object to all tax capture authorities, but they should be given more power to choose which ones are appropriate to get library revenue. Current law, he said, allows them to accept all or reject all.

"We want to work with the tax captures ... so we can explain to our investors where our money is going," he said.

He said libraries should also be permitted to opt-in for all authorities. He said some provide for library revenue to automatically be captured and require the libraries to opt out.

Mr. Lupher said future authorities need to be given a limited time to operate. While courts have ruled that tax capture for economic development is constitutional, he said TIFAs have morphed into something that might not be.


"They're being used for police and fire; they're being used for street fairs," he said.

And he said they are being routinely renewed instead of expiring when an intended project is completed.

"There should be some finality to this," he said, adding that in many cases there is also less accountability for the funds.

"Those revenues have just been pushed off budget and you don't hear about it," he said.

Mr. Lupher, pointing to issues raised with recent millages to support the Detroit Zoo and Detroit Institute of Arts, said existing authorities also should be limited to capturing the taxes that are in existence when the authority is created. To capture any new taxes should require creation of a new authority, he said.

**REWARDS:** The committee also began discussions on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB429201" } , which would allow county commissions to approve up to \$20,000 for rewards leading to arrests for certain crimes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=321001&locid=1" } (R-Mason), sponsor of the bill, said in a recent incident where an Ingham County sheriff deputy was killed during a chase, the county was limited to offering \$2,000 for information on the suspect, who had fled.

He said that limit was set in 1948.

"This money falls more in line with what the value of money is today," Mr. Cochran said of the bill. "This is a little more enticing to have people come forward."

Mr. Chatfield questioned whether the bill, which addresses only counties, should be expanded to cover other local governments under the same theory.

Senate Ends Deadline To Petition For DNA Test, Trial



The Senate voted unanimously Wednesday to eliminate the deadline in the law for a defendant convicted of a felony at trial, serving prison for that felony, to petition the court for DNA testing of biological material identified during an investigation that led to his or her conviction.

Those convicted of felonies may also request a new trial based on the results of that testing under { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15101" }<sup>[9]</sup>. Currently, such a petition must be filed by January 1, 2016.

Only Michigan and Louisiana currently have sunsets on such provisions.

**FIREFIGHTER CERTIFICATION:** The Senate also approved { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB37201" }<sup>[9]</sup>, which provides firefighter certification reciprocity with states that have the same certification as Michigan. The bill requires the state fire marshal to extend reciprocity certification to a firefighter from another state who seeks to work as a firefighter in Michigan as long as the individual was certified in another state after completing a program that meets or exceeds Michigan's standards.

"I have heard from many fire chiefs and local officials about how difficult and expensive it is to recruit and retain firemen in our local fire departments," { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201&locid=1" } (R-Ida), sponsor of the bill, said in a statement. "Part of the problem is that Michigan currently does not recognize out-of-state firefighter certification. This legislation will improve our local fire departments ability to protect families and staff their departments at appropriate levels."

State Unemployment Rate Falls Below National Rate For First Time Since 2000

News that Michigan's unemployment rate fell to 5 percent in September, putting it below the national unemployment rate for the first time in 15 years, brought plenty of cheers Wednesday.

The national unemployment rate in September was 5.1 percent.

"We need to stay focused on our goal, but it also is important to look back to see how far we've come. Michigan's unemployment rate was once the worst in the United States," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } said in a statement. "Today we are below the national average for the first time since August 2000. This means more people in Michigan are able to use their skills and are finding fulfilling jobs to support themselves and their families, making our cities and our communities stronger in a variety of ways."

Mr. Snyder posted a photo of him from 2000 on his Twitter feed with much less gray hair and a beard to commemorate the occasion.

Employment rose for the month by 10,000, and the labor force was up, too, by 3,000.

In the past year, the unemployment rate has fallen from 6.7 percent, and employment is up by 68,000.

"Since early 2015, several key labor market indicators have shown improvement in Michigan and in the nation," Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, said in a statement. "Monthly unemployment rates in the state and nation have been comparable, as have over-the-year payroll job growth rates."

### Bridge Authority Has 6 Potential Bidders

The Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority announced Wednesday that six companies had responded to its request for qualifications to build the Gordie Howe International Bridge.

The authority is now submitting the qualifications to a review panel of authority members and experts to determine the three most qualified potential bidders.

"The private sector has shown a vibrant interest in working on the Gordie Howe International Bridge project, between this RFP, the responses we received to our recent RFP for early works, as well as the recently-held Industry Days," Mark McQueen, chair of the authority's board of directors, said in a statement. "Although site preparation has already begun for the eventual construction of the new Canadian Customs plaza, businesses and travelers on both sides of the border understand that the completion of the new bridge is dependent upon the successful conclusion of the pending RFP process."

### Committee Roundup

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS:** The Senate Appropriations Committee on Wednesday began taking testimony on reviewing boilerplate language that requires reports of agencies that spend more than \$500,000 in new or expanded programs.

The first programs up for review were making Michigan a no-wait state for senior home-delivered meals and in-home services; child welfare performance-based funding; and the Ok2Say school safety hotline.

"This is harder work than passing budgets, is going back and checking and seeing if we're delivering on our promises," { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1" } (R-Clarklake), whose idea it was to conduct such reviews, said in committee. "The intent of this is not necessarily to review why we did something. The intent is to review whether what we said we were going to accomplish is actually occurring."

By and large, Mr. Shirkey and other members of the committee requested more specific and detailed metrics, especially identifiable metrics like number comparisons, of all of the programs reviewed Wednesday. The committee expects to review another three programs next week, and chair { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1)

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1" } (R-Lowell)

recommended that members consider the practice for their own subcommittees when and where possible.

## Capital Notebook

### **DEADLINE THURSDAY FOR LOCALS TO APPLY FOR GRANTS PROGRAM:**

Municipalities have until 11:59 p.m. Thursday to apply for the Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Townships grant program. Any city, village or township experiencing one or more conditions of "probable financial distress," under { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB86501" }, the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act, is eligible to apply.

**STATE CHRISTMAS TREE HAILS FROM WAKEFIELD:** A 66-foot spruce from Wakefield in the Upper Peninsula will serve as the state's Christmas tree this year.

Florence Daniels is donating the tree to the state in memory of her husband, Jim Daniels, a former teacher and youth sports coach.

The tree will arrive October 31, and as per longtime tradition, be illuminated at the annual Silver Bells in the City celebration that Lansing holds to kick off the holiday season Friday, November 20.

**MACMHB ANNOUNCES CEO:** The executive board of the Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards has announced Robert Sheehan will lead the organization as chief executive officer effective immediately. Prior to his new role, he served for 18 years at the CEO of the Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties.

Mr. Sheehan replaces Michael Vizena as CEO of MACMHB. Mr. Vizena is retiring.

"Behavioral health issues and intellectual/developmental disabilities affect so many of Michigan's residents, and are central to overall health, yet are often overlooked or stigmatized in the public eye," Mr. Sheehan said in a statement. "I look forward to the opportunity to work alongside the Association's members - hundreds of innovative provider and healthcare management organizations across the state - as they serve those in our communities with behavioral health issues and intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families."

**LAND LEASES:** The Department of Transportation will be leasing { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/Ag\_Lease\_Sealed-Bid\_Sale\_Brochure\_11-4-2015\_10-7-15\_502352\_7.pdf" \t "blank" } of land around the state for agricultural use only.

The lease sale is scheduled for November 4 at 10 a.m. (doors open at 9 a.m.) at the Office of Aeronautics Auditorium at Capital City Airport, 2700 Port Lansing Road in Lansing.

Those interested in bidding must attend and provide a sealed bid for each parcel.

**CASINO REVENUE:** Two of the three Detroit casinos saw revenue increase both for the month of September and for the third quarter, the Gaming Control Board announced Wednesday.

MotorCity Casino saw the most growth, with the \$35.7 million it collected in September representing a 7.5 percent increase over the same month in 2014. For third quarter, its revenue was up 3.6 percent over the same period in 2014.

MGM Grand Detroit was up 4.6 percent in September to \$45.2 million and up 0.5 percent for the quarter.

Greektown Casino saw revenue decline 0.1 percent for the month to \$26.6 million and 2.4 percent for the quarter.

#### Appointments By The Governor

**BOARD OF MECHANICAL RULES:** Robert Fosburg of Caledonia, Christopher Freeman of South Lyon, Catherine Gay of Troy, Daniel Grafmiller of Fenton, Kenneth Misiewicz of Lake Odessa and Mark Riley of Berkley are reappointed for terms expiring October 1, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY:** Jill Marlan of DeWitt succeeds Vijay Kumar, who resigned, to represent professionals for a term expiring December 31, 2016. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**IRON INDUSTRY MUSEUM ADVISORY BOARD:** Charles Swanson of Marquette and Bob Niemela of Ontonagon are reappointed for terms expiring October 4, 2019. The appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Elaine Didier of Plymouth succeeds Tara Fulton to represent librarians from a special library, and Judith Houser of Waterford is reappointed, both for terms expiring October 1, 2018. The appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

#### **MICHIGAN INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES:** { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1>" } of St. Clair is appointed to represent the Legislature, filling a vacancy, and Deana Strudwick of White Pigeon succeeds Sondra Stegenga, who resigned, to represent public or private providers of early intervention services. The appointments are for the remainder of terms expiring October 31, 2016. Barbara Corbin of Jenison, Judy Goth-Owens of East Lansing, Lauren Heilman of Cadillac and Prachi Shah of Ann Arbor are reappointed for terms expiring October 31, 2019. The appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**MICHIGAN PHARMACY AND THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE:** James "Jim" Matthews of Grand Haven succeeds Eleonora Huskey to represent pharmacists, and Margo Farber of Grosse Pointe Park, Steven Hadesman of Bingham Farms, Anthony Ognjan of Shelby Township

and Victoria Tutag Lehr of Birmingham are reappointed. The appointments are for terms expiring October 1, 2017, and are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**SKI AREA SAFETY BOARD:** James Grundstrom of Negaunee succeeds Jim VanderSpoel to represent public members from the Upper Peninsula, and Steve Robinson of Birmingham succeeds Ron Edwards to represent engineers with ski experience. Mr. Grundstrom's appointment is for a term expiring June 8, 2018. Mr. Robinson's appointment is for a term expiring June 8, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Appointments By The Supreme Court

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:** Robert Gardella is reappointed commissioner-at-large for a three-year term beginning upon adjournment of the 2015 annual meeting of the outgoing board. Brian Shekell and Krista Haroutunian are appointed commissioners-at-large for three-year terms beginning upon adjournment of the 2015 annual meeting of the outgoing board.

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

**Thursday, October 15**

~~Canceled:~~ { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88401&locid=1" }-{  
HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/elections.html" \t "blank" }}, (Chr- {  
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001&locid=1" };  
373-1721), Room 210, Farnum Building, 9 a.m.

{ **PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001" }) Provides for the  
**RLIN** presidential primary election as a regular election date and clarifies filing deadlines for  
**K** candidates for local office and for all local ballot question.

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{ **AVIATION FEES** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" }) Removes certain **RLIN** restrictions on recovery of costs and fees in an action involving this state.

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{ **PREVAILING PARTY FEES** ({ **HYPERLINK**

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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# Senate Activity for Wednesday, October 14, 2015

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{ **POWDERED ALCOHOL** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Prohibits sale,  
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{ **MICHIGAN EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301" }) Increases cap  
**RLIN** on Michigan education savings account.

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{ DNA EVIDENCE ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601" }) Removes filing  
ERL deadline for petition seeking review of DNA evidence.

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{ FUNERALS ({ HYPERLINK

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ERL of investment of money in a perpetual care and maintenance fund.

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**{ FIREFIGHTER CERTIFICATION ( { HYPERLINK  
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ERL firefighter certification reciprocity.  
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**{ IRAN SANCTIONS ({ HYPERLINK  
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ERL and Congress to consider the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action a treaty, to oppose it,  
INK and to reaffirm Michigan's right to levy sanctions against the Islamic Republic of Iran.**

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**ADVANCED TO THIRD READING**

**{ ATHLETIC TRAINERS ({ HYPERLINK**

**HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269201" }) Revises license  
RLIN fee and continuing education requirements for athletic trainers.**

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{ **CHILD ABUSE** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301" }) Allows

**RLIN** reporting child abuse or child neglect through an online reporting system and waiving a  
**K** written report under certain circumstances.

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**www.g** substitute S-2 and amendment adopted

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**15SB33**

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{ **DEER AND ELK FEEDING** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Repeals sunset

**RLIN** for deer and elk feeding.

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"http://committee substitute S-1 adopted

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**{ ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Authorizes the  
**RLIN** state court administrative office to establish electronic filing system.

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"http://committee substitute S-2 adopted

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**{ JUDICIAL ELECTRONIC FILING FUND ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801" }) Establishes  
**RLIN** judicial electronic filing fund.

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"http://committee substitute S-1 adopted

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**{ ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO COURTS ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401" }) Allows court or  
**RLIN** court funding unit to charge certain fees for electronic access to courts.

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"http://committee substitute S-1 adopted

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**REPORTED**



**{ HYPERLINK**

**"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88101"  
}:**

**{ WORKER'S COMPENSATION ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPERL "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=366501" }) Defines  
INK ownership of surplus by self-insurers.**

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ww.gong substitute S-2 adopted  
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**"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88601"  
}:**

**{ MICHIGAN INDIAN FAMILY PRESERVATION ACT ({ HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301" }) Modifies  
**ERLI** Michigan Indian family preservation act.

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SB503  
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{ **RELATIVE GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE ACT** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301" }) Modifies relative  
**ERLI** guardianship assistance act to include a successor guardian provision.

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SB529  
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{ **FOSTER CARE** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301" }) Modifies

ERLI definition of relative and adds definition of sibling.

NK

"http:substitute S-1 adopted

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INTRODUCED

{ SKY LANTERN ({ HYPERLINK

HYPE"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301" }) Defines sky

RLIN lanterns. Amends 2011 PA 256 by amending section 2 (MCL 28.452), as amended by

K 2012 PA 257.

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SB562

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{ SKY LANTERNS ({ HYPERLINK

HYPE"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201" }) Prohibits use or

**RLIN** sale of sky lanterns. Amends 2011 PA 256 by amending section 12 (MCL 28.462), as  
**K** amended by 2013 PA 65.

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The Senate adjourned until 10 a.m. Thursday, October 15, 2015.

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Wednesday, April 29, 2015  
**Attachments:** Apr29Senate.htm; Apr29.htm; 150429dayplan.htm; Apr29House.htm



## Michigan Report for Wednesday, April 29, 2015

House Panel OKs Ban On MEGA Credit Extensions

House Passes K-12, Colleges, Higher Ed Budgets With Dem Opposition

Efficiency Companies Oppose, Utilities Support Energy Optimization Changes

Democrats Renew Calls For Elliott-Larsen Expansion

Senate Passes Pneumatic Gun Legislation

Administration Calls Franz Lottery Bill A Step Backwards In Transparency

Sustainability A Concern, Film Office Head Tells Panel

House Passes Fee Bills

Flint Financial Emergency Ends

Paul To Visit GR On Same Day As Walker Speech, Carson Announcement

Snyder Subtle On Presidential Speculation

Planned Parenthood Blasts House Budget Language

House Panel Allows Agriculture Marketing Millage To Continue

Capital Notebook

Supplemental Event Planner

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House

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Day Planner

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Volume #54, Report #85 -- Wednesday, April 29, 2015

## House Panel OKs Ban On MEGA Credit Extensions

Legislation prohibiting any amendments of tax credits originating under the now-defunct Michigan Economic Growth Authority cleared the House Tax Policy Committee on Wednesday.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB433301" }

and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB433401" }

were reported from the committee 12-0 with { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=264301&locid=1" } (D-Lincoln Park) abstaining.

The bills would prohibit any new incentives coming from the MEGA program. Part of what has added to the more than \$9 billion in outstanding MEGA credits is the Michigan Economic Development Corporation agreeing to amend agreements made before the state ceased awarding new MEGA credits after 2011. The MEDC, at { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s urging, has now said it will no longer amend old MEGA agreements.

One approved amendment proposed by { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" } (R-Utica), chair of the committee, would end the Michigan Business Tax on December 31, 2031.

"We want to make sure there is an end date so some companies don't have a different tax than the rest ... in Michigan," Mr. Farrington said.

The MEDC has projected the state's last payments on its current \$9 billion liability will happen in 2031.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701&locid=1" } (D-Royal Oak), minority vice chair of the committee, offered two amendments on Wednesday to HB 4333. One technical amendment was approved. The amendment stipulates the bill would take effect on date of enactment, which is the same language in HB 4334, he said.

However, Mr. Townsend offered a second amendment that was not adopted. Mr. Townsend said the amendment was designed in spirit of furthering the purpose of the bills.

"This amendment is designed to not only further the objective of the bill, which is of course to not expose the state to any additional financial liability as a result of an amendment to a MEGA credit contract," he said. "This amendment I am offering would say that companies would not be



able to amend these contracts in such a way as to lower the standard they have to meet in order to qualify for a credit."

He said a company not making its numbers should not be able to amend its contract with the MEDC to decrease the amount of jobs it was required to create or other similar changes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=313001&locid=1" } (D-Monroe) offered the same amendment on HB 4334. Both amendments failed. Mr. Farrington said there was concern surrounding the additional language, and the committee was happy with the language already in the bill.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306001&locid=1" } (R-Midland), sponsor of the second bill and a member of the Tax Policy committee, praised the bills in a statement.

"The MEGA credits and program expansion did what was intended at a time when Michigan was struggling through the recession by retaining the key industries and jobs that are now helping our state lead the nation's economic rebound," he said. "While those past financial commitments can be honored with gratitude, we must now look to ensure a fiscally responsible and realistic future that is stable and sustainable for Michigan taxpayers."

#### House Passes K-12, Colleges, Higher Ed Budgets With Dem Opposition

The House passed its budget funding the state's universities, community colleges and K-12 schools on Wednesday, with all 47 Democrats voting in opposition with concerns surrounding at-risk funding and cyber charter schools.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB411501" } passed the House 60-50 with three Republicans - { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=217101&locid=1" } of Silverwood, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=354801&locid=1" } of Plainwell and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201&locid=1" } of Pottersville - joining all Democrats in opposition.

The bill contains \$15.8 billion with \$13.9 billion going to K-12 schools, \$392.6 million going to community colleges and \$1.5 billion going to universities.

Chairs of both the House Appropriations Committee and the School Aid Subcommittee praised the budget. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" } (R-Stevensville) said it was the largest school aid budget in the state's history.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401&locid=1" } (R-Saginaw Township), the chair of the School Aid Subcommittee, said the bill would allow school districts in the state to do their work by wrapping categorical into the foundation allowance.

The House budget also adds \$100 million to the foundation allowance rather than adding the funds to at-risk funding as { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } proposed. The House budget also does not include the \$25 million Mr. Snyder proposed for third grade reading programs.

Mr. Barrett said he voted no because he does not support using the School Aid Fund for higher education purposes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=189001&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) said one-third of the state's children are in poverty and the House budget "retreats" from helping those children.

"If we are really serious about bringing Michigan children to the pathway of getting to higher education, we have to make those investments early," she said. "I think the governor made the right decision with that allocation request; I think my colleagues from the other side missed it."

Ms. Gay-Dagnogo also said comments on Tuesday made about Detroit receiving more than its share of revenue sharing combined with the at-risk funding increase not being realized in the House budget show a misunderstanding of the city.

"We don't need to divide, and having those kinds of comments, which are divisive, doesn't do any good," she said. "While we may have our respective parties that we belong to and our respective communities that we come here to represent, at some point we have to put the politics aside and put the people first."

Mr. Kelly said the at-risk funding may return to the budget after conference committees with the Senate. He said he is not opposed to the at-risk funding or the reading initiatives. But, he said with the money rolled into the foundation allowance, every school can use the funds.

"I have heard nothing but really good feedback from school districts from across the state saying thanks, we haven't seen increases like this in a long time," he said. "I think it is a tremendous increase for schools. And I think they appreciate the flexibility this provides. They're training professionals and they are ready to pick up the challenge of providing unrestricted funds."

Amendments adopted to the budget would allow for more flexibility for schools to use at-risk funding and allowing for different schools to use at-risk funding once all districts have been held harmless.

Democrats also opposed cyber charter schools and charter schools getting standard foundation grants, particularly cyber schools, which Democrats said do not spend as much money to educate students.

The House budget increases the foundation allowance using the 2x formula with increases ranging from \$137 to \$274 per pupil plus an equity payment of \$25 for districts at the minimum allowance, according to the House Fiscal Agency.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322301&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing), said other states, including states like Kansas and Wisconsin, fund cyber charter schools based on a percentage of traditional school funding. He said Michigan needs to have that conversation.

"That is the problem with the Republican plan that is before us. They have not had the conversation on what is the appropriate level," he said. "Other states, even more conservative than the state of Michigan, have already realized that cyber schools don't have the same responsibilities as brick and mortars."

But Mr. Kelly said those schools have been funded at the bottom level for decades.

"We weren't funding them like everybody else. These were the step children for the last 20 years," he said. "If you follow the concept of the money follows the kid, it doesn't matter if it's a charter or a public school. ... I want to fund children not buildings and I think this budget gets us closer to that by shrinking the gap."

Mr. Singh also criticized the university budget, which he said does not make the appropriate investment and puts more strain on families.

"As we talk to the business community they have been very clear that we should be \$100 million more every year to catch up to other states, to catch up to all the cuts made over the last decade," he said.

The House budget is less than what Mr. Snyder proposed for universities, with a 1 percent increase in operations funding (Mr. Snyder recommended a 2 percent increase).

### Efficiency Companies Oppose, Utilities Support Energy Optimization Changes

Organizations that offer or oversee energy efficiency services insisted those programs would at least be severely curtailed if there was not legislation requiring utilities to offer them, while small utilities said not only would the programs continue, but the current law inhibits what they can do as the House Energy Policy Committee wrapped up its discussions Wednesday on that portion of proposed changes to the state's energy laws.

The testimony appeared to leave at least a few questions unanswered, as { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201&locid=1" } (R-Lawton), chair of the committee, was still supporting his plan to incorporate energy efficiency into an

overall energy plan for each utility rather than continuing the current requirement that each meet targets for efficiency.

Kate White, executive director of Michigan Community Action, which administers the energy optimization program for the smaller utilities that chose not to operate their own, said the program has exceeded its goals but is still only reaching a small percentage of the households available.

"There's plenty of work to be done," she said. "We have many homes that would participate if there were resources to do that."

There are commercial customers yet to reach as well, she said.

Ms. White agreed with Mr. Nesbitt that energy customers should find it in their own self-interest to make changes that will reduce their use.

"That natural incentive is not readily apparent," she said. Both residential and commercial customers, she said, often do not see the value of the investment unless the payoff is relatively short.

"Utilities will not go after robust energy efficiency measures on their own," Ms. White said.

Brindley Byrd, executive director of American Energy Efficiency Contractors, said eliminating the current requirement for energy efficiency programs would mean loss of at least 10 percent of the workforce in the industry.

"That just essentially runs the energy efficiency industry into a brick wall without any alternatives," he said of the proposed legislation.

James Alt with the Michigan Electric and Gas Association, which represents the state's 10 smaller investor-owned utilities, said eight of his members are using the program run by Michigan Community Action, and he expected that partnership or some similar program would continue.

"We do support cost effective energy optimization as well," he said. "Energy optimization-type programs are going to continue even absent the mandate."

But he said the bill as structured does not provide the flexibility that would allow more to operate their own programs.

"We want to see the ability of a gas company to file at the (Public Service Commission) with a program tailored to their own need," he said.

The current caps on spending for the programs limit the smaller utilities, he said, noting that a couple of his members have about 10,000 customers. "You can't do a whole lot with the revenue you're going to get from that," he said.

"On a go forward basis, the state mandated goals and spending limits make little sense," Art Thayer, director of energy efficiency programs for the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association, said.

If given the opportunity, he said he expected some of his members would expand their programs while others could cut them back without much effect on energy efficiency efforts within their territories.

Mr. Thayer said the state law also could end up in conflict with requirements or reporting for coming U.S. Environmental Protection Agency rules on greenhouse gas emissions, which allow energy efficiency programs as one of the ways to meet emissions reductions.

Mr. Nesbitt said one of his concerns is all customers are paying the surcharge for energy efficiency programs but only a few participants are seeing the benefits.

"Not every household has to participate to benefit," Martin Kushler, senior fellow at the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, said. The load reductions from the programs mean the utilities do not have to build new plants or replace some of the older plants, which will keep costs down for all customers.

Mr. Kushler and others also argued against proposals that would allow utilities to capture certain of their fixed costs through a standard charge on each bill, with only the actual power generation changing each month. They said that would further make energy optimization less attractive by cutting into the savings customers would see each month.

He also pushed for the state to expand programs that allow customers to finance upgrades through the savings on their utility bills as a way to encourage the improvements.

#### Democrats Renew Calls For Elliott-Larsen Expansion

Democrats in both the House and Senate Wednesday renewed their calls for an expansion of the state's anti-discrimination law, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, to include protections for individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity.

"This is common-sense legislation that is long overdue," { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=383401&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=383401&locid=1" } (D-Kalamazoo) said.

The legislators were joined by three individuals who have been affected by or are concerned about the potential impact for discrimination against the state's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals if ELCRA is not amended.

Bre Campbell, a transgender woman, did not receive housing she applied for because her "name didn't match my gender," she said. She was also threatened with losing her job if she was caught in the female bathroom.

"I want people to understand that these laws being proposed really harm people like me, especially people who are just trying to do the right thing and live," Ms. Campbell said.

Two parents of transgender children also spoke about the need to expand Elliott-Larsen because of their concerns for their safety and well-being.

"My U.S. citizen son is taught that all men are created equal. When (Thomas Jefferson) said that, he didn't have any caveats. Discrimination of any kind is wrong. It's hurtful and harmful and does nothing for our society," Lisa Goyette, one of the parents, said. "No one person is more or less deserving of this treatment (of equality). If this bill does not get amended, I want somebody to tell me why my son or others like my son are not protected."

There is also a significant business case to be made for expanding the protections, Andy LaBarre, executive vice president and director of governmental relations for the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Regional Chamber, said. He said updating Elliott-Larsen is the right thing to do from a civil perspective but also can be a tool to access the talent that { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) } and others have been searching for to fill open jobs in the state.

"It's an issue about giving businesses the tools they need to succeed," Mr. LaBarre said. "If you look at our chamber's membership, they get it, but as long as they are located in the state of Michigan and state law doesn't recognize that, we're at a competitive disadvantage."

And Nathan Triplett, mayor of East Lansing and vice president of the Michigan Municipal League, agreed.

"We are in a pitched battle for talent, attraction and retention. We've been doing everything in our power to make Michigan a place that people want to live, work and raise families. Ensuring we adopt these (inclusive) ordinances has been critical to that," Mr. Triplett said.

In fact, the issue is so important, he said, that the MML has identified it as one of its legislative priorities.

"It's time for us to lead," { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1) } (D-Ann Arbor) said in noting that 18 other states and the District of Columbia have already passed such protections into law.

Both House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1) } (R-Mount Pleasant) and Senate { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1) } (R-West-Olive) have said that expanding ELCRA is not on their agenda for this term, but Ms. Warren said she is "enthusiastic" about the potential to have a hearing on the bill and even vote.

"We have more support than we've ever had," Ms. Warren said.

Indeed, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } has said he would not sign a Religious Freedom Restoration Act ({ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB401" }<sup>[4]</sup>), which just had a hearing but not a vote on Tuesday, without that bill also being accompanied by changes to Elliott-Larsen. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1" } (R-Clarklake), sponsor of Michigan's potential RFRA, has maintained that the two subjects are not connected.

Amber McCann, spokesperson for Mr. Meekhof, said ELCRA changes have not been part of any discussions in caucus.

Mr. Hoadley said one need only look to Indiana when it comes to having a RFRA without an expansion of civil rights protections for LGBT individuals (though Mr. Shirkey has also said Indiana is not an example of what his bill seeks to accomplish).

"We're here today because we think (RFRA) is probably the wrong conversation to be having," Mr. Hoadley said. "As Indiana shows if you move ahead w/o thinking about protection for everyone ... that's dangerous."

There has been talk about ballot proposal to expand the civil rights law to sexual orientation and gender identity, but no steps have been taken to launch such an effort so far.

### Senate Passes Pneumatic Gun Legislation

The Senate on Wednesday gave the green light to legislation removing pellet and BB guns from the definition of firearms in state law.

The primary piece of legislation that saw a somewhat partisan divide was { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB415101" }<sup>[5]</sup>, which cleared the Senate on a 30-7 vote and is considered the meat of the legislative package that also includes { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB415201" }<sup>[6]</sup>, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB415301" }<sup>[7]</sup>, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB415401" }<sup>[8]</sup>, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB415501" }<sup>[9]</sup> and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB415601" }<sup>[10]</sup>.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601&locid=1" } (D-Warren) tried to include an amendment to HB 4151 that would prohibit a person under the

age of 18 from using or possessing pneumatic guns, but it failed. He said that such guns are indistinguishable from real guns, and that can be problematic.

"As I was looking at this legislation and some of the news nationally ... it appeared to me that this could be a recipe for disaster," Mr. Bieda said on the Senate floor. "I think the safety of children is paramount."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1" } (D-Dearborn Heights), Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) joined majority Republicans in support of HB 4151, and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1" } (D-Southfield) was absent from session.

An S-1 substitute previously adopted by the Senate on HB 4154 amends various other portions of state law to revise the definition of firearm but also delete a prohibition against discharging a firearm within 150 feet of certain structures. And an S-2 substitute previously adopted by the chamber to { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB515501" } amends the Penal Code to revise the definition of firearm; include the possession, use or transport of a pneumatic gun in various weapons-related criminal violations; and add a definition of brandishing.

Aside from HB 4155, the rest of the legislative package saw unanimous approval on final passage.

**BRANDISHING A FIREARM:** The Senate also gave unanimous approval to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB416001" } , a bill that would define brandishing a gun in statute.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601&locid=1" } (D-Warren) proposed the inclusion of an amendment to tie-bar the bill to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB426101" } to ban carrying guns in schools, but it was defeated along party lines.

"I believe this is the wrong place for this amendment," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } (R-Grand Ledge), chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said in urging defeat of Mr. Bieda's amendment. "We have a bill in the House. When it gets to Senate Judiciary, I'll be happy to give it debate."

The Senate also passed the companion bill, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB416101" } .



**SNYDER ON OPEN CARRY:** With gun rights activists rallying at the Capitol, many openly carrying, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } was asked again at a separate event about where discussions stand on closing the loophole that enables gun owners to openly carry a firearm into schools. Mr. Snyder said there is no deal on the issue at this point.

Asked if a deal was close, he said, "I would imagine that will probably be (an) ongoing discussion because, again, open carry in Michigan schools is not a good thing. And most states don't allow it."

Mr. Snyder was not keen to end open carry in schools in exchange for allowing concealed pistol license-holders to carry in schools.

"In terms of just trading the two things, I don't think that's a good answer either without other conditions," he said.

Administration Calls Franz Lottery Bill A Step Backwards In Transparency

House Regulatory Reform Committee Chair { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701&locid=1" } presented a bill on Wednesday that would allow those playing the lottery to opt-out of being named if they win a multi-state game, such as the Mega Millions, but the Snyder administration opposes the bill, saying it creates less government transparency.

Mr. Franz (R-Onekama) said the bill was inspired after he heard a story from a person who won the lottery and was then hit with constant requests for donations and help with money from those with "sob stories," some true, some not true, Mr. Franz said.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB443301" }  
☐ would allow individuals playing the lottery to opt-out of public notification.

James McBride, with the administration, said it is daunting to oppose a bill being put forth by the chair of the committee, but, he said the administration does oppose the legislation.

"We take our whole approach to the responsibility to serve the public with openness and transparency very seriously," he said. "The administration opposes because we think it is a step backwards on the question of transparency."

Mr. McBride also noted a "conspiracy theory" of sorts among the general public wondering if a person did in fact with the lottery money. Mr. McBride said announcing who won shows a person did in fact win the money.

He said if the lottery got its way, it would release every person's name. However, he said there is a compromise in place with state games there is an opt-out provision for those winning more than \$10,000.

The committee did not act on the bill.

**ATHLETIC TRAINERS:** The committee also took up { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB426301" } [2], which would reduce the annual license fee for athletic trainers from \$200 to \$100 and reduce the number of education hours required each three-year licensing cycle to 75 hours.

"We have discovered the licensing fee generated revenue in excess of the expenditures," said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269201&locid=1" } (R-Columbus), sponsor of the bill.

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs supported the bill.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269101&locid=1" } (D-Fraser) expressed concerns about decreasing the licensing fee now, and the state later having trouble getting the Legislature to increase the fee if more funds are needed to increase technology or other things.

**LIQUOR FOR PRIVATE EVENTS:** The committee did report { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB443201" } [3], allowing open bars at private functions such as weddings, business receptions, and other similar events, though the same regulations still apply to overselling and license limitations.

### Sustainability A Concern, Film Office Head Tells Panel

Speaking to the House Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee one day after the full House voted not to fund the state's \$50 million film incentive program, the head of Michigan Film Office said that showing sustainability is important to the Film Office and industry in Michigan.

Jenelle Leonard would not discuss the specifics of the House proposal, or what might happen to it as the budget process moves forward, but told committee members she remains committed to the original proposal made by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } in February. That called for the state to still issue \$50 million in incentives to attract motion picture and entertainment productions in Michigan.

The program has been controversial since it was launched in its original incarnation as tax credits late in the administration of Governor Jennifer Granholm. Mr. Snyder altered the program when he took office. In the omnibus budget the House passed on Tuesday, it ended funding for the program. Earlier this year, the House passed legislation ending the incentives program altogether.

Out of the incentive package, 4 percent goes towards the administrative budget of the Film Office, Ms. Leonard said, so losing the incentives program would affect office operations. Expenditures out of that funding include promotional efforts for film festivals in the state.

Ms. Leonard - after outlining a program in which the Film Office is working to enhance tourism in the state by attracting visitors to areas where films were made or where stars were born - said the film industry has professionals located all across the state and with the incentives program now is competitive with other states in terms of locating productions.

The productions have long lead times, she said, especially to book the time of performers. Typically, they have to plan two and three years out, she said.

"They are looking for sustainability," she said, to provide a sense of what producers can expect when they plan.

And getting big productions, Ms. Leonard likened it to watching presidential campaigns come in: big productions, like big campaigns, draw more people interested in the industry and interested in locating here.

#### House Passes Fee Bills

The House on Wednesday passed a variety of bills extending fee sunset dates.

The bills approved were: { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB443901" }

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB444101" }

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB444301" }

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB438101" }

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB444001" }

{ HYPERLINK

By extending the sunsets, the state would maintain millions in revenues through the fees.

Affected by the bills were the state's tire disposal surcharge, water pollution, recycling and solid waste fees, and commercial look-up fees, and other things.

In HB 4440, the state would move \$12 million from the Transportation Economic Development Fund to the State Trunkline Fund to match federal highway funds.

Also passed were { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB436301" }

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB436401" }

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB438201" }

and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB438301" }

{ would maintain the fees included for the licensure of various construction industry jobs at the 2014-15 fiscal year level. The sunset is set for September 30, 2015 and will be extended four more years under the bills.

The House also passed { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB8501" } {

which would prohibit local units of government from taxing or regulating the ownership, registration, purchase, sale, transfer, transportation or possession of pneumatic guns (also known as air guns that shoot BBs with the force of pressurized air).

Finally, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB440401" }

{ was also passed. Under the bill, the penalty and interest payments for the unemployment insurance fund's contingent fund would be available to the newly-created Talent Investment Agency in the new Department of Talent and Economic Development. Previously, the funds were just for the administration of the unemployment insurance agency, but under the bill the funds could go as well for the administration of the TIA and for workforce training programs. -

## Flint Financial Emergency Ends

Flint's financial emergency has been resolved, and city officials said the move to self-governance marks a new moment for the city that has faced ongoing struggles for decades.

In a statement on Twitter, Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said the city's emergency manager status is "finished, (a) new chapter has opened for Flint.

"I thank everyone who has stood by us, stayed with us," Mr. Walling said. "Now we will fulfill our potential."

And Senate { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said while the announcement is a positive step forward, "there is still much work to do. I will continue to work every day to make sure the residents of Flint have the resources they need, and the city can continue its recovery."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } made official that the city was out of its financial emergency - the second it had to struggle through in the last decade - when he accepted the recommendations of Emergency Manager Jerry Ambrose that the emergency had been addressed.

A receivership transition advisory board has been named to assist the city to continue its transition to full local control.

Earlier Wednesday, the state's Local Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board met and approved a \$7 million loan to the city to help it pay off its remaining debts.

Flint had been under an emergency manager since December 2011, when Mr. Snyder determined the city's finances were uncontrolled. At that time, Michael Brown was named the emergency manager. With Mr. Ambrose, the city has had four emergency managers.

In announcing he had approved taking Flint out of financial emergency, Mr. Snyder said, "this is a new day for Flint and the city is ready to move toward a brighter future."

Mr. Ambrose reported that in addition to eliminating \$7 million in general fund and water fund debts through the emergency loan, the city had reduced long-term liability costs from \$840 million to \$240 million, enacted new ordinances to deal with long-term stability - which included creating a biennial budget, five-year projections and a fund-balance reserve - as well restricted overall administration with the hiring of a city administrator.

Also, last November, city voters approved creation of a charter commission to look at other possible changes in city government. That could include establishing a city manager's position.

The proposed budget for the city's fiscal year, slated to start July 1, with a general fund of \$51 million will mark the first time in 10 years the city will not project a deficit. Mr. Walling proposed that budget on Monday to the city council.

At a press conference in Flint, Mr. Walling said a "heavy burden" had been lifted from the city, MLive reported.

"Flint is ready for this change," Mr. Walling said. "Today we take responsibility for moving Flint forward."

Paul To Visit GR On Same Day As Walker Speech, Carson Announcement

Michigan will briefly become a focus of the Republican presidential race Monday with three candidates or potential candidates all holding major events in the state.

Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker already was slated to speak to the Oakland County Republican Party in the evening at its Lincoln Day Dinner, and physician Ben Carson, a Detroit native, is expected to announce his candidacy in Detroit that day.

Wednesday, the campaign of U.S. Sen. Rand Paul said it would hold an event in Grand Rapids with his top Michigan supporter, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1" } (R-Grand Rapids).

#### Snyder Subtle On Presidential Speculation

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, back in Michigan Wednesday after a swing through three national events where he stoked speculation about his interest in running for president, was mostly as inscrutable as ever on the topic.

However, one thing Mr. Snyder did say reaffirmed one of the central reasons why most believe he will not run and is not seriously contemplating running. In December, first lady Sue Snyder said on Michigan Public Television that she would prefer he did not run, and it is clear Mr. Snyder would not run without her blessing.

Asked Wednesday if Ms. Snyder is encouraging him to run, Mr. Snyder said, "I wouldn't describe her as encouraging me. She's always been pretty clear that, again, she's really enjoying the things she's doing in Michigan in terms of the causes she's supporting," he said, noting her charitable work with group's like Ele's Place.

Otherwise, Mr. Snyder sidestepped questions from reporters on whether he expected people to believe he would trudge through the snows of Iowa to campaign in that state's January presidential caucus or on how his comments about the presidential race have changed in recent months.

"I think they're good, factual statements. And shouldn't people have an opportunity to hear what people's opinions are on a particular issue like this? It's important who's leading our country," he said of his stepped up commentary about the presidential field. "I'm more active making comments, but that also aligns well with telling the Michigan story."

#### Planned Parenthood Blasts House Budget Language

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan expressed opposition on Wednesday to the House omnibus budget bill that included language designed to block any state funds from going to the organization.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201" }  
passed the House on Tuesday and was amended to include a prohibition on the Department of Health and Human Services from contracting with an organization providing elective abortions, abortion counseling or abortion referrals (See { HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\_id=540840103" }).

"This is not an attack on just Planned Parenthood, it is an attack on the over 70,000 patients we see annually in our health centers, a vast majority of whom come to us for birth control, testing and treatment of STDs and life-saving cancer screenings," Lori Carpentier, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan, said in a statement. "Limiting future opportunities for family planning dollars to go to organizations like Planned Parenthood only serves to limit access to critical services for women and families across the state."

The statement also said as the budget process continues, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan will encourage legislators to make decisions on what is best for the state.

"Every public dollar spent on preventative care services, such as those that Planned Parenthood provides, saves the state over seven dollars in spending down the road. Investing in Michigan's families is always the right choice," the statement said.

#### House Panel Allows Agriculture Marketing Millage To Continue

Counties would still be able to levy a millage to promote the agricultural or industrial advantages of their region, but they would have to get regular voter approval under legislation reported Wednesday from the House Local Government Committee.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB416601" }  
) would originally have eliminated the program that allows counties to collect up to 0.5 mill for the marketing program, but { HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204701&locid=1" } (R-Six Lakes), sponsor of the bill, said he ran into opposition to that plan from Washtenaw County, which is using the program.

A change to exempt Washtenaw County was met with opposition from the Michigan Farm Bureau because it opposed carve-outs, he said.

Under the bill as reported, any county not already using the program would have to receive voter approval to implement it and would have to go back to voters every five years to continue the program.

The current requirement that the county board approve the program annually would remain.

Mr. Outman said he raised the issue because of problems the program had generated in Gratiot County, but { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=365401&locid=1>" } (D-Southfield) was concerned the measure would essentially eliminate the ability for counties to use the program.

**ROAD COMMISSIONS:** The committee began discussions Wednesday on legislation ({  
HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB421201](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB421201)" }

and { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB421501](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB421501)" }

) that would eliminate the sunset on provisions allowing a county commission to dissolve its road commission. That option, enacted in 2012, expired at the beginning of the year.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=325301&locid=1>" } (R-Georgetown Township), sponsor of the legislation, acknowledged that only three counties had used the measure, but he said others were looking at it and should be given the opportunity.

"If a county can absorb their road commission and carry out the duties for less cost to the taxpayers, they should be allowed to do it," Mr. Victory said.

He and other supporters argued road commissions hold substantial power, but commission members, even when appointed by the county commission, are difficult to remove.

But Ed Noyola with the County Road Association of Michigan questioned the need to continue the program given the use it had.

"I do continue to struggle with what's broke that we're trying to fix," he said. "I'm not sure that any of the counties that took over their road commission (have) shown any cost savings."

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=100001&locid=1>" } (D-Ypsilanti) argued smart county commissioners would leave the road commission in place to field the complaints about road conditions. "If I'm a county commissioner and knowing what county road commissions have to go through ... I would want a layer between me and that other body," he said.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1>" } (R-Levering), the committee chair, indicated support for the plan, but adjourned the committee without indicating when it might come up again.

Capital Notebook

**BUSINESS EXPANSIONS:** The Michigan Strategic Fund has approved two business expansions and one community revitalization project that expect to generate nearly \$39 million in new investment and 151 new jobs.

Atomic Object LLC will receive a \$250,000 grant as part of plans to renovate a functionally obsolete building in Grand Rapids to serve as its new headquarters while also doubling its Ann



Arbor location and leasing additional space in Detroit, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation said in a statement.

Emhart Technologies LLC will receive a \$350,000 grant as part of plans to construct a 30,000-square-foot expansion of its manufacturing operations in Chesterfield Township, converting the existing office space into manufacturing space. It will also lease additional space in Troy to expand its office operations, the MEDC said.

Finally, Paradise Valley Real Estate Holdings, LLC and Real Times, Incorporated of Illinois plan to renovate a three-story historic building on Randolph Street in Detroit to include the new headquarters of Real Times, along with a restaurant and office space. The project will receive a \$413,000 Community Revitalization Program grant.

Supplemental Event Planner

### **Thursday, April 30**

**Citizens for Prison Reform Legislative Education Day, Capitol lawn, Lansing, 10 a.m., (Speaker's Library if raining. Legislative/Constituent Luncheon in Speaker's Library from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.)**

**News conference supporting auto insurance reform, Karoub Associates, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 10 a.m.**

**{ HYPERLINK**

**"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } unveils plan for public education in Detroit, Cadillac Place, 3044 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, 11:45 a.m.**

### **Monday, May 4**

**Republican presidential candidate U.S. Sen. Rand Paul event, Kent County Republican Party Headquarters, 725 Lake Michigan Drive, NW, Grand Rapids, 10:30 a.m.**

**Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker speaks to Oakland County Republican Party Lincoln Day Dinner, Suburban Collection Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue, Novi, 7 p.m.**

### **Thursday, May 7**

**News conference on legislation to compensate the wrongly convicted, Rooms 402/403, Capitol, Lansing, 3:30 p.m.**

**Subscribers Please Note**


**A story in Tuesday's report should have said revenue sharing for Detroit in the House's proposed 2015-16 fiscal year budget is a cut from the current year level, but more than what the city received in the 2013-14 fiscal year.**

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**Sent:** Tuesday, September 22, 2015 6:54 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Tuesday, September 22, 2015  
**Attachments:** 150922dayplan.htm; Sep22.htm; Sep22House.htm



## Michigan Report for Tuesday, September 22, 2015

Medical Marijuana Bills Make Their Way To House Floor

Sharp Disagreement As Committee Discusses Bill To Criminalize Abortion Coercion

Courser, Gamrat, Dillon Replaced On House Committees

Judiciary Clears Way For Wrongful Imprisonment Compensation

Jones Takes Another Shot At Regulating Nudity At Bars

House Panel Considers Updates To 'Kevin's Law'

Hunter Response Could Determine CWD Control

Tours Of Capitol Dome Interior Banned For Safety Reasons

Committee Ups Penalties For Failing To Yield

Group: Lobbyists Spent \$21M To Lobby State In First Half Of Year

MSF Approves \$3M For Monroe Port

Carhartt Expands, Valiant International Locates In Auburn Hills

Kildee Calls For Independent Test Of Flint Water

Longtime Prison Warden Barred From MDOC Property

Capital Notebook

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## Activity Reports

House

## Calendars

Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #188 -- Tuesday, September 22, 2015

### Medical Marijuana Bills Make Their Way To House Floor

After months of negotiations, the House Judiciary Committee on Tuesday reported a package of bills creating a regulatory structure for medical marijuana provisioning centers and permitting the use of non-smokeable forms of the drug.

{ HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB420901](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB420901)" }

and { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB421001](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB421001)" }

☐ were introduced in February, and similar bills were overwhelmingly approved by the House last term, though they died in the Senate during lame-duck.

During the first nine months of this term, stakeholders attempted to hash out their differences in a way they didn't last year. { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284701&locid=1>" } (R-Nashville), sponsor of HB 4209, said this time around he wanted to be sure to include law enforcement.

"This is something I've been working on longer than my bachelor's degree," he told the committee. "It's been essentially over four years, and it's been an education. Now it's better than it's ever been."

HB 4209 creates the regulatory structure for medical marijuana provisioning centers. The bill allows for local governments to decide if they are appropriate for their community. The bill includes an 8 percent excise tax and the 6 percent sales tax to be charged on marijuana.

The bill also requires the use of a secure transport service to transport the marijuana.

It cleared the committee 8-2 with { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=310601&locid=1>" } (D-Detroit)

and { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=274601&locid=1>" } (D-Ann Arbor) voting no.

Mr. Irwin expressed concerns about the taxes charged on the drug. He said there is a philosophical difference on whether a person believes higher taxes and more regulations will lead to more or less black market activity.

"When we add all these layers of regulations, we are increasing the cost in the legal market, thereby giving a huge advantage to the illegal market," he said. "If we grab too tightly, this may squeeze through our fingers, and we end up with less control rather than more control."

The bill also creates five license types: growers, processors, testing labs, secure transporters and dispensaries. A five-member board is also created under the bill to handle the licensing.

The revenue collected through the taxes would be split up, with 27.5 percent going to local governments with provisioning centers; 27.5 percent to counties with provisioning centers; 5 percent to sheriffs in the counties with provisioning centers; and 40 percent to the state.

The legislation would also use a seed-to-sale tracking system to help ensure medical marijuana does not make its way to the black market. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482701" }  
[3], which also cleared the committee, creates the program.

HB 4210 allows the use of topical and edible forms of the drug. The bill cleared committee 10-1 with { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=291201&locid=1" } (R-Mancelona) voting no.

Patient advocates were not pleased with the proposal taxing the drug.

"No medicine should be taxed," said Matthew Abel with Cannabis Counsel.

He also said the bill creates a new bureaucracy, as more state workers will need to be hired: 113 licensing enforcement personnel; 34 state police personnel and four lawyers at the Department of the Attorney General.

"The latest versions of HB 4209 and HB 4827 have not been well thought-out," Mr. Abel said. "They clearly will cause numerous unintended consequences, while failing at their intended purpose, to move toward a regulated system and away from the illegal market."

### Sharp Disagreement As Committee Discusses Bill To Criminalize Abortion Coercion

Coercing a woman into having an abortion would become a crime under legislation discussed Tuesday in the House Criminal Justice Committee.

The bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB478701" }  
[3] and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB483001" }  
[3]) generated several strong disagreements between those who oppose abortion and those who support the legal right to an abortion. No vote was taken, and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001&locid=1" } (R-Plymouth), the committee chair, said the committee would return to the legislation at an upcoming meeting.

The committee's three Democrats - { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=367901&locid=1" } of Bridgeport, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=94401&locid=1" }

of Muskegon and { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358301&locid=1>" } of Detroit - each took turns peppering the bill sponsors and activists supporting the bills about why the legislation is necessary.

Supporters of the bills said they had considerable anecdotal reports of women coerced into an abortion - by their parents, husband or boyfriend, and others - and the state should make such actions illegal.

"It is an all-too-common experience," said Genevieve Marnon of Right to Life of Michigan.

But the Democratic lawmakers questioned why the bills do not criminalize the coercing of a woman into keeping her baby.

"The real problem is what those of us here are questioning which is people being coerced into carrying a pregnancy," Ms. Hovey-Wright said.

Ms. Marnon said any form of coercion is wrong, but the issue raised by Ms. Hovey-Wright belongs in a different statute and thus not in the bills before the committee. { [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=317301&locid=1>" } (R-Troy) mocked the Democratic criticism, asking sarcastically whether he should oppose the bill because it fails to criminalize every illegal act.

But Democrats and an official with the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan questioned why the bill was even necessary, saying that the state's informed consent law already requires a woman's consent to an abortion without coercion and that other statutes would make coercion into having an abortion illegal.

"These kinds of laws are part of a political campaign that women who seek abortions do so because they are confused and coerced," said Shelli Weisberg of the ACLU of Michigan.

But Ms. Marnon said a specific statute will help prevent the coercing of women into an abortion.

"Women will know it's a crime and can tell whoever is coercing her to stop because it's illegal," she said.

Courser, Gamrat, Dillon Replaced On House Committees

House { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1>" } announced new committee assignments to replace the recently departed former representatives Cindy Gamrat, who was expelled, and Todd Courser and Brandon Dillon, who both resigned.

Mr. Courser (R-Silverwood) resigned before he could be expelled like Ms. Gamrat (R-Plainwell). Mr. Dillon (D-Grand Rapids) resigned to take the post as chair of the Michigan Democratic Party.

With Mr. Dillon's departure, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318601&locid=1" } (D-Clio) returned to the House Appropriations Committee. The term started with drama surrounding Ms. Faris' appointment as minority vice chair, and she was later removed from the committee.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371701&locid=1" } (R-Holland) will take Ms. Gamrat's former spot on Appropriations.

"Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat have done enough damage to the House and to the legislative process," Mr. Cotter said in a statement. "We cannot allow their absence to get in the way of the important work these committees are doing to reform state government and improve the lives of Michigan's residents. Each of these representatives has agreed to take on the extra work necessary to make sure we can all move forward and continue Michigan's comeback."

Ms. Faris will also join the Joint Capital Outlay Subcommittee and the Transportation Subcommittee.

Mr. Cotter also created a new House Appropriations Subcommittee to reflect the merged community health and human services departments as the Health and Human Services Subcommittee.

The 15-member committee is essentially a merger of the two separate subcommittees. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=263501&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) was named as minority vice chair instead of Rep. Brian Banks (D-Detroit), who served as the MVC of the separate Human Service Subcommittee.

Mr. Dillon was minority vice chair of the Community Health Subcommittee.

Katie Carey, spokesperson for House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1" } (D-Auburn Hills), said it was disappointing Mr. Cotter did not consult with Mr. Greimel before choosing the minority vice chair of the new committee.

However, she said, they are pleased with the other Democratic appointments.

The chair of the new committee is { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284401&locid=1" } (R-Walker) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277401&locid=1" } (R-Jackson) is vice chair.

The other members are: { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355701&locid=1" } (R-Grand Rapids Township); Rep. Joe Bizon (R-Battle Creek); { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289301&locid=1" } (R-Newaygo); { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=333201&locid=1" }



} (R-Sebewaing); { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358801&locid=1" } (R-Livonia); { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=356701&locid=1" } (R-Williamsburg); { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401&locid=1" } (R-Saginaw Township); Rep. Mike McCready (R-Bloomfield Hills); { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318601&locid=1" } (D-Clio); { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=370001&locid=1" } (D-Canton); and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=248901&locid=1" } (D-Sterling Heights).

On Mr. Courser's former committees, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1" } (R-Alto) will return to the Education Committee as his replacement. Ms. Lyons chaired the committee during the last two terms.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219601&locid=1" } (R-Montague) will sit on the Agriculture Committee; Mr. Afendoulis on the Criminal Justice Committee; { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=283401&locid=1" } (R-Owosso) on the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee; and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353601&locid=1" } (R-Clarkston) on the Regulatory Reform Committee.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=96801&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) will replace Ms. Faris on the Financial Liability Reform Committee and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=312601&locid=1" } (D-Westland) will replace her on Military and Veterans Affairs.

On Appropriations subcommittees, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358201&locid=1" } (R-Sturgis) will now sit on Education; Mr. Poleski will take over as chair of Judiciary (replacing Mr. VerHeulen); Ms. Cox will sit on Licensing and Regulatory Reform; Mr. Canfield on the Military and Veterans Affairs subcommittee; and Mr. Poleski on Natural Resources.

## Judiciary Clears Way For Wrongful Imprisonment Compensation

The state would compensate those who had been wrongfully imprisoned for a crime they did not commit under legislation reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601&locid=1" } (D-Warren) first raised the idea of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB29101" }<sup>3</sup>, with support from committee chair { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } (R-Grand

Ledge), back in May. Michigan is one of a minority of states that does not compensate nor offer exit services for persons who have been wrongfully imprisoned.

"Exonerees face tremendous difficulties re-integrating into society," Mr. Bieda said, noting that 30 other states and the federal government offer compensation for those who can prove they were wrongfully imprisoned. "It is our intent to help these individuals re-establish their lives."

The bills would be limited in scope to a person who could prove he or she was convicted and served time in a Michigan prison, and that all the convictions resulting in imprisonment were overturned because of new evidence of actual innocence.

After the convictions are overturned, the charges were dismissed, or an individual is acquitted at retrial and the individual proves in the Court of Claims complete innocence of all of the offenses that landed them in prison, they too could be eligible for compensation.

And a court that determined a plaintiff had been wrongfully convicted and imprisoned must expunge those records from a person's criminal history.

Compensation would be \$60,000 per year for the period of incarceration; economic damages, including lost wages and other expenses; reasonable attorney fees; and reimbursement of any amount collected from the plaintiff by the state under the State Correctional Facility Reimbursement Act. If a person chooses to collect this money, it would bar them from any further action against the state based on the same matter. Such settlements would be paid from the General Fund.


The Senate Fiscal Agency estimated the cost to the state to be significant but indeterminate. The National Registry of Exonerations maintained by the University of Michigan Law School indicates that 60 exonerations have occurred in Michigan to date. At a minimum, assuming all 60 individuals met the eligibility criteria and receive only the yearly compensation amount, the first year of payments would total \$3.6 million. The average number of years of wrongful imprisonment per exoneration is 8.05, the analysis said.

If all payment were made under the conditions in the NRE's database, the total minimum costs would be about \$29 million General Fund, the SFA determined, based on fixed amounts taken from the bill. But there are other variables that could increase the figure on a per-case basis.

"Although I'm not in jail anymore, the effects of my wrongful conviction continue to ruin my life," said Julie Baumer, who was wrongfully convicted a decade ago of Shaken Baby Syndrome. She spent four-and-a-half years in jail.

A similar bill, { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB453601](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB453601)" }

, was reported from the House Criminal Justice Committee in mid-June but has not seen action on the floor yet. { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358301&locid=1>" } (D-Detroit), sponsor of that bill, spoke in support of Mr. Bieda's bill at the committee.

"There are significant costs that come with adjusting back into society. Exonerees are given no services to help with this," she said. "I believe when an individual is proven innocent ... the least they should expect is a state that wants to help make it right."

The bill was reported with unanimous approval.

**UPDATING OLD STATUTES:** The committee also reported a slew of House bills updating outdated language in statute despite some concern by { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) about what repealing at least some of those statutes said about our citizens morally.

Among them was { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB424801" }  
[2], which repeals provisions of law related to playing of the National Anthem, use of indecent language in front of women and children, and improper disposal of refrigerators. It was reported unanimously.

Also reported unanimously was { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB425001" }  
[2], which repeals prohibitions against certain endurance contests, as well as { HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450101" }  
[2], which revises sentencing guidelines to reflect certain repealed crimes.

The committee also voted to eliminate references to "human monstrosity" in law via { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB470901" }  
[2], as well as { HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB471001" }  
[2] and { HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB471101" }  
[2] related to modifying the penalty for violators related to camping on state-owned lands.

Currently, it is a misdemeanor to do so, but the bills would change it to a civil infraction. HB 4711 also repeals laws dealing with sentencing a person to solitary confinement and/or hard labor; assembling or rebuilding a battery from used battery parts, for sale, without labeling it as rebuilt; and keeping a person sentenced to hard labor constantly employed.

All were reported with unanimous approval and no changes.

### Jones Takes Another Shot At Regulating Nudity At Bars

A bill prohibiting nudity at bars saw more testimony in the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday as it was reported from the committee for a second time since May.

"This will keep status quo in Michigan," said { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } (R-Grand Ledge), chair of the committee and sponsor of { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB30201](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB30201)" }<sup>4</sup>, in defending his bill for a second time in his committee.

Mr. Jones' bill was introduced in late April, saw a committee hearing and S-1 substitute adopted about two weeks later when the bill was reported from his own committee, making this the second time the bill has come up for a hearing in Judiciary.

The last time the bill was up in committee, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1) } (R-Canton Township) raised a concern about a potential loophole that would seem to allow nudity in certain establishments if it was considered a form of art, and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601&locid=1) } (D-Warren) was concerned about an amendment that seemed to put the bill above potential court challenges.

And Mr. Bieda's concern was precisely the reason for a second hearing. Officials with { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1) }'s office gave a presentation about why that section was necessary and appropriate.

"One of the things we were concerned with (in dealing with a case on nudity in a bar) ... was that the Sixth Circuit found we didn't have any rationale or reasons to back up rules that prohibit full nudity," said Don McGehee, division chief of the Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement division. He said the court insisted, in { [HYPERLINK "http://www.ca6.uscourts.gov/opinions.pdf/07a0351p-06.pdf"](http://www.ca6.uscourts.gov/opinions.pdf/07a0351p-06.pdf) }<sup>5</sup>, that the state must have evidence of secondary effects such as crime, plight, drug trafficking, and so forth, and that full nudity and sex acts are "expressive conduct" protected by the First Amendment.

But there are many cases that have found that negative secondary effects exist in or near adult-oriented entertainment venues.

"This bill does not try to ban all nudity," Mr. McGehee said, noting that certain venues can have topless entertainers if they have a special permit. "This bill would be to ban, by state law, full nudity in any entertainment establishment or any (liquor) licensed premises on the premises."

He provided to the committee studies and cases that prove negative secondary effects and thus legitimize the section Mr. Bieda had previously raised concerns about.

But Mr. Bieda's concerns were not entirely alleviated. He noted how the language included a "broad range of things that could be a secondary problem with a regular bar or night club, and I just wonder if this couldn't be cut down a little bit," he said.

One example Mr. Bieda pointed to was that litter was considered to be a negative secondary effect, and while Mr. McGehee agreed that he probably wouldn't consider such a thing a "material" negative secondary effect, some believe it ought to be, Mr. McGehee said. But Mr. Bieda expressed concerns that such language could have an effect on something as innocent as a restaurant.

"I think that language could be a lot tighter," Mr. Bieda said.

Nonetheless, the committee gave unanimous support to send SB 302 back to the full Senate, but Mr. Bieda hoped to continue work with Mr. Jones on that language.


#### House Panel Considers Updates To 'Kevin's Law'

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=325701&locid=1" } want to update "Kevin's Law," passed in 2004 to reduce the incarceration rates of those with mental illnesses, as it has been found to be ineffective.

Mr. Calley spoke to the House Health Policy Committee on Tuesday and said under current law, a crisis needed to occur before intervention could happen. He said communities around the state were confused by the complexity of "Kevin's Law" and it hasn't been utilized much.

The law outlines the assisted outpatient treatment program in the state.

Under { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB467401" } , sponsored by Mr. Leonard (R-DeWitt Township), a family member or friend would be allowed to petition the court and allow judges to order outpatient treatment for those who have had their mental illness confirmed by a physician, all without a crime being committed.

"When something bad happens, either to a person with a mental health issue or when something happens tragically perpetrated by a person with a mental health issue, usually there is a long trail of evidence that preceded that action, warning signs that could have been picked up on," Mr. Calley said.

He said those warning signs often are noticed, but without the ability to intervene sooner, there aren't a lot of options.

By contrast, Mr. Calley said HB 4674 would allow earlier intervention and help create a more successful release from hospitalization. He also noted due process rights are not affected by the bill.

And Mr. Leonard said the things that were supposed to happen under "Kevin's Law" simply have not happened.

"We are trying to revamp 'Kevin's Law,' we are trying to fill those gaps that are in the law and get people the treatment they need before they hurt themselves or hurt somebody else," Mr. Leonard said.

He also said the bill will provide long-term savings within the Department of Corrections.

Former Judge Milton Mack, who is now serving as the state court administrator, told the committee families have been seeking help for their loved ones with mental health issues for a long time but are not always able to get it.

"This bill will finally unlock the promise of 'Kevin's Law' and make timely assisted outpatient treatment readily available to many," he said. "Our mental health system fails many in a crucial point of time in their lives where timely intervention can mean the difference between recovery and maintaining self-determination or spinning downward into the cycle of poverty, homelessness and incarceration."

Mark Reinstein with the Mental Health Association of Michigan also said the current law is utilized little in the state.

He said the five most significant changes under the proposed bill are

- Setting a timeframe for when hearings must be held;
- Setting a clear two-exam requirement, with at least one from a psychiatrist;
- Removing that a person must be non-compliant with recommended mental health treatment from the list of eligibility criteria;
- Inserting the same prosecutorial responsibility for assisted outpatient treatment as other court-ordered mental health treatments (currently the local prosecutor does not need to be involved); and
- Simplifying the process of petitioning and certifying that someone may require court-ordered care.

The committee did not act on the bill.

#### Hunter Response Could Determine CWD Control

States' abilities to control chronic wasting disease have depended largely on aggressive efforts to reduce deer populations in affected areas, and it was unclear yet how open hunters will be able to aid in those efforts, Department of Natural Resources wildlife veterinary specialist Dan O'Brien told the House Natural Resources Committee on Tuesday.

"I've been amazed at the cooperation we've gotten over the summer," Mr. O'Brien said of land owners in the current affected area. "People have concerns, but by and large they were very supportive."

He said U.S. Department of Agriculture sharpshooters have taken some deer from local public lands, and a number of private land owners in the area have allowed USDA on their lands or have taken out disease control permits to take deer themselves.

"Now we're transitioning into hunting season and we'll have to see how the hunters accept things," he said.

The fear, particularly in the long term, is that hunters will stay home, Mr. O'Brien said.

The prion-based disease destroys brain tissue in deer, elk and moose, over time slowing their behavior and eventually killing them.

In as little as 20 years, the disease can spread through the deer herd.

"When that happens, hunters are going to stop hunting because they don't want to harvest sick deer," he said. "The entire economy and tradition of hunting is also lost."

The DNR would also lose one of its key methods for controlling the deer population, he said.

Mr. O'Brien said New York had been able to eradicate the disease by aggressively removing deer from areas where the infection was found. Wyoming, in contrast, had little resources for the control effort and so has seen its deer populations plummet.

Wyoming is also, though, seeing a shift to deer that can withstand the disease longer and so are able to reproduce before succumbing.

Mr. O'Brien said there is no evidence so far that the disease can be spread to non-cervids. Officials in Colorado and Wyoming, where the disease first appeared, tested spread from deer to cattle with captive infected herds and found no transmission.

Scientists have been testing for the past 10 years and have also found no evidence that the disease can be transmitted to humans, he said.

As part of the effort to track the disease, the DNR is requiring hunters in the area surrounding the three positive deer finds in Meridian Township (Ingham County) to bring their deer to DNR check stations where, in most cases, officials will take the head for testing. Mr. O'Brien said hunters would know within three days if their deer is negative for the disease and within a week if an initial positive test is confirmed.

The key struggle the department faces is the incubation time for the disease: between one year and five years before deer show symptoms.

"That means you have infected animals on the landscape that are infecting others but aren't showing symptoms, so we don't know how many there are or where they are," Mr. O'Brien said.

There are not confirmed tests for CWD, but he said scabies, a related disease in sheep, has been proven to remain viable in soil for more than 16 years.

The first positive deer, found in May, had likely been infected in 2013, he said. The other two deer had not yet been showing symptoms, so it was unclear when they were infected, he said. He

said it was likely that a person brought the disease into the area but there was likely no way to confirm who or when.

The state has only found the three deer from the 677 deer tested so far, but Mr. O'Brien said the state would have to test thousands of deer before it will know the extent of the infection.

A key source of test animals has been road kill, and he said the DNR has extra staff dedicated to collecting the carcasses for testing.

While new tests are being developed, Mr. O'Brien said there are currently no approved tests for identifying the disease from tissue of living animals, though he said tests for tonsil and rectal biopsies are close. He said the tests are not currently sensitive enough to find the prions in bodily fluids.

In answer to questions from committee members, he said, for instance, it was possible that the doe urine used as an attractant for bucks could potentially be infected. But he also said the facilities that raise the deer to collect that product are well regulated by the USDA to ensure the deer there are not infected.

Mr. O'Brien said the department so far has been funding the testing and response with existing funds moved from other programs, but DNR legislative Liaison Trevor VanDyke said officials were currently considering whether to ask for additional funds in the 2016-17 budget.

"We're in the process of developing next fiscal year's budget and this is one of the things that will be considered," he said. "We'll look within first before we ask for any kind of General Fund or supplemental."

**POACHING PENALTIES:** The committee also reported a package of bills ({ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB24401"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB24401) }, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB24501"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB24501) } and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB24601"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB24601) }) that create substantial increases in penalties for illegal taking or possession of elk, moose, bear, eagles and waterfowl. Using artificial light in taking that game would mean an extended period of license loss.

As reported, the bills would also create a misdemeanor penalty for using an illegal snare or cable restraint for trapping game.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1) } (R-Vulcan) abstained on reporting SB 244, which creates the new penalties, and voted against the other two bills over objections to both about the amount of the penalties and including an illegal equipment provision in what is otherwise a poaching bill.

"I think that the fines are excessive and punitive and out of line," he said.



He said he would not object to the bills if the committee adopted his amendment that would make the illegal snares a crime only if they caught or killed a dog, which he said was the impetus behind the language.

The committee rejected his amendment.

### Tours Of Capitol Dome Interior Banned For Safety Reasons

As exterior renovation of the Capitol nears completion, including a stunning restoration of the dome's exterior, the state's Capitol Commission on Tuesday adopted a policy that bans tours of the dome's interior.

The commission policy does allow for exceptions but acted on the advice of architects and out of fear that with the exterior restoration complete, requests for tours inside the narrow chambers between the skin of the dome and the rotunda would increase. The area is so narrow and packed with lighting and other fixtures that the Lansing Fire Department has actually developed a technical rescue protocol should anyone become ill or injured in the dome compartment.

The policy was one of many decisions the commission made, which included a new procedures manual for using public spaces and which calls for groups using the interior to, in some cases, pay a damage deposit or provide an insurance rider.

Commission chair and House Clerk Gary Randall said he was concerned that requests for tours of the interior of the dome would become more numerous.

But the interior is extremely narrow, and to go up through the interior requires going through a sliding door known as the guillotine and up a small ship's ladder. If someone were to have a heart-attack or get injured, it would be extremely difficult to get them out, he said.

But the commission did not approve, on a 4-1 vote, a total ban of access to the dome interior. Under the proposal passed, workers conducting maintenance would be allowed in the area and the commission could make exceptions for some situations to allow others into the dome's interior.

Senate Secretary Jeff Cobb, who said some legislators had expressed an interest in going into the dome's interior with visitors, voted against the proposal.

The commission also decided that Capitol employees who work on weekends will be paid time and one-half instead of accumulating compensatory time.

With the exterior renovations nearing completion, the continuing work on the Capitol will switch to the interior with a series of projects. The first will be completion of a project the state had to rush into action when it discovered during the summer the ceiling on the first floor corridor of the Senate's section was sagging and in danger of collapse.

Following that work, the state will focus on repairing and renovating the ceiling on the ground floor.

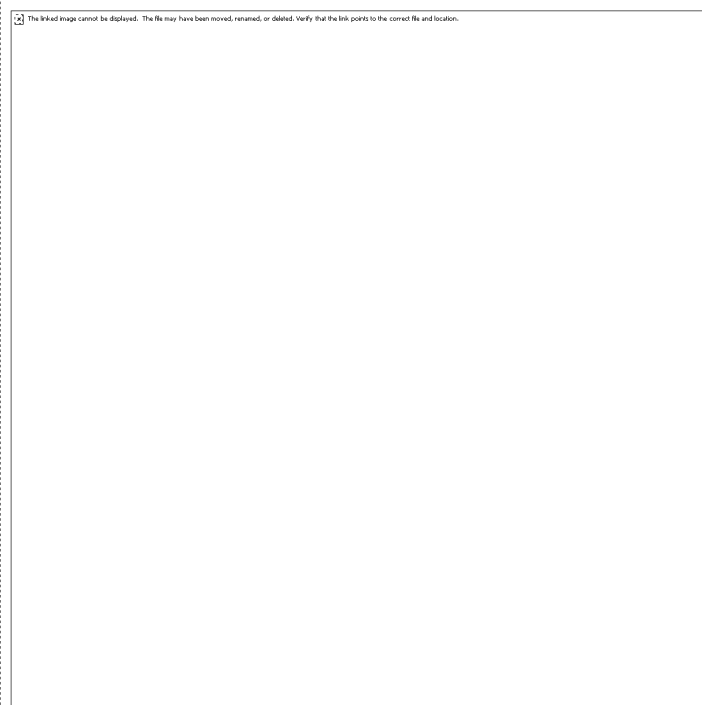
The state has some \$500,000 worth of decorative painting to complete, but it is also having difficulty finding a decorative painter to hire. The craft is so specialized it is hard to lure experienced painters away from the companies they now work for, the commission said.

Commission members were also excited that next year, replicas of two large gas lamps that greeted the public from 1879 until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century will be returned to their place at the entrance of the walkway to the Capitol at the intersection of Michigan and Capitol Avenues.

In June 2016, the commission is planning to hold an event, open to the public, honoring the workers who handled the renovation, and showing off the lamps and redone garden beds.

**MODILLIONS FOR SALE:** As part of the exterior renovation more than 200 sandstone modillions from under the cornice surrounding the roofline of the Capitol were removed and replaced with new, hand-cut sandstone modillions, each weighing 47 pounds.

And as a result, the Capitol Commission decided to offer at least 100 of the old modillions, which were in place since the Capitol was completed in 1879, to the public. The rest were considered too badly deteriorated for public sale.



These old modillions from the Capitol will be among those sold to the public.

had at that auction.

Modillions are decorative brackets used under a cornice, especially in buildings with Corinthian or Ionic architectural features. Modillions are seen in castles, cathedrals and other larger public buildings.

Commission member and former Capitol Facilities Director Kerry Chartkoff said it may be surprising how popular the modillions could be. When the initial renovation of the Capitol was completed in 1992, there were some original materials to the Capitol that couldn't be reused. Instead of just sending the goods to a landfill, the state decided to re-enact an auction of the materials that was held in 1879 - when materials not used were sold to the public.

Ms. Chartkoff said she was surprised at the interest and excitement the public

At a little more than 40 pounds, each modillion will probably have a specific decorative purpose for the people buying them.

The commission set a price of \$100 minimum on the pieces. The first 50 will be sold for \$100 each, with the buyers selected through a lottery. Persons interested in the modillions will be able to send a postcard to the Capitol facilities office to participate.

The remaining 50 will be sold through a mail auction, with bidders assigning a price in their letter to the state.

The commission will announce details of the lottery and auction at a later time.

And anyone not lucky enough to buy one of the modillions will get another chance: in 100 years when the new set of modillions will likely be replaced.

### Committee Ups Penalties For Failing To Yield

Failing to yield to an approaching emergency vehicle, currently a civil infraction, would be increased to a misdemeanor, or a felony in the event that failing to yield caused injury or death to emergency personnel, under legislation reported from the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday.

The bills, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB42101" }<sup>[a]</sup>

and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB42201" }<sup>[a]</sup>,

come in the wake of the death of a Lansing-area firefighter who prosecutors allege was deliberately run down while trying to collect money for charity, as well as another incident in June in Holland in which four people - a patient, paramedic, and two firefighters - were hospitalized after an ambulance was involved in a crash with a pickup truck that failed to yield to the ambulance.

"When there is an emergency, every second counts," said { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing), sponsor of SB 421, as he rattled off various statistics exemplifying just that.

Mr. Hertel said the bill would bring penalties in line with those associated with violating the state's move-over law. A person who failed to yield to an emergency vehicle and caused injury to a police officer, firefighter or other emergency response personnel in the immediate area of the approaching emergency vehicle would be guilty of a felony punishable by a maximum fine of \$1,000 and/or up to two years' imprisonment.

If an individual failed to yield and caused death to a police officer, firefighter or other emergency response personnel, an individual would be charged with a felony punishable by a maximum fine of \$7,500 and/or up to 15 years' imprisonment.

"We must ensure the punishment fits the crime," Mr. Hertel said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) raised an issue with the increased sentences.

"For somebody who was distracted, was thinking about the hectic schedule ahead, and in one case they have an injury and in another somebody dies on it, it's tough for me to put somebody away for that long of time considering the disruption to family (due to imprisonment)," Mr. Colbeck said.

But Mr. Hertel was unimpressed.

"I'm happy to continue conversations, but I think it's no less egregious not to move over than it is to not allow somebody with flashing lights to pass," he said.

And { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } (R-Grand Ledge), chair of the committee and sponsor of SB 422, told Mr. Colbeck those are maximum penalties. Rarely, except in the most egregious of cases, does a court incur those penalties upon a violator of the law, he said.

The two bills, reported unanimously, are tie-barred and would take effect 90 days after their enactment.

**GOOD SAMARITAN LAW:** On a related note, the committee also reported { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB42701" }<sup>[9]</sup>, which would include licensed emergency medical service providers in the Good Samaritan law. The law provides immunity from liability for certain health care professionals who provide care at the scene of an emergency, provide emergency care to someone who requires it as a result of a sports-related injury, or who responds to a life-threatening emergency in a hospital or other medical care facility when the person's actual hospital duty doesn't require a response.

Group: Lobbyists Spent \$21M To Lobby State In First Half Of Year

In the first { HYPERLINK "http://www.mcfn.org/press.php?prId=228" } \t "blank" }, lobbying firms spent \$21 million on efforts to lobby legislators, the Michigan Campaign Finance Network said Tuesday.

That figure is up 1.4 percent from the same period in 2014, according to the MCFN.

Leading the way on spending was Governmental Consultant Services, Incorporated, at \$947,832, followed by Karoub Associates, Kelley Cawthorne, RWC Advocacy, the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, Public Affairs Associates, Midwest Strategy Group, Muchmore Harrington Smalley Associates, Kandler Reed Khoury and Muchmore and the Michigan Credit Union League, the MCFN said.

## MSF Approves \$3M For Monroe Port

The Michigan Strategic Fund on Tuesday approved up to \$3 million in repayable funds from its Investment Fund for the city of Monroe to make improvements to the Port of Monroe.

"These improvements will transform the Port of Monroe into a center of economic activity and a premier general cargo handling facility on the Great Lakes," MEDC { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=336401&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=336401&locid=1) } said in a statement. "The project will promote further growth and investment in the Port and the region, and will lead to new jobs for Michigan residents."

The project expands trade routes and cargo opportunities, calls for dredging the River Raisin and a range of other improvements to increase accessibility to the port, the MEDC said. The impact is expected to cause fewer cargo delays and accommodate larger vessels with increased shipping capacity. The dramatic improvements in shipping efficiency are expected to generate a major economic impact to the Monroe region, it said.

"This is outstanding news for Monroe and the entire region," { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201&locid=1) } (R-Ida) said of the approval, in a statement. "The port is the industrial, commercial and recreational gateway to Monroe and is Michigan's only port on Lake Erie, yet its aging infrastructure has limited its accessibility."

The MSF also approved a Brownfield Work Plan worth about \$3.6 million, the tax revenue generated as a result of the work plan to be used to repay the Investment Fund.

"As we consider policies to help promote job creation and economic development, it is important to remember the key role that our infrastructure plays in our economy," Mr. Zorn said. "These improvements will increase the accessibility and efficiency of the Port of Monroe - leading to fewer cargo delays, reduced wear and tear on regional roadways, and a substantial increase in the opportunity for new trade."

Located on the western edge of Lake Erie, the port provides direct access to all five of the Great Lakes and serves 17 states. The improvements will not only promote new cargo opportunities but will ship and receive materials for the port's existing tenants, including DTE Energy, Michigan Paving & Materials, Gerdau MACSTEEL, Ford Motor Company and Ventower, the MEDC noted.

## Carhartt Expands, Valiant International Locates In Auburn Hills

Garment manufacturer Carhartt, founded in Detroit in 1889, will expand its headquarters in Dearborn to create 215 jobs, and auto systems maker Valiant International will expand its North American presence with the purchase of a facility in Auburn Hills after both received grants from the Michigan Strategic Fund.

Carhartt, best known for work clothes such as jackets, coats, overalls, coveralls, and more, will invest nearly \$18.6 million and create 215 jobs, resulting in a \$1.35 million Business Development Program performance-based grant from the MSF, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation announced Tuesday.

Michigan was chosen over competing sites on the East and West coasts where "top-tier talent related to the garment industry is more readily available," the MEDC noted in a statement.

The Strategic Fund also approved a \$2.3 million grant for the purchase of an 187,000-square foot facility in Auburn Hills for Valiant International Inc. The project is expected to generate a private capital investment of \$32.7 million and create 223 jobs over the next three years, the MEDC said.

"We proudly welcome Valiant to the global automotive capital," said MEDC { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=336401&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=336401&locid=1) }, in a statement. "We appreciate their commitment to the Michigan economy, and know they'll find Michigan is the preeminent business environment to grow their endeavors in the automotive, aerospace, defense, and construction industries."

The company is based in Windsor, Ontario.

As part of the move to Auburn Hills, the company will consolidate its Troy-based sales operation and establish a skilled-trade training site for apprentices to learn machine operating, welding, robot programming and other metal-working skills, the MEDC said. It also plans to partner with local government, community stakeholders, colleges, trade schools and private businesses to attract high-wage workers. In fact, the skilled trades positions at the company are expected to pay on average \$47 per hour, the MEDC noted.

**NEAPCO DRIVELINES, LLC:** The auto manufacturer plans to expand its driveline operations in van Buren Township and expand its headquarters in the metro Detroit area, investing \$57.7 million and creating 167 jobs, the MEDC said. As a result, it was awarded a \$1.5 million grant. Michigan was chosen over a competing site in Mexico.

**REVITALIZATION PROGRAMS:** HM Ventures Group 6, LLC, plans to renovate the historic Wurlitzer Building located on Broadway in the heart of downtown Detroit into a mixed-use boutique hotel to include 106 hotel rooms, a street level cafe restaurant, retail and meeting space, and a rooftop bar. It will generate a total capital investment of nearly \$22.3 million and create 48 permanent, full-time jobs, the MEDC said, resulting in a \$3.5 million Community Revitalization Program loan. The MSF also approved \$1.76 million in local and school tax capture to the Detroit Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to prepare the site for redevelopment.

In Grand Rapids, OHM, LLC plans to renovate the vacant, historic Rowe Building into a mixed-use building to include retail and residential space with sublevel parking. The project is expected to serve as a catalyst in the revitalization of the north side of downtown, the MEDC said, investing nearly \$26.9 million and creating 15 full-time jobs. It earned a \$5.4 million

revitalization loan. MSF also approved \$2.58 million in local and school tax capture to the Grand Rapids Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for brownfield alleviation, site preparation and infrastructure improvements for the project.

MSF also approved the following:

- \$2.5 million in funding to continue the Michigan Pre-Seed Fund 2.0 which provides loans or equity to early stage companies;
- Private activity bond authorizing resolution for Lutheran Homes of Michigan, Inc. to acquire and improve a 72-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility known as Lutheran Woods located in Livonia;
- An extension of a business and tourism marketing and advertising services contract with McCann Erickson USA, Inc.; and
- An extension of a business and travel public relations services contract with Weber Shandwick.

#### Kildee Calls For Independent Test Of Flint Water

After meeting with state and federal environmental officials Monday, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1) } said he is not confident that enough is being done to ensure Flint's water supply is safe and called for independent testing.

The city has been hit by a number of complaints in recent months, including tests showing unsafe levels of some chemicals as well as discoloration.

Mr. Kildee (D-Flint) said officials with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Environmental Quality and the city told him the water is being tested, but he said in a statement he was not convinced the testing was correct or sufficient.

"So far, I have been given no reason to have confidence in the current testing results," he said. "For example, it is unclear if homes sampled also took part in previous tests, which could have shown trends in water quality."

Mr. Kildee called for independent testing of the city's water that would include more homes.

"Flint residents deserve absolute transparency when it comes to the quality of their water," he said. "Additionally the city, DEQ and EPA must work together to ensure the immediate safety of Flint's drinking water, including any temporary relief until a long-term solution can be completed."

The Coalition for Clean Water echoed Mr. Kildee's call for additional testing and for providing residents with other sources of water until the system can be tested and repaired.

The group said its own testing showed corrosion problems in the city's water system.

"The Coalition demands the water source be switched back to Detroit water immediately as it is many times less corrosive than Flint River Water," the group said in a statement. "Even with the belated addition of corrosion control, extensive damage has been done to the pipeline infrastructure, and switching to Detroit water would be the best preparation for the eventual transition to KWA pipeline water while providing the best prospects of controlling lead and iron corrosion."

**RIVER RAISIN:** The DEQ announced Tuesday that the EPA had removed beneficial use impairment designations related to fish and wildlife populations and habitat from the River Raisin.

"Restoration of these beneficial uses means the fish and wildlife habitat in the River Raisin has vastly improved and can support healthy populations," DEQ officials said in a statement.

#### Longtime Prison Warden Barred From MDOC Property

The longtime warden of two Muskegon-area prisons has been stop-ordered and barred from entering Department of Corrections property, pending an investigation.

Mary Berghuis, the warden of the Earnest C. Brooks and West Shoreline Correctional facilities, was stop-ordered pending further investigation, said Corrections spokesperson Holly Kramer.

Ms. Kramer said she could not release any details about why the department stop-ordered Ms. Berghuis, the warden of the Brooks facility for 15 years and a longtime department employee before becoming warden, because the situation remains the subject of an internal investigation.

Shane Jackson, the deputy warden at the Muskegon Correctional Facility, was named acting warden for the two prisons Ms. Berghuis oversees.

#### Capital Notebook

**DIFS CEASE AND DESIST ORDERS:** The Department of Insurance and Financial Services has issued four new cease and desist orders for four different individuals, whose case can be found by clicking on their name: { HYPERLINK

"http://links.govdelivery.com/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTUwOTIyLjQ5MzUyOTMxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREltUFJELUJVTC0yMDE1MDkyMi40OTM1MjkzMSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3NTU3NDgyJmVtYWlsaWQ9Z29uZ3dlckBnb25nd2VyLmNvbSZlc2VyaWQ9Z29uZ3dlckBnb25nd2VyLmNvbSZmbD0mZXh0cmE9TXVsdGl2YXJpYXRISWQ9JiYm&&100&&http://www.michigan.gov/documents/difs/Nicole\_J\_Aloisio\_15-12608\_500506\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }, { HYPERLINK

"http://links.govdelivery.com/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTUwOTIyLjQ5MzUyOTMxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREltUFJELUJVTC0yMDE1MDkyMi40OTM1MjkzMSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3NTU3NDgyJmVtYWlsaWQ9Z29uZ3dlckBnb25nd2VyLmNvbSZlc2VyaWQ9Z29uZ3dlckBnb25nd2VyLmNvbSZmbD0mZXh0cmE



9TXVsdGl2YXJpYXRISWQ9JiYm&&&101&&&http://www.michigan.gov/documents/difs/Cynthia\_Montalvo\_15-12652\_500509\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }, { HYPERLINK "http://links.govdelivery.com/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTUwOTIyLjQ5MzUyOTMxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREltUFJELUJVTC0yMDE1MDkyMi40OTM1MjkzMSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3NTU3NDgyJmVtYWlsaWQ9Z29uZ3dlckBnb25nd2VyLmNvbSZ1c2VyaWQ9Z29uZ3dlckBnb25nd2VyLmNvbSZmbD0mZXh0cmE9TXVsdGl2YXJpYXRISWQ9JiYm&&&102&&&http://www.michigan.gov/documents/difs/Vanesa\_Munoz\_15-12650\_500510\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }, and { HYPERLINK "http://links.govdelivery.com/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTUwOTIyLjQ5MzUyOTMxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREltUFJELUJVTC0yMDE1MDkyMi40OTM1MjkzMSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3NTU3NDgyJmVtYWlsaWQ9Z29uZ3dlckBnb25nd2VyLmNvbSZ1c2VyaWQ9Z29uZ3dlckBnb25nd2VyLmNvbSZmbD0mZXh0cmE9TXVsdGl2YXJpYXRISWQ9JiYm&&&103&&&http://www.michigan.gov/documents/difs/Edy\_Garcia\_Barba\_15-12651\_500508\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }.

A list of all the Director's Orders can be found on the DIFS { HYPERLINK "http://links.govdelivery.com/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTUwOTIyLjQ5MzUyOTMxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREltUFJELUJVTC0yMDE1MDkyMi40OTM1MjkzMSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3NTU3NDgyJmVtYWlsaWQ9Z29uZ3dlckBnb25nd2VyLmNvbSZ1c2VyaWQ9Z29uZ3dlckBnb25nd2VyLmNvbSZmbD0mZXh0cmE9TXVsdGl2YXJpYXRISWQ9JiYm&&&104&&&http://www.michigan.gov/difs/0,5269,7-303-20594\_20598---,00.html" \t "blank" }.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## Wednesday, September 23

**Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw, Lansing, 9:30 a.m.** ( { HYPERLINK "http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/mpsc/orders/agendas/2015/150923.pdf" \t "blank" } )

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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**Sent:** Tuesday, October 20, 2015 10:22 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Tuesday, October 20, 2015  
**Attachments:** Oct20.htm; Oct20House.htm; 151020dayplan.htm; Oct20Senate.htm



## Michigan Report for Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Cotter, Meekhof Now Tangling On Roads

Teacher, Administrator Evaluations Head To Snyder

Ananich: 'Troubling' Finds On Flint Water Crisis

Pavlov Taking Time On DPS Plan, Third Grade Reading Bill

'Kevin's Law' Update Clears House

Hertel, Colbeck Debate On Roads Drifts Into Other Issues

Bills Would Increase Motorcycle Safety Course Fee

Senate Panel Approves Ban On Marketing To Students

Snyder Signs Civil Asset Forfeiture Bills

Snyder Names Two To Oakland Circuit Court

Committee Roundup

Campaign Notes

Capital Notebook

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

## Activity Reports

House

Senate

## **Calendars**

Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #208 -- Tuesday, October 20, 2015

### Cotter, Meekhof Now Tangling On Roads

Efforts to find a way to generate \$1.2 billion more for the state's roads further devolved Tuesday when Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof and House Speaker Kevin Cotter disagreed, publicly and privately, about the next step to take to break the stalemate on the issue.

Governor Rick Snyder, Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) and Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) met in Mr. Meekhof's office for a little less than an hour Tuesday with staff, other legislators and Lt. Governor Brian Calley. The meeting began about a half-hour after Mr. Meekhof took the unusual step of publicly calling for the House to convene conference committees and put before the House the "deal" for a vote.

That "deal" is the 400-400-400 plan that relies upon \$400 million in new revenue from raising the gasoline tax by 6.5 cents per gallon, \$400 million from fees, largely through ending the depreciation in new vehicle registration fees and \$400 million from the General Fund.

"There's other bells and whistles, but that's the base plan," Mr. Meekhof told reporters after session. "The drafts are completed, so no other work needs to be done. I have the drafts ready. A conference committee could meet. And I'm asking them to call the conference committee, put the last best deal we had on the table up for a vote, and go get the votes."

Mr. Cotter, exiting the leadership meeting later, asked if he could comment on the situation, simply said, "No."

Cotter spokesperson Gideon D'Assandro later dismissed Mr. Meekhof's request.

"Senate Majority Leader Meekhof abruptly left the last quadrant meeting early because Rep. Greimel changed his mind on an income tax cut, so he should know there is no deal," he said. "Speaker Cotter has been working with the governor on the issue since then, and he remains hopeful we can find reliable support for a permanent road funding solution."

Adding to the acrimony, later in the day, WOOD-TV, the NBC affiliate in Grand Rapids, aired a story in which House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) went further on the manner in which Mr. Meekhof allegedly left the last Legislative Quadrant meeting with the governor.

"I want to continue talking with the other quadrant leaders. I made that very clear last week when Arlan rushed out of the room like a child when he couldn't get his way," Mr. Greimel told WOOD-TV.

Meekhof spokesperson Amber McCann said Mr. Meekhof would not comment "on the actions of his colleagues" in quadrant meetings, saying those meetings are for frank conversations.

As to Mr. Cotter's rejection of Mr. Meekhof's request, she said, "I would find it surprising that the speaker and ... Representative Greimel aren't interested in moving the process forward."

Legislative sources, speaking on condition they not be named, said Mr. Cotter now plans to try to see if the House, using mainly Republican votes, can pass a new plan and essentially dare the Senate and Mr. Snyder to say no. Several sources said, at least initially, Mr. Cotter is considering another try at the 600-600 plan (\$600 million in new revenue and \$600 million dedicated from the General Fund).

The House took a stab at a 600-600 plan in August, but it faltered because House Republicans were short of the votes in their caucus, and Mr. Snyder declared \$600 million from the General Fund was too much without addressing other pressures on it, such as the coming sunset of the Health Insurance Claims Tax, a key source of Medicaid funding.

A week ago, Mr. Snyder and Mr. Cotter declared an "impasse" in negotiations for a bipartisan deal for road funding. The main problem was that Mr. Greimel resisted the size of the income tax cut Republicans were seeking.

The quadrant has not met since that meeting.

"The House has this in their lap and they have the ability to act, and I'm asking them to act," Mr. Meekhof said. "I think to say it this way, the plan we put forward guarantees the road funding and gambles on the fact we'd have revenue for tax relief."

And Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) seemed to agree.

"There's a point in time where we do have to have some action," Mr. Ananich said. "I get the point he's talking about ... the House has kind of Charlie Brown-ed us a number of times on these roads deals."

Mr. Ananich said he has some concerns about the proposal by his Senate Republican colleagues because it does not account for a potential downturn in the economy.

"It's similar to Proposal A in that it only ever goes down, it doesn't go up. If there's a bad year or a series of bad years, that cut would compound the problem, and we've seen it's difficult to raise taxes," Mr. Ananich said. "So I'm hopeful we can have a conversation and figure out a plan that meets the need of tax relief but at the same time doesn't put the budget in a long-term sustainability issue."

Mr. Snyder, leaving the leadership meeting, said he appreciates where Mr. Meekhof is coming from with a call for the House to vote, but did not make the same request.

"There's an issue for the House and the Senate to have dialogue and discussion because it's a conference committee issue, but ... that last plan was a pretty reasonable compromise," he said.

Business Leaders for Michigan and the Michigan Municipal League issued a joint statement supporting Mr. Meekhof's call for the House to bring the 400-400-400 plan to a vote and also warning against any plan using more than \$400 million from the General Fund for roads, saying it would jeopardize other key services.

Teacher, Administrator Evaluations Head To Snyder

Only two senators opposed supporting a revamped proposal that provides a framework for educator evaluations on Tuesday, sending the bill that had just been passed by the House last week to Governor Rick Snyder for his approval.

Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor) and Sen. Coleman Young II (D-Detroit) voted in opposition to SB 103, and Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville) was absent from session.

The bill has seen something of a wild ride in the Legislature, as it first passed the Senate back in May, but with much more dissent (See Gongwer Michigan Report, May 20, 2015). Among those who had first opposed to the bill's passage was Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) who, when she served in the state House last term, worked alongside Rep. Adam Zemke (D-Ann Arbor) to craft a bill.

Ms. O'Brien supported the bill that passed the Senate 35-2 on Tuesday, saying she felt many stakeholders had been included in the process and were actually heard this time.

"It's focused on good, sound, education policy," Ms. O'Brien said of the final version Tuesday.

The House began taking up SB 103 in June, but before long it became clear there was too much distance between what the House Education Committee chair, Rep. Amanda Price (R-Park Township), envisioned for the bill and what Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-St. Clair), chair of the Senate Education Committee, had in mind. Making matters worse is that an adviser for Governor Rick Snyder in June told the House committee that Mr. Snyder did not support the bill in its current form (See Gongwer Michigan Report, June 18, 2015).

"I think the districts started realizing that if we don't make this happen now, they'll be under current law, and current law just wasn't going to be acceptable," Mr. Pavlov told reporters of what finally broke the log-jam on the matter. "So we wanted to make sure going into this school year that teachers, administrators and boards knew there was going to be a new policy in evaluating teachers that was better than current law, and I think that's what really started moving the discussion."

The bill heading to Mr. Snyder now establishes both training requirements and options for school districts and public school academies to develop their own teacher evaluation tool or make modifications to an existing tool. It also the funding for training must come from the Educator Evaluation Reserve Fund.

The Department of Education would also have to establish and maintain a list of teacher and administrator evaluation tools, and the list would have to, at the very least, include the tools recommended by the Michigan Council on Educator Effectiveness in 2013. Districts do not have to use the same tool for teachers and administrators.

For teachers, beginning in the 2018-19 school year, 40 percent of the year-end evaluation would be based on student growth, with half coming from the state assessment and half coming from a local assessment.

For administrators, beginning immediately, 25 percent of the annual evaluation would be based on student growth and assessment data. The data is an aggregate of student growth data used in teacher evaluations in the district where the administrator works.

Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) praised the bill on Tuesday as providing "clearly defined evaluation expectations to help create a system of effective teacher evaluation accountability," as well as allows for more local decision-making.

"This bill as amended will help us hold our educators accountable and ensure our students are receiving a quality education in the state of Michigan," Mr. Knezek said.

SB 103 also provides \$14.8 million for districts to train administrators and teachers on the use of new evaluation tools.

The bill was well-received by various education interests, especially those had been pushing for such reforms since the first report from the Michigan Council on Educator Effectiveness years ago.

"Although the legislation passed by the House and Senate does not contain all of the council's recommendations, it does change the focus of evaluations," Michigan Education Association President Steven Cook said in a statement. "Instead of punishment, the goal of evaluations is now aimed at improving classroom instruction. In creating the Ball Commission and using its report as a guide, the Legislature acknowledged that experts in the field are invaluable in guiding education reform forward. That too is a change for the better."

Others were pleased to see the bill's final passage but looked to the Department of Education for leadership going forward.

"Michigan has not invested in nor developed new systems to better train and support Michigan's existing teachers. "We've done even less for school leaders," said Amber Arellano, executive director of The Education Trust-Midwest, in a statement. "Now the Department of Education can change that. It will need to play an unprecedented leadership role in systems change, oversight and ensuring the new system is providing sophisticated feedback to teachers, improving instruction across all districts and dramatically raising student achievement. Combined with the state's new college- and career-ready standards for teaching and learning, this is a huge opportunity for Michigan students."



The Tri-County Alliance for Public Education, which includes superintendents from Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties, also applauded the vote by the Senate.

"Effective teachers and administrators can make all the difference in the world when it comes to educating our kids, and constructive evaluation will strengthen teaching in our classrooms," said Russel Pickell, superintendent of Riverview Community Schools.

"We commend Senator Pavlov and the Michigan Legislature for working in good faith with educators on this legislation," said Mark Burton, executive director of the Alliance. "His leadership on this issue should be held up as an example of how legislators can learn from those on the frontlines of education to achieve our common goals and ensure our kids are prepared for college and a career."

And officials with the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals said passing the bill in its H-8 form was "an important milestone" for the state's principals, but more work still needs to be done.

"Educators finally have a clear target: implementing improvement-focused evaluations and growing the quality of all educators. Today's vote validates the work of the schools that have already begun the hard job of implementing quality evaluation systems and will support those districts that still need to make the transition," the group said in a statement. "Regardless, there is still plenty of difficult work ahead to implement this new law, improve our collective performance and ensure that every student benefits from the expertise of skillful educators. The Department of Education also has a significant role to play moving forward in providing guidance for schools and allocating the funding appropriated to support these systems."

#### Ananich: 'Troubling' Finds On Flint Water Crisis

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich said Tuesday it is "really troubling" that individuals within the Drinking Water Division of the Department of Environmental Quality spent more time protecting their reputation than they did protecting citizens, but he wouldn't go so far as to call for DEQ Director Dan Wyant to resign or be fired.

"I think we need to have a thorough investigation before we make any decisions about who should be fired or anything like that. I think it's clear he sees the gravity of the problem in his department, and I think he's learning that every day," Mr. Ananich told reporters after session. "But we have to get the bottom of how folks in the Drinking Water Division could so blatantly do everything they can in their power to hide the truth from the public, and that's pretty clearly what they did. "

The Flint Journal recently reported that emails exchanged among several DEQ and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials show flags had been raised about lead possibly leaching into Flint's water system some seven months ago.

Mr. Ananich said he's had some preliminary conversations with Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) about next steps the Legislature could take to ensure accountability and

help the citizens of his hometown regain trust in their water, their elected officials and their government. But Mr. Ananich said the two need to have more formal discussion about a course of action.

Mr. Ananich said he was also in the process of sending a request to the state's auditor general, who happens to be auditing the drinking water division, to add a few questions about the process and procedures in place in the event that a situation like has happened in Flint were to break out.

"When you get an email from somebody on your personal account, four or five people, and none of them have the self-respect for my community to say, 'hmm, maybe I shouldn't do this, maybe I should take this to the next level,' that's a problem," Mr. Ananich said. "That's a cultural problem that people would be more concerned about hiding something than telling the public the truth, and it's really troubling."

He said he felt there ought to be an investigation, though he wasn't immediately sure the form that could take. He hoped it would be independent, he said, and that "if things come out that people were negligent or purposeful in their actions, I think there needs to be some very serious consequences."

He also suggested a possible avenue is through the recently-created Senate Oversight Committee, especially because the House has a committee of the same name too.

"But I think with a department that's got such a heavy responsibility and one division in particular has shown that for the last 18 months they've failed, that warrants our involvement," Mr. Ananich said. "We have to get to the bottom of it. Every day more and more information comes out and it just gets worse."

### Pavlov Taking Time On DPS Plan, Third Grade Reading Bill

Sen. Phil Pavlov may have cleared one major hurdle on Tuesday when the Senate passed a bill outlining a framework for the evaluation of teachers and administrators, but more work is still in front of him when it comes to potentially leading in the Senate on Governor Rick Snyder's recently announced plan for Detroit Public Schools, as well as a bill on third-grade reading proficiency that passed the House last week.

Mr. Pavlov (R-St. Clair), chair of the Senate Education Committee, said he is reviewing the proposal by Governor Rick Snyder on how to revamp Detroit Public Schools and pay down its debts without harming education for the students enrolled in the district (See Gongwer Michigan Report, October 19, 2015).

"We've been meeting with the leaders and the coalition over the last several months. I think it's got a long way to go, but I think again, there's a need there," he told reporters after session. "There's a crisis looming. So we'll work through that just like we have with any other issue."

Mr. Pavlov said one of his preliminary concerns about the plan is school of choice, and the ability of parents and students to have "unfettered choice to educational opportunities" without be penalized, he said.

But he's also concerned about the amount of funding that Mr. Snyder is requesting for the Legislature, "because you're taking that from all other students in the state of Michigan," Mr. Pavlov said.

Although some believe the plan could start over in the Senate, Mr. Pavlov said he was not immediately sure himself, but the Senate GOP caucus has a great deal of interest in the proposal.

As to whether he could personally support something like what Mr. Snyder is asking, especially given how much money and effort has already been given to Detroit, Mr. Pavlov said, "I'm not convinced anybody is willing to go and reward bad behavior, but we do have a problem and that is that these kids need to be educated. So there's got to be a balance there."

He said he thought it to be "a big ask" to try to get the deal on DPS done by the end of the year, seeming a little more open to a timeframe that is before the beginning of the next school year.

"I think some of these issues are going to work themselves out over time, and to put a timeframe and predict when that would happen is going to be very difficult from where we are today," Mr. Pavlov said.

**READING PROFICIENCY:** Mr. Pavlov's committee was also assigned the task Tuesday of reviewing [HB 4822](#), a bill designed to get elementary students reading proficiently before entering fourth grade. The bill cleared the House last week with only three Democratic lawmakers in support - although it had cleared committee with support from the Democrats (See [Gongwer Michigan Report, October 15, 2015](#)).

Mr. Pavlov said he has no specific timeframe on the bill, admitting he hadn't really followed the issue very closely in the House until this point.

"I think we've clearly identified there's a problem here in this state. There's a number of issues I'm concerned about," he said. "We've made the largest investment in the country on early childhood education. We're asking the questions - when are those results going to start showing up? Why are kids still getting into third grade with all this additional support and still not having the highest proficiencies in reading. We're not just looking at third grade reading, we need to look at the Great Start program all the way through third grade."

'Kevin's Law' Update Clears House

Family and friends would be permitted to get mental health treatment for a person close to them before an unfortunate incident under legislation passed by the House Tuesday.

In 2004, former Governor Jennifer Granholm signed "Kevin's Law" in honor of Kevin Heisinger, who was beaten to death in a Kalamazoo bus/train station by a man with schizophrenia who stopped taking his medication.

Current law allows judges to order involuntary assisted outpatient treatment, but only after a major incident occurs.

Under [HB 4674](#), which passed 103-2, sponsored by [Rep. Tom Leonard III \(R-DeWitt Township\)](#), a family member or friend would be allowed to petition the court and allow judges to order outpatient treatment for those who have had their mental illness confirmed by a physician, all without a crime being committed.

"This reform is sorely needed because current law makes it very difficult for people who might not recognize the severity of their situation to obtain the treatment they need," Mr. Leonard said in a statement. "In the same vein, we must guarantee individuals' due process rights are protected by providing legal counsel to guide them through the court process if they believe AOT is not necessary. This protects both the public safety and the privileges of the individual."

Supporters have said under current law (passed about a decade ago), a crisis needed to occur before intervention could happen, and communities have been confused by the complexity of "Kevin's Law" and it hasn't been used much.

"We must make public safety - including the well-being of the individual in need of care - a priority in this type of situation, but also ensure that their rights remain protected. This legislation strikes that delicate balance." Mr. Leonard said. "I want to thank Lt. Gov. Calley for bringing this issue to my attention, and for the strong leadership he has shown working to protect our state's most vulnerable citizens."

HB 4674 does the following:

- Offers early intervention, since current law requires a serious incident that might endanger public safety to occur before AOT may be requested;
- Simplifies the process of seeking court-appointed treatment; and
- Allows a judge to order AOT before an incident has occurred that could cause injury to the prospective patient or a member of the public.

Hertel, Colbeck Debate On Roads Drifts Into Other Issues

A debate between two sitting senators that was supposed to be on the fundamental question over whether a tax increase is a necessary component of a final road funding solution went a bit off topic Tuesday as other issues such as the cost of health care, maintaining prevailing wage and fewer taxes on the middle class found their way into the hour-long back-and-forth.

Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) was pleased last week when Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing) took him up on a challenge Mr. Colbeck had earlier raised to his colleagues about having a public debate on the necessity of a tax increase as a component for a road funding solution. But what began as a fairly civil disagreement on whether the objective was to raise \$1.2 billion or to fix the roads in a manner that made them more sustainable eventually turned into a debate about the philosophical differences between Democrats and Republicans.

Mr. Colbeck began the discussion, saying he hoped to obtain an agreement that he and Mr. Hertel were trying to solve the same problem - a search that would come back perhaps in a manner he hadn't expected to, which is, not at all. Mr. Colbeck said beyond that key point, he wanted to debate his proposal, which in brief was to reprioritize existing funds, reduce expenses on fixing roads, leverage existing resources, and, if none of those were amicable, talk a tax increase.

Mr. Hertel took his opening statement in a completely different direction, saying that while he agreed funding Michigan's roads is the single-most important issue facing the state today, "I think people are frustrated because under this governor and this Legislature, they're paying more in taxes and they're not getting much out of it," he said. "I think people are frustrated with the massive tax cuts that have gone to corporations and have not gone to helping people in their everyday lives."

And he called Mr. Colbeck's proposal "a math problem" that focused more on logistics than it did on creating a long-term, sustainable funding solution for the state's roads and bridges.

"You believe the objective is to find \$1.2 billion. I believe the objective is to find a way to fix roads faster than they degrade," Mr. Colbeck shot back.

Mr. Hertel returned, "\$1.2 billion is the number the experts have come up with, not me. That's to maintain our current road system. I think we should invest more money into research and development to build longer lasting roads, but that's not been talked about in the Legislature."

The disagreement on the \$1.2 billion number would continue, as Mr. Colbeck argued the problem could be smaller at about \$700 million if the state would invest more into roads materials that were more sustainable, such as those being developed at the University of Michigan. Mr. Colbeck would raise other examples, but Mr. Hertel said his research into such materials and their companies is that they hadn't been tested in a practical manner, such as serving as a highway instead of a driveway, yet.

"I believe it's fiscally irresponsible," Mr. Hertel said of Mr. Colbeck's proposal, which, after some time, had finally revealed itself to involve a look at, and use of, restricted funds (which Mr. Hertel said was unconstitutional), as well as possibly using money associated with the Michigan Strategic Fund and the Budget Stabilization Fund.

Mr. Colbeck said fixing the roads ought to be considered economic development, and so the use of MSF funds would be warranted. And there is an excess of money in the BSF, so at least some of that could be directed toward roads, he said.

But Mr. Hertel ripped both as one-time solutions (though Mr. Colbeck later argued that funds from the BSF could be made into ongoing funds). He also pointed to some of the details in Mr. Colbeck's proposal, which Mr. Hertel alleged included taking money away from sexual assault prevention funds for university campuses and newborn screenings.

"I just don't understand. You can't play a legislative shell game. People pay these fees because they expect a service," Mr. Hertel said of Mr. Colbeck's proposal.

"All I'm saying is let's look into and make sure the actual funds are meeting the needs," Mr. Colbeck shot back.

Before long, the debate slid into an argument over whether to keep the state's prevailing wage and what the cost of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act has to the state, though it would eventually return to point when questions from the audience were asked, the first of which questioned whether the Department of Transportation ought to be investing more into research and development projects on roads.

"They have (the) equivalent of sand box. The problem is, we never seem to convert those projects, those sandbox items into changes of how we fix those roads. I think we need to do a better job," Mr. Colbeck said of MDOT. "We're not getting the bang for our buck we deserve."

Mr. Hertel defended MDOT, saying like other parts of the state budget, theirs has been cut "to the bone."

"I'm all for doing more for less but you can't expect that to routinely work forever," Mr. Hertel said. "If you had a plan that was sustainable, don't you think Rick Snyder would jump on it?"

Both had different takeaways from the defeat of Proposal 1, but both also had concerns about an income tax rollback.

"I'm always for a tax rollback, but I'm cautioned by the fact that one of the first things we did when I came into the Legislature was to stop a rollback," Mr. Colbeck said. "I'm not convinced it would go all the way down, because people are still fixated on raising taxes."

"It's fiscally irresponsible," Mr. Hertel said of the rollback. "It scares me to roll it down in good times but have no time to go up in bad."

### Bills Would Increase Motorcycle Safety Course Fee

The maximum fee for a motorcycle safety course would increase from \$25 to \$50 under legislation discussed in the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on Tuesday.

[HB 4853](#) and [HB 4854](#), introduced by Rep. Jim Tedder (R-Clarkston), would increase the fee and require the Department of State to waive the written knowledge test, road signal test and driving skills test for an applicant who had successfully passed a private or public motorcycle safety course.

Under the first bill, government agencies offering the motorcycle safety courses would be allowed to charge up to \$50, but could charge less if they chose.

Mr. Tedder said the fee not been increased since 1982. He said \$25 does not come close to covering the cost of the class. He also said the fee is so low, some sign up for the class but then do not show up.

Under the current program, the public entities providing the classes submit a grant request to the department for reimbursement. Mr. Tedder said because the fee is low and the Motorcycle Safety Fund has shrunk, they are not always reimbursed for the full amount spent.

"Several institutions have voiced concerns over their ability to maintain hosting the class because they are quite frankly losing money," Mr. Tedder said. "This is an opportunity to make these whole so they can continue hosting these classes."

Mr. Tedder said he took one of the courses a couple months ago, and took a class from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m.

He said at the class booklets were provided, and six hours were spent out on the course and a motorcycle was provided during the class at no additional costs.

"For \$25 I received nearly nine hours of quality instruction and at the end of that experience successfully completed a secretary of state approved test," he said.

Rep. Jeff Farrington (R-Utica) questioned why the increase was so large. "I am thrown back a little bit by a 100 percent increase in fees," he said.

Mr. Tedder said the fees were artificially maintained at a low level.

And Rep. David Rutledge (D-Ypsilanti) said he thought the fee should be \$100. "The fee has been \$25 for 30 years," he said.

American Bikers Aiming Toward Education also supports the legislation. The committee did not act on the bills.

**MDOT PRESENTATION:** Department of Transportation Director Kirk Steudle also spoke to the committee Tuesday on various efficiencies within the department and projects it's working on this year.

Mr. Steudle said the department has reduced staff by 15 percent during the last three years and combined with other efficiencies has saved \$316 million during that time.

In 2015, he said, the department has saved \$13.5 million by partnering with private entities to provide more street lights in Detroit, and saved \$22 million through bond refinancing.

Mr. Steudle said during the next five years, the department will invest \$503 million annually to repair and rebuild roads.

He said \$168 million will be invested annually to repair bridges.

The committee ran out of time and Mr. Steudle was only able to take a couple questions from committee members but will return at the request of Rep. Peter Pettalia (R-Presque Isle), the committee chair.

### Senate Panel Approves Ban On Marketing To Students

Companies that provide electronic services to schools would be prohibited from targeted marketing to students under legislation reported Tuesday from the Senate Education Committee.

The bill (SB 510), as reported, would ban advertising to students based on information the company collected on them as well as prohibit sale of any of that information.

The student or his or her parents would be permitted to request disclosure of any of the collected data, but the company would also be required to delete any or all of that data if the school district requests that.

The bill was reported unanimously with an S-2 substitute.

**SHARED TIME:** The committee also began discussions on bills (HB 4594 and HB 4790) that would allow kindergarten students to be eligible for shared time.

Current law allows students in first grade and above who are home schooled or attend a private school to take some classes at their local public school, with the school being reimbursed based on the amount of time the student spends at the public school.

Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan), sponsor of the bill, said the current law was written when kindergarten was generally part-time and so did not lend itself to shared time programs.

"Half-day kindergarten is pretty much not the rule anymore," he said. "This allows both home schoolers and private schools to work together with the public schools."

Mr. McBroom said there would need to be conflict substitutes approved when the committee moves the bills, which appeared to have general support from Republicans, to accommodate recent School Aid Act changes.

### Snyder Signs Civil Asset Forfeiture Bills

Legislation putting new limits on civil asset forfeiture, one of the few major issues in recent years that largely united both conservative and liberal legislators, was signed into law Tuesday by Governor Rick Snyder.



The package of bills sets new reporting requirements for governments and police agencies on property seized, as well as setting new stricter standards governments must follow before seizing property.

"These new reporting requirements will raise the bar so that a fair balance is struck between private property rights and law enforcement's effective ability to do their job in pursuing criminal activity," Mr. Snyder said in a statement about the seven-bill package.

The main measure, [HB 4504](#) (PA 148) requires all government entities to report any and all property seizures and forfeitures to the State Police. The State Police will then compile a report on those seizures which will be given to the Legislature and posted on the department's website.

[HB 4499](#) (PA 153) raises the threshold to "clear and convincing evidence" to seize property in nuisance abatements. And [HB 4505](#) (PA 154) the plaintiff in a controlled substance case has to show the seizing property was a violation again by the clear and convincing standard.

Also signed were [HB 4500](#) (PA 149) [HB 4503](#) (PA 150), [HB 4506](#) (PA 151) and [HB 4507](#) (PA 152) which amend different statutes to comport with the new standards.

Mr. Snyder also signed a package of Senate-House bills to help ensure individuals who rely on service animals have greater access to public facilities. The bills were created after a number of incidents where individuals were prevented entrance to some public places because they had a service animal, most commonly a dog, with them.

[SB 298](#) (PA 144) makes it a crime to deny access to someone with a service animal, or to attack a service animal. [SB 299](#) (PA 145) exempts service animals from licensing fees if they are assisting a person with a disability or a veteran with a service-related disability.

[HB 4521](#) (PA 146) requires the Department of Civil Rights to offer voluntary identification for service animals, and [HB 4527](#) (PA 147) makes it a misdemeanor to falsely identify a service animal.

Other bills signed by Mr. Snyder were:

[SB 64](#) [PATIENT CARE POLICIES \(Hansen\)](#) Requires establishment of patient care policies, PA 155 and compliance procedures based on nationally recognized guidelines or best-practice resources, and provides other general amendments.

Signed: October 19, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

[SB 65](#), [HEALTH PROFESSIONALS \(Hansen\)](#) Allows employment of or contracting with PA 156 health professional to provide medical treatment to nursing home patients regardless of business entity status of nursing home.

Signed: October 20, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

SB 66, **LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES (Hansen)** Clarifies application of definition of  
PA 157 learned profession to certain health professionals.

Signed: October 19, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

SB 67, **BUSINESS CORPORATIONS (Hansen)** Clarifies application of definition of  
PA 158 learned profession to certain health professionals.

Signed: October 19, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

SB 358, **TEACHER CERTIFICATES (Hansen)** Revises requirements for professional  
PA 159 teaching certificate and requirements for alternative teaching certificate process.

Signed: October 20, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

Snyder Names Two To Oakland Circuit Court

Governor Rick Snyder on Tuesday named two people to the Oakland Circuit Court, one of which was Hala Jarbou to succeed new Court of Appeals Judge Colleen O'Brien.

Also named was Jerry Matis to succeed Judge Rudy Nichols (who served in the House for two years and then was elected to the Senate in 1984 succeeding the recalled Sen. Phil Mastin. He was elected to the court in 1990).

Ms. Jarbou is currently with the U.S. Department of Justice as an assistance U.S. attorney in the Drug Task Force. She must run for full term as judge in 2016.

Mr. Matis is in private practice and is also the vice chair of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. He previously had been on the Rochester City Council. He must run in 2016 to complete the term which will end in 2020.

Committee Roundup

**HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES:** The committee began discussions Tuesday on legislation (HB 4908) to remove the sunset date on authority for the Natural Resources Commission to set regulations for recreational feeding of deer and elk.

Supporters said it was important for the commission to retain that authority as part of the effort to combat chronic wasting disease and other communicable diseases.

But Rep. Ken Goike (R-Ray Township) and Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan) argued for extending the sunset three years.

Mr. Goike said he was happy with the commission's work now, but said that could change. "Why give it away and then have to do legislation to get the power back," he said of legislative control over the commission's actions.

Rep. John Kivela (D-Marquette), sponsor of the legislation, said the legislative process takes too long. "Three years from now, chronic wasting disease is going to be more of a threat, not less," he said.

Amy Trotter with the Michigan United Conservation Clubs said it would be a waste of time to keep a sunset on the authority given the small likelihood any of the parties would reverse their support for the commission's work.

Mr. McBroom noted there was nothing that would prevent the governor from taking the authority from the commission and giving it to the director, as former Governor Jennifer Granholm had done with oversight of invasive species.

#### Campaign Notes

**GILBERT ENDORSEMENT:** The United Food and Commercial Workers Local 951 has endorsed Democrat Melissa Gilbert in her run for the 8<sup>th</sup> U.S. House District.

"Melissa has a proven track record of protecting workers' rights and supporting unions, which strengthen the voices of American workers," John Cakmakci, president of the local, said in a statement. "I am confident that she will fight for Michigan's working families in Congress."

#### Capital Notebook

**SIMON TO CHAIR AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES:** Michigan State University President Lou Anna Simon will serve as chair of the Association of American Universities for the next year. Ms. Simon was elected to the post by the association's board on Tuesday.

The association includes 62 of the top research universities in the United States and Canada, and both promotes university research and the relationship between the United States government and university research.

As chair, Ms. Simon will act as the spokesperson for the association, especially on issue that directly concern research universities.

**GORZ JOINS MAC:** Elizabeth Gorz has joined the Michigan Association of Counties as the organization's governmental affairs associate. Before joining the counties organization, she was a lobbyist at Capitol Affairs, and had been a staffer for former Senate Majority Leader and now U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop (R-Rochester), and an aide to former Sen., now U.S. Rep. John Moolenaar (R-Midland) and to Sen. Tory Rocca (R-Sterling Heights).

#### Supplemental Agency Calendar

## **Wednesday, October 21**

**Board of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 9 a.m. (Agenda; Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately following (Agenda))**

## **Wednesday, November 4**

**Criminal Justice Policy Commission, Senate Appropriations Room, Third Floor, Capitol, Lansing, 9 a.m.**

**Supplemental Event Planner**

## **Wednesday, October 28**

Rep. Julie Plawecki (D) Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 4:30 p.m.

## **Thursday, October 29**

Rep. George Darany (D) Fundraiser, LaPita Banquet Hall, 22681 Newman, Dearborn, 5 p.m.

## **Thursday, November 5**

Rep. Robert Wittenberg (D) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.

## **Thursday, November 12**

Rep. LaTanya Garrett (D) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.

## **Friday, November 13**

**Rep. Sheldon Neely (D) Fundraiser, Signature Chop House, 1537 Pierson Road, Flushing, 7 p.m.**

## **Sunday, November 15**

Rep. Erika Geiss (D) Fundraiser, 24645 Muirfield Drive, Taylor, 4 p.m.

## **Sunday, November 22**

Rep. Jon Hoadley (D) Fundraiser, 277 South Rose Street, Suite 5000, Kalamazoo, 11:15 a.m.

**Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees**

## Wednesday, October 21

House Appropriations (Committee Record), (Chr. Pscholka, 373-5795), House Appropriations Room, Capitol, 9 a.m.

HB 4898 ANIMALS (McCready) Modifies pet shop, dog pound and animal shelters act to include large-scale commercial dog breeders and to make other general revisions.

House Tourism and Outdoor Recreation (Committee Record), (Chr. Rendon, 373-8474), Room 326, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

- **Presentation on Pure Michigan by David Lorenz, vice president of Travel Michigan.**

HB 4983 NATURAL RESOURCES (Rendon) Provides for prohibition on enforcement of recreational passport on free fishing weekends.

Senate Families, Seniors and Human Services (Committee Record), (Chr. Emmons, 373-5323), Room 210, Farnum Building, 3 p.m.

SB 517 UNIFORM INTERSTATE FAMILY SUPPORT ACT (MacGregor) Repeals and recreates uniform interstate family support act (UIFSA).

SB 518 FRIEND OF THE COURT (MacGregor) Updates friend of the court reference to the uniform interstate family support act.

SB 519 CHILD SUPPORT (Emmons) Updates child support reference to the uniform interstate family support act.

SB 520 PARENTING TIME (Emmons) Updates parenting time reference to the uniform interstate family support act.

## Tuesday, October 27

Senate Finance (Committee Record), (Chr. Brandenburg, 373-5312), Room 210, Farnum Building, 2:30 p.m.

HB 4461 REFUND INTEREST (McCready) modifies timeline for interest claims on refunds.

HB 4462 REFUND INTEREST (Clemente) Aligns interest claims on city income tax with Revenue Act.


HB 4685 SALES TAX ON GASOLINE (Poleski) Revises provisions for prepaid sales tax on gasoline and diesel fuel.

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## Michigan Report for Tuesday, October 13, 2015

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## Volume #54, Report #203 -- Tuesday, October 13, 2015

### Road Funding Talks Falter - Again

Call it an impasse, a stall, hiccup or some other term, but weeks of discussions between Governor Rick Snyder and legislative leaders clearly suffered a setback Tuesday.

For weeks, Mr. Snyder and the Legislative Quadrant - House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant), Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive), Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) and House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) - have sounded upbeat about progress toward an eventual deal to raise \$1.2 billion in funds for roads.

And while not revealing details, there was a general sense that they had agreed on the road funding package but were still working out the complementary legislation needed to sell it to the rank-and-file members of each of the four legislative caucuses. So when Mr. Snyder declared after Tuesday's meeting they had hit an impasse, it was surprising, if not shocking, considering the long, difficult path efforts to win new funding for roads has taken.

"We had made a lot of progress in prior meetings. We're at an impasse now," Mr. Snyder said.

But that was not a universally accepted characterization of the situation. Mr. Meekhof described the situation as a "stall," and Mr. Greimel said he hoped the various parties had not reached an impasse.

And while Mr. Snyder gravely warned he would not continue to meet with the Legislative Quadrant on the issue absent resumption of progress, suggesting he might cancel Wednesday's meeting, by late Tuesday night, that meeting had yet to be officially scrubbed.

The problem appears to center on an income tax cut as part of the overall package. Democrats are resisting, concerned it would strain the General Fund and damage the programs that rely on it for their funds. Republicans want the income tax cut to soften the blow for their members of voting to raise taxes.

While never officially announced, the road funding package is expected to involve \$400 million from a gasoline tax hike, \$400 million from other new revenues - mainly from ending the depreciation on vehicle registration fees in the first years of owning the vehicle - and \$400 million dedicated from the General Fund.

Mr. Snyder declined to discuss details of the meeting but said it was "fair to say people have different perspectives as to what tax relief might look like."

And Mr. Greimel said, "We would prefer tax relief that benefits fairly broad groups of incomes as opposed to the Senate Republican income tax cut that disproportionately benefits the wealthy and the well-connected."

The Senate-passed plan called for reducing the income tax rate based on a complicated formula involving how much state revenue had grown.

Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for Mr. Cotter, said House Republicans will continue to negotiate and work on a solution that fixes the roads and protects Michigan taxpayers.

"Including tax relief in the deal has been part of the negotiations from day one, and it remains a Republican priority," he said. "We put together a responsible, balanced budget this year that included \$400 million for road repairs, and we can do it again in a way that protects Michigan's hard-working taxpayers."

Mr. Snyder made it clear he saw diminishing returns to continuing to hold meetings absent more progress.

"Unless I see progress, I'm not going to schedule more," he said.

Mr. Snyder said he hoped legislative leaders would take time to reflect and understand a compromise would be needed.

Mr. Greimel called for meetings to continue.

"I am committed to continuing to meet and see if we can talk through the disagreements and reach an agreement on a road plan that is fiscally responsible and sustainable," he said. "I have also made it very clear that I am not willing to agree to any proposal that jeopardizes funding for public safety, education and health care."

Mr. Meekhof, in a statement, emphasized that the Senate had passed a road funding plan that called for an \$800 million gasoline tax hike and dedicating \$700 million from the General Fund to roads.

"Since passage of the Senate plan, I have been realistic in my expectations that ultimately a road funding plan would include compromise in order for all parties to agree," he said. "For me, taxpayers deserve long-term tax relief, especially when we are seeking additional resources to fund our roads. I am disappointed that months of discussion and progress at the leadership level have stalled, but a standstill at the leadership level is not an indication of unwillingness on the part of the Senate."

Meekhof spokesperson Amber McCann said the use of the word "stalled" instead of impasse was deliberate.

"Impasse implies a much more negative state than we're in at this point," she said. "The majority leader is still optimistic that a road funding solution is possible."

Mr. Meekhof also is willing to meet if others want to do so, Ms. McCann said.

Lance Binoniemi of the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association said he long ago had learned not to get too excited about the good developments on roads and not too upset at the bad ones.

"We've had a lot of these types of days where talks seem to break down," he said.

He also put the best face on the use of the term impasse, which he said surprised him.

"They've never had a deal in place so there's always been an impasse," he said, chuckling.

More seriously, Mr. Binoniemi said the intensity shown Tuesday was a sign that Mr. Snyder and legislative leaders are getting to the real issues of a deal.

"I haven't heard from one person out of the quadrant yet that talks are done, they've failed and they're not coming back," he said. "I remain optimistic. We've had days like this before and we've survived to the next day. Until someone throws up their hands and says it's done, we're not going to do this, I don't get too nervous."

#### Bill Allowing Concealed Guns, Ending Open Carry In Gun-Free Zones Clears Senate Panel

The Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday reported a bill that would prohibit open carry in gun-free zones such as schools, churches and hospitals, and instead allow those with concealed pistol licenses to carry a concealed firearm in those facilities.

Backers say the bill would address the problem of people openly carrying guns on or near school property, which in an age where mass shootings at schools are sickeningly common has prompted school officials to put their building in lockdown while police determine the situation. In some instances, the person openly carrying is doing so to make the point they legally have the right to do so.

But the legislation also would wipe out one of the key pieces of the 2000 overhaul of the concealed pistol license law by effectively wiping out gun-free zones. To convince then-Governor John Engler to sign a bill taking away the power of local gun boards to decide who could get a CPL and instead making licenses automatic to law-abiding applicants with no record of involuntary commitment for mental illness, the gun-free zones were established.

The committee reported two bills - one by Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville) in SB 442, and the other by Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) in SB 561, which was just introduced and sent to the committee on Tuesday.

An amendment was adopted to Mr. Green's bill to tie-bar it to Mr. Meekhof's bill (and vice versa), as Mr. Green's bill makes the concealed carry change in the state's handgun licensure law while Mr. Meekhof's makes the concealed carry change in the penal code.

"Permit holders have lower rates for arrests and convictions than police officers," said John Lott, a pro-gun researcher and economist. "Since 1950, with just two exceptions, every mass shooting has taken place where guns are banned."

As the state's law is currently written, a person cannot possess a firearm on the premises of a financial institution, a church or other house of religious worship, a court, bar, theatre, sports arena or stadium, day care center and hospital.

Although the Senate hearing room was packed full of various opposing interests, and especially parents of school children who derided Mr. Green's legislation as unnecessary and problematic, the committee voted 4-1 to report the bills as substituted and with amendments to the full Senate floor for consideration. Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren) opposed the bill.

Testimony in opposition to SB 442 began with several church officials and then led into school officials, including the superintendent of Ann Arbor Public Schools and the Michigan Association of School Boards, among others. Several other education officials who were also CPL holders testified in opposition, followed by gun control advocates and then gun rights backers.

"We are not coming here as an association that's anti-gun, but one concerned about the safety of our students," said Don Wotruba, executive director of MASB. "(Open-carry) has become disruptive. Moving to a concealed carry system only hides the danger; it doesn't get rid of it."

Mr. Wotruba also argued that allowing concealed carry in gun-free zones such as schools could make the ability of police officers to respond to mass shooting situations more difficult in that they will first have to identify who is or is not carrying before trying to figure out which direction a shooter went or who it could be. All of that takes time away from their ability to act quickly in such a situation, he said.

But Mr. Green, speaking to reporters after the vote, said some of the people testifying against the bill, and especially the school groups, "weren't testifying on the bill."

"Every one of their statements was 'we don't want guns in schools.' It wasn't a matter of 'we've got guns in schools, let's change the law,' which is what I'm trying to do. Their whole testimony didn't really discuss what the bill was doing," he said. "I think the message that was sent today was 'we don't want guns in school,' and we understand that. We're trying to fix a fix, trying to do them a favor.

"We, as gun owners, have every right in the world to carry in most of the gun-free zones. Are we going to give that up? We're taking a step back and saying we'll cover them up if you guys are willing to do it. They don't even want that," Mr. Green said.

And he said some of the testimony spoke only to hypotheticals.

"I've always said to the stadium folks that wanted to be left in the gun-free zones, you don't even know if there's any bad guns there. You only want to disallow good guns," he said. "The debate

is going back and forth about what's a gun zone, and the fact is most people could carry there today because the penalties are so light."

All told, the committee permitted slightly more than hour of testimony after Mr. Green and Mr. Lott spoke on the merits of the bill for more than 30 minutes at the start of the committee. Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge) said he sought to report the bill despite that many more people wished to testify on their position on the bill given some committee members had other meetings they had to get to. Mr. Jones said he would, however, stay to listen to anyone else who wished to speak on the matter.

After the vote, Mr. Bieda said he thought it "insulting" to the people who traveled to testify, as well as insulting to the institution. His remark was met with applause from many in the audience, which Mr. Jones immediately gaveled down.

Mr. Green was not immediately sure how soon the bill could be taken up by the full Senate.

Mr. Meekhof has said he supports the legislation, but Governor Rick Snyder has been opposed to essentially ending gun-free zones.

#### House Panel Considers Banning Certain Kinds Of Abortions

The House Criminal Justice Committee discussed banning dilation and evacuation abortions on Tuesday, with the Republican sponsor of the bill calling the procedure "barbaric," but Democrats charged the procedure is used in 95 percent of second trimester abortions and would limit women's access to care.

Rep. Laura Cox (R-Livonia), sponsor of HB 4833 and HB 4834 banning the procedure, which in the bill is called a "dismemberment abortion," and would charge anyone who performed the procedure - except to save the mother's life - with a felony punishable by two years in prison and/or a \$50,000 fine.

Ms. Cox called the procedure cruel and said during it, "tiny, unborn humans are literally torn apart."

"It seems unconscionable to me that this type of abortion exists and it is time that this practice ended," she said.

In 2014 there were 26,321 reported abortions in the state, with 2,264 being dilation and evacuation procedures, according to the Department of Health and Human Services.

The bill defines "dismemberment" abortion as "an abortion in which the physician, an individual acting under the delegatory authority of the physician, or any other individual performing the abortion deliberately and intentionally uses any instrument, device, or object to dismember a living fetus by disarticulating limbs or decapitating the head from the fetal torso and removing the dismembered fetal body parts from the uterus regardless of whether the fetal body parts are removed by the same instrument, device, or object or by suction or other means."

Rep. Marcia Hovey-Wright (D-Muskegon) said according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention the procedure is the safest method for women 14 weeks pregnant and later.

Ms. Cox said there are other abortion procedures available and the dilation and evacuation procedure is not necessary.

Rep. Stephanie Chang (D-Detroit) said similar laws have been challenged in Oklahoma and Kansas and asked Ms. Cox how the state would pay for a court challenge.

"I am actually ready for the fight," Ms. Cox said. She also said the state would determine how to fund such a fight during the appropriations process.

Matt Allswede, a gynecologist and the vice chair of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Michigan chapter, said the group is alarmed at the attempt to ban physicians from providing safe and evidence-based health care.

He said according to the CDC, pregnancy complications were the sixth-leading cause of death for women between 20 and 34 years old.

"The bills create a dangerous environment for women by preventing doctors from having every option available when providing care," he said. Mr. Allswede said science, not political beliefs, should be the basis of medical decisions.

Mr. Allswede, who said he had performed the procedure last week, said it is a very intense experience.

"It is something that is very emotional for us as people as well as physicians," he said. "And yet we do it because we do believe in those circumstances it is in the best interest of the woman. Our choice to proceed with something that we may have our own emotional feelings to contend with, it's superseded by our professional commitment to do what's best for our patients."

Mr. Allswede said the reason the procedure is safer for second-term abortions is a medical abortion that creates a "mini-labor" experience. He said the medication used are sometime problematic for patients and the pro-longed process makes patients more susceptible to infections, which is the biggest threat to future fertility.

Ed Rivet, with Right to Life of Michigan, spoke in support of the bill, said the dilation and evacuation procedure facilitates the harvesting of fetal organs.

Mr. Rivet then took out a pair of forceps and brought out a plastic fetus to "demonstrate" the procedure. Mr. Rivet later told the committee he had never performed an abortion, had never seen one in person, but had seen the procedure done on a video on the internet.

"Initially I was going to apologize for the gruesomeness. You can see my hands shaking," he said after his demonstration. "But this is just the reality of it, folks. It's just the truth about how a child is torn apart, piece by piece."

Daniel Wechter, a gynecologist who is anti-abortion, said he has only had to use the procedure to save the life of a mother six times in his 41-year career. Mr. Wechter said he works with high-risk pregnancies.

He said he disagrees that the procedure is safer than others when it comes to second trimester abortions. He said of the physicians with whom he spoke who support the right to a legal abortion, they told him there is a degree of cervical trauma from the procedure.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan also spoke in opposition to the bill. In written testimony, the group said the bills are unnecessary, unconstitutional and unsafe.

The committee did not act on the bill Tuesday, but Rep. Kurt Heise (R-Plymouth), chair of the committee, indicated the bill would come up in the committee again.

### Court Hears Arguments On Whether MCCA Is Public Body

If the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association is a public body, then the Legislature violated the Constitution by not making it subject to the state's Freedom of Information Act, the Supreme Court was told Tuesday. If it is not a public body, then the issue is moot.

And the MCCA in its response argued that in fact it was not a public body, that it was created as a private, non-profit agency answerable to insurance companies and not the public. While its decision on the insurance surcharge individuals have to pay on their auto no-fault insurance does have an impact on the public, the public is not actually required to pay it as the insurance companies could cover the cost, the Supreme Court was told.

The arguments before the court, in *Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault v. MCCA* (SC docket No. 150001), were to determine if the court will actually hear full arguments on the issue, or decide the case on the arguments presented.

The case drew lots of attention, as the Supreme Court chambers were crowded with people, many who were injured in auto accidents. At one point MCCA attorney Lori McAllister said the public had a lot of interest in the case, Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. joked that he thought they were all there to see the newest justice, Justice Joan Larsen.

Opponents of change to the no-fault system have argued for some years that the MCCA needs to open itself to public scrutiny so it can be determined how much in assets it has and the real impact it has on insurance rates.

The matter is on appeal from the Court of Appeals which held the MCCA is not a public body. The trial court had said it was a public body.

Joanne Swanson, arguing for CPAN and the Brain Injury Association of Michigan, said the issue is simply that the MCCA is a public body and that in enacting the MCCA the Legislature unconstitutionally exempted it from the FOIA and failed to amend and republish the FOIA as is required by the Constitution.

The state's no-fault law was enacted in 1972. The FOIA was enacted in 1976. Then in 1978, the Supreme Court upheld the no-fault law in the *Shaver's* decision but said the Legislature had to enact further protections to ensure insurance was affordable and that motorists had access to information about how their rates were derived. In meeting the requirement of the Supreme Court, the Legislature adopted changes to the no-fault act, and among those was adopting the MCCA.

The overall structure of the MCCA and its impact on the public makes it a public body, subject to the FOIA, Ms. Swanson said.

And the overall intent of the FOIA shows that if the Legislature intended it to not be subject to the FOIA then it had to specify which documents would not be subject to the law, she said. But the Legislature described no documents that would be exempt and, in fact, did not describe documents at all.

There are exceptions for public bodies from the FOIA, Ms. Swanson said, but the MCCA does not rise to those exceptions.

But Mr. Young asked if the issue did not hinge on a "threshold question" of whether the agency was a public body.

And Ms. Swanson acknowledged that if the MCCA was not a public body, then it was not subject to the FOIA.

Ms. McAllister agreed that was the essential issue and said the MCCA was not intended to be a public body.

"The Legislature can decide what is a public body," Ms. McAllister said, and it did not decide that the MCCA is a public body. The statute creating it clearly says the agency is a non-profit corporation that has no ability to interact with policymakers or to set policy. It has no state revenues and its benefits go to insurance companies.

Justice Richard Bernstein asked if it has no impact on the public, and Ms. McAllister said that it did - through its annual assessment on auto insurance -- but the same could be said of any corporation.

And even then, Ms. McAllister said, the statute allows the insurance companies to absorb the assessment by themselves and not pass it on to the motorists.

#### Education Board Pushes Professional Development Attached To Evaluations

As the Legislature completes work on educator evaluation changes, the new law should provide opportunities for teachers to improve based on their evaluation, the State Board of Education said in approving recommendations at its meeting Tuesday.



The board unanimously recommended the Legislature approve an evaluation system designed to improve teacher performance and student learning and that provided teachers an appeal from poor evaluations.

The board did not take a specific position on [SB 103](#), but it urged the Legislature to retain in it all of the recommendations of the Council for Educator Effectiveness.

"The purpose of educator evaluation has never been to fire people. That is not the best practice," Deputy Superintendent Venessa Keesler said.

Rather, she said, the evaluations should show most teachers where they need to improve. "Teaching students is not a thing that's easy to do and it's not something that's static," she said. "It's about improving the effectiveness of our professionals, not about firing our way to proficiency."

Ms. Keesler acknowledged that evaluations would show some teachers that they should re-evaluate their professional choices, but she said those would be few.

But she said that those ranked ineffective remained less than 1 percent of teachers is not surprising

"I don't think that we would expect to see a significant number of our teachers who are ineffective," she said. "Most of our teachers are good teachers who can be better."

Ms. Keesler said it would be unfair at this point to draw any conclusions about the state's teacher evaluation system based on the proportions of teachers ranked highly effective, effective, minimally effective or ineffective.

"It's also important not to judge our system until we have a system," she said. "We want them to have a statewide system so that they're comparable."

The department is not urging the Legislature to adopt a single evaluation system, but is pushing to narrow down the number of tools, maybe to the four that were recommended by the Council on Educator Effectiveness that developed some of the guidance for educator evaluation systems.

Ms. Keesler noted that some 44 percent of districts are using their own evaluation system. While it is usually a modified version of one of the recommended tools, she said that still leaves teachers without comparable evaluations across districts.

Student growth should be part of the evaluation system, but Ms. Keesler said it had to be measured correctly. She said the department is urging districts to use measures beyond the state assessments.

"They may not be proficient, but that doesn't mean they haven't made growth," she said.

Board member Richard Zeile (R-Dearborn) said there are a variety of situations where a teacher's ability might not coincide with student improvement.

"Some of our lowest performing districts had the highest percentage of highly effective teachers," he said. "That might well be true."

One element of new student growth measures could be Student Learning Objectives, Norma Jean Sass, deputy superintendent for education services said in a separate presentation.

The goal of the program, which the department is currently developing, is to set goals for individual students and to measure them based on those goals.

"It's another way for the teacher to become very invested in this," Ms. Sass said.

"This is kind of an answer for those untested subjects and grades as well," Linda Forward, director of the Office of Educational Improvement and Innovation, said.

Board member Michelle Fecteau (D-Detroit) said the final system also needed to have an appeal process. She said the current plan, to allow teachers to appeal to their superintendent, was not sufficient.

She said teachers could be given poor evaluations because of their advocacy efforts rather than their actual teaching ability, and then fired based on those evaluations. "They become a target," she said. "Who's to stop that if the superintendent is complicit?"

Ms. Keesler said the department is also supporting an appeal process, but she said getting the evaluation system right could lessen the need for appeals because teachers would feel the evaluations are fair.

The board's resolution called for an appeal to an independent third party.

Districts are also at various stages in implementing evaluation systems, Ms. Keesler said. "Some well down the road," she said. "Others have been waiting for the state to provide more guidance."

She said many districts have not adopted one of the four recommended tools in part because they fear the state will mandate they use one of the others, she said.

The \$12 million the department has for training on teacher evaluation will flow through intermediate school districts and will likely be concentrated on the four recommended tools, Ms. Keesler said.

She said the funds are targeted for ISDs so the training can be more targeted to the needs of the districts. Those that already have systems well underway would not need basic implementation training, she said.

The department is holding some of the funds aside for research work, Ms. Keesler said.

"There are some things we don't know about evaluation that would help us be smarter about educator evaluation," she said. "Administrator evaluation is an area that is far less well defined in the research; that was far less well defined in the Ball report."

Deborah Ball was chair of the educator effectiveness commission.

**TEACHER TRAINING:** Michigan might not have any additional colleges to train teachers under a moratorium extended Tuesday by the board.

Department officials requested that the moratorium, which technically expired in August, be renewed until they can develop a strategy for approving new institutions.

Ms. Keesler said officials are developing a plan that would allow approval of new institutions with programs in areas where the state has teacher shortages. The new moratorium is for three years, but Ms. Keesler said the department could come back to the board in as little as six months with a plan.

She said there had been some inquiries about creating new institutions by some out-of-state schools, but no official applications.

#### Education Board Objects To Mandatory Third Grade Retention

The state should not be requiring school districts to retain students who cannot read at third grade level, but it should require districts to have a plan to address those students, the State Board of Education said in a resolution regarding [HB 4822](#).

Board members said retention needed to be an option, but that there was little data on the long-term effects of holding students back.

Board member Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor) suggested the idea that districts be required to create a retention policy that has to be approved by the Department of Education.

"In my eyes, retention has to remain on the table because this state has fallen behind year after year after year," Ms. Weiser said.

She said having the department approve the policy would ensure students would receive the assistance they need to get to grade level once they are retained, and hopefully before retention is needed.

Ms. Weiser had recommended the board call for mandatory retention where a district does not provide an approvable plan. "If that's not in there or there's a loophole, then we're right where we're at," she said.

But other board members recommended instead that the legislation include an "enforceable" mandate for the district plan.

"There's a lot of ways that could be accomplished," Board President John Austin (D-Ann Arbor) said.

The board, in its resolution, praised the other strategies in the bill designed to improve reading proficiency.

**SUBJECT MATTER STANDARDS:** Mr. Whiston said new science standards would likely be ready for adoption at the next board meeting, but that social studies standards would likely wait until January.

He said there had been substantial changes to the draft standards based on public input, so the department was planning to put the revised draft out again for public comment.

Officials did recommend that the board adopt, at its next meeting, new standards for preparation of teachers of world languages. The new standards are based on American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages, but with Michigan-specific elements.

#### Senate Panel Debates Mandatory Expulsion

After a teacher's life was threatened by a student in Grand Rapids with no apparent recourse for the school district without the threat of being sued, Sen. Dave Hildenbrand developed the framework for legislation that would require a school board to expel a pupil in grade six or above who threatened to kill a school employee, volunteer or contractor.

But the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan told the Senate Education Committee on Tuesday that it is concerned such a mandatory requirement as is outlined in SB 208, without giving discretion on a case-by-case basis, could result in poorer student outcomes and potentially more people in jail.

In addition to mandatory expulsion for threatening someone's life, a school district would not have to spend more money to provide instructional services to a permanently expelled student than the amount of per-pupil payment the school district receives, SB 208 stipulates. And school boards would be required to report all such threats to law enforcement officials and prosecutors.

The now-retired teacher that prompted the legislation, Diane Jelke, said she and other teachers and counselors did as much as they could to give the superintendent of the district reason to expel the student in question given the situation, but the district's attorney feared a lawsuit such that the verbal threat that was made - despite the attempted physical assault - was not enough to expel the student.

While sympathetic to her story, some senators were concerned about the grander implications such a law could have on students and the way schools operate. And Sen. Darwin Booher (R-

Evart) said that he was concerned the bill did not also include community colleges, especially given recent events elsewhere.

"The evidence shows these types of one-size fits all policies do more to harm student outcomes," said Rodd Monts, field director for the ACLU of Michigan. "When these serious incidents occur, school districts should have the tools of whether some other exclusion ... is necessary. We ask you include discretion in this legislation, that each case be reviewed against a set of exceptions."

He said that while he and the ACLU can appreciate that there will be cases where the removal of the student is best for all involved, his organization asks that such an option not be mandatory. He said what is threatening to one person may not be to another, or in some cases, the students can be taught to be better as individuals and members of society.

"There are a number of advocacy organizations that provide students and parents the help they need in these cases where (schools) don't know what to do," he said. "You can't simply suspend and expel your way out of problems."

**ECONOMICS CREDIT:** The committee did report [HB 4390](#) with unanimous approval. The bill would allow one-half credit of personal economics or financial literacy to satisfy the Michigan Merit Curriculum for economics.

**ONLINE PROTECTION:** With another week of no testimony on [SB 510](#), which would create the Student Online Personal Protection Act to essentially protect certain student information from being amassed by the operator of the system or sold, committee chair [Sen. Phil Pavlov](#) (R-St. Clair) said he would allow the bill one more week in committee before voting it out.

## Education Board Urges No Guns In Schools

Legislation to allow only those with concealed pistol licenses to have firearms in schools, provided they remain hidden, still goes too far, the State Board of Education said Tuesday in a rare split vote.

The board, in a 7-1 vote, supported [HB 4261](#) to prohibit openly carrying firearms in schools and opposed [SB 442](#) that would end open carry in but allow those permits to concealed carry in schools and a variety of other venues currently considered gun-free.

"This is something I have to spend way too much time thinking about: what happens when someone comes on campus with a gun," said board Vice President Casandra Ulbrich (D-Rochester Hills), who develops emergency management plans for Macomb Community College.

Ms. Ulbrich heads the board's legislative committee and wrote the resolution.

"There is no place for guns in schools," Board President John Austin (D-Ann Arbor) said. "If guns are around, they are going to be used, even if by accident."

Board member Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor) said she had a "unique perspective" on the issue given that her child had armed guards at school while her husband served as an ambassador.

"I will be voting for this, but the clash between personal rights and children's rights is there," Ms. Weiser said.

Board member Richard Zeile (R-Dearborn) said the proposal infringes on the right to bear arms and urged leaving the decision to the local districts.

"I'm just not sure that we can speak across the board for every school culture," he said.

And he indicated allowing weapons into the buildings could have stopped some of the recent shootings.

"It's no accident that many of these shootings have taken place in in areas where guns are outlawed and only the outlaws have guns," he said.

Michael Shibler, superintendent of Rockford Public Schools, said during public comment that he would not want anyone other than police and security staff to try to decide whether a person is dangerous.

"You cannot expect an employee of our building ... to be able to assess a person coming into our building, that person's mental state," he said.

The district instead built security vestibules in all of its buildings and visitors must be allowed past those. "Something like that is going to protect as best we can," he said.

#### Education Board Calls For Blood Lead Testing For Flint Children

All school children in Flint should have their blood tested for lead given the recent water issues there, the State Board of Education said in a resolution Tuesday.

The board called for the state to provide the blood tests in the schools or other locations convenient to parents, and to not charge the parents for it.

"These parents need to know what they dealing with at this point," board Vice President Casandra Ulbrich said in moving a resolution calling for legislation. The final resolution simply called for action.

The resolution was the result of a statement issued Tuesday by board member Pamela Pugh (D-Saginaw) calling on the Department of Education to work with the Department of Health and Human Services and others to be sure the blood tests are offered.

Ms. Pugh also called on the board and Superintendent of Public Instruction Brian Whiston to work with the School Reform/Redesign Office, now in the Department of Technology, Management and Budget, to prevent any future state takeovers of school districts.

"Unless we interject, areas in Michigan will continue to live under the threat of becoming U.S. sacrifice zones, where costs are cut, budgets are balanced, and profits are made at the expense of the health and wellbeing of our children, especially our most burdened children living in low-income families," Ms. Pugh said in her statement.

Deputy Superintendent Kyle Guerrant said the department only had authority over such issues where it provides grants funding, but he said later in the meeting that efforts were under way to provide the testing free to Flint residents.

### Cotter Rebuts Presumptive Parole Criticism

House Speaker Kevin Cotter already led his chamber in support of presumptive parole measures in HB 4138, but with Attorney General Bill Schuette expressing his opposition loudly during the past week, Mr. Cotter released a statement of support Tuesday.

"Presumptive parole is a responsible way to reform our broken prison system and protect the rights and safety of Michigan residents. Contrary to many reports, the proposed bill simply requires parole boards to give a compelling reason to deny parole when prisoners with a high probability of success have completed their minimum sentence," Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) said.

The House passed HB 4138 earlier this month despite Mr. Schuette's objections. Mr. Schuette said on Michigan Public Television's "Off the Record" last week that the bill would allow for violent criminals to be released from prison early. Mr. Schuette has also said the release of prisoners outlined in the bill is automatic and the parole board is not able to determine risks and dangers of each prisoner.

But the House Fiscal Agency analysis says the measures in the bill would not be automatic. Under the bill, compelling reasons against presumptive parole include: objective and verifiable evidence that a victim would be caused harm by release; the prisoner has a pending felony charge; and there is evidence the prisoner would be a danger to society if released, among other reasons.

"The process is even simplified for parole boards by filtering out prisoners who don't have a high enough probability of success, including repeat offenders and prisoners who face additional charges," Mr. Cotter said. "Any parole board willing to deny a man his freedom and keep him locked up beyond the court-ordered sentence ought to at least have a reason for doing so."

### State Names Companies For New Medicaid Care Contract

The 11 managed care companies which will be able to provide Medicaid coverage to an estimated 1.7 million people in the state beginning in January have been named by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The companies will handle recipients in 10 different regions across the state, called by the department "Prosperity Regions," and the most populous areas will see more companies competing for Medicaid recipients.

Region 1, which is the Upper Peninsula, will have just one company open to handle recipients: the Upper Peninsula Health Plan.

Four companies - McLaren Health Plan, Meridian Health Plan of Michigan, Molina Healthcare of Michigan and United Healthcare Community Plan - will compete in all the remaining regions.

The other companies open to Medicaid recipients are Blue Cross Complete of Michigan, Priority Health Choice, HAP Midwest Health Plan, Aetna Better of Michigan, Harbor Health Plan and Total Healthcare.

### Dems Call For Snyder To Fire DPS EM Earley Over Flint Water Crisis

Michigan Democratic Party Chair Brandon Dillon on Tuesday said Governor Rick Snyder should remove Darnell Earley as the emergency manager for Detroit Public Schools because of his decision as emergency manager in Flint to move the city temporarily to the Flint River as the city's source of drinking water.

That water received insufficient treatment to prevent corrosion, causing lead to leach into the water. Now the city will switch back to the Detroit water system until the water pipeline to Lake Huron through a new local authority is complete.

"This catastrophe began with the governor's appointed emergency manager, and as much as Governor Snyder would like to pretend, this is not a matter of negotiating at the boardroom table. This is a situation where you pay for your mistakes and put those responsible on the chopping block," Mr. Dillon said in a statement.

Mr. Snyder, asked whether Mr. Earley should be replaced at DPS, said that he was no longer the emergency manager in Flint and that local Flint officials had decided long before Mr. Snyder put the city under an emergency manager to switch water sources as well as designated the Flint River as its backup source.

### Powdered Alcohol Ban Heading To Governor's Desk

The House on Tuesday passed a bill banning powdered alcohol in the state, readying it for the Senate to present to Governor Rick Snyder.

SB 240 cleared the House 102-3 with no changes from the Senate version.

The bill would prohibit the sale, distribution and possession of powdered alcohol. Other states have already banned the product, and other states - including New York and Ohio - are considering bans.



## Committee Roundup

**PETTALIA EYEING SPEED LIMIT VOTE BEFORE THANKSGIVING:** The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee could vote on legislation to raise speed limits on some highways and freeways before the recess for Thanksgiving and the start of firearm deer hunting season.

Rep. Peter Pettalia (R-Presque Isle), the committee chair, said he has been surprised at the level of interest from the committee in pursuing the legislation. He anticipated changes to the legislation, but that it possible it would move on an amended version.

## Capital Notebook

**IPPSR NAMES NEW DIRECTOR:** Former Treasurer Doug Roberts Sr. is retiring from his post as director of the Michigan State University Institute for Public Policy and Social Research and MSU associate professor Matt Grossmann has been named as the new director.

**CIVIL RIGHTS DIRECTOR:** After Monday evening's meeting, the Civil Rights Commission still had three candidates to succeed retiring Director Matt Wesaw. The commission reviewed three candidates who were inadvertently not in an initial list of resumes, but did not consider any of them worthy of an interview.

Names of the candidates to be interviewed are to be released later this week.

## Supplemental Agency Calendar

### Thursday, October 15

**Fire Safety Board, Suite H, 3101 Technology Boulevard, Lansing, 1 p.m. (Q)**


### Friday, October 16

**Pesticide Advisory Committee, Guyer Conference Room, Geagley Laboratory, 1615 South Harrison Road, East Lansing, 9:30 a.m. (Agenda)**

## Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

SB 62 , PA RECORDING REQUIREMENTS (Hertel) Modifies recording requirements to 131 include electronic signatures.

**Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015**

SB 281  FILING FEES (Schuitmaker) Provides for reallocation of portion of certain filing fees , PA 132 paid to the Wayne County retirement system for bailiffs in the thirty-sixth district court under certain circumstances.

**Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015**

SB 468, PHARMACY TECHNICIAN (Green) Modifies eligibility for licensure of pharmacy technicians and requirements for limited license pharmacy technicians.

**Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: September 30, 2015**

HB 4070, PA PUBLIC OFFICERS (Heise) Creates incompatible officers exception for public safety positions.


**Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015**

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## Michigan Report for Thursday, September 24, 2015

Less Controversial Third Grade Reading Bill Hits House Floor

State Financial Leaders Present For Quadrant Roads Meeting

Nofs Continues Discussion On Electric Choice

Broken Tuition Caps Could Mean Changes For 2016 Budget

Committee Discusses Voting Reforms

House Panel Considers Independent Inspections For Prison Kitchens

Michigan Joins With Other States in Volkswagen Investigation

House Oks Bill Exempting Some Food Establishments From Inspections

Court Of Claims Rules For E.M. On Modifying Retiree Health Care

Ananich Urges Action On Flint Water Situation

Corrections Updates Purchasing Policy In Light Of Complaint

Senate Panel Reports Venture Investment Bills

Poll Finds Dead Split On Marijuana Legalization

House Panel Approves Presidential Primary As Regular Election Date

Unemployment Down Across State

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## Volume #54, Report #190 -- Thursday, September 24, 2015

### Less Controversial Third Grade Reading Bill Hits House Floor

Legislation sent to the full House Thursday and designed to increase reading proficiency in elementary school students is less controversial than version lawmakers considered in 2014, but there's still a lot of work to be done before the chamber will vote on the bill, House Education Committee Chair Rep. Amanda Price said.

HB 4822, which aims to increase reading proficiency in elementary school students before they make it to the fourth grade, was reported 13-3, with Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan), Rep. Tom Hooker (R-Byron Center) and Rep. Pat Somerville (R-New Boston) voting no. Rep. Christine Greig (D-Farmington Hills) abstained.

Mr. McBroom said he voted no because the bill is attempting a one size fits all solution for every student in every school with reading problems.

"I just think that that is ridiculous. It doesn't work. And it has never worked well," he said. "We ought to come up with a plan that empowers local school districts and the Department of Education to customize their approach to individual students' needs, use the professionals in the classroom, in the administration, in the department, to help every student that needs help, and not pretend that somehow we can create a bill that is going to fix everything for every student."

But Ms. Price said the bill would not apply across the board to all school districts.

"It's a policy that we hope outlines a plan that gets kids to proficiency across the state," she said. "Some of the schools in my district are very high in proficiency levels. So they are doing a lot of good things. But in some areas of the state we are not there."

But Mr. McBroom disagreed: "Certainly there are elements of you could implement this provision this way in this school, and this way in that school. But it's still the same very specific ... way of doing things," he said.

Changes in the H-4 substitute version include more closely tying the policy bill to the appropriations piece in the budget; encouraging schools to offer summer reading camps for struggling readers before they reach the third grade; expanding distribution of read at home information to others who spend time with the child; and clarifying children need to be more than a grade level behind in reading for the smart promotion to apply.

The bill discussed last term originally included a provision requiring the retention of every third grader who could not read at grade level. Although that was later changed, the controversy regarding the automatic retention was never overcome and the House was not able to take up the bill.

"There's been so much stakeholder input, so much work with the governor's work group," Ms. Price said. "(This is) much less controversial. There's still a lot of resonance about making those kids stay back. But I always want to point out the emphasis has to be on interventions on K, 1, 2 and 3 and not about retention."

Under the current version, there are a variety of alternatives to retention. First, the bill attempts to provide intervention before the child gets to the third grade. Second, the bill provides a smart promotion where a student can be promoted to the fourth grade if they are proficient in other subjects and only receive reading instruction at the third grade level.

There is also a good cause exemption to retention outlined in the bill. The smart promotion piece of the legislation would not go into effect until the 2017-18 school year. However, some, including Rep. Winnie Brinks (D-Grand Rapids), would like to see the implementation delayed until the 2018-19 school year.

But Ms. Price said the longer the implementation is put back, more students will be left behind.

"The results I see on reading, we can't afford any more time pushing it back," she said. "We did push it back one year. I just keep thinking in my mind what kids are we going to lose if we push it back even further."

The reported version of the bill also addresses literacy instruction needs for English language learners; clarifies the type of personnel who may be asked to work with students who are retained; and makes changes to language regarding the good cause exemption for students with disabilities.

There were multiple testifiers last week concerned about the bill as it relates to students with dyslexia.

Rep. Adam Zemke (D-Ann Arbor) said discussions are ongoing to address the issue more formally outside the third grade reading bill.

"I know we are having discussions with the other side of the aisle too, and potentially the lieutenant governor, to potentially do some more formal work on this process with regards to students with disabilities. We think it is larger than just things that impact literacy," Mr. Zemke said.

Rep. Andy Schor (D-Lansing) also expressed ongoing concerns about portions of the bill relating to students with individual education plans and special education students. He said he understands it's early in the process and more changes will be made, though.

"I expect a lot more work to be done," Ms. Price said, "because this is not an easy issue for a lot of folks. But at least on the Republican side, this is a caucus priority so I hope that conversations are very fruitful."

State Financial Leaders Present For Quadrant Roads Meeting

Although the legislative quadrant still did not have an agreement as of Thursday evening on a plan to fund roads, the presence of some of the state's top financial officials seemed to indicate that Governor Rick Snyder and legislative leaders may be getting closer.

Treasurer Nick Khouri, Budget Director John Roberts and Transportation Director Kirk Steudle were seen leaving the meeting together on Thursday.

"They're an important resource and we had good discussions on a number of topics," Governor Rick Snyder told media after the quadrant meeting, which lasted slightly more than an hour. "You can go through the list of things that people are concerned about roads, and it's good to have experts."

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) indicated the conversations are becoming more detail-specific, even if those details have yet to be made public.

"I think we're having real conversations about actual real components of the plan and what it may look like," Mr. Ananich said after the meeting. "We haven't settled on anything yet but we're actually talking about things, so that's better than talking esoterically."

Joining the legislative leaders and Mr. Snyder were Treasurer Nick Khouri, Budget Director John Roberts and Transportation Director Kirk Steudle. Those leaders had not been seen at other quadrant meetings.

Mr. Ananich said the leaders were talking about aspects, looking at other states and best practices, and getting numbers on all ideas.

House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) characterized the meeting as "more progress" and said he felt the leaders were "getting closer all the time."

He said: "On a scale of productivity, it was up there. I think today was at least an eight (out of 10)."

Mr. Cotter said road funding discussions won't hold up other serious matters before the Legislature such as energy reform or repealing the prevailing wage, either. So far, nothing is contingent on roads.

Mr. Snyder seemed to have the same positive attitude, saying he was not ready to "talk about negative actions" such as vetoing bills that come to his desk before an agreement is reached.

"This meeting was constructive today," he said. "We've continued to have constructive meetings. More positive progress is going on, so I want to stay positive about this."

#### Nofs Continues Discussion On Electric Choice

The Senate Energy and Technology Committee adopted an S-1 substitute to a bill on electric choice that the committee chair said Thursday makes only technical changes and he assured

observers the measure will not be the final version of the bill eventually reported to the full Senate.

"I'm a firm believer in the process, and I expect there will be a lot of changes before we arrive at an S-2 substitute," Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek), the committee chair, told another packed room of attendees to the meeting.

Perhaps the most substantial of language changes in the new substitute is the addition that, "A customer who fails to provide written notice as required under this subsection shall no longer be eligible to receive service from an alternative electric supplier and shall return to standard tariff service with the electric utility upon expiration of the customer's current electricity supply contract with an alternative electric supplier."

The substitute was adopted with unanimous approval. Sen. John Proos (R-St. Joseph) was absent from committee.

Thursday's committee saw a handful of alternative electric suppliers testify in opposition to the bill at hand, SB 437. Many felt the provisions would essentially end electric choice and brought undue burdens on the customers.

Craig Borr, president of the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association, had several concerns about the new Integrated Resource Planning practices for utilities, for example.

"We understand the necessity ... we certainly are not opposed to that process for (utilities) due to the fact they have a profit quota," Mr. Borr said. "However, we do not believe that a new, central generalization planning process is necessary or needed."

His group took issue with the changes to electric choice. Pointing to Wolverine Power Cooperative - one of its members - as an example, Mr. Borr said the company has successfully been working in the choice market and saved about \$100 million since choice started.

"MECA supports several of the changes to electric choice being proposed in SB 437 but also believes there are provisions in the legislation that need to be modified or they will slowly choke competitive retail choice markets in Michigan," Mr. Borr said.

By contrast, Steve Kurmas, president and COO of DTE Energy, said it supported SB 437 and that the IRP process would ensure "a timely review by all stakeholders of new technologies as they evolve. Second, it will ensure a diversified energy portfolio is maintained. Third, it will allow Michigan to adapt to changing federal regulations."

"Finally, it will ensure fair prices for Michigan's families and businesses," Mr. Kurmas said.

On electric choice, Mr. Kurmas urged requiring capacity to be located in the same zone as the load served to ensure reliability.



"Michigan's utilities are responsible to ensure that reliable supply is always there for their customers. Alternative energy suppliers should be held responsible as well," he said. "They have options - build their own generation, enter into bi-lateral agreements with existing generators, or execute an auction for multi-year generation capacity."

Hillsdale College economics professor Gary Wolfram recommended legislative action to incent the state's utilities to do better at controlling costs, improving reliability, reducing pollution and creating better ratepayer outcomes. Mr. Wolfram recently completed a study for the Michigan Conservative Energy Forum, which supports an increase of the 10 percent electric choice cap.

"Michigan has the highest electricity costs in the region and it's the role of the Legislature to pass regulation to protect consumers and improve efficiencies," Mr. Wolfram said in a statement. "On their own, Michigan's monopoly utilities are not incentivized to make choices that are efficient. Through regulation and policy, the Michigan Legislature can make the market more efficient, reduce cost and increase economic activity."

Mr. Wolfram's testimony was criticized by Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future, which supports full regulation and largely represents incumbent utilities.

"Wolfram fails to mention that, on average, deregulated states pay 27 percent higher rates than regulated states," Kelly Rossman-McKinney, the group's spokesperson, said in a statement. "And he disregards the large subsidy that regulated customers in Michigan are forced to pay to cover open-access customers."

She continued: "While deregulation advocates continue to make dubious claims based on free market principles, the truth is they're pushing for what amounts to a backdoor tax increase that falls hardest on low-income residents. Deregulation also makes electric rate more volatile, hurts reliability and gives alternative energy suppliers ample opportunity to cheat the system of massive profits."

It remains unclear how soon the committee may report the bill to the full Senate for consideration.

### Broken Tuition Caps Could Mean Changes For 2016 Budget

There appeared general agreement among members of the House and Senate Appropriations Higher Education subcommittees that change was needed to the tuition cap for universities, but not necessarily agreement on how to go about that.

The two subcommittees heard Thursday from the presidents of Eastern Michigan and Oakland universities, the two that increased tuition more than the cap, on their reasons for those increases.

There was some concern raised about OU's increase given the institution had not first spent into its reserves. But the greater concern was that universities could ignore the current cap at will with apparently little negative effect.

"Tuition restraint as a measurement does not seem to be effective since universities can choose when to conform and then fall back inline," Sen. Peter MacGregor (R-Rockford) said.

Mr. MacGregor said he was inclined to find ways to make the universities stay within the caps.

Rep. Michael McCready (R-Bloomfield Hills), chair of the House subcommittee, questioned how the Legislature could better work with the institutions to gauge their needs.

"Most of the testimony I heard was a 4 percent increase was what the universities were looking for in that cap," he said. "How can we as a state work closer to understand these challenges?"

EMU Interim President Kim Schatzel said she did not oppose the tuition cap, but that legislators had to recognize it was a ceiling for periods where the university might, for other reasons, keep tuition and below the cap, but then need to rebuild revenue later.

She said EMU had increased its tuition to rebuild its cash reserves, which had fallen to about a tenth of what some similar institutions had.

And OU President George Hynd said universities are not ignoring the cap.

"We are all very cognizant and cautious of exceeding that tuition cap," he said. "There may be ways of thinking about a tuition cap that may be less punitive and more helpful to the institutions."

He said the current cap penalizes institutions like his that are growing. "We would favor a funding formula that includes a floor and leaves tuition to the institution," he said.

Oakland increased its tuition because needs were simply outpacing revenues, he said. But he said he would prefer to keep adding to cash reserves rather than spending into them given the recent trend of declining high school graduates.

Mr. McCready said the two subcommittees would likely be meeting in the future to discuss the implications of the high school graduation trends.

Rep. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing) said the university's actions were expected. "I've been saying the last three years in this committee that we need to find a new source of revenue for higher ed," he said. "I'm surprised it took this long for you to go over the caps we gave you."

But Mr. Singh and Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker (R-Lawton), chair of the Senate subcommittee, differed on whether the universities had been restored to pre-2011-12 levels when all took a 15 percent hit to balance the budget. Mr. Singh said none had, while Ms. Schuitmaker said the current budget restored 11 of the 15.

Mr. Hynd said his university had not been restored.

Committee Discusses Voting Reforms

The Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee on Thursday discussed three different approaches to delegating the state's Electoral College votes instead of the current winner take all system in a presidential election, but took no action as the committee chair said there is no real consensus from his caucus on change.

No change to the system Michigan has used since the 1800s is also likely for the 2016 election, said chair Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc).

Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville) presented his proposal in SB 489 first, which would require one presidential elector be chosen from each congressional district and two be chosen at large based on which political party received the most votes for president. Two other states, Maine and Nebraska, have a system similar to what Mr. Green proposed.

"Something like this will encourage (candidates) to campaign in a state where there's an option of splitting the delegates," Mr. Green told the committee. "Some believe the winner-take-all system makes our state attractive, but I believe it's more important we allow all areas of our state to have a voice."

That argument was harshly criticized by Patrick Rose, an election lawyer with the Michigan Election Coalition. He said adopting a methodology other than one that would enter Michigan into a compact supporting national popular voting would take Michigan, and eventually the rest of the nation, back in time to a point where individual states each had different rules.

"It was chaos," Mr. Rose explained, saying that system was also determined by leaders at the time (the 1800s) to be corrupt.

As to the two other states that have a system similar to what Mr. Green proposed, Mr. Rose said that has so far only changed the outcome of one single electoral vote and that Nebraska, specifically, has been trying to reverse its system virtually since it switched to such a method.

Sen. Dave Hildenbrand (R-Lowell) presented his proposal next, SB 197, which would allow presidential electors be allocated to a political party based on the percentage of popular votes. If the number of presidential electors for the leading party was not a whole number, then a fractional number of 0.5 or greater would be rounded up the nearest whole number, and a number less than that rounded down.

"I believe the fairest of all is when every vote is counted equally," Mr. Hildenbrand said.

His bill is tie-barred to SB 88, a bill by Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor) that would enact the Interstate Compact to Elect the President by National Popular Vote and enter Michigan into the compact. The logic there, Mr. Hildenbrand said, is that his proposal would be used while other states join the compact with hopefully enough joining to make the compact binding.

Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) expressed reluctance to move into a system as described by Mr. Hildenbrand and later Ms. Warren because, Mr. Colbeck said, it values uniformity more than diversity.

"For me, this gets into this fundamental discussion of the concept of a pure democracy and just our 'add them up and the ones that get the top votes win' versus a constitutional republic," he said.

But proponents of the bipartisan plan say without it, four out of five votes cast in a presidential election are already being ignored. And while the argument of value in diversity seems valid, "When we take the Pledge of Allegiance, it's not one congressional district under God, it's one nation under God," argued Patrick Rosenstiel of the group National Popular Vote.

The committee did not vote on the bills, and, Mr. Robertson said he has no plan to do so in the immediate future.

"We're not going to make any changes for the 2016 election. But ... some of the perception has been, 'Clearly there must be a desire on the part of Republicans to make a change away from winner-take-all,' and others say, 'No, no, that shouldn't,'" Mr. Robertson said. "I can assure you there's no uniformity of opinion on the Republican side."

**OPEN MEETINGS:** The committee did, however, report [HB 4182](#), which amends the Open Meetings Act to require the physical presence of each member of an elected public body who was voting on an issue. The committee adopted an S-1 substitute that made exceptions for those who are in the deployed in the military or for certain, specific emergencies.

#### House Panel Considers Independent Inspections For Prison Kitchens

Two bills requiring prison kitchens receive third-party inspections now that the Department of Corrections is receiving food services from a private provider heard testimony in a House committee Thursday, but some members of the House Oversight and Ethics Committee don't appear convinced that's necessary.

[Rep. Ed McBroom](#) (R-Vulcan), chair of the committee, and [Rep. John Kivela](#) (D-Marquette), are the sponsors of [HB 4749](#) and [HB 4748](#), respectively. Mr. McBroom said in the 1970s, the state exempted its prison kitchens from the inspection requirement because the state was running the kitchens and already doing those inspections.

Now, the Department of Corrections still oversees inspections of the kitchens, but inspections are also done by the private company contracted with the state to provide the service.

Mr. McBroom said it makes sense to have a third-party, independent inspection done in prison kitchens just like restaurants and other facilities.

"Since the state is no longer providing those food services but is contracting that out, it makes sense that those inspections be brought back," he said. "This is not different than inspections at any other public institution."

Mr. Kivela said there are three prisons in his district, and he said he has been outspoken that he wasn't supportive of privatizing the kitchen services in prisons.

"I want to work toward making them work," he said. "When we look at how can we as a Legislature help improve the situation ... I think at the end of the day what would really assist the department ... is having an independent third party do the inspections like they do for any other food service entity."

Mr. Kivela said the contractor would pick up the fee to pay the local health department. However, Kyle Kaminski, legislative liaison for the Department of Corrections, said the state would likely pick up the costs, at least until the contract is renewed.

Mr. Kaminski also said the department is neutral on the bill.

But Nick Derusha, director of the Luce-Mackinac-Alger-Schoolcraft District Health Department, said they are more than capable of taking on the additional inspections. He said the twice-a-year inspections run anywhere from \$200 to \$600.

Rep. Joseph Graves (R-Linden) said he has heard from inmates and others in prisons that the food is good. He also was skeptical of the accuracy and need of these inspections.

And Rep. Lana Theis (R-Brighton) said she was concerned about making this change in the middle of the contract.

Mr. Kivela said the two inspections a year are scheduled in advance and won't take too much additional time from their process.

"I think the idea of having increased safety and transparency is well worth that small amount," he said.

Rep. Rose Mary Robinson (D-Detroit) said she was excited about the bills.

"It shows we have empathy," she said.

The committee did not discuss in-depth the issues of food service in the prisons during the last two years or the scandals related to those services. The department has recently switched from Aramark to Trinity for its food service after nearly 20 months with Aramark plagued with troubles, lowlighted by repeated concerns about maggots in the food.

Mr. Kaminski said eight contract monitors work for the department and are former food service inspectors. He said they visit facilities two-to-three times a month and conduct monthly inspections.

He said annually, a sanitarian conducts an unannounced inspection of the kitchens as well.

Still, Mr. McBroom said there "is a little bit of concern about what has been going on in midst of safeguards you said are in place."

"Representative Kivela and I have worked hard to make this about going forward and not looking back," he said. "But I don't think that it is entirely fair, then, to not follow some of your statements you just made by just expressing some of the troubling aspects that have recently happened, despite the safeguards you mentioned are in place. ... This is not about drudging that up."

Mr. Kaminski said the department has no position on the bill, and added it is up to the Legislature to decide if the current approach is sufficient.

Ms. Theis also said some of the problems in the kitchens would not have come up without the current inspection process, but Mr. McBroom retorted: "I would contend that it wasn't always the inspection process that brought the issues," to which Ms. Theis agreed.

The committee did not act on the bills. Mr. McBroom said he would like some clarity on who would pick up the costs for the inspections before bringing the bills up for a vote.

#### Michigan Joins With Other States in Volkswagen Investigation

The scandal that has engulfed the world's largest automaker has led Michigan and 27 other states attorneys general to launch an investigation into Volkswagen.

Last week, the federal government ordered Volkswagen to recall diesel vehicles sold in the U.S. with doctored pollution controls that would show the vehicles meeting emission standards when they were tested but running at higher emission levels when they were not being tested.

The German-based company announced as many as 11 million vehicles sold all around the world were affected by the same computer-generated device. Already the company's chief executive officer has resigned, and on Thursday, credit rating agencies said Volkswagen had been put on credit watch.

A spokesperson for Attorney General Bill Schuette said the states will subpoena Volkswagen executives.

The states could choose to pursue the investigation through either their consumer protection or environmental protection laws, or both. Schuette spokesperson Andrea Bitely did not say how Michigan would pursue the matter.

Along with Michigan, the attorneys general that have so far announced they would participate in the investigation are from Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

#### House Oks Bill Exempting Some Food Establishments From Inspections

The House on Thursday passed an inspection exemption for low-risk foods served at temporary food establishments.

SB 144 passed the House 89-16. The House made no changes to the bill, which now heads to Governor Rick Snyder.

Under the bill, a local health department, based on a public risk assessment, could simply conduct an in-office consultation with the establishment instead of an on-site inspection.

The bill defines "low-risk foods" as:

- Raw or prepackaged food that is not potentially hazardous food;
- Potentially hazardous food that is prepared in a licensed facility and is not prepared on-site; and
- Commercially processed potentially hazardous food that is fully cooked and heated only for hot holding.

**PHARMACY TECHNICIANS:** The House also sent a bill that makes some changes to a law passed last year regarding the licensure of pharmacy technicians to Governor Rick Snyder.

Under SB 468, which cleared the House 104-1, certain applicants would be excused from the requirement to have graduated from high school or passed the GED test when applying for pharmacy technician licensure.

The bill also would increase the duration of a temporary license from 210 days to one year, and allow a person employed as a pharmacy technician for an employer with multiple locations to work as a limited license pharmacy technician at any of those locations.

#### Court Of Claims Rules For E.M. On Modifying Retiree Health Care

The former Allen Park emergency manager's decision to modify retiree health care for former city workers was lawful, the Court of Claims has ruled.

In an opinion issued this week, Judge Mark Boonstra granted the state's motion to dismiss the lawsuit brought by retirees of the city government, who challenged changes made to their health care in late 2012 and early 2013.

The challenge was two-pronged. It contested the ability of the emergency manager to modify retiree health care under PA 72 of 1990, the old local financial emergency law, because it contained no provision for what were known as emergency financial managers to modify contracts.

Joyce Parker was still operating under PA 72 of 1990 when she first began moving toward changes in retiree health care, putting retirees under a plan that for the first time would include

deductibles and co-pays. By the time the change actually took effect, Ms. Parker was operating under PA 436 of 2012, which enhanced the powers of local emergency managers.

Mr. Boonstra, in his ruling, said the plaintiffs had no evidence that Ms. Parker actually implemented the new insurance under PA 72 of 1990 and so dismissed that portion of the case.

The plaintiffs also mounted a more wide-ranging attack against PA 436 of 2012, the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act, claiming it is unconstitutionally vague.

To support their claim, the plaintiffs assert the act vests the entire "sovereign power" of the state in two executive branch employees, the treasurer and the emergency manager; declares city retirees "interested parties," but excludes them from the rest of the act; and gives the treasurer and emergency manager limitless power.

However, Mr. Boonstra said the claim meets none of the tests necessary to support a charge of unconstitutional vagueness and contains little support for the allegations.

#### Ananich Urges Action On Flint Water Situation

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich said Thursday he will continue working on raising funds to provide his hometown with clean drinking water after medical data was released showing increased lead levels in children through the city of Flint.

Medical officials at the Hurley Medical Center used data from all blood lead levels at their facility to analyze differences between those collected between January 1, 2013 and September 15, 2013, prior to the city switching the resource for its water, and for the post-switch period of January 1, 2015 through September 15, 2015.

The results for children five years old and younger found that pre-switch, about 2.1 percent of children were found to have noticeable levels of lead in their blood (that is consistent with Department of Health and Human Services data at 2.2 percent, the officials noted). Post-switch, 4 percent of children tested were found to have lead in their blood.

As a point of comparison, the officials also analyzed the same periods for Genesee County children living outside of city of Flint zip codes. Pre-switch, 0.6 percent of children 5 and under were flagged as having lead in their system. That increased to 1 percent during the post-switch timeframe.

"The findings released today are alarming. Our top priority has to be doing everything we can and finding every available resource to ensure access to safe water for Flint residents," Mr. Ananich (D-Flint) said in a statement. "I will be leading an effort to raise state, private and philanthropic resources to deliver filters and clean water into the community as quickly as possible."



Children with high blood lead levels are at an increased likelihood of attention deficit disorders, having delinquent behaviors and arrests, or having hematologic, cardiovascular, immunologic, or endocrine issues, the officials noted in their presentation.

Mr. Ananich said anyone with concerns about their water should visit [flintwaterinfo.com](http://flintwaterinfo.com) and contact their physician or the Genesee County Health Department immediately.

#### Corrections Updates Purchasing Policy In Light Of Complaint

Prison stores will have fewer free samples and Department of Corrections policies make it clear store employees are not entitled to personal use of those, a report received Thursday by the Board of Ethics said.

The report is largely attachments detailing the current contract with Keefe, the vendor for the store goods, and the new employee policies.

The report resulted from a complaint filed against Jim Kolb, a store supervisor the Michigan State Employees Association said was abusing his position in the use and distribution of free samples (See [Gongwer Michigan Report, June 4, 2015](#)).

The department said in the report that it had complied with the board's recommendation, also formally adopted Thursday, that it take no disciplinary action against Mr. Kolb, given the board's finding that there had been a history of such abuses in the stores that Mr. Kolb was merely continuing.

The department, in the report, revised its policies to make it clear the samples were not for the personal use of the store employees and said it would be contacting all employees annually to reinforce that policy.

The new policy takes effect Saturday under a shortened review process.

It also said it had since changed the contract with Keefe to limit the amount of free samples allowed. Under the new contract, only three samples per store item are allowed, and they are to be delivered only to the Prison Store Contract Committee, which decides what items will be offered in the stores.

**FORESTERS:** The board also formally adopted its June decision that two Department of Natural Resources foresters had not violated State Ethics Act because the department had the authority to allow them to take on supplemental employment and because they never actually took any outside work.

The Michigan Chapter of the Association of Consulting Foresters had argued that allowing Kevin LaBumbard, Ben Travis and Theresa Sol to take on outside work would be a conflict because they would be in a position to recommend themselves should land owners call the department for assistance.

## Senate Panel Reports Venture Investment Bills

Legislation to ensure the state makes no more tax voucher grants to companies through the Early Stage Venture Investment Corporation were sent to the full Senate Thursday.

The three bills - [HB 4195](#), [HB 4196](#) and [HB 4365](#) - were reported unanimously by the members of the Economic Development and International Investment Committee.

The committee also reported a bill changing how often the state has to certify what the taxable minimum wage will be under the employment security act. Democrats on the panel voted against that bill because it did not include a tie-bar to legislation to restore some unemployment benefits.

The early stage venture bills were made necessary when it was discovered the grants made after the corporation was set up in 2003 had failed to produce the economic development results hoped for, putting the state in a position of losing some \$600 million. The discovery of that situation created a budgeting worry for the state which the bills are expected to help ease.

Under the legislation, the state could no longer issue any tax vouchers under the program and the total number of certificates available would be reduced to the \$450 million already issued.

The bills also change the expiration date of the fund and the vouchers from 2054 to 2030.

The panel adopted an amendment stipulating that up to \$154 million of any revenue the state recoups go to the General Fund, and that any monies after that go to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jobs Fund. [Sen. Rebekah Warren](#) (D-Ann Arbor) said the fund has helped finance companies that have grown and added more than 1,000 jobs to the state.

And Under [SB 500](#), the state would no longer determine quarterly if the base taxable wage under which unemployment protection tax is paid is \$9,500 or has to be reduced to \$9,000 based on the financial condition of the state's unemployment compensation fund.

The bill would have the state make the declaration once a year, on June 30, if the wage remains at \$9,500 or is reduced to \$9,000.

Ms. Warren proposed tie-barring the bill to [HB 4655](#), which would restore six weeks of unemployment benefits cut by the state in 2011. Jobless workers have not seen an increase in their benefits in nearly 40 years, and the bill would help provide benefits for those still unable to find work. The amendment failed along party lines.

## Poll Finds Dead Split On Marijuana Legalization

With a good chance Michigan voters will act on at least one marijuana legalization proposal on the 2016 ballot, a poll shows voters are split dead even on the issue.

The poll conducted of Lansing-based Marketing Resource Group found 46 percent said they would support legalization for persons 21 years old and older, while 46 percent were opposed.

But of those most likely to vote, the scale definitely does not favor legal weed: 52 percent said they would oppose legalization to 42 percent backing it.

Groups are out now collecting signatures on proposed bills to legalize recreational use of marijuana for adults. Its medicinal use is already approved for those with certain medical conditions.

Opposition is led by self-identified Republicans, those 65 or older, and so-called "super voters" who vote in every election.

The poll was conducted earlier in September of 600 likely voters, with an error rate of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

The poll also showed Democrats backing the idea with 60 percent support. Independents gave it 50 percent support, while just 29 percent of Republicans supported it.

Younger people also supported the proposal, with 66 percent of those between ages 18 and 29 backing it, while just 33 percent of those aged 65 and older backed it.

Geographically, support was highest in Detroit, where 75 percent backed the proposal, and it had stronger support overall in the Detroit-metro area (though it was too close to call how voting would go). In outstate and rural areas, support fell sharply. In West Michigan, it was opposed by 56 percent of those polled.

#### House Panel Approves Presidential Primary As Regular Election Date

Every four years, the state's primary elections and any local elections held in conjunction would move up to the date set for the presidential primary under legislation approved Thursday by the House Elections Committee.

The bill ([HB 4904](#)), which was reported without objection from committee and has support of the various local government groups, would allow other items than the presidential primary on that ballot and would provide filing deadlines to accommodate that shift.

The bill specifies it is intended to correct a Court of Appeals ruling that the presidential primary was not one of the state's regular election dates and so was not available for other issues.

The committee did strip off an enacting provision that delay it for 90 days out of concern the delay would have it enacted too late to affect the upcoming elections.

#### Unemployment Down Across State

All 17 of the state's labor markets saw unemployment fall in August, a report Thursday from the Department of Technology, Management and Budget said.

The report said employment was up across the state, but the decline was in part due to people dropping out of the workforce across the state.

"Jobless rates around the state typically fall in August, and this year was no exception," Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, said in a statement. "Employment increased in August in a number of Michigan regions, however, (and) workforce levels fell in all areas from the June and July summer peak."

Employment increased in 12 markets from July and in all 17 from August 2014, but the total workforce fell in all 17 markets from July and in 10 regions from the year prior.

The lowest unemployment was 3.4 percent in Grand Rapids-Wyoming, down from 4.2 percent from July and 4.9 percent from August 2014, also the lowest rates for their respective periods.

Detroit-Warren-Dearborn retained its position as the highest unemployment rate at 6.2 percent, down from 7 percent from July and 8.9 percent from last August, both marking the highest employment for the state.

Among the counties, Mackinac had the lowest unemployment at 2.8 percent, while Schoolcraft had the highest at 9.6 percent.

Wayne County was third highest at 7.5 percent, Oakland County was 39<sup>th</sup> at 5 percent (tied with Van Buren and Saginaw), Macomb was 62<sup>nd</sup> at 6 percent (tied with Kalkaska), and Kent was third at 3.4 percent.

#### Pscholka 'Good Samaritan' Prescription Drug Bill To Get Hearing

Rep. Al Pscholka said Thursday his bill precluding individuals younger than 21 years old from facing prescription drug-related legal charges when reporting a medical emergency will get a committee hearing.

HB 4843, Mr. Pscholka (R-Stevensville) said, is similar to a recent public act providing immunity for those minors who report an alcohol-related medical emergency.

"We're talking about situations where people sit by and do nothing while lives are on the line," he said in a statement. "Well, guess what? That's the position we're in, too. We can sit by and do nothing, or we can pass this legislation before we lose another young person with a bright future."

The bill will see a hearing in the House Criminal Justice Committee on Tuesday, September 29, at 9 a.m.

Campaign Notes

**MOOLENAAR BACKS RUBIO:** Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio, a U.S. senator from Florida, secured his highest-profile Michigan backing yet with an endorsement Thursday from U.S. Rep. John Moolenaar (R-Midland).

"Marco Rubio is a generational leader who has a bold vision for creating jobs in the 21st Century, and I am proud to endorse him for president," Mr. Moolenaar said in a statement. "Marco's plan for a New American Economy is exactly what Michigan and our country needs and I will do everything I can to help elect him."

**MITCHELL ENDORSES FIORINA:** Republican presidential candidate Carly Fiorina secured a notable Michigan endorsement Thursday when conservative business executive Paul Mitchell, a candidate in the 10<sup>th</sup> U.S. House District, said he is supporting her for president.

"Our next president must possess the experience to effectively lead our country - experience making tough real world decisions, and understand how the world works beyond the fishbowl of politics," Mr. Mitchell said in a statement. "Our next president must be able to communicate clear conservative solutions to the American people and possess the leadership skills needed to enact them into policy. I believe we have just such a leader seeking our nomination, from outside of government, with real world experience that is needed to move America in the right direction. I believe Carly Fiorina is that leader and I am proud to support her candidacy to be the next president of the United States."

**AGEMA, TED NUGENT ENDORSING BILL SAGE IN 80TH:** Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema and musician Ted Nugent are endorsing Bill Sage of Allegan in the 80<sup>th</sup> House District, Mr. Agema said Thursday on his Facebook.

Mr. Sage is one of the eight Republicans running in the 80<sup>th</sup> House District to fill the vacancy created by the expulsion of former Rep. Cindy Gamrat of Plainwell. Ms. Gamrat is also running.

Mr. Sage has said he is a constitutional conservative and wrote the "Constituting Michigan" resolution that was later passed at RNC. Mr. Agema noted that he helped get it passed at the RNC. The resolution requires K-12 education include certain documents, including the Bill of Rights.

Capital Notebook

**MAC BOARD:** Jerry Doucette of Alger County is the new president of the Michigan Association of Counties. Shelley Goodman Taub of Oakland County is now first vice president and Matthew Bierlein of Tuscola County is the new second vice president.

**LOAN SETTLEMENT:** Michigan residents saw \$15.7 million in forgiven loans and \$6.85 million in reduced or modified loans in the final accounting of a settlement with South Dakota-based Western Sky Financial, LLC and California-based CashCall, Incorporated, Attorney General Bill Schuette and Insurance and Financial Services Director Pat McPharlin announced Thursday.

The settlement for issuing loans without a license and for charging excessive interest rates still includes \$2.2 million in refunds to customers who filed legitimate claims. The officials said the settlement administrator is resolving now how to divide those funds.

**CHARITY GAMING:** Ledge Meadows Poker Room in Grand Ledge will close as a charity gaming location on September 29 and 1 Eyed Jack Gaming Supplies will forfeit its license as a supplier after the Gaming Control Board found the supplier had made supplemental payments to the venue.

Statute requires charities to pay separately for the venue and the equipment and other services. Officials said Ledge Meadows was reportedly donating space for the games.

"Ledge Meadows acted like a casino by accepting gambling profits from the supplier," MGCB Executive Director Richard Kalm said in a statement. "The supplier and location made an illegal deal, allowing the location to skirt state law."

Officials noted 1 Eyed Jack was placed on probation for much of 2014 for paying fees to Ledge Meadows. It was also cited for allowing a dealer with a felony record.

Subscribers Please Note

A story on Michigan Works! successes incorrectly identified Ben Damerow in the story where Jacob Maas, CEO of West Michigan Works! should have been cited. The story has been updated online.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

**Wednesday, September 30**

**Michigan State Housing Development Authority Board, Board Room, Fourth Floor, 735 East Michigan Avenue, Lansing, 1:30 p.m. ([Agenda](#))**

**Thursday, October 8**

**Natural Resources Commission, Clark Township Hall, 207 North Blind Line Road, Cedarville, 2:30 p.m. ([Agenda](#))**

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Thursday, October 8, 2015  
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## **Michigan Report for Thursday, October 8, 2015**

Legislature To Move Quickly On Funding For Flint Water

Snyder, DEQ Under Heavy Scrutiny For Handling Of Flint Water Crisis

Bills Would Extend Community College Training Programs To ISDs

DIFS Has Some Concerns With Insurance Code Changes

Group Charges A.G.'s Office Pushes Excessive FOIA Fees

In Energy Discussion, Companies Say Cost, Reliability Are Key

Cotter Still Hoping For Road Funding Solution In October

Senate Panel Exploring Billboards In Special Use Zones

Senate Approves Implied Consent For Drug Tests In Crashes

Senate Approves Ban On Breed Prohibitions

Bill Would Require Capitol Drone Flight Permits

Capital Notebook

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

## **Activity Reports**

House

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Day Planner



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## Volume #54, Report #200 -- Thursday, October 8, 2015

### Legislature To Move Quickly On Funding For Flint Water

FLINT - Top legislative leaders immediately said Thursday they would support state funding to aid Flint's return to drawing water from the Detroit system and ending a disastrous move to pull water for the city from the Flint River.

Insufficient corrosion controls for water drawn from the river, which is inherently more corrosive than water drawn from Lake Huron, where the Detroit system draws its water, caused lead from the city's old service lines to leach into the water, leading to lead levels in the water exceeding the federal standard to trigger remediation and to elevated lead levels in the blood of some Flint children.

In an especially alarming finding, Department of Environmental Quality { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1) } said Thursday that initial water screening at 13 Flint schools showed four of 37 samples exceeding the federal threshold on lead of 15 parts per billion that requires action to be taken. The four samples came from three different schools. One school's level hit as high as 101 parts per billion.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) }, a day after a technical review board recommended the city return to using the Detroit water system, said he backed the city's decision no longer to use the Flint River and declared he would ask the Legislature for \$6 million toward the \$12 million cost to use the Detroit system until next summer. By then, the new pipeline for the regional Karegnondi Water Authority to draw water from Lake Huron should be completed.

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"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } listens as a reporter asks him whether the emergency manager he appointed to run Flint made a mistake in switching the city's water source to the Flint River.

fastest way to protect public health and to stabilize Flint's water system," Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said.

Mr. Snyder also is calling for about \$3.5 million to pay for additional state staff in Flint schools (Health and Human Services to gauge exposure to lead, DEQ to handle evaluation and protocols on drinking water, and Licensing and Regulatory Affairs to assist with plumbing engineers). The funding also would support testing and evaluating the water and continuing to supply residents with filters to screen out lead.

Even after the Detroit system begins supplying water, it can take up to six months for the corrosion controls to take full effect, Mr. Wyant said.

House { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1>" } (R-Mount Pleasant) said the situation is a "serious public health crisis," and the state must act.

"It is clear there is going to be a need for some money from the state, and I am supportive of that," he said.

"It will be better for the citizens of Flint in terms of public safety, which is the paramount concern," Mr. Snyder said at a news conference. "This is a comprehensive next step to add to the steps we'd taken last week."

The Mott Foundation will contribute \$4 million, and the city of Flint will contribute the remaining \$2 million.

The calls for the state to cover some or all of the cost of switching water systems stemmed in large part because it was an emergency manager, whom Mr. Snyder appointed to run the city during a financial crisis, who made the decision to leave the Detroit system and use the Flint River as a way of saving almost \$1.5 million a month to aid the city's troubled finances.

Officials said it would take about two weeks to make the change from drawing water from the river to the Detroit system.

"A switch back to Detroit water is the

Mr. Cotter said he did not know how quickly the House would approve funding, but termed the issue urgent.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" } (R-Stevensville), the House Appropriations Committee chair, said he wants to act next week. There is a vehicle supplemental appropriations bill in the committee that would enable quick legislative passage, he said.

Mr. Pscholka said the move to switch water sources should have come sooner, and he voiced that to state officials. A week ago, Mr. Snyder announced several action steps that included distributing filters to residents, among other measures. He said then that switching to Detroit water was under consideration.

"I was not happy last week. I ran into some folks at the MSU game. Representative Neeley was there and Dan Wyant was there. ... and I voiced my opinion," Mr. Pscholka said, referring to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1" } (D-Flint). "I just felt we needed to get this done and we needed a longer-term solution than what was being proposed last week. And I am glad to see we had some pretty quick response."

Amber McCann, spokesperson for Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive), said the Senate would likely take up the issue next week.

"It is a public health crisis and the Senate will work to help address that issue so there is safe drinking water for Flint," she said. "There's just some disagreement about where that money may come from."

Mr. Snyder said officials held off recommending a return to Detroit water because they wanted to analyze what the best decision would be. In the end, the change is the best move both in terms of water quality and restoring the confidence of Flint residents that their water is safe. Officials also were studying the logistics and cost involved in switching to Detroit water, he said.

"I thought it was best to listen to the scientists, the researchers that are doing this great work, and they confirmed that they believed it was the appropriate answer," he said. "It really was waiting for the data to really say this clearly was the best answer."

Mr. Snyder and Mr. Wyant were asked why the DEQ had not tested the drinking water in the schools. They said the state had followed the federal rule, which does not require it. But now the state will test the water in Flint schools and evaluate whether to make that a permanent endeavor.

Several praised the decision, but given the gravity of the situation, did so coolly and also said much more work remains to address the large number of lead components in the city's water infrastructure.

"I view this not as a victory for our community, but as a fix that is unfortunately necessary," said Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint).

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1" } (D-Flint) called for Flint not to pay anything toward the switch.

"Flint is a financially distressed city, and it should not have to empty out its bank account to pay for the state's failures," he said in a statement. "The decision to switch to the Flint River water source was made while the city was under state emergency management, and now it is incumbent on Governor Snyder and the state to fix - and pay - for the problem they created. Flint paying anything for the problem that the state created in the first place means that other improvements, including to the city's aging water infrastructure system, could be delayed."

The Michigan Environmental Council called for testing all Flint children for lead exposure and for the state to study the feasibility of testing children statewide for lead. It also called for the state to require all local governments to determine which homes in their jurisdictions have lead service lines.

"The plan announced today to switch Flint back to Detroit for its drinking water supply is a positive step," said Andy McGlashen of the MEC in a statement. "But there's a lot more state leaders can do to resolve the crisis and make sure nothing like it ever happens again in Michigan."

Lynna Kaucke, senior organizer for the group Food and Water Watch, said the switch should have come long ago after more than a year's worth of complaints about the water. Prior to the lead crisis, there were complaints of severe discoloration, foul taste and smells, and rashes.

In January, the city declared its treatment for bacteria in the water had led to an excessive level of a cancer-causing chemical in the water.

"Unfortunately the switch may come too late for some Flint children who will suffer a lifetime of consequences from having been poisoned by the high levels of lead in Flint's drinking water," Ms. Kaucke said in a statement. "We can only hope that Governor Snyder and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality learn from this tragedy."

Mr. Walling said the realization of children having elevated blood levels has been devastating to the Flint community.

"I could hardly sleep knowing that our youngest and most vulnerable children could be at greater risk if precautionary steps were not taken," he said.

Snyder, DEQ Under Heavy Scrutiny For Handling Of Flint Water Crisis

FLINT - { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } said Friday he

supports an "after-action report" to review how his administration, and others, responded to concerns about unsafe levels of lead in Flint's drinking water in the wake of heavy criticism that his Department of Environmental Quality downplayed worrisome data and reacted slowly to the situation.

There are several major lines of criticism against Mr. Snyder and his administration on their handling of Flint's water:

- The emergency manager Mr. Snyder appointed to run Flint during its financial emergency put finances before public safety when deciding to switch the city's water source from the Detroit system to the Flint River to save almost \$1.5 million a month while awaiting the construction of a new regional system pipeline to Lake Huron;
- A DEQ spokesperson { [HYPERLINK "http://michiganradio.org/post/leaked-internal-memo-shows-federal-regulator-s-concerns-about-lead-flint-s-water"](http://michiganradio.org/post/leaked-internal-memo-shows-federal-regulator-s-concerns-about-lead-flint-s-water) } told Michigan Radio in July the importance of a leaked U.S. Environmental Protection Agency memo raising worries about lead in the water (Brad Wurfel told Michigan Radio, "anyone who is concerned about lead in the drinking water in Flint can relax");
- A Department of Health and Human Services spokesperson { [HYPERLINK "http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/state\\_says\\_its\\_data\\_shows\\_no\\_c.html"](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/state_says_its_data_shows_no_c.html) } data produced by Hurley Medical Center in Flint showing elevated levels of lead in children's blood (Angela Minicuci told The Flint Journal the state's data was more comprehensive and "much more accurate" than the Hurley data); and
- The DEQ's testing of water samples was inadequate.

"Right now I want to stay focused in on the solutions and taking actions to solve the problems," Mr. Snyder said when asked about the need to review what went wrong. "And then we'll go back and continue an analysis to say are there recommendations that'd we'd like to work with our federal partners ... to improve processes when you change water sources or are there ongoing things we should be looking at on a more frequent basis or who is being looked at."

Mr. Snyder did suggest many changes could be needed.

"I think it's clear there will be at least several recommendations that will be out there, both at the state level, the local level and the federal level on things that we could have potentially seen opportunities," he said. "I do want to credit people though for trying to work together to promptly resolve this as it was identified."

Both Mr. Snyder and DEQ { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1) } said several times the state performed all the water tests required under the federal lead and copper rule. Both said one apparent hole is that nothing requires testing the water in schools, which Mr. Snyder said "probably should be something that could be corrected in the longer term."

Mr. Snyder also said officials "promptly found the resources" to switch the city back to Detroit water as soon as possible.

He did not answer a question about whether it was a mistake in 2014 for his appointed emergency manager to switch the water source to the Flint River. The state returned control of Flint city government to its elected officials earlier this year.

Mr. Wyant said the DEQ was testing the water in the system every six months for lead as required by federal rule. In December, the test showed 6 parts per billion. The next test showed 11 parts per billion. Under federal rule, having two consecutive tests means the community must be informed and the water system must increase its corrosion controls.

The letter advising Flint residents of the lead situation went out in August, Mr. Wyant said.

Mr. Wyant, in an interview, was asked if the DEQ should have been more circumspect in its public statements about the safety of the water.

"Yes," he said. "Lessons learned."

Of the DEQ's overall performance in the situation, Mr. Wyant said staff followed its consistent protocol and federal rule.

"They responded in a timely fashion," he said. "The real questions that we'll get to on this after-action review is what more should have happened and what more could have been done. We have to be open and honest that some changes will be necessary going forward."

As to why the Department of Health and Human Services initially downplayed the Hurley data, DHHS { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1>" } said initially the citywide data showed seasonal patterns.

"But as we dug into it and did figure out there was a statistical variation, we acted immediately and quickly, and that's why we took the action steps we did last week," he said.

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1>" } (D-Flint) said the DEQ "has a lot of work to do" when asked how it performed.

"I think they're internally looking at the mistakes that were made whether it's in communication or in following the procedures and protocols. They seem dedicated and I'm going to hold them to changing those policies going forward," he said. "There's no question that mistakes were made in the drinking water division of the Department of Environmental Quality and that needs to be looked at."

Mr. Ananich said the change in tone from the state in the past week will help after the initial response seemed combative.

"There's panic, there's anger, there's distrust," he said of the mood in the city. "Folks really want to know answers because they want to protect their family. Those answers are starting to come out now, and I think it's in a much more direct way. The mistakes of the past, where the lack of transparency and the lack of empathy and giving straight answers, that's (ending) now."

Flint City Councilmember Wantwaz Davis said the state's support for moving the city back to Detroit water corrects what had been a horrendous decision by Mr. Snyder's emergency manager to draw water from the Flint River.

He said he would give the state a B+ for its handling of the issue, mainly because of Thursday's decision to switch to Detroit water.

"Now it will give some form of sigh of relief to the kids and also to the elderly people who have compromised immune systems," he said. "Now they've gotten it right."

### Bills Would Extend Community College Training Programs To ISDs

The House Workforce and Development Committee on Thursday discussed legislation allowing an intermediate school district to enter into an agreement with an employer in the state to train workers and recoup the costs in part through a diversion of income tax withholding from the new jobs.

{ HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB475001](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB475001)" }

and { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB475101](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB475101)" }

, introduced by Rep. Phil Potvin (R-Cadillac) would extend the program that is currently seen between community colleges and employers in the state.

Mr. Potvin said there is "quite a gap" in the job market forming as those between 50 and 60 years old are starting to retire.

"We want to open that opportunity up, in particular where I am from in the 102<sup>nd</sup> District ... we have no community college within the area," he said. "When you've got a local industry, in particular in Cadillac we have 4,200 manufacturing jobs. ... What this will allow us to do is continue to create that opportunity."

Steve Locke, with the Mecosta Osceola Intermediate School District, said they often hear from employers that they need workers with a certain skill set.

He said the ISD currently has the facilities to train workers, but under current law they are traveling 50 or 60 miles from the area to the nearest community colleges for training.

"We think this is an awesome opportunity to reduce barriers for partnerships," he said.



Paul Galbenski, dean of the Oakland Schools Technical Campus northeast, said if enacted the bills would help ISDs strengthen relationships with local businesses and meet the needs of the local economy.

"It's an incredible economic development opportunity also for local employers to be able to get their employees trained," he said. "And it does provide multipurposing for our career and technical campus. We have these facilities and this would then help us spread the standing infrastructure cost over more buildings and provide more of those opportunities."

He said in career and technical programs the most costly portion is maintaining the equipment.

Under the bills, an ISD providing such could provide various services, including training or retraining for new jobs; adult basic education and job related instruction; development, readiness, and remedial education; and vocation and skill assessment services and testing.

An agreement between an ISD and an employer must provide for costs that may be paid from a new jobs credit from withholding, new employment resulting from the project or from tuition and fees.

The agreement must also contain an estimate of how many new jobs will be created by the employer; a provision that fixes on a quarterly basis the minimum amount of new jobs credit from withholding to be paid for program costs and if it is insufficient, the employer would agree to provide funds to make up the shortfall; and provide for the payment of an administrative fee in an amount equal to 15 percent of the agreement.

An ISD receiving money from employee withholding would file a quarterly report to the Department of Treasury under the legislation certifying the amount it received from each of its partners.

Annually, the ISD would be required to submit additional information to the department, including names of employers, amount of the withholding and other information.

The committee did not act on the bill.

### DIFS Has Some Concerns With Insurance Code Changes

The first major update on of the state's health insurance laws in more than 20 years saw its first committee hearing Thursday, and the Department of Insurance and Financial Services has some concerns, but appears willing to work toward an agreement.

Gabe Basso with DIFS told the House Insurance Committee that the department does not yet have an official position on the bill. Mr. Basso then outlined the department's concerns to the committee.

"We have been working with stakeholders throughout this process and will continue to do so," he said.

The department had multiple concerns with the pending legislation, including various changes in the code to reflect federal changes, like a former requirement to have certain notices written in "plain English," but is now referred to as "culturally and linguistically appropriate."

Under the current drafts, a provision requiring the director to approve forms to ensure they are not misleading was changed so that the director would not have to approve the forms unless significantly changed from the previous form.

Mr. Basso said that appears subjective to the department and it would like the original provision to remain.

Teri Morante, with the department, also said it is looking to get 90 days in the bill to do its review of health plans. She said right now the department does it in 120 and has 16 people working overtime to get it done.

She said even 90 days is a stretch to do the review, but under the legislation the department would be required to do it in 60 days and it doesn't seem possible.

Dominick Pallone and Judy Hooyenga with the Michigan Association of Health Plans testified to the House Insurance Committee making its case as to why the package of bills ([http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493301](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493301)), [http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493401](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493401) and [http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493501](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493501)), designed to improve competition in the insurance industry and increase company flexibility in developing new products for consumers, is needed.

Mr. Pallone said the bills would allow the association to continue working with its partners, including local governments, DIFS and the Department of Health and Human Services on the Medicaid side, in new and innovative ways.

The bills would allow health maintenance organizations to offer administrative services organization plans without a financial risk. While currently many HMOs have separate administrative services organization businesses, they are not within the same network.

Ms. Hooyenga said under the changes in the bills, an HMO will be able to operate an administrative services organization and keep the same network, helping enrollees keep the same doctors.

HB 4934 would adopt National Association of Insurance Commissioners model, which would reduce conflicts when coordinating with national insurers out of state, Ms. Hooyenga said.

Other changes included in the bills are:

- Medicaid HMOs would still have to have a third of its governing board comprised of enrollees or representatives of membership, or they would have to create a consumer advisory board;
- An expedited process for approval of experimental drugs;
- Eliminating minimum dollar coverage for substance disorder services;
- Excluding coverage for illegal activities that include driving with an illegal blood alcohol level or operating a meth lab;
- Allowing delivery of documents electronically under certain conditions; and
- In the Patients Right Independent Review Act, the deadline for filing would change from 60 to 120 days.

### Group Charges A.G.'s Office Pushes Excessive FOIA Fees

An organization that was asked to pay \$52,000 to the Department of Treasury to obtain records its requested under the Freedom of Information Act charged that { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1) } was behind efforts to deny the public access to documents through "exorbitant fees for easily searchable documents."

A spokesperson for Mr. Schuette called the assertion absurd.

However, documents released by the liberal group Progress Michigan had to prove a bit embarrassing to state officials as items the Department of Treasury had intended to be redacted were actually readable. And those sections showed that instead of denying a request from Progress Michigan to obtain documents "per advice from the AG, the response carries a \$52K fee. This may cause them to 'cry wolf.'"

Progress Michigan had requested documents from Treasury and other departments related to Paul Pastorek, education advisor to { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) }. After the group received the bill of \$52,000, it filed an FOIA on how its initial FOIA request was handled.

Lonnie Scott, executive director of Progress Michigan, said documents indicate the Department of Attorney General was trying to price people out of documents that should be public.

The public has already paid for the documents requested, as they are produced by state workers whose salaries are paid for by the taxpayers, Mr. Scott said.

In fact, other departments did respond to the request and did not charge the organization, Mr. Scott said.

Progress Michigan was attempting to get information on why Mr. Snyder's administration moved school reform efforts from the Department of Education to Treasury.

In its initial response to the organization, the department said the request was overbroad. Requesting all documents would mean a minimum of two hours to check the documents of more than 1,200 department employees, Progress Michigan was told.

The request was later modified, but Mr. Scott said it was ridiculous to say every department worker would have to be checked because only a few workers would have had dealings with Mr. Pastorek. And in the end, Mr. Scott said, Treasury essentially asked of all workers that anyone who had documents referring to Mr. Pastorek to supply them.

The issue, Mr. Scott said, was whether Mr. Schuette or his department directed Treasury to call for the \$52,000 fee. Reporters questioned if the documents specifically indicated the attorney general's office directed the decision on the fee.

Andrea Bitely, spokesperson for Mr. Schuette, said Progress Michigan's own documents show the attorney general's office called for the material to be released.

"But the taxpayers expect they won't have to pay for an attack group's fishing expedition, so we follow the law on fees. It's just tiresome games from a political attack group," she said in an email.

However, since the question of large fees being charged for FOIA requests has been raised by a number of organizations (Gongwer News Service has also had to negotiate with the state over fees charged for FOIA requests), Ms. Bitely was asked if the Department of Attorney General had discussed with departments how FOIA fees should be set. By Thursday evening, there had been no reply to that question.

Mr. Scott also said the dispute shows that reforms in how FOIA laws are applied are needed.

#### In Energy Discussion, Companies Say Cost, Reliability Are Key

Having reliable and cost-effective electricity sources are critical to corporate operations, top executives from two of Michigan's largest companies told the Senate Energy and Technology Committee on Thursday, but the first priority is ensuring the state has competitive costs.

Supporters of electric choice cheered comments made by the president of Dow Chemical's North American operations, who said the best way to get the electricity the company needs "is through a competitive bidding process."

Offsetting those remarks, the chief energy executive for Ford Motor Company said his firm supports { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701)" }<sup>[a]</sup>, the controversial measure now before the committee. The bill needs changes, George Andraos said, but will help assure reliability while the state gets to a lower overall cost.

Mr. Andraos, Rich Wells of Dow and Pete Milojevic, president of the Midland Cogeneration Venture, spoke almost equally about cost and reliability, with much of the focus on reliability.

Mr. Wells and Mr. Andraos said any interruption in reliability causes major production headaches and costs for their firms.

While a homeowner seeing a flashing signal - indicating the power was out for a while - might have to deal with the annoyance of resetting their microwave oven, a Dow plant has to shut down for the time the power is off, Mr. Wells said.

"We need reliability for the long-term and the next second," Mr. Wells told the committee.

Mr. Andraos said the power doesn't even have to shut off for it to force a plant to close. If there is a 30 percent reduction in wattage produced, that shuts down a production line. And the time it will take to restart the line could mean millions of dollars lost in production.

In outlining energy costs in states where Ford has production plants, Mr. Andraos acknowledged Michigan had higher costs, although those costs had dropped from 2014 to 2015.

Pressed by { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1>" } (R-Clarklake), a major supporter of expanded electric competition, Mr. Andraos said that Ford was part of a group of companies that had urged utilities to provide more competitive electric costs.

But he also said in those states that had greater electric competition, the source of electricity tended to be more vulnerable.

Mr. Milojevic said if needed, and given a one-day advance notice, MCV can ramp up to provide more electricity that is available regionwide through distribution systems.

He also said MCV is the lowest cost producer, adding, "We've been cost competitive for 25 years."

And he agreed with Mr. Wells that electricity should be available to customers on an open-bidding system that would allow all producers to compete so long as they can meet reliability standards.

Mr. Wells implied cutting electric costs further would go a long way towards making Michigan more competitive. Tax and regulatory changes the state has made in the last five years have made an excellent start to making the state more competitive, "but it can do more," he said.

Steve Transeth, a former member of the Public Service Commission and now an energy consultant, said the state needs to do more to ensure reliability. The bill would require alternative energy suppliers to certify they can meet their customers' demand, but he said that is not enough.

"I would require of anybody in the state that they demonstrate that they have firm capacity to meet their obligations," Mr. Transeth said. He said the bill as structured now would not require the incumbent utilities to prove they can meet projected demand.

**ROBOCALLS: { HYPERLINK**

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901&locid=1>" } (R-Whitmore Lake), a member of the committee, said in a statement Thursday that some organization has been conducting robocalls in his district on the issue.

Mr. Hune said the calls include some misleading information on SB 437 and { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43801](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43801)" } and, while they allow recipients to be transferred to his office, he is not connected to the calls.

**Cotter Still Hoping For Road Funding Solution In October**

Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) told reporters after session that talks continue to go well.

Mr. Cotter did say he opposes outlining where the General Fund portion of a roads deal would come from.

"I don't think we have to specify the cuts ahead of time. I think we pass a balanced budget and make those decisions as part of the appropriations process," he said.

Mr. Cotter was also questioned as to if there is an agreement among the Legislative Quadrant not to talk about specifics from the meetings.

He said because they are negotiating, the details can change from day-to-day.

"It doesn't do anything productive to have the details of the day out there," he said. "Let's wait until we have an agreement around the table. Once we all have signed off on that then we'll take it back, we'll make it public, we'll share it with caucuses. We'll share it with the public at large and see if we can get it passed."

**Mr. Cotter also said he does not wish to debate { HYPERLINK**

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1>" } (R-Canton Township) on whether new revenue is needed for roads.

"It's not that I am not willing to debate. I am going to spend my energy on things that are productive to solving the problem," he said.

**Senate Panel Exploring Billboards In Special Use Zones**

The Senate Transportation Committee began discussions Thursday on legislation that would allow billboards in areas with certain special use permits where zoning would not otherwise allow the signs.

The bill ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43501" } ) was drafted to resolve concerns of a billboard company in the Grand Rapids area that had been ordered to remove a sign in an area zoned for manufactured housing, a residential designation, but with a special use permit to allow some commercial development.

But Department of Transportation officials said the bill as drafted would put the state out of compliance with federal law and could risk loss of federal transportation funds.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1" } (R-Lowell) said the bill was designed to resolve an issue facing Grand Rapids Outdoor, which had converted an existing billboard to digital, had that sign approved by the township, but then had the Department of Transportation reject the permit because it was not in a commercial or industrial zone.

"Even if you don't like billboards ... this is an appropriate place for a billboard," Mr. Hildenbrand said.

Stephen Disselkoe, vice president of Grand Rapids Outdoor, said the board is next to a commercial storage facility, and he said the size of the facility, under Michigan law, automatically makes the area commercial.

He also said the department had not been involved in the permitting process until the very end.

"The underlying zoning has this name of manufactured housing community," Mr. Disselkoe said. The township is saying nowhere does it say our list of uses is exhaustive."

Matt DeLong, Development Services Division administrator for the department, said federal law does not allow such signs.

"Billboards are not an allowed use per se unless you specifically zone for billboards," Mr. DeLong said. "They are specifically not allowed where you have a special use permit. It goes to the underlying zoning."

Mr. DeLong could not comment specifically on the Grand Rapids Outdoor case because it was still in litigation with a decision from the administrative law judge expected soon.

But he said the bill, in allowing billboards in non-commercial zones, would put the state out of compliance with federal law and so risk up to 10 percent of the state's federal highway funding.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } (R-Escanaba) chastised the department for not taking residents' side on such issues.

"That's where the rub seems to come in is our government doesn't seem to want to help our businesses stay in business," Mr. Casperson said. "I think you guys had ways to try to defend him."

Mr. DeLong said the department does try to work with residents to bring billboards into compliance, so he said challenges to department decisions are rare. "We very rarely lose because we don't arbitrarily (take cases to administrative hearing)," he said. "Most are resolved long before that. ... The last thing we want to be doing is spending our time or the constituent's time in an expensive process."

But he also said the department did not challenge rulings against it.

### Senate Approves Implied Consent For Drug Tests In Crashes

At-fault drivers in a crash that leads to serious injury or death would be considered to have consented to a blood or urine drug test under { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15301) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15301" }<sup>[9]</sup>, passed Thursday in the Senate.

The bill, which passed 30-5, would allow police to collect blood or urine from the at-fault driver and to use the results of tests of those materials in a criminal prosecution.

"Billy's Law closes a loophole that has delayed or denied justice from crime victims and their families," { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201&locid=1" } (R-Traverse City), the bill sponsor, said in a statement.

The bill was named for Billy Kochis and John Pomeroy, who died from injuries suffered in a traffic crash on U.S. 131 near Grand Rapids in 2013. The at-fault driver in the case would not consent to testing and a magistrate did not issue a search warrant, so police were not able to confirm suspicions that the driver was under the influence of drugs at the time of the crash.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** The Strategic Fund approved grants to five projects around the state Thursday that would reportedly generate \$14 million in private investment and 121 jobs.

Edmore was awarded \$625,875 in Community Development Block Grant funds for the Edmore Marketplace, redevelopment of an historic downtown building for an indoor marketplace and activity center and outdoor farmers market. The development is expected to generate \$870,000 in investment and 66 jobs.

Hillsdale was awarded \$785,500 in CDBG funds for 42 Union Street Redevelopment, retail space and eight apartment units, a projected \$1.5 million investment and three jobs.

Benzie County received \$463,370 in CDBG funds for the Crystal Mountain expansion project in Weldon Township. The \$10 million project is projected to create 48 jobs, and the grant funds will pay for training.



Munising has been awarded \$459,050 in CDBG funds to develop the Pictured Rocks Interpretive Center in a currently vacant and blighted building. Another \$500,000 in private investment is expected for the project.

Port Huron Citadel, LLC was awarded \$200,000 in Michigan Community Revitalization Program grants to revitalize the building of the same name in downtown Port Huron into a mixed use space including a theater. The \$1.2 million project is projected to create four jobs.

### Senate Approves Ban On Breed Prohibitions

Local governments would not be able to adopt breed-specific dog control ordinances, and those already in place would be overturned, under legislation that passed the Senate on Thursday.

The bill ( { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB23901" }<sup>24</sup> ), passed on a bipartisan 25-11 vote, would not prohibit general restrictions on dogs or dog owners.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) said the bill was another infringement on local control.

"I firmly believe our community leaders must retain the authority to address these matters at the local level," Ms. Warren said, noting that 27 communities already have some form of breed-specific ordinance.

But only { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=36301&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161201&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) from the Democratic caucus joined Ms. Warren in opposition. Republicans { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" } of Harrison Township, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } of Canton Township, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301&locid=1" } of Sheridan, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } of Saint Clair, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } of Sterling Heights, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1" } of Clarklake, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301&locid=1" } of Midland and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201&locid=1" } of Ida also opposed the bill.

### Bill Would Require Capitol Drone Flight Permits

Those wanting to film the Capitol from the air would need a permit under legislation introduced Thursday by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" }.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54901" }) would give the Capitol Commission authority over drone flights on, or above, the grounds. Anyone wanting to use a drone would have to apply to that body for a permit.

The commission has already banned drone flights from the grounds.

"If the Capitol Commission wants to allow trained photographers to use drones for a special event or a wedding, that would be appropriate," Mr. Jones said in a statement announcing the legislation. "However, allowing anyone to buy a drone and then take it down to the Capitol to buzz the building is not fun and games. It's inappropriate and puts the visiting public at unnecessary risk."

The bill would make it a 93-day, \$500 misdemeanor to fly a drone around the Capitol without a permit.

#### Capital Notebook

**CIVIL RIGHTS DIRECTOR:** The Civil Rights Commission announced Thursday a special meeting to discuss three more candidates to succeed retiring { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=350501&locid=1" }.

Officials said technical problems with the job posting caused the candidates to be overlooked during initial resume reviews.

The meeting is scheduled for Monday at 3:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room, International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit, 111 East Kirby Street, Detroit.

**PIPELINE LAWSUIT:** The National Wildlife Federation announced Thursday that it was suing the U.S. Department of Transportation for failure to prevent oil pipeline ruptures and resultant spills.

The group is arguing that all pipelines nationwide that touch a water body are being operated illegally because there are not sufficient safeguards in place to prevent spills.

"We hope today's action will be a catalyst for long-overdue protections that benefit people, communities, and wildlife," Mike Shriberg, regional executive director of the National Wildlife Federation's Great Lakes Regional Center, said in a statement. "The federal government needs to enforce the law to prevent oil pipeline disasters from fouling our water and threatening our communities and iconic places."

The { HYPERLINK "http://blog.nwf.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/11/files/2015/10/2015-10-08-Complaint-NWF-v-DOT-FILED.pdf" \t "blank" } was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## **Monday, October 12**

**Civil Rights Commission, Second Floor Conference Room, International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit, 111 East Kirby Street, Detroit, 3:30 p.m. (Special meeting to discuss candidates overlooked because of problems with job posting system)**

## **Tuesday, October 13**

**Canceled: ~~Controlled Substances Advisory Commission, 10 a.m.~~**

## **Friday, October 16**

**Canceled: ~~Board of Acupuncture, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 10 a.m.~~**

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

## **Tuesday, October 13**

{ HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88301&locid=1" }  
{ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/education.html" \t "blank"  
}, (Chr. { HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" }, 373-5314),  
Room 110, Farnum Building, 12 p.m.

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(Chr. { HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" }, 373-5312),  
Room 210, Farnum Building, 2:30 p.m.

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**Wednesday, October 14**

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}}, (Chr. { **HYPERLINK**  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" }, 373-5323),  
Room 210, Farnum Building, 1 p.m.

{ **OCCUPATIONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
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**ERLI** forms of payment for used tires, wheels and rims at used motor vehicle parts dealers.  
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**Thursday, October 15**

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(Chr. { **HYPERLINK**

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301&locid=1" }, 373-5312), Room 210, Farnum Building, 1:30 p.m.

{ **PROMISE ZONES** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501" }) Allows **RLINK** additional promise zones and modifies their administration.

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{ **COMMERCIAL REHABILITATION** ( { HYPERLINK  
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RLINK on Commercial Rehabilitation Act.

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www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB55601" }



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"mailto:cklaver@gongwer.com" }, { HYPERLINK "mailto:demerson@gongwer.com" }, {  
HYPERLINK "mailto:kasbena@gongwer.com" }, Staff Writers**

**Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.**

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2015 7:57 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Thursday, October 15, 2015  
**Attachments:** Oct15.htm; Oct15House.htm; Oct15Senate.htm



## Michigan Report for Thursday, October 15, 2015

Most Dems Drop Support As Third Grade Reading Bill Passes

Educator Evaluations Appear Finally Set As House OKs Bill

Ananich On Flint Water Funds: 'This Is By No Means Over'

Driskell Leads Walberg In Third Quarter Fundraising, Gilbert Tops \$200,000

Pavlov Introduces Bills To Prohibit Sale Of Fetal Tissue, Parts

Domestic Violence Package Clears House

EAA Official Pleads To Tax Evasion In Corruption Probe

Dems Plan Legislation With Minimum Nurse Staffing Standards

Revenues Mostly Steady In September

Committee Roundup

Capital Notebook: Former President Clinton To Speak At MSU

Supplemental Event Planner

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## Activity Reports

House

Senate

## Calendars

Day Planner

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Volume #54, Report #205 -- Thursday, October 15, 2015

## Most Dems Drop Support As Third Grade Reading Bill Passes

While Democrats were hopeful after a late session Wednesday they would be able to support a bill designed to get elementary students reading proficiently before entering fourth grade, in the end, House Republicans passed the bill Thursday with only three Democratic lawmakers in support.

The bill, { HYPERLINK

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) and House { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1" } (D-Auburn Hills) requested they be removed as co-sponsors.

Under the bill, students could be retained in the third grade if they do not test proficiently in reading. The bill does outline multiple reading intervention programs in an effort to get students reading at grade level before retention is necessary. There are also "good cause exemptions" outlined in the legislation.

Additionally, in a change adopted Thursday, the retention portion of the bill would not go into effect until the 2019-20 school year, a two year delay from what was in the reported version of the bill.

Democrats speaking on the House floor said they were concerned about the lack of parental involvement in the retention process, the negative impacts of retention and the possibility that the funding in the current year budget for literacy programs would not actually cover the costs to schools.

Mr. Zemke, who had been working with fellow Democrats and the bill's sponsor, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" } (R-Park Township), on an agreement, said in his opposition speech he still considered Ms. Price a friend, though she might not feel the same.

Mr. Zemke said he was voting no because an amendment he offered, which would allow a student who has been working on an individualized reading plan since the end of second grade, but was still not proficient in reading by the end of third grade, to move on to the next grade level while still working the individualized plan, was not adopted.

"I am not going to remove the hope of a 9-year-old. Period," he said on the House floor. "You want to see what's going to happen when you paint that picture. ... They're working hard, they're

playing by the rules, they're doing everything right. ... And then you take it away. What do you think they're going to do for the rest of their educational career? They're not going to try. Because they played by the rules and they got screwed anyway."

Ms. Price said she was disappointed to lose Mr. Zemke's support, but said his proposed amendment watered down the retention provisions in the bill to a point where she was no longer comfortable.

"I understand what he was saying," she said. "But right from the get-go, the line in the sand has been for people to say, 'No, you need to read.' And we can't keep promoting kids because we're not getting them where they need to be."

Ms. Price said the reason the House worked so hard to get the bill passed this week rather than working longer behind the scenes is she wanted to get it done before the Legislature finds itself in an election year and before other education policy debates, like Detroit Public Schools, come up.

According to the House Fiscal Agency analysis, in the 2013-14 school year as many as 39 percent or 42,500 third grade students did not test proficiently in reading under the Michigan Educational Assessment Program.

With the "more rigorous" National Assessment of Educational Progress test, in 2013, 69 percent of fourth-graders did not reach proficient reading levels.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1" } (R-Alto) said the bill is not a reactive, retention-focused measure. She said it includes many intervention programs that work to help students improve their reading.

"It is not acceptable to allow our kids to not be able to read and yet send them along their way," she said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=263501&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), one of the three Democrats who voted for the bill, said there is a 47 percent illiteracy rate in Detroit. He said current policies tell children in Detroit, "It's okay to be a failure."

He criticized comments from other members saying retention would emotionally impact children.

"How emotionally affected is that third-grader going to be when they grow up to be an adult with kids of their own who they cannot take care of because the system failed them?" he said.

The Great Lakes Education Project praised the passage of the bill, saying it was "a great day for school children in Michigan."

"We extend our deep appreciation to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" }, the chair of the House Education Committee and the bill's primary sponsor, as well as to House leadership and those 57 members who voted to help kids today," GLEP Executive Director Gary Naeyaert said in a statement. "As the leading advocacy organization supporting this bill, we are confident Senator Phil Pavlov and the Senate Education Committee will schedule hearings soon so this common sense policy can be evaluated and passed in the Senate and then sent to the governor for his signature."

The bill outlines intervention programs for children before they go into the third grade. Students are allowed to be taught other subjects that they are proficient in - like reading and math - in a fourth grade setting, while still receiving reading interventions at the third grade level. There are also good-cause exemptions to retention outlined in the bill.

The Department of Education would be required to approve at least three reliable reading assessment systems and recommend or create a reading/literacy coach model. The reading/literacy coach would be required to undertake 11 tasks, including working with teachers to diagnose and address reading deficiency.

The bill would increase the costs for the department, but the 2015-16 fiscal year budget included \$900,000 to implement the early literacy initiatives. The school aid budget also included additional funding for a portion of the implementation costs for schools.

Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, school boards and charter school boards of directors would be required to select one of the reading assessments from the MDE and provide any student with a reading deficiency at any time with a reading improvement plan and provide notice to parents about the student's reading deficiency.

Reading intervention programs for those students showing a deficiency would need to include a screening of progress at least three times per year; provide a highly effective core reading instruction; and take place during regular school hours. Parents would also receive a "read at home" plan.

### Educator Evaluations Appear Finally Set As House OKs Bill

The House on Thursday passed a bill outlining teacher and administrator evaluations in the state, and the bill appears to have an easy path through the Senate and onto { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s desk.

The bill, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10301" }, passed 97-8 after four months of debate in the House and many changes - following a tough debate during the 2013-14 term. The bill was initially controversial, as { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair), chair of Senate Education Committee, took a different approach from the House versions of the legislation drafted during the last term.

Mr. Pavlov, after the bill passed Thursday, said he was comfortable where the House went with the legislation.

"They're protecting my key tenants, and that is that, one, any money that goes to the department is dedicated toward actual training," he said. "The second thing I wanted to make sure happened was it didn't water down the historic reforms we got on tenure. Thirdly, the important concept was locals would have the ability to form and choose a model that best fits their situation."

The House-passed version of the bill establishes both training requirements and options for school districts and public school academies to develop their own teacher evaluation tool or make modifications to an existing tool. Changes added Thursday stipulated the funding for training must come from the Educator Evaluation Reserve Fund

Since the bill originated in the Senate, the chamber has to concur in the House changes to send it to { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" }'s desk.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371701&locid=1>" } (R-Holland), the vice chair of the House Education Committee, said the bill avoids a "one-size-fits-all" evaluation system.

"Under this legislation, school districts will have the flexibility to decide on their own evaluation standards to meet that goal," she said in a statement. "The House has included additional language that will make certain teachers, principals and superintendents are all familiar with and trained in their district's evaluation methods."

Under the bill, the Department of Education would have to establish and maintain a list of teacher and administrator evaluation tools, and the list would have to, at the very least, include the tools recommended by the Michigan Council on Educator Effectiveness in 2013. Districts do not have to use the same tool for teachers and administrators.

For teachers, beginning in the 2018-19 school year, 40 percent of the year-end evaluation would be based on student growth, with half coming from the state assessment and half coming from a local assessment.

For administrators, beginning immediately, 25 percent of the annual evaluation would be based on student growth and assessment data. The data is an aggregate of student growth data used in teacher evaluations in the district where the administrator works.

Training for teachers and administrators on evaluation tools is also required. School districts and PSAs could create a consortium to conduct the trainings. All evaluators and observers would also be required to receive training from a person who has expertise in the training tool.

A school district or public school academy could also develop its own tool, and the department would promulgate rules for how a district would submit its tool for placement on the list. Also



required under the bill is for the district or PSA to publish on its website a variety of information about the evaluation tool and the evaluation process beginning in the 2016-17 school year.

Ananich On Flint Water Funds: 'This Is By No Means Over'

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)


"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1>" } was both heartened and relieved Thursday to have a supplemental appropriations bill unanimously approved in the Senate to provide \$9.35 million to help his city of Flint get better water faster, but it was a cautious optimism as there is much left to do, he said.

Of the money, \$6 million will go toward switching from the Flint River as the city's source for drinking water back to the Detroit system. Insufficient corrosion control for the river water caused lead in the service lines and pipes to leach into the water, leading to lead levels above federal standards for remediation and rising levels of lead in Flint children's blood.

"As soon as we switch over to Detroit, we're not going to automatically have clean, drinkable water. We're still going to have to use the filters, still going to have to make sure they take precautions, because it takes a while to rebuild the corrosion controls against the pipes," Mr. Ananich (D-Flint) told the press after session. "I'm not an expert by any means, but it could be a few months.

"The one benefit I do think we have going forward is Flint will probably be the most tested water anywhere in the world over the next six months, as it should be, to make sure we rebuild that trust," he said.

The Senate decided quickly to take up { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201)" } , as the House sent it over Wednesday evening after a unanimous vote among representatives as well.

And within hours, { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } signed the bill into law, becoming { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201)" } with immediate effect.

"This funding is a coordinated response to a serious problem and I'm pleased so many parties came together to help deliver safe drinking water to the city of Flint," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "Reconnecting to the Great Lakes Water Authority is only the first step, as the state will continue testing and inspections to ensure Flint families and children have clean water in their homes and schools."

A week ago, Mr. Snyder called on the Legislature to provide funding to the city to help it in its efforts to switch back to the Detroit water system and have staff from both the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Health and Human Services. During that time, and

even before, there had been a lot of finger-pointing about who ought to ultimately be responsible for the crisis that has caused Flint to go on high alert due to elevated levels of lead in its water.

And many of those questions of accountability remain, Mr. Ananich said.

"(The switch) was during the period of an emergency manager, and there wasn't many decisions allowed to be made by local elected officials. I can't speak about whether they were part of the conversations or not," he said. "It was the decision of the emergency manager to switch over, a decision by a different emergency manager to stay on it, and a third emergency manager denied the request to go back.

"It definitely needs to be looked at, the emergency manager laws, make sure there's some accountability on the back-end before they leave. They shouldn't be leaving cities with such crises when they leave," Mr. Ananich said.

But the other question is who should look at what and how. Mr. Ananich said he wasn't sure yet whether the state should investigate itself (effectively), a commission should review the situation, the Legislature should make changes to existing laws or create new ones, or more.

"All those questions need to be looked at," he said. "I'm not 100 percent sure exactly what method it should be, but I think it's warranted to have a further look at what happened, what mistakes were made, and how to make sure it doesn't ever happen again in cities like Flint but also across the state.

"This isn't a victory for my community. This is a fix to a problem that never should've happened," he said.

The supplemental appropriations allocates \$6 million to get the city back on Detroit's water system; \$300,000 for DEQ's drinking water and environmental health services; \$1 million for DEQ's laboratory services; \$1 million for DHHS emergency services to purchase and distribute water to Flint residents; \$850,000 for follow up services for children, including testing lead levels and care for those with abnormal levels; and \$200,000 for plumbing inspections.

Of the \$9.35 million allocated, \$7.15 million is from the General Fund.

Driskell Leads Walberg In Third Quarter Fundraising, Gilbert Tops \$200,000

The highly touted challengers to { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=17501&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=17501&locid=1" } and { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=87801&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=87801&locid=1" } posted strong fundraising totals in the third quarter, based on campaign finance reports filed Thursday.

The reports showed their Democratic challengers, { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318101&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318101&locid=1" } (D-Saline) and former "Little House on the Prairie" star Melissa Gilbert, with strong hauls.

But the reports also showed a number of candidates with steep hills to climb in their efforts to either be their party's nominee or to unseat the incumbent.

In what could be the closest funding race based on reports available at press time, Ms. Driskell, the latest Democrat to face off against Mr. Walberg (R-Tipton), raised \$203,698 for the third quarter and \$523,610 for the cycle, leaving \$435,004 cash on hand.

"Working families, students, and seniors across the 7th District are standing behind our campaign, and we are really proud to be building grassroots momentum from a network of neighbors," Ms. Driskell said in a statement announcing her fundraising. "It's because of their enthusiasm and support that we'll continue to attract the resources necessary to win."

Mr. Walberg raised only \$133,160 for the quarter. But he had raised \$753,284 so far for the election cycle and had \$922,034 in cash on hand.

In the 8<sup>th</sup> U.S. House District, Ms. Gilbert raised \$200,372, all in the third quarter. She had \$183,317 left in cash on hand. It was her first report since declaring her candidacy.

Mr. Bishop (R-Rochester) had not filed his reports as of press time. The deadline was 11:59 p.m. Thursday

In the 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. House District, Jerry Cannon, the Democratic nominee in 2014, appeared to have donors staying away in droves. His first report for his new committee showed he raised only \$3,640 and spent nothing. Mr. Cannon created a new campaign committee for his second run and did not show the transfer of any funds from those coffers, having spent the full \$1 million he raised.

Former Michigan Democratic Party Chair Lon Johnson, expected to be the frontrunner for the Democratic nomination, reported \$350,977, all raised in the latest quarter. Of that, he had \$293,265 left in cash.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=246701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=246701&locid=1) } (R-Crystal Falls) is not seeking re-election and so far no Republicans have stepped up to replace him.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1) } (R-Escanaba), one of those named as a possible candidate, has retained an active campaign account from his prior run for the seat and reported raising a net \$180 so far for the election cycle (he returned \$2,700 in contributions). He showed \$12,759 in cash on hand, but \$22,570 in debt.

Paul Clements, so far the sole Democrat challenging { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=2401&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=2401&locid=1) } (R-St. Joseph), had \$135,374 in cash after raising \$154,808 so far toward the election, \$151,126 last quarter. He has spent \$29,100 toward his second effort to unseat Mr. Upton.

Mr. Upton had not yet filed his reports, but historically has raised substantially more than Mr. Clements is reporting.

In the race to succeed { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=3701&locid=1" } (R-Harrison Township), former Sen. Alan Sanborn reported raising just \$4,070 for the third quarter and \$46,337 overall. That left him \$25,851 cash on hand.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-Saint Clair), in contrast, raised \$57,349 for the quarter and \$164,729 total for the cycle toward his effort to succeed Ms. Miller. He reported \$126,153 cash on hand.

Detroit City Clerk Janice Winfrey, who is challenging { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=5601&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), now the longest-serving member in the U.S. House, brought in \$18,840, all in the third quarter. She had \$7,900 cash on hand. Ms. Winfrey formed her committee late in the quarter, on September 21, so had little time to raise money before the close of books on September 30.

Mr. Conyers did not report much of a war chest either, but it was still substantially larger at \$40,588. He raised \$42,997 for the third quarter and \$193,322 for the cycle.

#### Pavlov Introduces Bills To Prohibit Sale Of Fetal Tissue, Parts

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } is leading the charge in the Senate to prohibit compensation for the distribution or transfer of any portion of an embryo, fetus or neonate obtained as the result of an elective abortion, introducing two bills on the matter on Thursday that were sent to the newly created Senate Oversight Committee.

The bills come amid a controversy over Planned Parenthood charging for the costs of acquiring such tissue.

"The key is we need to protect the unborn in the state of Michigan, and these bills do that," Mr. Pavlov (R-St. Clair) said of { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB56401" }<sup>2</sup> and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB56501" }<sup>3</sup>.

The first bill states "a person shall not knowingly financially benefit from or receive any type of compensation for the distribution or transfer of any portion of an embryo, fetus, or neonate including any organs, tissues, or cells that were obtained as the result of an elective abortion."

Senate { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive), who is one of the 17 Republican co-sponsors to SB 564 and SB 565, the latter of which enacts sentencing guidelines for a violation of the prohibitions in SB 564, deferred questions on

the bills to Mr. Pavlov, noting that he has been in numerous conversations with various members of the caucus on the matter.

Asked about that level of prioritization in the Senate Republican caucus, Mr. Pavlov said, "The leader saw it fit to create a special committee to examine the issues of the unborn and protecting the unborn in Michigan. This is all about taking away any financial motivation to sell or traffic these elective abortion procedures."

Planned Parenthood has said repeatedly it does not sell fetal tissue, but only seeks to compensation for the costs of obtaining the tissue, storing it and transporting it.

Indeed, the Senate Oversight Committee where the bills were sent, was created in mid-September, with { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277001&locid=1" } (R-Rockford) as chair and Senate { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801&locid=1" } (R-White Lake Township) as majority vice chair (See { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\_id=541830108" }).

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1" } (R-Lawton) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301&locid=1" } (R-Midland) are also on the committee, as well as named co-sponsors to the bills. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1" } (D-Southfield) was designated as the lone Democratic member of the committee.

Mr. Pavlov said he could not speak to specific instances of such things happening in Michigan, but pointed to the national controversy related to Planned Parenthood that he said prompted the desire to draft some kind of legislation.

The controversy, of course, happened over the summer when The Center for Medical Progress, an anti-abortion organization, secretly recorded and edited a video of Planned Parenthood's senior director of medical research, Deborah Nucatola, talking about procedural techniques to preserve certain organs that can later be donated for research purposes, which is legal. It would be illegal to sell any tissue.

She also says in the video Planned Parenthood is sensitive about being seen as gaining a profit from these donations, and will charge for shipping and other costs the clinic takes on in the course of making donations.

Planned Parenthood has denied selling organs and charged that the video was heavily edited to give a false impression.

Additionally, earlier this week, Planned Parenthood announced it would no longer accept any reimbursement as part of its fetal tissue donation program, Lori Carpentier, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood for mid and south Michigan, said Thursday.

"So it doesn't change anything that will happen for us," Ms. Carpentier said. "In order to take this off the table as a sticking point for our opponents, we're not going to take reimbursement. And to the extent we have any, we'll find ways to cover those costs ourselves."

More important to her and her organization at this point, she said, is the hope that Mr. Pavlov's legislation doesn't have any effects on the "important medical research that comes as a result of fetal tissue donation."

"I think my concern about this is the Legislature may be dinking around in areas where they are unfamiliar with," she said. "As is commonly the case, legislators put these things together ... don't create specifics and often create limbo positions."

But Mr. Pavlov said he is not sold on someone's word.

"When someone tells you you're not doing something, you require them to prove a negative," he said. "Partial birth abortion has been banned, but we just saw through a series of videos that it's still taking place. We're going to make sure we put an end to it and protect the unborn child."

Asked how the language might affect stem cell research or in vitro fertilization procedures, Mr. Pavlov said he did not think it would affect either.

"I think it's pretty clear. Part of the strength of the bill is its simplicity," he said. How it is proven that a person "knowingly" did so is not defined in the bill, however.

Mr. MacGregor did not immediately return a request for comment on when his committee might take up Mr. Pavlov's legislation, but Mr. Pavlov said he just had a conversation with Mr. MacGregor about the matter on Wednesday when the bill was still on Mr. Pavlov's desk.

## Domestic Violence Package Clears House

A father who was found by "clear and convincing" evidence to have raped the mother would be denied visitation or custody under bills passed Thursday by the House that create "sensible" protections for the victims of domestic violence.

The lead bill, { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB448101](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB448101)" }  
{ [GONGWER](#) }, passed 101-4, would allow a court, after a fact-finding hearing where evidence presented was deemed clear and convincing, to deny custody and visitation with the child to the father.

"Michigan needs to send a message that we stand with the victims and survivors of domestic violence and rape," { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1>" } (R-Alto), sponsor of the bill, said in a statement. "Too often in cases of sexual assault and domestic violence, a rapist will use the threat of seeking custody of the child to intimidate pregnant victims into not pressing criminal charges of the attack. It is unthinkable that we would allow

this to occur when we have the ability to provide victims with the protection and peace of mind they need in order to heal."

The other bills in the package passed Thursday were { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB447601" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB447701" }, which passed 104-1 and would revise the service of process in actions appealed to the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals if a court order has been issued to prohibit release of the address of the party being served and make changes to the mediation process if domestic violence was involved, respectively.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB447801" } passed 96-9 and would allow a personal protection order to include a pet. And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB447901" } passed 103-2 and would treat an assault against a pregnant woman the same as domestic violence in terms of repeated offenses.

#### EAA Official Pleads To Tax Evasion In Corruption Probe

The Education Achievement Authority has been added to the list of Detroit institutions subject to a Federal Bureau of Investigation corruption inquiry with the guilty plea Thursday of former Mumford High School Principal Kenyetta Wilbourn-Snapp.

The Detroit News reported Thursday that investigators had been looking into the relationship between Ms. Wilbourn-Snapp and at least one of the district's contractors.

The district, designed as part of the Snyder administration's efforts to improve school performance, has been the subject of criticism both for its efforts in that direction and for its administrative operations.

The Detroit Free Press reported Thursday afternoon that Ms. Wilbourn-Snapp had accepted a plea in relation to an investigation into kick-backs she received. The paper said documents showed a possible relationship with Allstate Sales and For-Most Educational Consulting and Training Group.

Sara Wurfel, spokesperson for the Snyder administration, declined to comment on the investigation beyond noting, as did a statement from the EAA, that it was an internal review that uncovered financial discrepancies that pointed to the alleged corruption. State and EAA officials had forwarded that information to federal law enforcement.

"Our office was in full coordination in reporting and bringing to light with appropriate state and federal law enforcement agencies," Ms. Wurfel said in an email response.

The district, created through an interlocal agreement between Detroit Public Schools and Eastern Michigan University, was intended to receive struggling schools from around the state but so far has only 15 Detroit schools.

Former Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan had canceled the contract with the EAA to be the sole recipient for any schools taken over by the state for poor performance, in part over concerns raised that the tactics the EAA was employing were not actually improving student achievement.

The district was also slammed for spending on furnishings and travel under its initial chancellor, John Covington.

EAA supporters have been working since early in the last legislative session to codify the EAA to be clear that it had the authority to oversee schools other than in Detroit, but so far have come up short in that effort.

#### Dems Plan Legislation With Minimum Nurse Staffing Standards

The Michigan Nurses Association on Thursday said a poll commissioned by the group shows 80 percent of voters support having minimum staffing standards for nurses working in the state.

Currently there is no law, but { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=383401&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=383401&locid=1>" } (D-Kalamazoo) and { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1>" } (D-Ann Arbor) are planning to introduce legislation in their respective chambers.

"Michigan residents are saying loud and clear that our registered nurses are being forced to care for too many patients at once," Mr. Hoadley said. "Chronic nurse understaffing jeopardizes the care and safety of people in our hospitals every day. The only real solution is to pass a law that gives nurses enough time to spend with each patient and provide individualized care."

The Safe Patient Care Act the lawmakers plan to introduce includes implementing a staffing plan specific to each unit that adheres to minimum nurse-to-patient ratios based on research and national professional standards; limiting mandatory registered nurse overtime to instances of genuine emergencies; disclosing actual registered nurse staffing levels; and informing patients how to report potential violations of the law.

{ [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=356701&locid=1) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=356701&locid=1>" } (R-Williamsburg) said it is time for a public policy conversation on staffing levels for nurses in the state.

"It's just plain wrong that when you go into the hospital, your nurse could have far too many patients to be safe," he said. "A nurse's workload can literally be a matter of life or death for you or your loved one. This is a case where the government needs to enact reasonable standards to protect all its citizens, and I'm glad to see bipartisan movement toward achieving that."



The poll commissioned by the group also showed 77 percent of voters agree that "the quality of patient care in MI hospitals is suffering because registered nurses are being assigned too many patients per shift." And 44 percent of households with an overnight hospital stay in the past two years believe the quality of care suffered due to nurses having too many patients at one time.

The statewide survey of 600 Michigan voters was commissioned by the Michigan Nurses Association and conducted by telephone (landlines and cell phones) September 8-14 and had a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points, a statement said.

Anderson Robbins Research, a Boston firm, conducted the survey and was chosen because it has worked with both nursing and hospital organizations and Democratic and Republican clients, the group said.

#### Revenues Mostly Steady In September

State revenues were \$30.8 million better than expected in September, but entirely because of a \$42.6 million reimbursement the state received from the federal government in home heating credit refunds, a Senate Fiscal Agency report released Thursday showed.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.senate.michigan.gov/sfa/Publications/MonthRev/MRR\_MostRecent.pdf" \t "blank"  
} to the School Aid Fund were \$38.3 million more than forecast in May, while revenues to the General Fund were \$8 million less than expected.

Through September, revenues to the General Fund are \$25.9 million below the May Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference forecast and revenues to the School Aid Fund are \$66.9 million below expectations.

September was the first month since January that sales tax revenues exceeded the year-over-year figure for the month from the previous year.

Net income tax revenues were up 11.6 percent from September 2014. Also up from the previous year was the sales tax (3.3 percent), the state education property tax (13 percent) and the Real Estate Transfer Tax (3.1 percent).

Declining from year-ago levels were the Corporate Income Tax (-14.7 percent), the insurance tax (-95.4 percent) and the oil and gas severance tax (-48.5 percent).

#### Committee Roundup

**PROMISE ZONES:** The maximum number of eligible entities that may be certified by the Department of Treasury to establish educational promise zones assisting in affording a postsecondary education would increase from 10 to 15 under legislation reported by the Senate Economic Development and International Investment Committee Thursday.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB53901" }<sup>[a]</sup>

and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54001" }<sup>[a]</sup>

would also require a promise zone development plan to include provisions regarding the assessment and reporting of student performance, as well as allow Treasury to adjust the calculation of captured State Education Tax revenue if the boundaries of a promise zone were changed by a merger or other circumstance.

The bill also requires the property and assets of a dissolved promise zone authority to be used solely for the purposes of promoting access to postsecondary education, but the committee adopted an S-2 substitute to SB 539 that includes "trigger language" regarding such dissolutions, one legislative aide told the committee. In it, a Promise Zone Development Plan must be submitted to Treasury within five years of a municipality deciding to have such a zone, and once that zone is granted by the state, the municipality must begin awarding scholarships within two years.

Language was also added to ensure Promise Zones include in their development plans how they'll track data on students.

The bills were unanimously reported to the full Senate for consideration.

#### Capital Notebook: Former President Clinton To Speak At MSU

Former President Bill Clinton is the first recipient of the Spartan Statesmanship Award for Distinguished Public Service and will be the keynote speaker at the Governor Jim Blanchard Public Service Forum on November 18 at Michigan State University.

Mr. Blanchard and his wife, Janet, donated \$1 million for the program.

"The goal of this lecture series is to provide generations of students, faculty and people in the MSU community with the opportunity to hear and learn from national and international political leaders and others," Mr. Blanchard said in a statement. "(Mr. Clinton's) public service in politics, followed by his excellent work through the Clinton Foundation, is exactly the type of dedication and inspiring story we hoped to bring through the Blanchard Forum."

Mr. Blanchard was one of Mr. Clinton's most enthusiastic supporters when the then-Arkansas governor ran for president in 1992. After Mr. Clinton won, he named Mr. Blanchard the U.S. ambassador to Canada.

The Department of Political Science in MSU's College of Social Science administers the Blanchard Forum and statesmanship award.

The event will be held at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center and will serve as a fundraiser for the program, MSU said in a statement, with proceeds paying for student attendance at this event and future ones.

**DEBANO DEPARTS RESTAURANTS ASSOCIATION:** Brian DeBano, the president and CEO of the Michigan Restaurants Association, is leaving the organization after four years. A statement from the association said he was leaving to pursue future ventures but did not specify what those would be. Justin Winslow, the association's vice president of government affairs, will serve as interim president and CEO.

"Brian has left the MRA in great shape and for that we sincerely thank him," MRA Board of Directors Chairman Ken Miller said in a statement. "Under his leadership, the association is financially and operationally sound and our strong reputation remains intact. I have no doubt he will be successful in his future ventures."

**TALBOT GETS FULL TERM AS CHIEF APPELLATE JUDGE:** Court of Appeals { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=76201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=76201&locid=1) } will keep the chief judge title through 2016, under a Supreme Court order released this week. The court named Mr. Talbot to the post in January to fill the remaining year of the term begun by then-Chief { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152801&locid=1) }.

**GROUP SUPPORTING ENERGY LEGISLATION STARTS COUNTDOWN CLOCK:** Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future, a group that supports energy legislation backed by the chairs of the House and Senate energy committees, has started a "{ [HYPERLINK "http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/51503/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action\\_KEY=16114"](http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/51503/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=16114) } \t "blank" }" to mark when some coal-fired plants will be shuttered next year. The site also is designed to let visitors urge legislators to support { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701) } and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43801"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43801) } as well as { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB429701"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB429701) } and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB429801"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB429801) }.

"To account for growing capacity concerns, Michigan must responsibly replace the power we will lose due to these plant closures," said Kelly Rossman-McKinney, spokeswoman for Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY DIRECTOR LEAVING:** Michigan Workforce Development Agency Director Christine Quinn is resigning from her position to become regional administrator of the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training, the state's Talent Investment Agency announced Thursday.

She will be headquartered at the federal department's regional office in Chicago and assumes her new duties on November 30.

Ms. Quinn will manage a team that oversees a 10-state region including Michigan. The regional office ensures that employment and training programs at the state level reflect the political and socio-economic conditions that impact state and local economies.

"Michigan has been fortunate to have someone of Christine's caliber spearheading these critical workforce development initiatives," said TIA Director Stephanie Comai, in a statement. "She has a genuine passion for helping workers to succeed in this changing economy and for helping employers to meet their talent needs. On behalf of our entire agency, I wish her all the best."

Stephanie Beckhorn, who currently serves as director of programs for the Workforce Development Agency, was named acting director.

**COLBECK, HERTEL TO DEBATE ROAD FUNDING:** After issuing a challenge to his fellow legislators in either chamber to debate him on why a tax increase is necessary to help pay for the state's ailing infrastructure, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) has found acceptance to such an invitation from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing).

The debate is to take place on Tuesday, October 20, between 1:45 and 2:45 p.m., the location to be determined but for sure in Lansing, according to a statement from Mr. Colbeck's office.

Doors are to open at 1:30 p.m., Mr. Colbeck's office said.

Supplemental Event Planner

### **Wednesday, November 4**

**Michigan Pancreatic Cancer briefing (Hosted by the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and sponsored by Celgene Corporation), Mackinac Room, Anderson House Office Building, Lansing, 8 a.m.**

### **Wednesday, December 9**

**Michigan Railroads Association winter board meeting, Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, 8:30 a.m.**

Supplemental Agency Calendar

### **Tuesday, October 20**

**Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee, Legislative Council Conference Room, Third Floor, Boji Tower, 124 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/SDTCAC\_October%2020%202015.pdf" \t "\_blank" })**


**Thursday, October 22**

**Waterways Commission, Council Chambers, Rogers City Hall, 193 East Michigan Avenue,  
Rogers City, 9 a.m. (8 a.m. Work Session)**

**124 West Allegan Street, Suite 1200  
Lansing Michigan 48933**

**Phone: 517-482-3500 | Fax: 517-482-4367 | Email: { HYPERLINK  
"mailto:gongwer@gongwer.com" }**



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HYPERLINK "mailto:cklaver@gongwer.com" }, Staff Writers**

**Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.**

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including electronic mail.**


# House Activity for Thursday, October 15, 2015

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

{ **SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
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**LINK** supplemental appropriations for the 2015-16 fiscal year.  
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**INK** penalties for false claims to use a service dog.

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**{ ATHLETIC TRAINERS ({ HYPERLINK**  
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**LINK** license fee and continuing education requirements for athletic trainers.

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**{ EDUCATOR EVALUATIONS ({ HYPERLINK**  
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**RLIN** performance evaluation requirements for teachers and school administrators.

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wer.co "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2015SB10301&date=  
m/ind 10/15/2015" }  
ex.cfm  
?link=

legisla  
tion\_b  
illdeta  
il.cfm  
&billi  
d=201  
5SB10  
301" }



{ CONDO SUBDIVISION PLANS ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301" }) Modifies  
RLIN survey condominium subdivision plan signature and cover sheet content requirements.  
K

"http: 104-1, Immediate effect

//www

.gong

wer.co

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ex.cfm

?link=

legisla

tion\_b

illdeta

il.cfm

&billi

d=201

5SB30

901" }



{ DOMESTIC RELATIONS ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=263501" }) Limits  
RLIN mediation in certain domestic relations actions.

K

"http: 104-1, Immediate effect

//www

.gong { HYPERLINK

wer.co "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2015HB447601&date  
m/ind =10/15/2015" }

ex.cfm


?link=

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il.cfm  
&billi  
d=201  
5HB4  
47601  
" } 

{ **APPEALS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316701" }) Provides for  
**RLIN** alternative service of papers if party is protected by protected order.

**K**

"http: 104-1, earlier advanced to Third Reading with substitute H-1

//www

.gong { **HYPERLINK**

wer.co "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2015HB447701&date  
m/ind =10/15/2015" }

ex.cfm

?link=

legisla

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illdeta

il.cfm

&billi

d=201

5HB4

47701

" } 

{ **PERSONAL PROTECTION ORDERS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=312601" }) Includes  
**RLIN** harming animals owned by the petitioner in acts that may be enjoined.

**K**

"http: 96-9, Immediate effect

//www

.gong { **HYPERLINK**

wer.co "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2015HB447801&date  
m/ind =10/15/2015" }

ex.cfm

?link=

legisla

tion\_b

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il.cfm

&billi

d=201

**5HB4  
47801**

" } 

{ **PREGNANT WOMEN** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601" }) Increases  
**RLIN** penalties for assault of a pregnant woman.

**K**

"http: 103-2, Immediate effect

//www

.gong { **HYPERLINK**

wer.co "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2015HB447901&date  
m/ind =10/15/2015" }

ex.cfm

?link=

legisla

tion\_b

illdeta

il.cfm

&billi

d=201

**5HB4**

**47901**

" } 

{ **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201" }) Prohibits

**RLIN** custody or parenting time for certain parents of a child conceived through sexual assault

**K** or sexual abuse.

"http:

//www 101-4, Immediate effect

.gong

wer.co { **HYPERLINK**

m/ind "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2015HB448101&date  
ex.cfm =10/15/2015" }

?link=

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tion\_b

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il.cfm

&billi

d=201

**5HB4**

**48101**

" } 

8

{ **SENTENCING GUIDELINES** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601" }) Provides for  
**RLIN** sentencing guidelines for crime of assault and battery of a pregnant individual.

**K**

"http: 103-2, Immediate effect

//www

.gong

wer.co

m/ind

ex.cfm

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tion\_b

illdeta

il.cfm

&billi

d=201

5HB4

78801

" } 

8

{ **EDUCATION** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601" }) Requires  
**RLIN** attainment of minimum benchmark on state reading assessment for promotion of third  
**K** grade students to next grade level and provides for early evaluation and intervention

"http: programs.

//www

.gong 57-48, Earlier advanced to Third Reading with substitute H-S and amendment(s)

wer.co

m/ind { **HYPERLINK**

**ex.cfm** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2015HB482201&date

?link= =10/15/2015" }

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&billi

d=201

5HB4



82201

" } 



8

ADVANCED TO THIRD READING

**{ POLICE RETIREMENT ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" }) Provide one-  
**RLINK**time increase in monthly retirement allowance for certain retirants to provide cost-of-  
"http://living adjustment.



**www.g**  
**ongwer** With substitute H-2  
**.com/in**  
**dex.cf**  
**m?link**  
**=legisla**  
**tion\_bil**  
**ldetail.**  
**cfm&bi**  
**llid=20**  
**15SB22**  
**01" }**   




**{ TRAFFIC CONTROL ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=324201" }) Allows  
**RLINK**renewal of unexpired seasonal restricted commercial driver's license.



"http://  
**www.g** With substitute H-1  
**ongwer**  
**.com/in**  
**dex.cf**  
**m?link**  
**=legisla**  
**tion\_bil**  
**ldetail.**  
**cfm&bi**  
**llid=20**  
**15HB4**  
**57701"**  
**}**   


**{ MENTAL HEALTH ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=325701" }) Modifies  
**RLINK**assisted outpatient treatment program.

"http://  
**www.g** With substitute H-2  
**ongwer**  
**.com/in**  
**dex.cf**  
**m?link**  
**=legisla**

tion\_bill  
detail.  
cfm&bi  
llid=20  
15HB4  
67401"  
}   


{ **PROPERTY TAX** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355601" }) Allows  
**RLINK**splitting of qualified agricultural property to allow a portion to be taxed differently.  
"http://  
www.g With substitute H-2  
ongwer  
.com/in  
dex.cf  
m?link  
=legisla  
tion\_bill  
ldetail.  
cfm&bi  
llid=20  
15HB4  
67701"  
}   


{ **VETERANS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701" }) Provides for  
**RLINK**employment protections for National Guard members who work outside of the state  
"http://where they mobilize.  
www.g  
ongwer  
.com/in  
dex.cf  
m?link  
=legisla  
tion\_bill  
ldetail.  
cfm&bi  
llid=20  
15HB4  
79601"  
}   


RECEIVED

{ **CHILD ABUSE** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301" }) Allows reporting

**ERLI** child abuse or child neglect through an online reporting system and waiving a written

**NK** report under certain circumstances.

"http

://ww

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gwer.

com/i

ndex.

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billde

tail.cf

m&bi

llid=2

015S

B334

01" }



{ **ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Authorizes the

**ERLI** state court administrative office to establish electronic filing system.

**NK**

"http

://ww

w.gon

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com/i

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ink=l

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llid=2

015S

B531

01" }



**{ JUDICIAL ELECTRONIC FILING FUND ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801" })** Establishes  
**ERLI** judicial electronic filing fund.

**NK**  
**"http**  
**://ww**  
**w.gon**  
**gwer.**  
**com/i**  
**ndex.**  
**cfm?l**  
**ink=l**  
**egisla**  
**tion\_**  
**billde**  
**tail.cf**  
**m&bi**  
**llid=2**  
**015S**  
**B532**  
**01" }**

**{ ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO COURTS ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401" })** Allows court or  
**ERLI** court funding unit to charge certain fees for electronic access to courts.

**NK**  
**"http**  
**://ww**  
**w.gon**  
**gwer.**  
**com/i**  
**ndex.**  
**cfm?l**  
**ink=l**  
**egisla**  
**tion\_**  
**billde**  
**tail.cf**  
**m&bi**  
**llid=2**  
**015S**  
**B533**  
**01" }**



## INTRODUCED

**{ ENERGY IMPROVEMENT FINANCING ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601" }) Provides for  
**ERLI** certain forms of energy improvement financing for cities. Amends 1909 PA 279 by  
**NK** amending section 5f (MCL 117.5f), as amended by 2002 PA 201.

**"http:**

**//ww** To { HYPERLINK

**w.gon** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92301" }

**gwer.**

**com/i**

**ndex.**

**cfm?li**

**nk=le**

**gislati**

**on\_bil**

**ldetail**

**.cfm**

**&billi**

**d=201**

**5HB4**

**99001**

**" }**

**{ ENERGY IMPROVEMENT FINANCING ({ HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601" }) Provides for  
**ERLI** certain forms of energy improvement financing for general law villages. Amends 1895 PA  
**NK** 3 by amending section 36 (MCL 68.36), as amended by 2002 PA 276.

**"http:**

**//ww** To { HYPERLINK

**w.gon** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92301" }

**gwer.**

**com/i**

**ndex.**

**cfm?li**

**nk=le**

**gislati**

**on\_bil**

**ldetail**

**.cfm**

**&billi**

**d=201**

**5HB4**

**99101**



" } 

{ **ENERGY IMPROVEMENT FINANCING** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601" }) Provides for  
**ERLI** certain forms of energy improvement financing for home rule villages. Amends 1909 PA  
**NK** 278 by amending section 24b (MCL 78.24b), as amended by 2002 PA 277.

"http:

//ww To { **HYPERLINK**

**w.gon** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92301" }

**gwer.**

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**ldetail**

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**d=201**

**5HB4**

**99201**

" } 

{ **ENERGY IMPROVEMENT FINANCING** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601" }) Provides for  
**ERLI** certain forms of energy improvement financing for certain townships. Amends 1846 RS  
**NK** 16 by amending section 75b (MCL 41.75b), as amended by 2002 PA 226.

"http:

//ww To { **HYPERLINK**

**w.gon** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92301" }

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**on\_bil**

**ldetail**

**.cfm**

**&billi**

**d=201**

**5HB4**

**99301**

" } 

**{ ENERGY IMPROVEMENT FINANCING ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601" }) Provides for  
**ERLI** certain forms of energy improvement financing for counties. Amends 1851 PA `56 by  
**NK** amending section 11c (MCL 46.11c), as amended by 2002 PA 275.

"http:

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5HB4

99401

" } 

**{ ACCIDENT REPORTS ({ HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358201" }) Requires

**ERLI** accident reports to include condition of windshield. Amends 1949 PA 300 (MCL 257.1 to

**NK** 257.923) by adding section 622b.

"http:

//ww To { HYPERLINK

w.gon "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=94601" }

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com/i

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ldetail

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&billi

d=201

5HB4

99501

" } 

18

**{ WINDOW TINTING ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358201" }) Eliminates  
**ERLI** medical exemption on window tinting regulation. Amends 1949 PA 300 by amending  
**NK** section 709 (MCL 257.709), as amended by 2010 PA 258.

**"http:**

**//ww** To { HYPERLINK

**w.gon** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92401" }

**gwer.**

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**ldetail**

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**&billi**

**d=201**

**5HB4**

**99601**

**" } ☐**

☐

**{ TRAFFIC CONTROL ({ HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=351701" }) Modifies

**ERLI** penalties for use of electronic devices while operating a vehicle. Amends 1949 PA 300 by

**NK** amending sections 602b and 907 (MCL 257.602b and 257.907), section 602b as amended

**"http:**by 2013 PA 231 and section 907 as amended by 2015 PA 126.

**//ww**

**w.gon** To { HYPERLINK

**gwer.** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92501" }

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**d=201**

**5HB4**

**99701**

**" } ☐**

☐

**{ CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ( { HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=351701" }) Creates  
**ERLI** sentencing guidelines for third or subsequent violation of statute prohibiting use of  
**NK** electronic devices while operating a vehicle. Amends 1927 PA 175 by amending section  
**"http:12e of chapter XVII (MCL 777.12e), as amended by 2011 PA 59.**

//ww

**w.gon** To { HYPERLINK  
**gwer.** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92501" }  
**com/i**  
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**cfm?li**  
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**on\_bil**  
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**.cfm**  
**&billi**  
**d=201**  
**5HB4**  
**99801**  
**" }**  

The House adjourned until Tuesday, October 20, 2015, at 1:30 p.m.

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Lansing Michigan 48933

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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# Senate Activity for Thursday, October 15, 2015

CONCURRED IN HOUSE SUBSTITUTE/AMENDMENT

{ **SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601" }) Provides for  
**LINK** supplemental appropriations for the 2015-16 fiscal year.  
"http://  
www.go 37-0  
ngwer.c  
om/inde { **HYPERLINK**  
x.cfm?li "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=newsmulti.cfm&billid=2015HB410201&da  
nk=legiste=10/15/2015" }  
lation\_b  
illdetail.  
cfm&bil  
lid=201  
5HB410  
201" }   
(PA  
143)



PASSED

{ **ATHLETIC TRAINERS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269201" }) Revises license  
**RLIN** fee and continuing education requirements for athletic trainers.  
**K**  
"http://37-0; Immediate Effect  
www.g  
ongwer  
.com/in  
dex.cf  
m?link  
=legisla  
tion\_bi  
lldetail.  
cfm&b  
illid=20  
15HB4  
26301"  
} 



**{ CHILD ABUSE ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301" }) Allows  
**RLIN** reporting child abuse or child neglect through an online reporting system and waiving a  
**K** written report under certain circumstances.  
**"http://**  
**www.g** 37-0  
**ongwer**  
**.com/in**  
**dex.cf**  
**m?link**  
**=legisla**  
**tion\_bi**  
**lldetail.**  
**cfm&b**  
**illid=20**  
**15SB33**  
**401" }**



**{ DEER AND ELK FEEDING ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Repeals sunset  
**RLIN** for deer and elk feeding.  
**K**  
**"http://**37-0  
**www.g**  
**ongwer**  
**.com/in**  
**dex.cf**  
**m?link**  
**=legisla**  
**tion\_bi**  
**lldetail.**  
**cfm&b**  
**illid=20**  
**15SB44**  
**601" }**



**{ ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Authorizes the  
**RLIN** state court administrative office to establish electronic filing system.  
**K**  
**"http://**35-2

www.g  
ongwer  
.com/in  
dex.cf  
m?link  
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lldetail.  
cfm&b  
illid=20  
15SB53  
101" }



{ **JUDICIAL ELECTRONIC FILING FUND** ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801" }) Establishes  
RLIN judicial electronic filing fund.

K

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dex.cf  
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tion\_bi  
lldetail.  
cfm&b  
illid=20  
15SB53  
201" }



{ **ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO COURTS** ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401" }) Allows court or  
RLIN court funding unit to charge certain fees for electronic access to courts.

K

"http://37-0

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.com/in  
dex.cf  
m?link  
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cfm&b  
illid=20  
15SB53  
301" }



ADVANCED TO THIRD READING

{ **HAZARDOUS WASTE** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201" }) Modifies liquid  
**ERLI** industrial waste programs.

**NK**

"http committee substitute S-1 and amendment adopted

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01" }



{ **HAZARDOUS WASTE** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301" }) Changes

**ERLI** references to liquid industrial waste to liquid industrial by-product in hazardous materials

**NK** transportation act.

"http

://ww committee substitute S-1 adopted

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gwer.

com/i

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cfm?l

ink=l

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billde  
tail.cf  
m&bi  
llid=2  
015S  
B401  
01" }



{ **HAZARDOUS WASTE** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401" }) Modifies  
**ERLI** description affected document of false statement concerning liquid industrial by-product.  
**NK**

"http committee substitute S-1 adopted

://ww

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gwer.

com/i

ndex.

cfm?l

ink=l

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tion\_

billde

tail.cf

m&bi

llid=2

015S

B402

01" }



{ **WEAPON-FREE ZONES** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Expands waiver

**ERLI** for certain individuals to carry weapon in weapon-free zones to include certain

**NK** corrections, probation and parole officers.

"http

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**LIN** including portions obtained as the result of an elective abortion. Amends 1978 PA 368 by  
**K** amending section 2690 (MCL 333.2690).

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LIN rescuing a minor or animal from vehicle. Provides protection from civil liability for  
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**PER**POW" registration plate for motorcycles. Amends 1949 PA 300 by amending section 803e  
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The Senate adjourned until Tuesday, October 20, 2015, at 10 a.m.

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**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Thursday, November 5, 2015  
**Attachments:** Nov5.htm; Nov5House.htm; Nov5Senate.htm; 151105dayplan.htm



## Michigan Report for Thursday, November 5, 2015

After Week-Long Negotiations, Energy Bills Sent To House Floor

Canvassers Rejects Prevailing Wage Petitions, State Continues Investigation

Meekhof Talks DPS, Post-Roads Agenda

Ananich Calls On Meekhof, Legislature To Hold Hearings On Flint Water

Report: Construction Could Renew Lead Contamination In Flint Homes

Senate Passes Alternative Teaching Certificate Bill, Ends Dower Rights

Snyder Signs Teacher Evaluation Legislation

State Must Do Better To Get More People In College, Panel Told

House Panel Urges Reversal At Veterans Homes

Poll: Carson Beats Democrats, Democrats Beat Trump

Sex Offenders Registration Act Revised Per Court Case

Snyder Expands Pipeline Board

PSC Eliminates DTE Electric's Renewable Energy Surcharge

## Activity Reports

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Senate

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Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #220 -- Thursday, November 5, 2015

### After Week-Long Negotiations, Energy Bills Sent To House Floor

Major energy legislation cleared the House Energy Policy Committee on Thursday with some significant changes, including changes to the proposed renewable energy definitions and a "goal" for utilities to get 30 percent of production from renewables and energy efficiency.

But advocates for expanding choice, or at least keeping it the same as current law, were not successful.

After convening at 8 a.m., recessing until 2:07 p.m. and then going until 7:45 p.m., coming in and out of order on its fourth attempt this week to meet on the issue, the committee reported [HB 4298](#) - the bill involving choice and utility regulations - 18-7. [Rep. Gary Glenn](#) (R-Midland), the vice chair, [Rep. Andrea LaFontaine](#) (R-Columbus), [Rep. Holly Hughes](#) (R-White River Township), [Rep. Tom Barrett](#) (R-Pottersville), [Rep. Peter Lucido](#) (R-Shelby Township), [Rep. Derek Miller](#) (D-Warren) and [Rep. Scott Dianda](#) (D-Calumet) all voted no.

[HB 4297](#), dealing with the environmental aspects of energy, cleared the committee 21-3 with [Rep. Julie Plawecki](#) (D-Dearborn Heights) abstaining and [HB 4575](#) cleared 19-4 with Ms. Plawecki and [Rep. LaTanya Garrett](#) (D-Detroit) abstaining.

[Rep. Aric Nesbitt](#) (R-Lawton), the chair of the committee, said his goal is getting the bills finished before the end of the year.

He said utilities are going to make investments and if the state is going to deal with capacity in the long run, it should deal with it proactively instead of reactively, which he believes the legislation does.

"As you can imagine this has been legislation I have been working on for years now and it's the first down, and I look forward to getting to a touchdown," he told reporters after the vote.

Throughout the meeting, and the week, it was clear Mr. Nesbitt was negotiating with House Democrats to get the votes needed for the legislation to clear the committee. House [Minority Floor Leader Sam Singh](#) (D-East Lansing) attended the majority of the meeting Thursday and House [Minority Leader Tim Greimel](#) (D-Auburn Hills) also attended the meeting briefly and talked to Democrats serving on the panel.

Mr. Glenn has been criticizing the process for much of the week, and continued on Thursday before the vote, saying members likely were not clear on what certain amendments did in the context of a lengthy and complex bill.

But Rep. Bill LaVoy (D-Monroe), the minority vice chair of the committee, said he felt the process was fair and he was grateful the Democrats, despite being in the minority, were included.

Those following the issue said Mr. Nesbitt, if he wanted to get a bill out of the committee, would either need to compromise on choice or on environmental components. For several days, it seemed clear he had opted for the latter option.

Changes to the legislation include not requiring alternative energy suppliers to address local reliability needs unless a projected capacity shortfall was determined. Under the amendment there would be no changes to requirements on the alternative suppliers unless the Public Service Commission made certain determinations involving capacity.

Amendments adopted to HB 4298 would require alternative energy consumers to remain with the utility, if they go back, for 15 years if it doesn't cause an increased cost. For those consumers who would cause an increased cost, they would have to stay with the utility for 20 years.

Michigan Agency for Energy Executive Director Valerie Brader told the committee the changes regarding additional regulations for alternative suppliers would not go into effect unless there were some extreme circumstances.

But Mr. Glenn was unhappy he could not bring up an alternative energy supplier - or advocate - to confirm or deny Ms. Brader's statement. He said he simply doesn't know if the new language effectively kills choice or not.

An approved amendment offered by Mr. LaVoy would set up an energy efficiency program.

Another Democratic amendment would include in the language describing the Integrated Resource Plan that utilities would have a goal of reaching 30 percent of energy production through renewable energy and reduction of energy waste through energy efficiency by 2025.

Rep. Julie Plawecki (D-Dearborn Heights) noted it was a goal and not a mandate on utilities.

Another amendment provided financial incentives for utilities achieving annual incremental energy waste reduction of between 1.5 and 3 percent.

Another approved amendment would add a general taxpayer to the Public Service Commission with the intent of representing the average consumer, said Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan), the sponsor of the amendment. It would also increase the commission from three members to five.

It was not immediately clear if that amendment would remain the final version of the bill. Mr. Nesbitt said he would continue to work with Mr. McBroom.

Changes to HB 4297 include an amendment from Mr. Nesbitt and makes changes to the renewable portfolio standard, removing what the federal government does not consider renewable energy.

Another approved amendment offered by Mr. LaVoy "tightens up" the definition of renewable energy, but still expands the definition from the current law, including biomass and geothermal.

And another amendment, from Ms. Hughes, would ensure pet coke, hazardous waste, coal waste and scrap tires were not included in the renewable energy definition. That addressed a major criticism from Democrats, though some forms of waste to energy could still count.

Mr. Glenn attempted to make a variety of amendments regarding the 10 percent choice market, including ensuring all schools, community colleges and universities would not count against the cap.

Ms. Hughes attempted to pass an amendment, which she said the Michigan Chamber of Commerce supported, that would keep the choice market the same as current law. That amendment failed 10-10 with five members abstaining.

Throughout the committee meeting Thursday, which went at ease several times, comments from members indicated they weren't pleased with the process.

Mr. Glenn, when the committee first began, said he could not vote on Mr. Nesbitt's amendments because they were several pages and he had no time to know what they did.

Later, Mr. Glenn made another comment about the amendments and Mr. Nesbitt quipped: "The reason I did it as an amendment and not an additional sub is because of the criticism I've received," he said.

"Well I had zero time to read the amendments," Mr. Glenn said.

Mr. Glenn said after the meeting that he didn't think the legislation would be well received in the full House, particularly the Republican caucus. He said there would likely be concerns regarding the choice piece of the legislation.

Mr. Nesbitt said a vast majority of committee members supported the bills and he believes he would have the support of a majority of the House Republican caucus.

On the criticism on the process, Mr. Nesbitt said the legislation has been up for almost the entire year and everyone has their own thought on how to improve bills.

"This in terms of the legislative process, this is a part of it, we allowed a lot of amendments to be debated," he said, also adding more than 120 people have testified throughout the year.

But Mr. Glenn said he felt members were being pressured by the time frame, knowing the meeting would end with a vote. He said many of the questions members have will be answered in the coming weeks.

**REACTION:** Statements poured in Thursday evening after the committee reported the bill, with many slamming the choice provisions.

Michigan Freedom Fund President Terri Reid said the bills were reported after a "rushed" and "secretive" process.

"The result is substitute language approved today that hurts Michigan ratepayers, schools and job creators who already face the highest electric costs in the region," Ms. Reid said in a statement. "Electric choice should be expanded, not eliminated. Competition serves as the best method of lowering energy costs for Michigan's hardworking families and keeping the large, monopoly utility providers honest."

Wayne Kuipers, Energy Choice Now executive director, said the bill would kill electric choice, which has saved \$1.1 billion for those "lucky enough" to have it.

"The process of passing this utility-friendly/consumer-hostile legislation out of committee was as flawed and damaging as the bill itself," he said in a statement. "No public testimony was allowed on what was essentially - as verified by the governor's own energy advisor - a brand new bill before the committee. The bottom line is: the members of this committee just passed a bill that will potentially cost 40 percent of Michigan's public schools \$24 million annually and cost Michigan job providers nearly \$100 million each year."

And environmental advocates said the bills do not go far enough.

"The only way to hold utilities accountable for increasing our use of clean, renewable energy is through mandates for renewable energy and energy efficiency," Anne Woiwode, conservation director for Sierra Club, Michigan Chapter, said in a statement. "The Nesbitt bill is a giveaway to utility shareholders and puts polluter profits before Michigan's ratepayers and natural resources."

"The bills passed out of committee tonight are a step in the right direction, but do not go far enough to increase our use of clean, renewable energy, or to ensure we lower energy costs through reducing energy waste," Jack Schmitt, deputy director for the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, said in a statement. "We can and must do better to build upon the success of our clean energy standards. We look forward to working through the legislative process to strengthen this policy and to ensure Michigan continues to increase its use of renewable energy and takes further strides in reducing energy waste."

Finally, MI Air MI Health Coalition Director Rory Neuner said: "The Nesbitt plan ignores the health impacts of our energy choices and that's why health professionals are urging legislators to go back to the drawing board. We urge the legislature to support forward-looking legislation that will reduce dangerous pollution and protect public health."

#### Canvassers Rejects Prevailing Wage Petitions, State Continues Investigation

At a minimum, some of those who circulated petitions for Protecting Michigan Taxpayers in its effort to repeal the prevailing wage could face misdemeanor charges for lying on the circulator certificates on those petitions, a move both sides of the issue welcomed at Thursday's Board of State Canvassers meeting.

But opponents of the petition said the criminal investigation should go higher up the ranks than the circulators, and Elections Director Chris Thomas said his bureau would continue to investigate the petition gathering process to determine if there are additional safeguards needed.

The vote to reject the petitions as insufficient was fairly easy, with both opponents of the drive, Michigan Prevails, and Protecting Michigan Taxpayers supporting the move.

The staff report on the petition, released earlier in the week, found fewer than half of the sample signatures pulled was valid. Of the 503 signatures in the sample, only 301 were valid, with 104 not registered voters and 63 duplicates. At least 315 valid signatures were needed in the sample to make it worth checking more signatures and 348 valid signatures were needed to simply designate the petitions as sufficient.

Mr. Thomas said it was only through the checking opponents to the change made that the duplicates were found. He said the petitions would have been declared sufficient with only the department's check.

In the end, he said the petition had the lowest rate of valid signatures in any petition submitted since the state started using the sampling process.

"The circulating company clearly failed to put circulators in the field who could comply with this law," he said.

Proponents of the plan conceded there were not enough signatures.

"We reviewed the staff report and would urge this board to adopt the findings in the staff report," Eric Doster, attorney for Protecting Michigan Taxpayers, said. "After review of this matter, we have no problem forwarding this matter to the proper law enforcement authorities."

Dave Waymire, spokesperson for Michigan Prevails, argued after the meeting that the criminal investigation should go further than the circulators or even Silver Bullet, the company contracted to hire circulators. He said officials with the campaign knew of the rampant duplicates and other problems with the circulators and did not act.

"The question is, what did they know and when did they know it?" he said.

Mr. Thomas said at a minimum those circulators who signed the petitions themselves multiple times could face charges.

Mr. Doster said the campaign was still considering what, if any, action it would take against Silver Bullet.

The bigger issue, Mr. Thomas said, is preventing a repeat.

"The question going forward is whether this petition will remain an outlier or will it become the way business is done," he said. "Clearly, a close look at this petition is necessary to determine whether additional safeguards are necessary to safeguard the Michigan elections process."

Board members agreed on the need to review the petition process, but members from both parties chided the Legislature for failing to act on recommendations the board has already made.

In particular, board members pointed out that they will be meeting next week to decide whether a recall petition against Governor Rick Snyder includes factual allegations, but the law does not require that the drafter include support for the allegations when filing the petition.

### Meekhof Talks DPS, Post-Roads Agenda

Now that the Legislature has sent a road funding solution to Governor Rick Snyder, Senate Majority Leader Arian Meekhof sees energy policy reform and a solution to the growing problems of academic and financial instability with Detroit Public Schools as two of the major issues next on his chamber's to-do list.

"We don't tackle simple things," he said. "They are major policy issues for the state, and I've had some very, very open and fruitful discussions about how we go about it."

He said he expects to rely "very heavily" on Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek) to lead the discussion on the best energy policy for Michigan as many provisions of the 2008 energy law either expire or need to be updated, and he is working currently on finding sponsors for legislation on DPS from both the Democratic and Republican sides of the aisle.

"I've given no timeline on DPS, but what I have said is it would be very, very important that we put something (together) for these children so they can get a great education and they can get all these really cool, great jobs being created in Detroit," he said.

As to any concerns he might have about the proposal Governor Rick Snyder put forth last month, Mr. Meekhof said all the details are still a work in progress.

"We've been meeting on different occasions with different interest groups and our policy folks, and it's still a work in progress," he said. "It's like every piece of public policy: not everybody is going to agree on it, so we're going to try to find the best possible thing that we can do."

He said his primary focus is on ensuring a quality education for DPS students but did not have any specific details on what that could look like in legislation.

And he said that while it has not currently been in the discussion to leave DPS to the charter school community, it could be a possibility if some agreement couldn't be reached otherwise. But "that would be unfortunate," he said.

Mr. Meekhof said restoration of the school board is a part of the discussion, but again, he was unsure if it will be part of the final solution.

"The folks that are there need to have some accountability and I think they'll want to, because if we're going to help in some way, they're going to want to make sure the process moves forward and we get improvement," he said. "We need different results."

But Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said that is a very important piece for him and his caucus.

"Whether or not it's required to get votes or not, I haven't spoken to all my colleagues about it, but it's very important to them and to me as well," he said after session.

Mr. Meekhof was uncertain where the financing piece could come from for the DPS fix, but as conversations have been ongoing, he is hoping to have at least some legislation on the situation introduced soon, he said.

### Ananich Calls On Meekhof, Legislature To Hold Hearings On Flint Water

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on Thursday called on Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof and his colleagues to put together legislative hearings to determine what went wrong in Flint, who should be held accountable and how it can be prevented.

Mr. Meekhof said he is waiting for other agencies and task forces to do their work force.

"The folks that are being charged with gathering that information, I want to let them do their work, because I don't want to duplicate their work either," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) told reporters after Mr. Ananich's formal floor speech about his proposal.

Mr. Ananich sent a letter to Mr. Meekhof's office and shared it with the chairpersons of the Senate Oversight, Government Operations and Health Policy committees.

In his speech, Mr. Ananich pointed to further reports on Thursday, especially coming from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, warning of additional health risks of lead in the water. He said such reports only highlight that "this is an ongoing problem, and the Legislature has a unique role and responsibility in thoroughly examining what went wrong, what still needs to be fixed, and how to ensure this sort of crisis never happens again."

He said the taxpayers who have essentially footed the bill on a \$9.3 million supplemental appropriation in emergency funds for the city have a right to know how that money is being spent as well.

"The fact that several reviews have been promised by other entities does not remove the need for us to exercise our oversight role. It actually highlights the areas in which our investigation would strengthen the process," he said. "Each of the other reviews are either agencies investigating themselves or experts who do not have the powers or accountability elected officials have."

Mr. Ananich said the benefit of legislative hearings is primarily subpoena power "to make sure everyone who needs to be asked questions are forced to answer them," he said. "We can provide a public, transparent look that none of these approaches (by others) are guaranteed to deliver."

Speaking to reporters after session, Mr. Ananich said, "Folks have shown their willingness to not tell the truth, or be fuzzy with it for sure, but if they're asked a question when someone isn't requiring them to tell the truth, they can continue with that. So I think we can hold them accountable better through the subpoena process."

But Mr. Meekhof did not seem to exercise the same sense of urgency. He said he has been talking with Mr. Ananich about the idea but reiterated he'd like folks in charge of gathering that information currently to do so first.

"We've got a lot of other good stuff in front of us right now, too. We've got energy; we've got Detroit Public Schools. I'm not discounting he says it's important, because he and I have been talking about it," Mr. Meekhof said.

And he said, as he has previously, that he has "very high marks" for Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant.

"I believe they will be able to find solutions and they will find things that need to be corrected," Mr. Meekhof said.

But Mr. Ananich said an agency investigating itself when it had already potentially skirted doing the right thing is exactly why a different approach needs to be taken, especially by the Legislature.

"We have such troubling individuals in the drinking water division, which is the main division that's supposed to keep us safe, showing time and time again there's some serious problems there," he said. "We need to get to the bottom of how that happened and how we can address it."

He added that there is still a role for the agencies investigating themselves or the various task forces associated with the drinking water problem in Flint, but those reviews could take many more months and the Legislature's public hearings would provide a platform for information to potentially come through faster.

"There's a role for them, but I think a thorough investigative process needs to happen," Mr. Ananich said. "Independently would've been preferable, but if that's not going to happen, I think it's our responsibility to do some check and balance just for that alone, for us to do it."

**HOUSE CALLS FOR FEDERAL INVESTIGATION:** While Mr. Ananich made his request on the Senate floor Thursday, Flint-area state representatives pushed for a federal investigation into the Department of Environmental Quality after a story came out Thursday claiming the department knowingly dropped two lead test samples to avoid exceeding a federal drinking water standard.



Had the tests been counted, action could have been taken earlier on the water crisis, they alleged in a statement late Thursday.

Rep. Sheldon Neely (D-Flint) called for Mr. Wyant to be removed from his post by the governor and sent several letters to the governor and Attorney General Bill Schuette requesting such, a statement indicated.

"It is shameful and appalling to me that the men and women we entrust to keep us safe at the highest levels of state government would purposely put the health of Flint's residents at risk," Mr. Neely said. "For the past year, the Flint community has been subjected to high levels of lead in their water. Action clearly could have been taken earlier to protect the children who have been the most at risk. This behavior borderlines on criminal activity. The governor should immediately terminate the director of the DEQ and all culpable members of the staff."

Rep. Phil Phelps (D-Flushing) said the DEQ's explanation in the story (by Michigan Radio, the statement indicates) doesn't add up.

"This is just one more instance of the DEQ covering something up, and even more of a reason they fought me when I sent a FOIA requesting information relating to the water crisis in Flint," Mr. Phelps said. "There must be a full federal investigation into the state on how they handled these samples."

#### Report: Construction Could Renew Lead Contamination In Flint Homes

Flint is taking steps to be sure its municipal water is not dissolving lead from the inside of old pipes as it passes to consumers, but construction projects that come in contact with those old pipes could still make them hazardous, a final U.S. Environmental Protection Agency report on the issue said.

Department of Environmental Quality officials noted the report says they are already implementing the recommendations from an earlier draft of the report.

The report, issued Wednesday, said not only are the lead pipes themselves a risk, but any pipes downstream of them in the water system could also pose a risk. The pipes develop scale inside that could contain lead where the pipe itself is lead or where the water coming into the pipe first ran through lead, the report said.

"Consequently, even with corrosion control treatment in place in the future, physical disturbances will be capable of dislodging the high lead-bearing scale and sediment from non-lead pipes as well as lead pipes, as was the case in the earlier EPA study," the report said. It included pictures from studies of another water system that showed where the scale had been dislodged by construction near the water lines.

The report did note that one of the first homes tested based on complaints of water quality problems had a longer than usual lead service line. Flint officials said the home was probably

one of the first on the block and so had a service line that ran to a water main on a major street rather than the newer main that runs down the street on which it is located.

The report recommended that EPA develop a procedure for minimizing effects of construction near or including pipes that might have lead-containing scale in them. It also recommended education efforts for both residents and contractors on the risks of disturbing the pipes.

"Residents should be notified of scheduled work by water and non-water utilities and informed of the potential risk of increased lead levels due to these disturbances," the report said.

The letter attached to the report notes that the state and Flint have already taken steps to correct the issue, including changing back to Detroit's water system.

Even so, Flint-area legislators are calling on their colleagues and the administration to do more to ensure the problem not only does not happen again, but the appropriate agencies or individuals be held accountable (see separate story).

"We appreciate the EPA's acknowledgement that most of the recommendations from the draft version of the report are already being implemented by DEQ," department spokesperson Brad Wurfel said.

But he said the EPA has also taken some of the blame for the situation and issued new copper and lead guidelines designed to clarify some of the confusion that led to the actions in Flint.

"The ambiguity of the lead and copper rule on the issue of corrosion control has been central to the situation in Flint," Mr. Wurfel said. "We appreciate having that acknowledged and clarified. It can only help Michigan and every other state into the future."

#### Senate Passes Alternative Teaching Certificate Bill, Ends Dower Rights

Individuals who are not certified or endorsed to teach certain critical shortage disciplines such as writing, journalism or health sciences might still be able to teach under legislation passed largely along party lines in the Senate on Thursday.

[SB 491](#) has seen numerous changes since first introduced, but in the bill's final form, an individual's service as a full-time instructor in a field of specialization at the college level would be considered occupational experience in that field, which is one of the conditions for teaching as a non-certificated teacher.

Such an individual could teach in a field of specialization if he or she had, in the previous seven years, at least five years of occupational experience (rather than a major or a graduate degree in that field) for certain subjects, or met other requirements if teaching a foreign language, a Senate Fiscal Agency analysis indicated.

"Expanding the number of subjects is a problem. It dilutes the teaching pool by putting more unqualified people in the classroom," Senate [Minority Leader Jim Ananich](#) (D-Flint) said in a

statement through his spokesperson. "Rather than striving for the best, we are setting for the lowest common denominator. Michigan kids deserve better."

The bill also requires an alternative teaching program (for an interim teaching certificate) to include training in classroom management.

Certain career and technical education instructors would be exempt from the requirement to have a bachelor's degree in order to receive an interim teaching certificate, and the Department of Education would determine what specifically those areas would be.

The bill allows an individual seeking an interim teaching certificate to have more than one subject matter endorsement if he or she had more than one graduate degree or had a bachelor's degree with more than one major, as well as meeting other requirements.

Initially, the bill cleared the chamber on a 30-8 vote with all Democrats except Mr. Ananich, Sen. Virgil Smith of Detroit and Sen. Bert Johnson of Highland Park voting in opposition. But a motion to reconsider the vote was later made and the bill passed on a 27-11 with all Democrats except Mr. Smith voting in opposition and Sen. Tory Rocca (R-Sterling Heights) joining them.

**DOWER RIGHTS:** Some controversy was generated over a package of bills (SB 558, SB 559 and SB 560) seeking to repeal certain provisions of law related to dower rights, or a wife's right, upon her husband's death, to a life estate in one-third of the land that he owned.

SB 558 specifies that in most cases a wife's dower right would be abolished and unenforceable either through statute or common law, though that would not apply to a widower's dower elected by a woman whose husband died before the bill's effective date or a widow's right to elect dower under the Estates and Protected Individuals Code if her husband died before the bill's effective date.

Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor) on the Senate floor expressed some concerns about the bills as it relates to a woman's right to receive the property or assets she is entitled to in cases of domestic violence relationships or other scenarios.

But bill sponsor Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge) said dower "is an ancient, archaic law when women were not supposed to own property. It's outdated and unconstitutional," he said, pointing to the legislation having support from the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan and others.

"The titles are a complete mess when this happens, and we have many more modern laws protecting both spouses in the case of divorce," Mr. Jones said.

The package was sent to the House on a 34-4 vote, Ms. Warren joined by Sen. Coleman Young II (D-Detroit), Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) and Sen. Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park) in opposition.

Snyder Signs Teacher Evaluation Legislation

Governor Rick Snyder signed into law Thursday legislation setting a portion of a teacher's annual evaluation contingent upon student growth during the academic year and requiring districts to select or develop an evaluation tool.

Mr. Snyder's signing of SB 103 (PA 173, immediate effect) brings to a close an arduous, at times acrimonious, years-long effort to overhaul how districts evaluate teacher performance.

"Michigan has wonderful teachers, dedicated to helping all their students reach their full potential and become lifelong learners," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "This new law helps them grow as educators through improved feedback and evaluations."

Starting in the 2017-18 school year, 25 percent of a teacher's evaluation would be based on student growth. That would rise to 40 percent for the 2018-19 school year.

Growth would be based on two parts. In grades where students take state assessments, the assessments would count for at least 40 percent of the growth measurement. In grades where state assessments are not administered, at least 50 percent of the growth measurement would come from research-based growth measures or alternative assessments.

The portion of teacher evaluation not related to student growth would come from the new evaluation tool each district or charter school chooses.

All teachers will be assigned an effectiveness rating of highly effective, effective, minimally effective or ineffective.

A teacher rating ineffective on three consecutive evaluations must be fired under the new law.

Similar provisions will apply to school administrators.

#### State Must Do Better To Get More People In College, Panel Told

For several years, officials have argued more Michigan residents need to attend college to help the economy, but at a committee hearing on Thursday, education and college officials said more also needs to be done to encourage students to attend college to help prevent the possibility of declining enrollment at universities.

The main message remains the need for higher education to help improve the economy. State Board of Education President John Austin (D-Ann Arbor) said that by 2025, the state will need 490,000 more students than current trends forecast who have at least an associate's degree or workplace certification. The state will also need 231,000 more people with at least a bachelor's degree than trends forecast to keep the economy chugging.

But the state also faces demographic factors that indicate the number of traditional high school students will not increase over the years, members of the House Higher Education and Community Colleges Appropriations Subcommittees were told.

Eric Guthrie, Michigan's demographer, said the state, like the rest of the nation, is getting older.

But Michigan is getting older a little faster than the rest of the U.S. The median age of Michigan's population is now 39.6, while nationally the median age is 37.7, he said.

Mr. Guthrie also said total college enrollment, in both universities and community colleges, tends to increase when the economy is bad. Individuals needing work will often attend college to update and improve their skills.

As the economy has improved, the total enrollment in Michigan's community colleges has declined. In 2010, there were approximately 200,000 community college students, and that number has fallen to about 160,000. But Mike Hansen, president of the Michigan Community College Association, said the current enrollment is still at the level it was in 2008, and enrollment has grown significantly at the state's community colleges over the last 15 years.

Guarding against enrollment decline, Susan Borego, chancellor at the University of Michigan-Flint, said the state must continue to attract international students and students from other states, but it must do a better job of getting more Michigan elementary and secondary students to be ready both academically and emotionally to attend college.

The state must "double down" on those efforts, she said, which means getting students into a mindset of going to college very early, as research shows that as early as the third grade students begin thinking about attending college.

Now, just 18 percent of 9<sup>th</sup> grade students in Michigan anticipate attending college; in Massachusetts - the state with the highest number - it is 30 percent, she said.

While more has to be done to encourage students to attend college, Ms. Borego also said efforts have to continue to have students academically ready for college. Just 1 percent of Flint High School students are ready for college, she said.

Efforts to boost academic preparedness were also discussed by Mr. Austin. Schools have to be able to determine early enough if students will need remediation classes to be college ready, he said.

Mr. Austin also stressed that additional student aid to make college affordable and simplified rules to make it easier for students to get aid is needed.

#### House Panel Urges Reversal At Veterans Homes

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is moving toward having fewer people in each room at its veterans homes, but members of the House Appropriations Military and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee said the move was wrong-headed.

A leader for the union at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans also questioned the motives behind the move.

Jim Dunn, deputy director of the Veterans Affairs Agency, which oversees the homes within the department, said the move from four residents per room to two was an effort to bring the homes up to current standards for veteran care.

Mr. Dunn said the Grand Rapids home would not likely meet that standard. "We'll probably never get to one person rooms because of the layout," he said. But he expected to be able to drop the occupancy to two per room.

And he said plans for the currently vacant fourth floor of the Grand Rapids campus main building was a "neighborhood" design where residents would have access to all their needs, including cooking space, on the floor.

Mr. Dunn said the remodel was expected to cost about \$3 million, but he also expected to be able to continue the practice of getting federal matching funds to cover much of the costs.

He said the program so far is able to live within its budget and would only be coming back to the state for more General Fund if it is not able to keep its occupied bed count at the levels projected when the budget was adopted. Part of the budget is a per diem from the federal government that drops if occupancy drops too far, he said.

But committee members said the program was going in the wrong direction in trying to reduce number of occupants per room.

"My experience in the medical profession, often we isolate people into a room by themselves and that often is not healthy either," Rep. Edward Canfield (R-Sebewaing) said. "I'm not suggesting that you abandon your plan, but I'm suggesting you reevaluate."

While he agreed on the need for some of the improvements Mr. Dunn had discussed - like new boilers to replace those that had failed - he cautioned against renovations that could impinge on the facilities' ability to serve as many veterans as possible.

"The important thing is to take care of people, not have a nice place to take care of people that's state of the art," he said.

Rep. Larry Inman (R-Williamsburg), chair of the subcommittee, said his father had initially been in a private room in his nursing home but was moved to a shared room.

"That ended up being a real blessing for my father because suddenly he had somebody he could talk to," Mr. Inman said. "To sit in a room alone is a lonely experience."

Rep. Philip Potvin was vehemently against the plan.

"You're really self-destructing that facility by going from a four-bed room to a one-bed room," Mr. Potvin said. "Our goal here is to take care of as many vets as possible."

Mr. Potvin also argued that many of the younger veterans coming back from the Middle East are suffering ailments, physical and mental, that would not allow them to care for themselves as the proposed renovations would envision.

He said the facilities could risk losing state support if they move ahead with the plans.

Mr. Inman tried to dial back the discussion near the end of the meeting.

"We have deep feelings on a number of issues," he said. "No one representative can tell a department head what to do. It takes the full body of the Legislature to give the department a directive."

While he directed his comments to the whole subcommittee, Mr. Potvin was the sole member remaining at the time.

Mr. Potvin also agreed with Rep. Henry Yanez (D-Sterling Heights) that the subcommittee needed a separate hearing on a recent audit by the state and inspection by the federal government.

Mr. Yanez particularly chastised the agency for security at the Grand Rapids facility.

"I and Rep. Miller went to visit facility," he said, referring to Rep. Derek Miller (D-Warren). "We went in a side door. We even escorted a vet to his physical therapy appointment. We were never challenged once."

To references of pulling state support for the homes, Mr. Dunn noted that the federal assistance helping to run and repair the facilities flows only to state homes, not to private facilities.

Mark Williams, president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees local that represents practical nurses in the facility (and a former worker laid off when the facility moved to a private contractor for direct care workers), said the proposed renovations are designed in part to reduce the capacity of the home to fall in line with staffing ability while keeping federal funds flowing.

Mr. Dunn said both homes exceeded the care hours required by federal standards. The homes must provide at least 2.5 hours of nursing care daily for each resident, and he said the Grand Rapids home was at 2.9 hours.

Mr. Williams argued that came from counting staff as direct care workers who should not be. He said the facility is also regularly under-staffed, sometimes with more staff absent than present.

"They knew they couldn't staff the home as a 755-bed facility," he said. "We needed to reduce the population of the facility."

He said he would provide documentation on the staffing shortfalls at a future meeting.

#### Poll: Carson Beats Democrats, Democrats Beat Trump

Michigan native Ben Carson, running for the 2016 Republican presidential nominee, would top both the two leading Democrats for president in the state, a poll released Thursday showed.

However, both Democrats - former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont - would beat Donald Trump in Michigan, the same poll showed.

The poll was conducted by Lansing-based EPIC-MRA of 600 likely voters in the state between October 25 and October 31. The poll has an error rate of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

The poll showed slightly more of those asked identified as Democrat than Republican or independent (40 percent compared to 36 percent and 20 percent, respectively). Most of those people (52 percent) believed women should have the right to an abortion, and by one percentage point - 48 percent to 47 percent - approved of President Barack Obama's job performance.

However, the poll also showed 35 percent of respondents considered themselves conservative, 34 percent considered themselves moderate and 21 percent saw themselves as liberal.

Asked to choose between Mr. Carson - a retired neuro-surgeon who has gained notice for his soft-spoken approach and open embrace of religion - or Ms. Clinton or Mr. Sanders, the poll found Michigan voters leaned toward Mr. Carson. He won a plurality of voters against each.

Against Ms. Clinton, Mr. Carson was favored by 46 percent of those asked. Another 40 percent backed Ms. Clinton, while 14 percent were unsure.

Mr. Carson did even better against Mr. Sanders, though his support did not match that against Ms. Clinton. A total of 45 percent backed Mr. Carson to 36 percent support for Mr. Sanders. The remaining 19 percent were unsure.

However, both Democrats were favored over business-executive and promoter Donald Trump. Again, though, they lead Mr. Trump with a plurality, not a majority.

If Mr. Trump were the nominee against Ms. Clinton, she would poll 46 percent to his 38 percent, with 16 percent undecided.

Against Mr. Sanders, the Vermont senator polled 48 percent support to Mr. Trump's 36 percent, with again 16 percent unsure.

#### Sex Offenders Registration Act Revised Per Court Case

After the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan held that several provisions of the Sex Offenders Registration Act were unconstitutional in a case at the end of March, Sen.



Rick Jones drafted legislation to clarify language in the statute that cleared the Senate Judiciary Committee unanimously Thursday.

In short, the plaintiffs in the case were six Michigan residents required by SORA to register as sex offenders and comply with the act for life, but they argued portions of the act violated the Due Process Clause because certain provisions are vague, interfere with the registrants' fundamental right to engage in common occupations of life, and infringe on their right to direct the education and upbringing of children, a Senate Fiscal Agency analysis of SB 581 indicates.

The bill revises the prohibition against a sex offender registrant's loitering near a school to indicate that a parent or guardian would not be loitering if he or she was on school property to transport his or her child to or from school or a school event; attending an event sanctioned by his or her child's school; or meeting with a school employee regarding his or her child enrolled at that school.

The bill also defines loitering to remain for a period of time, whether or not in a vehicle, with the intent to engage or solicit another person to engage in an act prohibited by a listed offense involving a minor for which registration is required under the act.

"School safety zone" is also redefined to mean school property and the area that lies 1,000 feet or less from the property line of school property. And "school property" is redefined as a building, playing field, or other property used for school purposes to impart instruction to children or used for functions and events sponsored by a school that is clearly marked and identified as a school property.

The bill also revises information a registrant is required to provide, including information that must be reported immediately and in person; and it revises information that must be included in the law enforcement database of registrations and the publicly available website maintained by the Department of State Police.

Finally, the bill revises provisions dealing with a waiver of initial and annual registration fees for a registrant who is indigent (in which case the fee must be waived until the first reporting month in which he or she was no longer indigent, under the bill).

"It is important to clarify the law so that we are protecting our children and still meeting the federal guidelines," Mr. Jones (R-Grand Ledge) said of his bill, in a statement.

A substitute was adopted to the bill and sent to the full Senate for consideration.

**MINOR PRESCRIPTION DRUG EXEMPTION:** The committee also reported without substitute HB 4843 exempting a person under 21 years of age from prohibitions against possessing and using certain prescription drugs if he or she sought medical assistance or accompanied another person who sought assistance for a drug overdose or other perceived medical emergency.

The exemption would not, under the bill, prevent investigation and prosecution of a person for any other violation, or be grounds for suppression of evidence in the prosecution of other criminal charges.

And the bill requires a health facility or agency to develop a process for notifying the parent, guardian or custodian of a minor under the age of 18 who sought or was presented for emergency medical treatment for a drug overdose or other perceived medical emergency.

"It is my hope this bill help reduce the number of deaths among young people and encourage youth to do the right thing (as necessary)," Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), sponsor of the bill, told the committee. "We shouldn't be afraid to save a life."

### Snyder Expands Pipeline Board

Governor Rick Snyder issued an executive order Thursday adding a tribal government representative to the Pipeline Safety Advisory Board.

With the new order (EO 2015-14), Mr. Snyder appointed Homer Mandoka, chair of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, to the board.

"Michigan's tribal governments play a vital role in the preservation of our state's world-class resources," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "I am confident Chairman Mandoka's passion and work ethic will be an asset to the board and I thank him for his willingness to help ensure our lakes, streams and rivers are protected for years to come."

Mr. Mandoka, of Bronson, becomes the 16<sup>th</sup> member of the board.

### PSC Eliminates DTE Electric's Renewable Energy Surcharge

As has been the case with numerous other utilities that had imposed a surcharge upon their customers to pay for their renewable energy investments as mandated by the 2008 energy law, the Public Service Commission on Thursday approved a settlement agreement amending DTE Electric Company's renewable energy plan to eliminate the utility's energy surcharge of 43 cents per meter per month, effective January 1, 2016.

"The falling cost of wind-generated energy has prompted DTE to eliminate its renewable energy surcharge," PSC Chair John Quackenbush said in a statement about the settlement (case U-17793). "DTE joins Consumers Energy, which eliminated the renewable energy surcharge last year. More Michigan customers will see the tangible benefits of lower renewable energy costs on their bills."

In a separate case, the PSC approved a settlement agreement reconciling DTE Electric Company's 2014 energy optimization plan expenses, resulting in an increase of 29 cents on the monthly bills of residential customers using 500 kilowatt-hours of electricity a month, effective January 1, 2016 (case U-17832).


**CLOVERLAND ELECTRIC BECOMES MEMBER-REGULATED:** The PSC also directed Cloverland Electric Cooperative to make certain filings and to meet with PSC staff as it transitions to a member-regulated cooperative effective January 19, 2016. It will become the eighth electric cooperative to do so since the new law became effective, the PSC said (case [U-17971](#)).

**INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY DECREASE:** The PSC also approved a settlement agreement reconciling Indiana Michigan Power Company's 2014 energy optimization plan expenses, resulting in a decrease of 21 cents on the monthly bills of residential customers using 500 kilowatt-hours of electricity effective with the next billing cycle (case [U-17833](#)).

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## Michigan Report for Thursday, December 3, 2015

Tax Breaks For Switch, Data Centers, Clear Senate Amid Growing Criticism

Bill Would End Most Weekend In-Person Absentee Voting

Deficit Districts Decline; 11 Headed For Preliminary Review

Senate Panel Told Reform Office Has Tools To Pursue School Improvements

Midwives Bill Clears House Despite Physician Opposition

Flint Blood Lead Survey Results Released By State

Senate Passes Aviation Fuel Tax Changes

House Panel Considers Requiring Civics Test For High School Students

Hansen Still Hopeful On DPS Solution

House Republicans Sign Letter Urging Disapproval Of Planned Parenthood Grant

Former Aramark Worker Convicted In Assault For Hire Plot With Inmate

Senate Remembers Rosetta Ferguson

House Committee Votes To Change Electrician-Apprentice Ratio

Regional Unemployment Rates Mostly Unchanged

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## Volume #54, Report #237 -- Thursday, December 3, 2015

### Tax Breaks For Switch, Data Centers, Clear Senate Amid Growing Criticism

Although the agreement on just how much of a sales/use tax exemption colocation centers such as Switch, a company out of Nevada looking to expand in Michigan, should receive varied from Thursday morning to Thursday afternoon, the Senate ultimately decided to allow such entities to receive the full extent of an exemption on a 21-15 vote.

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on the sales and use tax exemptions saw minimal discussion on the Senate floor, but outside of the Capitol, the debate roared, especially among traditional allies for Republicans.

The House, although it was widely expected to, did not vote on similar legislation in its chamber on Thursday.

Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House Republicans, said members still have a lot of questions on the issue and want to take more time to discuss the legislation before making decisions.

Sources familiar with the situation speaking on background said the caucus is struggling - ideologically - with the concept of providing a tax break for one industry. There are also questions about existing data centers, which have operated in the state without the exemptions being proposed now.

Leading the charge of conservatives against the legislation was the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. Rich Studley, the chamber president and CEO, lambasted the legislation repeatedly on Twitter. And it was the strong opposition from his organization that sources said had slowed efforts to pass the bills in the House.

"We are very disappointed with the Michigan Senate's decision to hastily grant hundreds of millions of dollars in sales and use tax breaks to an out-of-state company without the guarantee of a single job," Mr. Studley said a statement. "It's time for state lawmakers to stop the bait-and-switch approach to tax policy. From failed state battery credits to ineffective Hollywood film subsidies, we've seen this movie before, and it ends badly for Michigan taxpayers."

Besides Mr. Studley, the National Federation of Independent Business-Michigan ripped the bills, hitting them with criticism sure to sting usual legislative Republican allies that the legislation was Granholmian. And then prominent Republican strategist Greg McNeilly called legislation "corporate cronyism" and "sad" on his Twitter feed and made sure to mention the House and

Senate Republican caucus Twitter accounts to be sure they got the message. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1" } (R-Cascade Township) said the legislation would "destroy" jobs.

The bills would provide a 15-year exemption from the sales tax and the use taxes at the full rate of 6 percent - a version that cleared the Senate Michigan Competitiveness Committee earlier in the day permitted only exempted 4 percent - for collocated data centers.

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive) said the change from 4 percent to 6 percent was a result of their belief of what the House would end up doing as well.

The bills go on to specifically define "internet data center," "data center equipment," and a "collocated business." The bills were expected to apply only to collocated data centers, a relatively small number, not captive data centers, of which there are more.

But they do not include another provision the Chamber sought to have included, Tricia Kinley, senior director of tax and regulatory reform for the Chamber, said.

"In their rush to pass this legislation, senators declined to protect businesses already located in Michigan by refusing to adopt a simple amendment to close the door on the Treasury Department's relentless effort to impose the sales tax on cloud computing and data services," she said in a statement.

And Charlie Owens with the National Federation of Independent Businesses-Michigan likened the proposal to Democratic former Governor Jennifer Granholm's "failed economic development policies" that are "still haunting our state with more than \$9 billion in unclaimed credits," he said, likely referring to the now defunct Michigan Economic Growth Authority tax credits.

"While we appreciate attempts to broaden the focus of the bills to include all data center operations, the legislation is still a narrowly targeted proposal," Mr. Owens said. "We offered, in both House and Senate committees, an opportunity to make changes to these bills to broaden their scope by increasing the current small business Personal Property Tax exemption of \$80,000 of True Cash Value to \$160,000. Since more than 90 percent of all businesses in the state are small businesses ... this change would have made the proposed legislation a more broad-based economic development proposal."

But without that change, he said, NFIB Michigan cannot support their passage.

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1" } (R-Cascade Township) tweeted that the "corporate welfare deal" would "result in higher taxes on everyone down the road, harm Michigan's economy and destroy jobs." He later sent followers to { HYPERLINK "https://t.co/4kCxToZ3cG" } for a more detailed explanation on why the "targeted tax breaks" were a bad idea.

But contrary to those opinions, the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce said it supports the legislation, recognizing that its views differ from the state chamber.

"(Our members are) excited about the potential of supporting and growing this industry in Michigan," Andy Johnston, vice president of government and corporate affairs, told Gongwer News Service in a phone interview. "Our board has been extremely supportive of the legislative package."

In committee and on the Senate floor, some senators, especially { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor), took issue with the potential loss of revenue for schools.

"(The legislation) doesn't bind us to any future payments to these companies, but it shortchanges our School Aid Fund and our General Fund and funds to our local communities that they would otherwise be getting. That's a concern," she said. "We have gone through this process many times where we have considered tax policy that makes carve-outs and special exemptions to a particular industry or a particular industry that has made it very difficult for our budget. And we have found too often in the past that the promises in the press releases don't end up being honored on the ground here."

An amendment by { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1" } (D-Dearborn Heights) was adopted on the Senate floor to SB 616 that assures the appropriation of money from the General Fund to the School Aid Fund if any SAF funds were lost as a result of the legislation.

And Mr. Johnston said the GRCC's members hadn't really raised such a concern on schools.

"The question before policymakers is whether or not we want to have a competitive tax structure in order to grow this industry in Michigan. It's about making sure we do it in a way that's best for Michigan," Mr. Johnston said. "We're happy to see the Senate take action today and move the process forward."

Ms. Warren said she and the rest of her caucus wanted to get to a "yes" vote, but "we need assurances the taxpayers' monies are going to be protected, these jobs are going to be protected, that those investing in our state aren't going to be harmed by a competitor ... that doesn't have to play by the same rules."

She continued, "I can't assure my colleagues we've done our due diligence. I can't assure my constituents we're being good stewards of the taxpayer money, and I can't assure them this company is even going to come, let alone spend a dollar or hire one employee, because we have no assurances of that at this time."

To that end, Mr. Meekhof said such requirements are worth discussing, and they may become part of the final product, but for now, "It's kind of like a poker game - we have to put the ante in to be able to compete, and we put the ante in, so now we're ready to compete."



**PERSONAL PROPERTY EXEMPTION:** The chamber also passed on a 21-15 vote {  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61801" }<sup>[9]</sup>, which provides a 10-year exemption for eligible internet data center property if the local governments approved the exemption no later March 31 of the first year the eligible Internet data center property would be subject to the collection of those taxes, or if the local governments did not reject the exemption via resolution or ordinance by April 1, 2016.

Mr. Knezek and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) broke with the majority of their party to support the bills while Republicans { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301&locid=1" } of Sheridan, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901&locid=1" } of Whitmore Lake, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" } of Grand Ledge, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80001&locid=1" } of Troy, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } of St. Clair and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } of Sterling Heights voted in opposition against the majority of their party. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301&locid=1" } (R-Midland) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) were absent.

#### Bill Would End Most Weekend In-Person Absentee Voting

Clerks could no longer be open during most weekends to process or issue absentee voter ballots, nor could they issue absentee ballots from a satellite office under a bill introduced Thursday in the Senate.

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB63901" }<sup>[9]</sup>, sponsored by { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001&locid=1" } (R-Grand Blanc), the chair of the Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee, is sure to create a fury among Democrats as the latest potential salvo from Republicans to skew the electoral playing field to the GOP's advantage, coming as the Legislature also moves on a separate bill to end straight ticket voting and change the schedule for electing the Oakland County executive.

The prohibition on weekend hours to process absentee ballots or issue those ballots would begin 45 days before the election and run through Election Day, although the existing requirement that clerk offices remain open until 2 p.m. the Saturday before the election to receive absentee ballots would remain.

The bill also would prohibit city, township and village clerks from processing or issuing absentee voter ballots at satellite locations and mandate such activities only occur at the clerk's main office.

Mr. Robertson said the bill is about equal protection regarding election laws. The state should not have a patchwork of communities with some clerks opening during the weekends and having satellite offices and some not having those options.

"We want to make certain that the equal protection concerns are addressed," he said. "If you operate a satellite office in one place and not another, aren't you putting your thumb on the scale in favor of one municipality making it different than another."

But Angela Wittrock, spokesperson for the Senate Democratic Caucus, said the state should be making it easier for registered voters to cast their ballots.

"This bill, as written, appears to be nothing but another attempt to limit access to the ballot box. That's not something Senate Democrats will ever support," she said.

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope, past president of the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks and a member of the association's legislative committee, said the bill "would be a catastrophe for voters."

Lansing uses a city building on the city's south side as an additional location for voters to obtain an absentee ballot that Mr. Swope said is more convenient than the clerk's main office at City Hall in downtown Lansing. There is free, close parking, unlike City Hall.

"Taking that away doesn't seem to benefit voters in any way," he said.

The loss of weekend and non-regular hours also would cause problems, Mr. Swope said. Besides the Saturday before the election (required now by law and maintained as an exception in the bill), the Lansing clerk office also opens two Sundays before the election to handle absentee ballots.

If voters work far from their home municipality, getting to the clerk's office during regular 9 to 5 hours will be difficult, Mr. Swope said.

"Eliminating the ability to have extra hours in jurisdictions that need it to accommodate their voters just seems punitive to voters," he said. "I'm kind of flabbergasted."

Mr. Robertson said he expected his committee to take up the bill soon.

### **Straight-Ticket Voting Elimination Stalls In House Committee**

The House Elections Committee on Thursday did not report a bill that would end voters' ability to choose a party's slate of candidates with a single selection on the ballot after listening to nearly 2 hours of testimony, mostly in opposition of the legislation.

The committee met for about an hour and 15 minutes, and then went at recess for House session. At 4:30 p.m., the committee reconvened for another half an hour but did not adopt amendments nor vote to report it.

"We are going to discuss this with the committee members. There were several amendments put before us. I want to take some time to look at several of those," said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1" } (R-Alto), chair of the committee. "And take some time to digest a lot of the information we heard today and do some research on my own and come back next week and see where we go from there."

Ms. Lyons is also pushing for her bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB472401" } on "no-reason" absentee voting. Under the bill, a person would have to come show their ID to get their ballot for each election. Many testifying Thursday called for the bills to be formally linked via a tie-bar. Ms. Lyons said that is an option she is considering.

"Secure no-reason is something I am pushing, so we will continue to talk about what the best procedure and the best strategy to move forward on all of our election policy over the next ... week," she said.

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive) has said he opposes no-reason absentee legislation, but Ms. Lyons said the two are discussing the issue and will continue to do so.

She said next week is the last week bills originating in the House can pass for the first time, so she will be advocating a floor vote on the bill.

Rumors have been swirling that Ms. Lyons will run for Kent County clerk when she is term-limited out of the House next year. She said Thursday she is actually "tempted to go off the grid."

"I've got 13 months left in the House. I don't know where that will take me. It's something I have looked at, but we have an incumbent clerk there who I think has done a good job. ... I've got a lot of options," she said.

The Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks, Michigan Association of County Clerks and the Michigan Townships Association all expressed opposition to the straight-ticket elimination bill, saying it would likely create longer lines, confusion and frustration at the polls.

Sarah Bydalek, the Walker city clerk, told the committee eliminating straight-ticket voting would take the last tool out of the toolbox for clerks to help run election days more smoothly. She did say pairing the bill with HB 4724, no-reason absentee voting, would help.

However, the House bill would require a voter to come into the clerk's office each election to show ID and get their ballot in person, which she said still disenfranchises the voter. Ms. Bydalek said true no-reason absentee voting would be better.

Ms. Bydalek said the average wait time in the state is 22 minutes to vote, and that would likely double under { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB1301" }<sup>[4]</sup>.

"It will be chaos," she said.

Ms. Lyons said anecdotal evidence was presented by both sides of the issue, and she could not say for certain if the "chaos" described is an exaggeration or not.

Both { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=271501&locid=1" } (R-Oxford)

and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=359301&locid=1" } (R-Hillsdale) said they had never seen long lines at the polls.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=274601&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) said if rural communities and more affluent suburbs are not waiting in line at the polls, that means those who do wait are waiting much longer than 22 minutes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80001&locid=1" } (R-Troy), sponsor of SB 13, dodged questions on if he would be willing to couple the legislation with other reforms to shorten lines, such as no-reason absentee and online voter registration.

"I am focused on this particular bill," he said to questions from Democrats on the panel.

He said voters would still be able to vote for all Republicans or all Democrats if they chose to, and if voters had to wait longer so they could read all the names, that is a good thing, he said.

While Mr. Knollenberg said the bill makes elections about the actual candidates instead of political parties, Mr. Irwin countered it shouldn't be about the candidates, but the actual voters.

And { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318101&locid=1" } (D-Saline) said SB 13 "puts the cart before the horse" because other measures, like no-reason absentee voting, that would reduce wait times at the polls, should be implemented as well.

The bill also includes a \$1 million appropriation, which would make it referendum-proof.

Mr. Knollenberg said that could be used to educate elections workers, new voting equipment or other things. He said it was left open for the Department of State and local clerks to decide.

However, the bill stipulates the funding should be used for the following:

- Assess the impact of eliminating straight party ticket voting;
- Assist in ongoing compliance and fraud prevention in elections;
- Conduct thorough post-election audits of selected precincts after each election;
- Provide remedial follow-up with local election officials to correct any election errors and to correct any compliance issues;
- Audit file maintenance by local election officials; and
- Provide equipment to facilitate the integrity of the election process.

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope said the appropriation in the bill would provide no additional funds for clerks to address the additional cost that would come from the legislation.

Tom Frazier, with the Michigan Townships Association, said the group would remove their opposition if no-reason absentee voting was tie-barred to SB 13.

He said the state already has one of the longer ballots in the country and moving people through polling lines quickly is important. He said eliminating the option to vote straight party will make voting take longer.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316701&locid=1" } (R-Commerce Township) also suggested during the committee that more polling precincts in communities might help move lines along faster.

However, Mr. Frazier said that is not an option because many schools are hesitant to let the general public into their buildings given various shootings that have taken place in recent years.

W. Paul Mayhue, representing the Grand Rapids group Voices Not Heard in Michigan, said the bill had "racist" undertones. And Frank Lynn, a Grand Rapids man advocating for senior citizens and people with disabilities, said the bill would disenfranchise those voters as well.

Ms. Lyons said she will thoughtfully consider those comments going forward.

Eric Doster also testified in support of the bill. Mr. Doster serves as general counsel for the Michigan Republican Party, but said he was representing himself and "democracy."

"By reducing the influence of the candidates' political parties in elections, this legislation represents an important step in helping Michigan turn the page on partisanship," he said.

Ms. Lyons said she does not think eliminating straight-ticket voting would necessarily benefit one party more than the other.

"I am from west Michigan, I have a very high Republican seat, I don't necessarily think that is the case statewide," she said of Republicans having the disadvantage when it comes to straight-ticket voting. "I think straight-ticket voting can cut both ways, which is why I don't want to view this as a party issue."

And the Michigan AFL-CIO wrote a { HYPERLINK "<http://miaflcio.org/2015/12/eliminating-straight-party-voting-could-hurt-republican-reps-like-klint-kesto-holly-hughes/>" \t "blank" } post saying two Republicans, { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219601&locid=1>" } of White River Township and { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316701&locid=1>" } of Commerce Township, benefited from straight-ticket voting.

The post notes Mr. Kesto won his seat in the 39<sup>th</sup> House District with 51.4 percent of his 16,740 total votes from straight-party ballots, and his Democratic opponent, Sandy Colvin, only received 43.3 percent of his 15,300 votes from straight-party tickets.

"Kesto defeated Colvin by a margin of 1,440 votes. His 1,984-vote margin among straight-party ballots was more than enough to put him over the top," the blog said.

Ms. Hughes' close election tells a similar story, the blog said, as she received 47.5 percent of her 12,734 total votes from straight-party ballots, while her opponent - former Rep. Colleen Lamonte (D-Montague) - received 45 percent of her 12,681 total votes from straight-party tickets.

"Hughes defeated Lamonte by a margin of just 53 votes, which made her 343-vote advantage among straight-party tickets decisive," the blog said.

#### Deficit Districts Decline; 11 Headed For Preliminary Review

The number of deficit districts has declined for the first time since 2002-03 and 20 districts emerged from deficit at the end of the most recent school year, { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393401&locid=1>" } reported Thursday, but 11 deficit districts are also now slated for preliminary review by the Department of Treasury under the new early warning system for financially distressed schools.

Only five new deficit districts - the Bay City Academy in the Bay-Arenac ISD, Tahquamenon Area Schools in the Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD, Sarah J. Webber Media Arts Academy in Oakland Schools, Posen Consolidated School District #9 in the Cheboygan-Otsego-Presque Isle ESD, and Gaudior Academy in the Wayne RESA - joined the list in 2014-15, the fewest since 2002-03.

Twenty-one districts were able to reduce their deficits in 2014-15.

All told, the state dropped from 56 deficit districts in the 2013-14 school year to 41 at the end of June. Under the new structure of the early warning system, 24 of those deficit districts will stay

with the Department of Education while the other 17 will be under the oversight of the Department of Treasury.

And 11 of those districts have deficit elimination plans projected to take longer than five years, subjecting themselves to the preliminary review. The highest projected end balance of those schools goes to Hazel Park City School District, part of Oakland Schools, which projects to have a 25.1 percent deficit based on revenue as of June 30, 2016.

Following Hazel Park is Mackinaw City Public Schools (24 percent deficit), Flint Community Schools (14.9 percent), Westwood Community Schools in the Wayne RESA (12.4 percent), Mount Clemens Community School District (10.9 percent), Lincoln Consolidated Schools (3.3 percent), Bridgeport Spaulding Community School District (2.5 percent), Vanderbilt Area Schools (0.2 percent) and Southgate Community School District at 0 percent deficit.

Also on that list of 11 is New Haven Community Schools, which projects to come out of its deficit with a 0.4 percent fund balance at the end of this school year, and Clintondale Community Schools, which projects a 1.1 percent fund balance.

While most of the members of a joint committee of the House and Senate Appropriations School Aid subcommittees were pleased with the progress, some were still cautious.

"It's discouraging to see that schools under our watch are growing deficits," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401&locid=1" } (R-Saginaw Township), chair of the House subcommittee, said.

But Mr. Whiston said he will continue to work with the administration to ensure all districts, especially those in deficit, will not fall by the wayside. One key to that, he said, will be to ensure those schools losing students and thus putting themselves at further risk of financial instability can at least maintain, or even attract, students based on their academic offerings.

"If you're losing kids on a constant basis and you're making cuts, you're losing programs parents want. We have to improve educational offering so more kids come back," Mr. Whiston said. "We have to find that balance between balancing budgets and offering an education program that entices people to stay or come back to that district."

And he said he is working with various school officials on such issues.

But { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-Saint Clair) still had some concerns. He questioned how some schools getting substantially more in a foundation allowance could continue to have performance issues if finances are following quality as Mr. Whiston and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393601&locid=1" } suggested.

"There are additional dollars going into the school buildings that have poor academic performance, yet that performance isn't following the dollars," Mr. Pavlov said.

"In these days with limited resources, we look for ways to provide economies of scale, to provide the services more efficiently," Mr. Khouri said, but that doesn't always work out, Mr. Whiston added.

"And that's okay," Mr. Whiston said, noting that the state will be in a continual process of development with these schools and, consequently, their students.

And { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=207001&locid=1>" } (D-Saint Clair Shores) suggested it might be worth reviewing schools of choice, especially the way in which a charter school, for example, can open a new building whenever it wants for whatever reason, which then draws students out of other buildings and increases the financial distress for districts, she said.

### Senate Panel Told Reform Office Has Tools To Pursue School Improvements

Since being moved to the Executive Office earlier this year from the Department of Education, the state's School Reform Office has the tools it needs to help drive Michigan's worst schools to improve, the Senate Education Committee was told Thursday, as the office can focus now on working with district superintendents and use data to better drive improvements.

Committee members pressed Karen McPhee, { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" }'s education policy director, and Natasha Baker, the state's school reform officer, to say if the strategy the state was pursuing now to deal with Michigan's worst performing schools means the strategies used since 2010 had failed.

"We are refocusing the effort," Ms. McPhee said to chair { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1>" } (R-St. Clair). The state cannot solve the problems of its lowest performing schools without fully understanding what the dynamics are that drive problems, she said, and "it takes tremendous capacity to do that."

And the state was somewhat caught during those previous years trying to improve its poorest schools while also competing with other states for promises of major federal funding for school improvement efforts, she and Ms. Baker said.

The state now has 214 schools designated as priority schools. While the largest number is in southeast Michigan, the schools are spread across the state. Most tend to be in urban districts. A total of 100,000 students attend those schools.

Since the state began identifying in 2010 the lowest performing schools - those in the lowest 5 percent of all schools - there have 331 marked as priority schools. Of those, 73 closed and 44 released after improving.



Earlier in 2015, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } issued an executive order moving the school reform office out of the Department of Education into the Executive Office. The move was greeted with some controversy, especially as Mr. Snyder has promoted efforts such as the Education Achievement Authority in Detroit that has been under ongoing fire and has been investigated by law enforcement.

But Ms. Baker said since the move, the office has been better able to customize its efforts to work with districts and the individual schools.

One step she has taken is to work with the district superintendents more than the individual school buildings. "We are more triage, more like an emergency room," she said.

While the department can work with the specific building personnel, her office sends the superintendent data on a variety of factors, including attendance, every six to eight weeks.

"We can customize intervention based on data," Ms. Baker said.

She and Ms. McPhee also said that while other states have had greater success in terms of turning schools around, it was important for Michigan to develop its own plan to fix low performing schools.

Even so, one of the primary elements of making that fix will be to focus on actual instruction, they said.

### Midwives Bill Clears House Despite Physician Opposition

A bill establishing licensing criteria for midwives in Michigan passed the House on Thursday despite the two physicians currently serving in the House opposing the legislation.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB459801" }

☐ cleared the House 79-25. Both { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=333201&locid=1" } (R-Sebewaing) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355401&locid=1" } (R-Battle Creek) voted in opposition. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=205001&locid=1" } (R-Gaines Township) also voted no and was originally a co-sponsor.

During the committee process, Mr. Yonker said he may remove his support on the floor because of concerns about cost.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan), the bill's sponsor, said he would continue to work with stakeholders in the Senate,

including those in the medical profession. He said many stakeholders came to him at the final hour asking him to wait on the bill.

Mr. Canfield said he does not want to limit a person's choice, but he is hesitant to license someone "who has a very limited education."

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs would license a person for midwifery if they paid the posted fees and met the following criteria:

- Received a high school diploma or passed the general educational development diploma test or any other high school graduate equivalency examination approved by the board;
- Completed an educational program or pathway accredited by the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council or a successor organization;
- Holds the credential of certified professional midwife from the North American Registry of Midwives or holds an equivalent credential from another accredited midwifery training program approved by the Michigan Board of Licensed Midwifery created in the bill; and
- Successfully passes an examination approved by LARA in consultation with the board.

The fee for the license under the bill is \$200. There is also a \$450 one-time, start-up fee to get the program going. However, that fee is expected to drop to \$75 after the department covers its costs to start the licensure program.

#### Flint Blood Lead Survey Results Released By State

Since October 1, data indicates that 30 adults and children of 1,361 tested in Flint had elevated blood lead levels, the state said Thursday in releasing its first report as part of the state's efforts to assist in resolving the Flint water crisis.

The state called on helping the city deal with health issues as part of its efforts to restore safer drinking water to the city.

In October, after more than a year of the city getting its drinking water from the Flint River - it ended a contract with the Detroit Water and Sewerage System largely over cost issues and is working on a new water system that will draw from Lake Huron - and after more than a year of complaints on taste, smell and safety of the water, the city switched back to Detroit water when it was discovered lead levels in some children were elevated because of the water system.

In the { HYPERLINK "[http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3313\\_3675\\_73946---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3313_3675_73946---,00.html)" \t "blank" }, the Department of Health and Human Services said 969 children were tested and 21 showed elevated lead levels. Another 392 adults were tested and nine had elevated levels.

The report also showed the number of Flint children with higher lead levels declined during the summer months this year - lead levels tend to be higher in the summer, the report said - to 6.4 percent from 7.5 percent a year ago.

However, in 2013, before the city switched from Detroit water to the Flint River, the percentage stood at 4.1 percent. That was down from percentages as high as 8.3 percent in 2010.

### Senate Passes Aviation Fuel Tax Changes

Airports in the state would receive state funding to help with repair and maintenance costs under legislation approved by the Senate on Thursday.

The bills ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB41801" }<sup>[9]</sup>,  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB42501" }<sup>[9]</sup>,  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB42601" }<sup>[9]</sup>,  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61201" }<sup>[9]</sup>,  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61301" }<sup>[9]</sup>  
and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61401" }<sup>[9]</sup>)  
would dedicate 2 percent of the sales tax on aviation fuel with to aviation purposes and split  
those funds, as well as the current 3 cents per gallon tax, between the Aeronautics Fund,  
overseen by the Aeronautics Commission, and the Qualified Airport Fund, which provides for  
capital projects at certain airports.

"This is a matter of fairness," { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201&locid=1" } (R-Traverse  
City), sponsor of most of the legislation, said in a statement. "The legislation makes sure  
Michigan's airports - including those in Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula - receive the  
needed funding for routine maintenance and repairs."

The new fund would appropriate to the state's airports via a formula based on volume of air  
traffic and resources used.

"As chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, I've fought to  
secure additional dollars in this year's budget for the airport improvement program to help  
support projects at our local airports," { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" } (R-Hart),  
sponsor of SB 613, said. "Passage of this legislation will create a reliable, dedicated funding  
source for the State Aeronautics Fund that will ensure the continued safety and efficiency of  
Michigan's aviation system."

## House Panel Considers Requiring Civics Test For High School Students

Students would be required to take a civics test similar to the test taken for immigrants to become citizens under a bill the House Education Committee debated Thursday.

Under { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413601](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413601)" }  
all Michigan students would have to take the test and pass with 60 percent in order to receive their high school diploma. The test must include only identical questions to some or all of the civics portion of the naturalization test.

If a student does not receive 60 percent, they could retake the test as many times as necessary. Local school districts are permitted under the bill to determine when and how to administer the test, and what questions to use.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=351701&locid=1>" } (R-Shelby Township), sponsor of the bill, said students should be required to know the information on the test, as they are "privileged" enough to be born in the United States and will eventually be the ones working in state and federal government.

"We are trying to accomplish the basic elements that a non-citizen has to perform," he said. "If we are going to have a real dear desire and appreciation of American government, we should be able to pass basic questions that an immigrant, who so proudly and privileged wants to be a member of this country, (can pass)."

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371701&locid=1>" } (R-Holland), vice chair of the Education Committee, said social studies standards in the state already include a civics component. She also noted the lack of civics understanding among students is one of many crises in education, including reading proficiency.

She also said there is a fundamental problem about civics understanding and told the committee her own retired government teacher called her "congresswoman" the last time they spoke.

"If we expect our students to know, we first and foremost need our teachers to understand," she said.

Bob Kefgen, with the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals, said the group is opposed to the bill. Mr. Kefgen said the naturalization test does not represent what they want students to know.

He said the questions on the test would mostly involve students memorizing facts, and they would like to see students analyzing and critiquing concepts.

But { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1>" } (R-Levering) countered students cannot analyze and critique what they do not know.

"You can only analyze something that you know. You can only critique something that you know," he said. "Before we teach kids how to read, normally we make them memorize the alphabet. Before kids can analyze their government and how it operates, and critique it ... they have to know it. And the fact is, they don't."

The committee did not act on the bill.

### Hansen Still Hopeful On DPS Solution

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1>" } on Thursday said he remained optimistic about introducing legislation to resolve Detroit Public Schools' \$715 million debt problem even as a legislative week passed without the introduction of any such legislation.

"We're hoping to do it before the first of the year. I think we're close on that with some changes that were made, and I think by the first of the year we should be able to put it in," Mr. Hansen (R-Hart) said. "We're waiting for some drafts right now. I want to see how it's written and then shop it with some of my colleagues."

Mr. Hansen said there seems to be consensus on the number at hand - estimated by { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } to be \$715 million over 10 years - but there are other "ancillary things" like governance where discussions are still being had.

"Somewhere in there," Mr. Hansen said on the number by Mr. Snyder. "It's like when we got to the point with the road funding that all the sudden \$1.2 billion was the number and ... then we worked on how we get there."

He said he was first able to present some of his ideas to the caucus earlier this week but has otherwise been very tight-lipped with only a handful of relevant players like Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan, legislators, emergency managers, the school board president and various foundations, among others.

Mr. Hansen said there were a lot of questions from his caucus, but "I think people are willing to be part of the solution," he said. "But it has to be the right solution. We have to make sure we have things in place to make sure it doesn't go way back into the same issues."

And ensuring it is the right solution will remain paramount throughout the process, he said.

"We're trying to be very sensitive to my Detroit colleagues, working with them, trying to make sure that this is Detroit's solution," Mr. Hansen said. "It's not Lansing's solution. It has to be Detroit's solution."

### House Republicans Sign Letter Urging Disapproval Of Planned Parenthood Grant

About 30 House Republicans on Thursday signed a letter asking the State Administrative Board not to approve a \$1.2 million grant increase to Planned Parenthood because it goes against the "spirit" of a budget amendment adopted this year.

On December 8, the Finance and Claims Committee of the State Administrative Board will take up a grant increase for Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan. The increase will come from the restricted dollars in the Maternal Children's Health Fund (8 percent); federal funding (35 percent); fees generating through the clinic (49 percent) and local dollars (8 percent).

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306001&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306001&locid=1) } (R-Midland), joined by { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=280701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=280701&locid=1) } (R-Byron Center), who sponsored the budget amendment saying the state will not allocate funding to Planned Parenthood, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201&locid=1) } (R-Potterville), { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1) } (R-Levering) and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358801&locid=1) } (R-Livonia), among others, are urging the grant to not be increased.

"We believe this is a clear violation of the spirit of the budget amendment that was voted on and passed by the Legislature during the last appropriations process," the letter reads.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1) } (R-Stevensville), chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said the grant increase does not go against the budget.

When the amendment was adopted, House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1) } (R-Mount Pleasant) said no clinics would lose money because of the amendment. He said during the last two budgets Planned Parenthood had not received any state dollars (See { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=540840103"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=540840103) } ).

The committee is scheduled to meet at 11 a.m. on December 8.

#### Former Aramark Worker Convicted In Assault For Hire Plot With Inmate

An ex-employee of Aramark, the state's former prison food service provider, has been convicted of trying to recruit an inmate to orchestrate the assault of another inmate.

A statement from the Department of Attorney General said Michael Robert Young, 27, of Kincheloe, was convicted in the 91<sup>st</sup> District Court on one felony charge of Solicitation to Commit Assault with Intent to Cause Great Bodily Harm.

Mr. Young was an employee of Aramark at the Kinross Correctional Facility at the time of the crime. The inmate he wanted assaulted was housed in a different prison.

The inmate whom Mr. Young was convicted of trying to have assaulted was in prison for murdering one of Mr. Young's family members. But the inmate Mr. Young asked to arrange the incident instead reported the conversation to prison officials.

"No matter the situation, our system of justice demands that individuals not take the law into their own hands, for revenge or any other reason," { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } said in a statement.

Mr. Young faces up to five years in prison. No sentencing date has been set.

### Senate Remembers Rosetta Ferguson

Days after her funeral, the Senate briefly memorialized former Rep. Rosetta Ferguson, who became known for one of the most controversial incidents in legislative history during her 10 years in the House.

The House is planning to memorialize Ms. Ferguson, who died on November 18 aged 95, at a later time. The Senate acted after { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1" } (D-Southfield) asked to remember her.

Ms. Ferguson was born in Florence, Mississippi, and will be buried there. She attended schools in Mississippi, New Orleans and Detroit, and spent much of her career in business. She was politically active for the Democratic Party before being elected to the House in 1968.

Among the issues Ms. Ferguson was proudest of was legislation requiring that textbooks purchased and used in Michigan schools fairly recognize the history and accomplishments of all ethnic groups.

But she became best known for her ferocious opposition to drugs, especially the legalization of marijuana, and abortion.

Her intensity against the two was so strident, she said in a long speech on the House floor in the 1970s - when the House debated legislation imposing just a civil fine on the use of marijuana - that if she could find a way to let white people have drugs and abortion but save African-Americans from them she would do it.

It was during those debates on marijuana that Ms. Ferguson became known for the "ashtray incident."

The debates took place over an intense series of days. The late former Rep. Perry Bullard of Ann Arbor - who everyone acknowledged was brilliant but extremely short-tempered - was leading

the effort to loosen penalties on marijuana. He was a controversial figure who had taken part in Ann Arbor's notorious hash bashes.

During one of the debates, former Rep. Matthew McNeely, also now gone, gave an impassioned speech against marijuana, focusing on his son who had died following drug addictions. Ms. Ferguson sobbed so loudly during the speech that she was led from the chamber to compose herself.

On one day, the House approved the marijuana measure. On the next, after reconsideration, it defeated the bill.

After the bill failed, a furious Mr. Bullard stormed over to Ms. Ferguson and accused her of lying in one of her speeches on the issue. He turned to leave and Ms. Ferguson - who was a heavy smoker in the days when smoking was allowed on the floor - grabbed her glass ashtray and threw it at Mr. Bullard, hitting him in the head, while she screamed he was a drug user.

Of course, the House exploded in an uproar. Mr. Bullard turned to charge back at her, and Ms. Ferguson was ready for him. Other members intervened, blocking the two. Mr. Bullard regained his composure as he was led away, but other members had to restrain Ms. Ferguson.

A famous photograph of the aftermath shows Mr. Bullard, head slightly bowed, being led away by former Rep. Gil DiNello (who died in the 1990s) while others hold on to Ms. Ferguson who was continuing to shout.

Both lawmakers later apologized to the House. Some months later, the last reconsideration vote on the bill was held - around much joking that the House had ordered all ashtrays glued to the desks - and while the debate was pointed, it never reached the fever pitch it had earlier. The bill failed in that attempt, and until the passage of the state's medical marijuana act in 2008, there were no serious efforts to change marijuana laws following the 1977 debates.

Ms. Ferguson decided not to seek re-election in 1978 but remained active in the anti-abortion movement.

### House Committee Votes To Change Electrician-Apprentice Ratio

The ratio of apprentices to master or journeyman electricians on jobsites would go from one-to-one to three-to-one under a bill reported Thursday by the House Workforce and Talent Development Committee.


As originally introduced, the bill would have gone with a two to one ratio and only allowed three to one if one of the apprentices met certain training thresholds.

{ HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB481301](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB481301)" }

☐ cleared the committee on an 8-6 party-line vote.



Also winning approval on a party-line 8-6 vote was { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB455201" } , which would require school counselors to receive at least 25 hours of professional development on college preparation and selection and another 25 hours on career counseling prior to having their credentials renewed since the credential was last authorized.

The professional development courses would have to be approved by the Department of Education.

### Regional Unemployment Rates Mostly Unchanged

October saw little change in regional unemployment rates across the state.

The Detroit-Warren-Livonia region reported the largest unemployment rate increase among the seven regions with increases, going from 5.7 percent to 6.3 percent. The Bay City region reported a decline of 0.1 percentage point. Jobless rates in the remaining nine areas were unchanged.

Ottawa County reported the lowest unemployment at 3 percent, leading 15 counties with rates below 4 percent. Schoolcraft County had the highest unemployment rate at 8.6 percent, followed by Wayne County at 7.7 percent. Oakland's rate was 5.1 percent and Macomb was 6 percent.

### Canvassers Reject Snyder Recall Petition

Detroit Pastor Angelo Scott Brown said he is not yet done trying to oust { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } for his handling of the Flint water crisis, after the Board of State Canvassers issued its second unanimous rejection of a proposed recall petition.

Mr. Brown has officially submitted three recall petitions against the governor, but withdrew the second before the board took it up.

"I've done recall petitions before. I know it's a process," Mr. Brown said after the vote. "I'll refine my words."

But he argued the board, two Republicans and two Democrats, was too easily rejecting his language. "We're getting to the point where we're insulting the intelligence of the people of Michigan," he said.

In his testimony to the board, he said the governor's response to his language amounted to a personal attack.

"He's hinting at my intelligence rather than the content of the petition. ... There's a lot of mean-spirited things," he said of the response. "That's not clarity and the facts of the petition."

Mr. Brown said his petition language was clear and, as required, laid out a factual basis for removing Mr. Snyder from office.

"{ [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } in 2015 the first nine months did not take the right action when it came to the drinking water crisis in the city of Flint in the meantime the people of Flint were put at risk from harmful corrosive water and lead { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } did not protect taxpayers did not ensure the residents basic service of clean water," the hand-written petition said.

"I think the reasoning is clear and it is the fact," Mr. Brown told the board.

John Pirich, attorney for Mr. Snyder, said the petition was largely opinion.

"It's neither factual nor accurate," Mr. Pirich said of Mr. Brown's first assertion that Mr. Snyder did not take proper actions regarding Flint water. "It's an opinion, plain and simple."

The same was true, he said, of the assertion that the governor did not protect taxpayers.

As to leaving Flint residents at risk from corrosive water and lead, "it fails to connect what governor Snyder did or failed to do," he said.

Mr. Pirich also took issue with the assertion that his rebuttals were personal attacks. "It's not based on character assassination," he said. "It's based on what was filed."

The board found that Mr. Brown's petition was not factual and so did not meet the requirements in the statute.

**OUT-OF-STATE CIRCULATORS:** The board continued its discussion Thursday on how to address the new requirement that allows essentially any adult to circulate petitions.

In response to court rulings that overturned the state's requirement that petition circulators be registered to vote in the state, new law requires that the petitions carry a check box to indicate that the circulator is not a Michigan resident.

The board appeared united in the idea that, where a non-resident does not check the box indicating that, the petitions are invalid. But there appeared some split on the notion that petitions would be invalid if a Michigan resident did check the box.

"Check boxes are tricky things," Elections Director Christopher Thomas said. "Sometimes they are missed. Sometimes people check them all to be safe."

Mr. Thomas said the law is clear that non-residents have to check the box, but it does not address what happens if a resident does.

"It just seems harsh," board member Julie Matuzak said. "I hate to discount all of those signatures because someone was trying to do a good job."

But board member Colleen Pero said the petition also makes it a crime to provide false information. "At the end of the day, they are incompatible," she said of being a resident and indicating one is not.

There was some agreement, though, to bold or enlarge the words "If the circulator is not a resident of Michigan" to bring attention both to the box and who should mark it.

In response to questions, Mr. Thomas said the law mandates minimum font sizes and does not speak to bolding.

"I never heard anyone complain about a font being too big," Mr. Thomas said.

The hitch with the new law may come in the requirement that circulators provide a home address.

The first petition filed to carry the new language was the recent prevailing wage repeal attempt. Mr. Thomas said the petitions, which fell to evidence of massive duplication of signatures, showed relatively high compliance with the new residency indication.

But Mr. Pirich, who represented the opposition that helped to uncover the signature duplications, said the circulator addresses were also problematic.

"We were unable to locate over half of the out-of-state circulators," he said, adding that many listed addresses, and sometimes cities, that did not exist.

"Without some enforcement, I'm not sure how we're ever going to know that this is being done correctly," he said.

Mr. Thomas said an improper address for the circulator would be a reason to challenge a petition, but he indicated that, absent a requirement that circulators be registered to vote, it would be difficult for his bureau to check the addresses.

"We all know residency is Jello on the wall sometimes," he said.

Mr. Thomas said campaign finance disclosures would have to provide the mailing addresses of any circulators paid more than \$50, even if they were hired by a signature gathering firm.

"You could certainly be talking about a fraudulent situation if these people put down false names and false addresses," he said.

It would not, though, help in keeping an issue off the ballot because the information would be available too late in the process. To questions from board members, he said the Legislature could require that the filings be made sooner, but he said that requirement might be difficult to meet.

**EXPIRING SIGNATURES:** The board also began discussing concerns over the process for verifying signatures on petitions where signatures begin expiring. The board's current policy requires, in some cases, obtaining an affidavit both from the signer and from the local clerk that the person was registered to vote at the time he or she signed the petition.

Jeffrey Hank, an attorney representing one of the marijuana legalization efforts, urged the board to reconsider that policy, adopted in 1986, and instead use the Qualified Voter File as the check on those registrations.

"Using the QVF is the simplest and makes the most sense," Mr. Hank said. "What we would propose is simply submitting a QVF report and someone signing an affidavit that they prepared the QVF report."

Mr. Thomas said the system would provide the historical information.

But Mr. Pirich said the change would require statute, not merely a policy from the board.

Mr. Thomas said at least some of the change could come through policy. "It's not really self executing. It needs something," he said of the statutory provision.

**NEW PARTY:** The board did approve the form of a petition to add the Working Class Party to the ballot.

#### Campaign Notes

**RUBIO PLANS WEDNESDAY RALLY IN WATERFORD:** U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida brings his presidential campaign back to Michigan next Wednesday and will hold a 4:15 p.m. rally at the Oakland County International Airport in Waterford Township.

#### Capital Notebook

#### **FLAGS LOWERED:** { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } on Thursday ordered state and U.S. flags lowered to half-staff in the Capitol Complex until sunset Monday in memory of those killed and injured in Wednesday's San Bernardino, California, mass shooting in which 14 died and 21 were hurt. Mr. Snyder encouraged all residents and organizations to lower their flags as well.

**ELK POACHING:** The Department of Natural Resources announced Thursday that it is seeking information on the person who killed a large bull elk last month. The carcass was found November 16 near Lewiston.

Anyone with information can call DNR Law Enforcement Division at the Gaylord Customer Service Center at (989) 732-3541, extension 5100, or the Report All Poaching Line at (800) 292-7800.

## Appointments By The Governor

**BOARD OF MEDICINE:** Michael Chrissos of Ann Arbor succeeds Richard Burney, and Mohammed Arsiwala of Novi, Rosalie Tocco-Bradley of Ann Arbor, Louis Prues of Grosse Pointe Park, James Rogers of Williamsburg and Dennis Szymanski of Benton Harbor are reappointed. The appointments are for terms expiring December 31, 2019, and are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION:** Laura Reyes-Kopack of Livonia succeeds Augustin Arbulu, who resigned, to represent Republicans for the remainder of a term expiring December 31, 2016, and Rasha Demaskieh of Fort Gratiot and Deloris Hunt of Farmington Hills are reappointed for terms expiring December 31, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD:** Yvonne Bradley of Bay City, Elizabeth Pollard Hines of Ann Arbor and Jeffrey Sauter of Grand Ledge are reappointed, all for terms expiring December 4, 2018. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**GAMING CONTROL BOARD:** Patrick McQueen of Bloomfield Hills and Andrew Palms of Chelsea are reappointed for terms expiring December 31, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT:** Tana Bridges of Canton succeeds Gary Anderson to represent health and mental health professionals; John Hohman Jr. of Saline succeeds Kenneth Tacoma to represent judges and attorneys; and Veda Thompkins of Detroit succeeds Larry Watkins, who resigned, to represent the law enforcement community.

Robinjit Eagleson of East Lansing, Fred Gruber of Riverview and Nick Lyon of Lansing are reappointed. Ms. Thompkins will serve the remainder of a term expiring December 31, 2016. The remaining terms, which are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, expire December 31, 2018.

**MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSION COUNCIL:** Milton Mack of Wayne succeeds John Hohman Jr., who resigned, to represent the State Court Administrative Office for the remainder of a term expiring January 30, 2016. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**MICHIGAN VETERANS' FACILITIES BOARD OF MANAGERS:** Paul Potter of Grand Rapids succeeds Ernest Meyers, who resigned, to represent Veterans of Foreign Wars. The appointment is for a term expiring February 28, 2017, and is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

**Friday, December 4**

Waterways Commission, Morris Learning Center, First Floor, Museum Archives Wing, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/Waterways12-16-2015.docx" \t "\_blank" })

**Monday, December 7**

Utility Consumer Participation Board, Training Room, Fourth Floor, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 12:30 p.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/UCPB\_Agenda\_12-7-15.doc" \t "\_blank" })

**Thursday, December 10**

Certificate of Need Commission, Rooms B/C, First Floor Conference Center, Capitol View Building, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/Agenda\_-\_TENTATIVE\_12.10\_507480\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }); { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/DRAFT\_CON-213\_CON\_Rev\_Std\_MRI\_for\_Proposed\_Action\_12.10.15\_mtg\_507481\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

~~Canceled: Complete Streets Advisory Council, Capitol Commons Center, 400 South Pine Street, Lansing, 2 p.m.~~

**Subscribers Please Note**


A story in the Wednesday Michigan Report incorrectly described bills addressing aviation fuel taxes. The bills as reported dedicate 2 percent of the sales and use tax on aviation fuel to the aviation funds.

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**Subject:** Michigan Report, Monday, October 19, 2015  
**Attachments:** 151019plan.htm; Oct19.htm; 151019dayplan.htm; Oct19Rules.htm



## **Michigan Report for Monday, October 19, 2015**

DPS, Debt Rising, At Risk Of Default Without State Action, Snyder Says

Mistakes In Flint Water Change Mean Leadership Change At DEQ

HFA Report: Medicaid Will Need More GF To Meet Match

Veterans, Businesses Tout Support For Prevailing Wage

Hospital Report Says Improved Practices Netted Savings, Improved Lives

Campaign Notes

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

## **Activity Reports**

Administrative Rules

## **Calendars**

Day Planner

Event Planner

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## Michigan Report for Monday, October 12, 2015

The EM Law And Flint: A Dispute On Its Role

Moody's Report Raises Concern About School Credit Ratings

HP Returns To State To Aid With BAM Project

Consumers Projects Lower Heating Costs For Winter

Several Cities Still Showing Double-Digit Unemployment

State Provides Water Filters For Flint Child Care Facilities

Capital Notebook

Campaign Notes: Prevailing Wage Challenge Deadline

Supplemental Event Planner

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

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Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #202 -- Monday, October 12, 2015

### The EM Law And Flint: A Dispute On Its Role

The Flint water crisis has caused the debate over Michigan's local financial emergency law to roar back to life with considerable fury emanating from Flint that the law's focus on bringing a community's finances back into balance played a major role in the actions that led to using the Flint River as a temporary source of drinking water.

A lack of sufficient corrosion controls in the water pumped from the Flint River allowed lead from service lines to leach into the water, leading to lead levels in some spots well past federal limits and rising levels of lead in children's blood, prompting a frantic effort in the past two weeks to get filters to Flint residents and businesses, and switch back to Detroit water until a new pipeline to Lake Huron serving the city and counties to the east is finished.

When the final decision was made in 2014 to begin drawing water from the Flint River, ending a more than 40-year agreement with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department to pull water from that system, Emergency Manager Darnell Earley was in total control of city operations under the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act.

Predating the city falling under control of an emergency manager in 2011, Flint, along with Genesee, Lapeer and Sanilac counties, had been studying forming a new authority to build their own pipe to Lake Huron, breaking away from the Detroit system. Flint was debating whether to switch to the new authority or draw from the Flint River. At the time, the concern from local officials, according to reports in The Flint Journal, was the cost of upgrading Flint water infrastructure. There was widespread agreement that the quality of water in the river was good.

And eventually those cost concerns ended consideration of using the Flint River as a permanent source of drinking water.

In 2012, with Emergency Manager Michael Brown now running the city, his administration began considering use of the Flint River as a temporary water source until the new Karengondi Water Authority pipeline could be completed.

In 2013, the council voted to drop Detroit water for the new Karengondi system.

Eventually, with a decision needing to be made on where to draw water until that system could be completed, Mr. Earley signed an order to draw the water out of the Flint River, saving more than \$1 million a month. It was a decision lauded by many local officials, with Flint Mayor Dayne Walling pushing the button to shut off water from Detroit. Glasses of treated river water were raised to celebrate the moment.

Rep. Sheldon Neeley (D-Flint) was a member of the Flint City Council during this time, and he said the crisis shows the state needs to change the emergency manager law.

"The emergency manager law from my perspective caused 100 percent of the problem," he said.

Changes need to be made to assure a review panel on decisions made by emergency managers involving the health, welfare and safety of the community, Mr. Neeley said. He called PA 436 of 2012 a failed experiment.

"There should be some safeguards," he said.

While the council did vote for the KWA, it never voted on switching to the Flint River as a temporary source of water, he said, and to the extent local officials praised the reliability of the river as a drinking water source, he said that was because they assumed the water would be properly treated.

Further, Mr. Neeley said the emergency manager at the time of the vote, Ed Kurtz, vetoed the resolution adopted by the council, which he said contained changes to Mr. Kurtz's version, and then Mr. Kurtz, under his emergency manager powers, implemented his initial resolution.

But Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), the sponsor of the original emergency manager law (later replaced with PA 436), said the law is not to blame. Flint wanted to leave the Detroit system for years.

"There's a lot of revisionist history going on here," he said. "The emergency manager didn't make the decision to build a pipeline to Lake Huron."

And Mr. Pscholka said local officials were involved in the decision to begin pumping water out of the Flint River.

"It was not as simple as the emergency manager declaring I'm going to be a hero and save a million and a half dollars by doing this," he said. "The locals were involved in this."

Mr. Pscholka said he saw no need to change the law to address this situation.

At some point, an engineer must have advised Mr. Earley the river would work as a water source, Mr. Pscholka said. The same thing would have happened had the city not been under emergency management.

"The blame game, I'm sure, will continue," he said. "But my focus right now on the floor is to make sure the people of Flint have safe drinking water."

The Legislature is expected to move swiftly this week on putting up \$6 million toward the cost of Flint drawing water from Detroit until next summer.

Moody's Report Raises Concern About School Credit Ratings

In a report that focuses on the Holland School District, a top Wall Street rating agency has determined that problems the district is facing due to enrollment are indicative of problems that many districts across Michigan are facing.

And according to an analyst for Moody's Investors Services, these problems are ones school districts across Michigan have faced for several years. While the agency has downgraded the credit ratings of 44 school districts so far this year, that follows a number of downgrades made over the last several years.

Andrew Van Dyck Dobos, a Chicago-based analyst for the firm, said school districts across the state may see lower credit ratings across the board and have to recognize that as a "new normal."

State policy on school finance, adopted in 1994 as part of the Proposal A school finance reforms, makes it extremely tough for districts to raise revenues locally, he said, which is unusual among other states in the Midwest. Plus, the state's policy now has funding following the students instead of being based more on a geographic basis.

Almost the only way districts can raise funds is by attracting more students, and that has been made difficult by an estimated 13 percent drop in Michigan's population of children under 18 from 2000 to 2012.

While the report focused on Holland, it said the issues that district faced were similar to problems school districts across the state are facing.

Michigan schools held "count day" last week to establish student population. Schools do not have to report their totals until November, and state officials said there have been no early reports on enrollment.

The state forecasted total school enrollment for the 2015-16 school year at 1.493 million students, down 14,700 from the total in 2014-15, during the May Revenue Estimating Conference. Of that projected total, 1.335 million were expected to attend traditional public schools, while 158,000 were anticipated to enroll in charter schools and the Education Achievement Authority in Detroit.

In Holland, Moody's said the district was forecasting a drop of 174 students on top of declines in six of the past seven school years. If the district does lose that many students, it would mean a cut in total state aid of \$591,000.

Enrollment concerns run across the state, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said. In rural areas, school population has declined because of overall demographic factors - with more older people living in the areas - and with families leaving the areas in search of jobs.

In suburban areas, Michigan's schools of choice policy spurs ongoing competition for students, which means some districts get more students from other districts as opposed to a natural increase, he said.

And in larger urban areas, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said, traditional public schools face more competition from charter schools.

The report also said state aid per student has been stagnant in Holland and statewide.

In the 2015-16 budget, total school aid funding is \$13.89 billion, up from \$13.68 billion in the 2014-15 budget.

The minimum per pupil allowance, according to the state, is \$7,391. Moody's, however, said Holland will see school aid of \$7,126 per student, which is \$318 less per student than it was in 2011.

The state has raised money for schools, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said, but increases to districts have not followed inflation as much as they had in the past.

Adding to the fiscal problem is the limitation the state has for school districts seeking more funding on a local level. Since the adoption of the Proposal A in 1994, property taxes paid for schools are collected and allocated by the state.

Virtually the only option Proposal A allowed for local schools to raise more money at the local level for operations has to come countywide, and very few counties have adopted that option, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said.

All that means, he said, is that until school populations recover and grow, school districts will have to deal with ongoing fiscal issues.

That will affect credit ratings and mean more downgrades. Since 2009 - and including 2015, though figures for 2014 were not immediately available - Moody's has downgraded a total of at least 181 school districts. Dozens of those were downgraded multi-steps in their overall credit worthiness.

Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said districts statewide may see an overall downgrading of their credit ratings, and have to expect that to continue.

In dealing with the realities of their finances, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said Michigan districts have thus far been more innovative than districts in other states in finding solutions. For example, he said, in dealing with employee contracts many districts have worked out one-time payments to teachers and other workers instead of adopting general wage increases.

#### HP Returns To State To Aid With BAM Project

While the Department of State and Hewlett Packard await continuation of a court hearing on their dispute over how they managed the Business Application Modernization project, HP has returned its workers to the state, a department spokesperson said.

The state terminated its contract with HP and then sued the company. HP pulled its workers from the project and refused to turn over the source code. Major worries have been raised about a collapse of online services without access to that source code and an orderly transition.

The state is seeking a preliminary injunction ordering HP's staff back to work and the turning over of the source code.

Department spokesperson Gisgise Davila Gendreau said HP staff was working side-by-side Monday with staff from the departments of State and Technology, Management and Budget. And the two sides are working out a transition plan, she said.

"It's a step in the right direction," she said.

The court hearing on the motion for a preliminary injunction is scheduled resume Friday.

### Consumers Projects Lower Heating Costs For Winter

Consumers Energy on Monday projected lower heating costs this winter for its natural gas customers, with savings of more than \$100 for an average residential customer depending on weather and actual usage.

"We're reducing costs for customers due to our gas purchasing program which takes full advantage of lower commodity costs," said Tim Sparks, the company's vice president of energy supply operations, in a statement. "Customers also benefit by Consumers Energy's underground storage system ... (which) allows us to buy gas when it costs less in the summer, for use by customers during the colder winter months."

Customer heating costs could be down by more than 15 percent based on normal winter gas consumption, the company estimated. Business customer savings will depend on their gas usage.

The company also noted that its customers are paying 60 percent less for natural gas than a decade ago, and the last time fuel prices were this low was in 2001.

Consumers' natural gas commodity price has hovered around the \$5 mark for the last three years (\$5.45 per thousand cubic feet in 2012, \$4.63 in 2013 and \$5.14 in 2014), but that saw a dramatic dip in 2015 to \$3.31.

The Public Service Commission has not yet issued its annual Michigan Energy Appraisal for the winter of 2015-2016 that projects the total sales in Michigan for natural gas, electricity and petroleum, among other fuels. The appraisal for natural gas for last winter was an expectation of an increase in sales by about one percent from 2013 under the expectation that temperatures would return to more normal conditions in Michigan.

### Several Cities Still Showing Double-Digit Unemployment

Michigan's statewide unemployment rate matches the federal rate of 5.1 percent, but estimates by the state show that in four cities unemployment is still in double-digit figures.

Unemployment has dropped considerably in those cities from the stratospheric highs - jobless rates of 30 percent and higher in Highland Park and Pontiac - during the Great Recession. But the numbers still stick out compared to the state's overall decline in unemployment.

In August, according the state's Labor Market Information section, Highland Park had the highest jobless rate in the state at 15.7 percent.

That was followed by Detroit at 12.7 percent, then Pontiac at 11.6 percent and Inkster at 11 percent.

Georgetown Township, in Ottawa County, had the lowest unemployment rate among the cities and townships tracked, with the jobless rate at 2.1 percent in August. Northville Township in Wayne County had the second lowest unemployment rate at 2.2 percent.

In contrast, no county had a jobless rate in double digits in August. Schoolcraft County had the highest jobless rate at 9.6 percent. Mackinac County had the lowest unemployment rate in August at 2.8 percent, and 41 of Michigan's 83 counties had unemployment rates below the state's rate of 5.1 percent.

#### State Provides Water Filters For Flint Child Care Facilities

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs announced Monday that any registered child care facilities in Flint can receive free water filters.

The Department of Health and Human Services is providing free water filters to the child care providers, including an additional filter for any home-based providers who already received one as a resident.

The Genesee County Community Action Resource Department is also providing water-filtering pitchers.

Both the pitchers and filters will be available at the GCCARD office, 2727 Lippincott, beginning at 9 a.m. on Tuesday. To qualify, those picking up pitchers and filters have to show a child care license and proof of employment at the facility.

#### Capital Notebook

**MOTOR CARRIER SCHOOL OPENS:** Twenty-one recruits have begun training to become Department of State Police motor carrier officers. They will receive instruction in firearms, water safety, defensive tactics, patrol techniques, report writing, ethics, first aid, criminal law, precision driving, commercial vehicle law and commercial vehicle inspection procedures. Those who graduate will conclude the program in February.

**PASSENGER RAIL:** The Department of Transportation announced Monday it was seeking proposals on asset management plans for upcoming intercity passenger rail service.

The request is particularly to outline parts of that maintenance that could be provided by Michigan companies.

"The challenge is that if we do NOT prepare to compete for this service, the economic benefits of providing such services could go to other states," the bid request said. "In addition, absent an effective strategy or system in place to provide for long-term care of the fleet, rail service and the multi-state investment in new equipment could be compromised due to premature wear and tear that could have been prevented by adequate planning."

Proposals are due November 2.

**LARA ISSUES TWO KENT COUNTY CHILD CARE SUSPENSIONS:** The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs expects to suspend the child care certificate of registration of two Kent County residents.

The first, Sandra LaFortune, at 122 Wadsworth Street SW, in Wyoming, is to be suspended after a complaint investigation found in July violations of law regarding family and group child care homes.

Under the suspension, Ms. LaFortune is prohibited from operating a family child care home at the aforementioned address, or any other address or location. She may not accept children for care, and she must inform all of the parents of children in her care that her certificate of registration has been suspended and she can no longer provide child care.

The second suspension is for Terri Kowalczyk, 3584 Leonard Street NW, in Walker. The suspension comes as a complaint investigation earlier this month found violations of law regarding caregiver suitability, supervision, capacity, record maintenance, bedding and sleeping and equipment, and home maintenance and safety.

Ms. Kowalczyk is subject to the same disciplinary actions and required information to her clients as Ms. LaFortune, LARA noted in a statement.

Campaign Notes: Prevailing Wage Challenge Deadline

Challenges to the proposal to repeal prevailing wage are due October 26 at 5 p.m., the Department of State announced Monday.

Sample petitions used to review the submission by Protecting Michigan Taxpayers were released Monday. Requests for copies of the petitions can be made to the Bureau of Elections at [election@michigan.gov](mailto:election@michigan.gov) or (517) 373-2540.

Supplemental Event Planner



## **Tuesday, October 20**

Sen. Goeff Hansen (R) Fundraiser, The Exchange, 141 East Michigan Avenue, Lansing, 5:30 p.m.

## **Wednesday, October 21**

Sen. Steve Bieda (D) Fundraiser, 332 Townsend Street, Lansing, 8 a.m.

Rep. Christine Greig (D) Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 8:30 a.m.

Rep. Aric Nesbitt (R) Fundraiser, 110 West Michigan Avenue, 12th Floor, Lansing, 11:30 a.m.

## **Thursday, October 22**

Lt. Governor Brian Calley (R) Fundraiser, 332 Townsend Street, Lansing, 7:30 a.m.

An Evening with Frank J. Kelley, presented by the Michigan Political History Society, Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, 5 p.m.

West Michigan Meet the Players, hosted by Michigan Association of CPAs and the State Bar of Michigan, Cascade Hills Country Club, 3725 Cascade Road SE, Grand Rapids, 5:30 p.m.

## **Tuesday, November 10**

Sen. Jack Brandenburg (R) Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 5 p.m.

Sen. Jim Stamas (R) PAC fundraiser, Tavern and Tap, 101 South Washington Square, Lansing, 5 p.m.

## **Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees**

## **Tuesday, October 13**

House Transportation and Infrastructure (Committee Record), (Chr. Pettalia, 373-1260), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

- Testimony only:

SB 274 **SADDLE MOUNT VEHICLE COMBINATIONS** (Jones) Modifies maximum length for saddle mount vehicle combinations.

HB 4423 **SPEED LIMITS** (Jacobsen) Modifies speed limits on highways.

HB 4424 **SPEED LIMITS** (Jacobsen) Revises certain requirements for speed limits in school zones.

HB 4425 ☐ **SPEED LIMITS** (Outman) Allows modified speed limits on certain roads.

HB 4426 **SPEEDING** (Kivela) Modifies assessment of points for certain speeding violations and ☐ makes other revisions.

HB 4427 **AUTO INSURANCE** (Smiley) Modifies auto insurance rates based on certain traffic ☐ violations.

Senate Judiciary (Committee Record), (Chr. Jones, 373-1721), Room 110, Farnum Building, 3 p.m.

SB 442 ☐ **CONCEALED CARRY** (Green) Prohibits open-carry of firearms in certain areas but ☐ allows concealed carry in those areas.

## Wednesday, October 14

House Appropriations (Committee Record), (Chr. Pscholka, 373-5795), House Appropriations Room, Capitol, 9 a.m.

- Presentation by Keith Creagh, Department of Natural Resources director, regarding changes in hunting and fishing license fees

HB 4783 ☐ **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION** (Pscholka) Increases civil fines for solid ☐ waste.

House Tax Policy (Committee Record), (Chr. Farrington, 373-2002), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

SB 349 ☐ **DELINQUENT TAXES** (Stamas) Revises delinquent taxes notice provision.

SB 369 ☐ **INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING** (Schmidt) Expands tangible personal property eligible ☐ for an industrial processing exemption.

SB 370 ☐ **INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING** (Brandenburg) Expands tangible personal property ☐ eligible for an industrial processing exemption.

Senate Natural Resources (Committee Record), (Chr. Casperson, 373-5314), 210, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

SB 363 ☐ **WATERS AND BOTTOMLANDS** (Casperson) Waives payment for occupying waters ☐ or bottomlands in certain circumstances.

Senate Outdoor Recreation and Tourism (Committee Record), (Chr. Hansen, 373-1721), Room 100, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

- Presentation on Pure Michigan by David Lorenz, vice president of Travel Michigan.

Senate Appropriations (Committee Record), (Chr. Hildenbrand, 373-5307), Senate Appropriations Room, Capitol, 2 p.m.

- Discussion regarding boilerplate report benchmarks of new programs funded at \$500,000 in FY15 budget: Making Michigan a No-Wait State for senior home-delivered meals and in-home services; Child welfare performance-based funding; and the School Safety Hotline

**HCR SECONDARY ROAD PATROLS** (McCready) Declares that counties, cities, and villages have met the necessary terms of their agreements for road patrol services and secondary road patrol funding as they relate to maintenance of effort.

## Thursday, October 15

**House Workforce and Talent Development** (Committee Record), (Chr. Johnson, J., 373-5176), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

**HB ELECTRICIANS** (Price) Revises number of apprentice electricians allowed for each journeyman or master electrician on a jobsite. (Testimony only)

## Tuesday, October 20

**House Appropriations (Natural Resources Subcommittee)** (Committee Record), (Chr. Bumstead, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol, 9 a.m.

- Presentation on invasive species from the Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division

## Wednesday, October 21

**House Appropriations (General Government Subcommittee)** (Committee Record), (Chr. Cox, 373-8080), Room 307, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

- Pure Michigan tourism campaign return on investment and fiscal year 2015-16 marketing plan

## Wednesday, October 28

**House Appropriations (General Government Subcommittee)** (Committee Record), (Chr. Cox, 373-8080), Room 307, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

- Hearing to discuss with the Department of Technology, Management and Budget updates on IT Investment Projects and Space Consolidation

## Tuesday, November 3

**House Appropriations (Natural Resources Subcommittee)** (Committee Record), (Chr. Bumstead, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol, 9 a.m.

- Update on the Recreation Passport program from the Department of Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Division

**Tuesday, December 8**

House Appropriations (Natural Resources Subcommittee) (Committee Record), (Chr. Bumstead, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol, 9 a.m.


- Presentation on Chronic Wasting Disease from the Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division

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## **Michigan Report for Monday, November 9, 2015**

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House, Senate Dems Seek To Change Campaign Finance Law

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## Volume #54, Report #222 -- Monday, November 9, 2015

### Senate Panel To Vote On Eliminating Straight-Ticket Voting

A bill that would eliminate straight-ticket voting is set for a committee hearing on Tuesday in the Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee, and the chair of the committee expects the bill will head to the full Senate floor.

Michigan general election ballots allow voters, if they wish, to vote for a party's entire slate of candidates with a single mark instead of having to individually select each candidate for partisan office.

"I think there is merit to having individuals observe the choice on the ballot between one party and another. The overwhelming majority of states in nation have eliminated straight ticket," Sen. Dave Robertson (R-Grand Blanc), chair of the committee, said Monday. "Michigan is one of only a small handful (of states) that has straight-ticket voting."

The last attempt to end straight-ticket voting came in 2001, but voters repealed the law in the 2002 election after Democrats gathered enough signatures to put the legislation up for referendum. There has been no serious attempt to eliminate straight-ticket voting in Michigan since, but the straight-ticket option has long been seen as helping Democrats more because more of their voters vote a straight ballot.

Sen. Marty Knollenberg (R-Troy) is the lead sponsor on the bill, SB 13, among the first 20 bills introduced when the Senate re-convened for its new session in January (See Gongwer Michigan Report, January 20, 2015). Mr. Knollenberg did not return a request for comment on the legislation.

"He feels very strongly about the issue and I find it has merit as well," Mr. Robertson said of Mr. Knollenberg. "I think certainly it's something that has been discussed for some time. It's been attempted on some other occasions, (and) I'm happy to support it."

The committee is set to meet at 9 a.m. in room 110 of the Farnum Building.

**OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE:** SB 110, a bill by Mr. Robertson to change the election of county executive in a county government to gubernatorial election years, is also slated for final passage in the Senate, a tentative session agenda released Monday indicated. The bill was reported from committee in early June and has Democrats on watch (See Gongwer Michigan Report, June 5, 2015).

**UNION LEAVE TIME:** Also expected to see final passage is a pair of bills, SB 279 and SB 280, to disallow paid leave time for union officials of state and local government unions as they

conduct contract negotiations. The bills were reported from committee in mid-June (See Gongwer Michigan Report, June 16, 2015).

### Casperson Announces For Congress

Sen. Tom Casperson confirmed Monday what has been expected: he is running for the 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. House District.

Mr. Casperson (R-Escanaba) is the first Republican officially announced to succeed retiring U.S. Rep. Dan Benishek (R-Crystal Falls). And this would be his second attempt at the seat, having lost to then-U.S. Rep. Bart Stupak in 2008.

He said he would bring Upper Peninsula sensibilities to Washington.

"Way too often it seems that Washington, D.C., is where common sense goes to die," Mr. Casperson said in the statement announcing his candidacy. "Unaccountable bureaucrats, unresponsive government agencies, regulations, restrictions and taxes. Here in the 1st District, we've seen all that and more, and more often than most other places.

"I'm running for Congress because it's time we make Washington listen to us. I'm running to bring our values, our common sense and our voice to our nation's Capital," he said.

He said he also has the elective office experience needed for the post. Mr. Casperson would be forgoing his final two years in the Senate if he wins the seat. He moved to the Senate after serving six years in the House.

Rep. Peter Pettalia (R-Presque Isle), who has been considering a run for the seat, said Mr. Casperson's announcement was not a surprise and would not affect his own decision or timeline.

"We are still evaluating the challenges of running for Congress," he said.

Mr. Pettalia said he has been traversing the district seeking support and would announce "shortly" whether he has enough. As to how long shortly is, he said, "I don't want to box myself into that."

Military and Veterans Affairs Deputy Director Jason Allen, a former senator from the region and another potential Republican candidate, did not return calls Monday.

Mr. Casperson, one of the Legislature's best retail campaigners whom many Republican consultants see as the party's best choice to win what will be a competitive race against the Democratic nominee, immediately faced fire from the right and the left.

Democrats were quick to strike out at Mr. Casperson's campaign, dubbing him "Tom Taxperson".



"This morning, Tom Casperson, who just voted to punish seniors and working families with higher prices at the pump and a new 'birthday tax' on the vehicles they drive, announced he's running for Congress," Michigan Democratic Party Chair Brandon Dillon said in a statement. "Time and again, Casperson has put corporate special interests and the wealthy above families that struggle to make ends meet. With his latest vote to hurt and tax seniors and working families, voters in the 1st Congressional District will no doubt reject Tom 'the Taxperson' Casperson."

But Republicans with a more conservative bent than Mr. Casperson - who besides supporting the road funding package also backed Medicaid expansion - hope to deny him the GOP nomination. Scott Hagerstrom, head of a new group, Tax-Hiking Republicans, slammed Mr. Casperson for his voting record in the Legislature.

"Tom Casperson supported Medicaid expansion, the largest tax hike in the last 50 years with Proposal 1, and raising the gas tax 15 cents," Mr. Hagerstrom said. "We don't need tax-hiking Republicans in Congress like Tom Casperson. We need true conservatives to represent us."

#### State Report: Gas Tax Revenue Down More Than \$100M Since Peak

Michigan's gas tax revenues totaled \$820.6 million in fiscal year 2013-14, down more than \$120 million since their peak more than a decade before, a report by the Department of Treasury shows.

During the same time frame, total gasoline usage is down more than 600,000 gallons annually.

And what is now the state's largest transportation-based revenue source, the registration tax, collected \$940.6 million. While that figure is \$120 million more than the fuel tax raised, it is also just slightly more than the amount the tax raised approximately a decade ago.

The report was issued before the Legislature last week approved a package that will ultimately increase both the fuel and registration taxes to add \$600 million in revenues to road and transportation funding. The package also calls for some \$600 million to come from the General Fund for transportation funding. The tax and spending changes in the package would not start until at least 2017.

The report did not have figures for the 2014-15 fiscal year.

But the report did point out that at the current 19 cents a gallon, Michigan's gasoline tax puts the state at 37<sup>th</sup> compared to all states for their gasoline taxes. Connecticut has the highest gasoline tax at 46.8 cents. Alaska has the lowest gasoline tax at eight cents a gallon.

Michigan is also one of a number of states that charges a sales tax on gasoline sales. Combined with the gasoline tax, the report said the state would average 37 cents a gallon on gasoline, ranking it as the 10<sup>th</sup> highest state for total gasoline taxes.

The report also shows that Michigan is the largest state by population to not have any toll roads. In all, 29 states have toll roads.

And of the \$3.5 billion in transportation funds raised in the 2013-14 fiscal year (which included bond sales), more than \$1.3 billion came from federal funds.

Local governments received \$1.4 billion, or 42 percent of the funds raised, in transfers.

In terms of the gas tax, the peak for funds raised came in the 2001-02 fiscal year, when the tax raised \$938.9 million. In fact, since the gas tax was last increased in 1997, the report said gas tax revenues have declined by 0.6 percent a year on average.

Sharp increases in the cost of gasoline and oil, brought on by more expensive production and particularly economic competition from other nations - the biggest competitor being China - has helped drive down total fuel consumption.

Gas consumption hit its peak in 2003, with more than 5.049 billion gallons used in Michigan. At the time, the average price per gallon was \$1.55, the report said. By 2014, total consumption was 4.43 billion, with an average price of \$3.53 a gallon.

In late 2014, oil prices began to slide and for more than a year gasoline has sold for close to an average of \$2.50 a gallon. The report had no data, however, on how that may have affected consumption in Michigan.

Reduced fuel consumption is also a product of improved fuel efficiency in cars and light trucks. In 2014, both domestic and imported models of cars averaged more than 36 miles a gallon. A decade ago, both domestic and imported models averaged less than 30 miles a gallon.

In terms of the registration tax, a major shift the state made in 1983 - to base vehicle registration fees on a vehicle's value instead its weight - played a major role in how the state's tax has grown in collections. That is particularly true given how vehicles have become lighter to improve mileage.

The report showed that the current registration tax for a Ford Focus SE is \$106 and for a Cadillac CTS it is \$211. If both vehicles were taxed on their weight, they would be charged \$29 and \$37 respectively.

Schuetz: Ads Lie About Environmental Record

Attorney General Bill Schuetz said television advertisements that began running over the weekend are designed to cow him and other attorneys general into dropping a challenge to new federal power plant emissions standards, but he said the plan won't work.

Mr. Schuetz said he had no plan to drop the challenge to the Clean Energy Plan developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to reduce carbon emissions from power plants.

"This is an effort to intimidate attorneys general not to enforce the law, not to push back," he said.

He said attorneys general had already succeeded against EPA overreach and he expected they would again.

"It's a question are you following the provisions of the Clean Air Act, and they're not being followed," he said.

He said he was one of four attorneys general targeted in ads by Independence USA PAC because of his leadership on efforts to rein in government.

"Big government is on the march ... and I've been leading the fight against the Obama administration," he said.

He noted he would begin November 16 as chair of the Republican Attorneys General Association, where he would be involved both with development of policy and with trying to get more Republicans elected as their state's top attorney.

"We've grown our ranks across the country," he said. "The majority of the attorneys general across the country are Republican."

But he said his media event to counter the ads was not driven by politics (as he is widely believed to be running for governor in 2018 when Governor Rick Snyder cannot seek re-election due to term limits).

"If someone makes a false, nonsensical accusation, I respond," he said, adding, "These ads are just nonsense. I have a very strong record on the environment."

He noted his efforts on Asian carp, the settlement against Enbridge for the Kalamazoo River oil spill and the agreement to prevent tar sands oil from flowing through a pipeline under the Straits of Mackinac.

He said there was no conflict in his efforts to fight the rule and the Department of Environmental Quality's rules that would impose similar emissions standards on power plants.

"You can do more than two things at once in America today," he said.

## House, Senate Dems Seek To Change Campaign Finance Law

Two House Democrats announced Monday they would be joining forces with colleagues in the Senate to try to pass a series of bills they say would increase transparency in state government.

The same day, the Center for Public Integrity announced Michigan had placed dead last among all 50 states for its State Integrity Investigation ranking of state transparency and accountability.

"Our lobby law is so weak that it is nearly impossible to determine which companies are spending millions of dollars to influence our elections," Rep. Jon Hoadley (D-Kalamazoo) said at a news conference Monday with Rep. Vanessa Guerra (D-Saginaw).

He pointed to the report released Monday, as well as a recent one that found the Michigan Supreme Court election campaign in 2014 was "the most expensive and least transparent in the nation" in terms of judicial elections, Mr. Hoadley said.

Overall, the legislation seeks to require super political action committees to disclose information of donors and for the state to lower its contribution limits back to pre-2013 levels.

The legislation would also require all late filing fees to be paid by the candidate, not through committee funds, as well as require monthly campaign finance reports and doubling all penalties for late filing by elected officials. It would also establish uniform campaign finance reporting dates for all committees.

"In changing the nature of reporting, we'll make it so people can see real-time the effect that last-minute money can make," Ms. Guerra said.

Mr. Hoadley admits there is "no one solution that's going to solve all the money in politics," which is why Democrats are attempting a more comprehensive approach, he said.

**CPI REPORT:** And the report released Monday by the Center for Public Integrity underscores the need for such legislation, Mr. Hoadley noted.

The report places Michigan at the bottom of all states in terms of government transparency and accountability laws and practices. It received an F in 10 of the 13 categories of government operations that were examined: political financing, executive accountability, legislative accountability, judicial accountability, state civil service management, procurement, lobbying disclosure, ethics enforcement agencies and state pension fund management.

What appeared to hurt Michigan most severely are its comparatively weak Freedom of Information Act, which does not apply to the governor's office, Legislature or judiciary; lack of any personal financial disclosure for elected officials and candidates for office; relatively toothless campaign finance act; and a weak law on lobbying expense disclosure.

Michigan received a similar overall score and letter grade of an F with the first State Integrity report was released in 2012, but it ranked 44<sup>th</sup> at that time. But the CPI notes the two scores are not directly comparable due to changes made to improve and update the project and its methodology.

However, Michigan received a B- and 5<sup>th</sup> place ranking for its electoral oversight, though, and B+ (8<sup>th</sup> place) for state budget processes. It also received a C+ (ranked 32<sup>nd</sup>) for internal auditing.

The best grade in the nation went to Alaska, who had earned a C, the CPI noted. Only two others earned better than a D+ -- California and Connecticut - and 11 states total receiving failing grades.

The State Integrity Investigation also found that in two-thirds of all states, ethics agencies or committees routinely fail to initiate investigations or impose sanctions when necessary, often because they're unable to do so without first receiving a complaint. Michigan received a score of 25, because based on the cases it has handled, the ethics commission responds to complaints and does not initiate investigations either.

And Michigan is not among the nine states that have adopted open data measures, according to the Sunlight Foundation. Some of those open data measures, though, do little more than create an advisory panel to study the issue.

### DEQ Launches Video To Update Flint Water Testing Results

Freeman Elementary School in Flint has some fixtures where lead levels were high, but most of the building had safe water, Department of Environmental Quality officials said in a video released Monday by the department.

State officials tested 31 faucets and drinking fountains in the school and found nine with lead levels above the 15 parts per billion that requires remediation, George Krisztian, Flint Action Plan coordinator, said in the video.

"What our testing showed was that it was clearly fixture-specific," Mr. Krisztian said.

The state is recommending that the school turn off water to those nine faucets, flush the faucets every morning before students arrive, or replace them.

The video said the state has also tested more than 300 water samples from residences and businesses since the beginning of October, with less than 10 percent of those showing lead levels exceeding safe drinking standards.

"The homeowner data that we've looked at so far closely parallels the data that we've been finding in the schools in that we've been able to determine that this is very much a site-specific issue," Mr. Krisztian said.

He urged residents to test their water to determine whether they have lead concerns.

### MiChild Becomes Medicaid Expansion Program

Officially on January 1, Michigan's MiChild program to provide health insurance through Medicaid to the children of lower income households will be considered a Medicaid expansion program, the Department of Health and Human Services said on Monday.

The change should mean no practical change in children's coverage, the department said in its notice, although all children getting dental services would now get them through Delta Dental Plans (some children were receiving the benefits through Golden Dental).

The state did not say whether as an expansion plan MICHild would be considered in the same class as the Healthy Michigan plan. MICHild would not be subjected to the same federal waiver requirement as Healthy Michigan (although DHHS officials have requested a waiver from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to reflect that, beginning in the 2015-016 fiscal year, children in all 83 counties are eligible for dental coverage).

The program will continue to be called MICHild, the state said.

And recipients should be able to get access to even more benefits, the state said.

Some recipients will have to switch their current plans, which could also mean a change in providers. Recipients will need to choose a plan certified by the state and located in their geographic region.

The state is changing some plans that will be eligible to provide coverage to regular Medicaid recipients as part of its new contract that takes effect in January. A number of the plans left out of the decision by the state are challenging those actions before the Administrative Board.

Letters to all recipients explaining the changes will be issued, the department said in its announcement.

### Virtual Tour Of Capitol Debuts

A virtual tour of the Capitol is now available.

A project of the Michigan State Capitol Commission, the tour enables users to traverse the halls of the Capitol, get a peek inside the House and Senate chambers and even learn about the many portraits and other artwork adorning the Capitol walls.

Part of the idea behind the virtual tour is to give student groups a chance to prepare in advance for their trips to the Capitol.

### Capital Notebook: Poll Shows Opposition To Guns In Schools

A poll commissioned by the Michigan Coalition to End Gun Violence shows overwhelming opposition to letting those with concealed pistol licenses carry a firearm onto an educational campus, whether the person is carrying concealed or openly.

Now pending before the Senate is [SB 442](#), which would end the ability for those with concealed pistol licenses to openly carry a firearm into an area now designated otherwise off-limits to firearms and instead allow those license-holders to carry a concealed firearm. Besides

schools, gun-free zones include hospitals, houses of religious worship, entertainment and sports venues and child day care centers.

According to the survey conducted by EPIC/MRA, 69 percent of those polled said they oppose allowing license-holders to open carry on school property with just 27 percent in support. Fifty-seven percent oppose allowing CPL-holders to carry concealed onto school property with 39 percent in support.

And 53 percent said they agreed with the view that schools should have the right to prohibit firearms on their property and is not a diminishment of the right bear arms while 40 percent said the U.S. Constitution ensures the right to carry a firearm onto school property.

The survey was conducted October 25-31 among 600 active and likely general election voters. The error margin was plus or minus four percentage points.

**TARVER TO HEAD REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S FEDERATION OF MICHIGAN:** Republican activist Linda Lee Tarver has been elected president of the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan.

**BEAR REGULATIONS:** The Department of Natural Resources announced Monday that it was beginning the process to develop bear hunting regulations expected to be in place for the 2017 hunting season.

The department's Bear Forum, a 17-member group made up of bear hunters, agricultural interests and the U.S. Forest Service, has scheduled a public meeting at 10 a.m. December 9 at Little Bear East Arena, 275 Marquette Street, St. Ignace.

The group will use the public comment collected at the meeting to draft recommendations to the Natural Resources Commission, which has the ultimate authority over hunting regulations.

**EPA AWARDS NEARLY \$20M TO CLINTON RIVER PROJECTS IN SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN:** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has awarded new funding for major Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Projects in the Clinton River Area of Concern totaling nearly \$20 million, the agency announced Monday.

Once completed, the projects announced Monday will move the Clinton River Area of Concern toward a more vibrant environment and local economy, Senior Advisor to the EPA Administrator Cameron Davis said in a statement.

"Our lakes and rivers are part of who we are and our way of life," U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, co-chair of the Great Lakes Task Force, said in a statement. "Investing in the Clinton River watershed is critical to the health and conservation of our waterways and wildlife habitats. This support for our counties, townships and cities will help keep our waters clean and healthy for generations to come."

Campaign Notes

**COLLEEN CARL FORMALLY ANNOUNCES IN 33<sup>RD</sup> HOUSE:** Republican Colleen Carl has officially declared she is running for the 33<sup>rd</sup> House District in Macomb County. Ms. Carl, who runs a private children's music education business and is a Republican activist, is the daughter of former Sen. Doug Carl. The current seat-holder, Rep. Ken Goike (R-Ray Township), cannot seek re-election to the seat because of term limits.

**@PAYTAXESMELISSA:** Republicans over the weekend launched a Twitter account to call out Melissa Gilbert, Democratic candidate for the 8<sup>th</sup> U.S. House District and actress, for unpaid taxes.

Ms. Gilbert has said she has an installment plan to repay the \$360,551 in federal income taxes owed for 2011 through 2013.

As of Monday, "Melissa Gilbert should pay her taxes @gilberformi" was the sole post to the new account.

**CLEMENTS ENDORSEMENTS:** The Sierra Club has announced its endorsement of Democrat Paul Clements in his second attempt to unseat U.S. Rep. Fred Upton (R-St. Joseph).

Mr. Clements announced the endorsement in a brief fundraising email over the weekend.

**SCHUETTE BULLISH ON BUSH:** Despite flagging polls and little love from the pundits for his debate performances, Attorney General Bill Schuette said Monday he still expects Jeb Bush to be the Republican Party nominee for president.

Mr. Schuette said Mr. Bush is in about the same place for the 2016 election as Mitt Romney was for the 2012 election.

"This is all about stamina," Mr. Schuette said. "Jeb is the marathon man."

The key, he said, will be for Mr. Bush to ease away from some of his handlers' advice. "Just be yourself," he said has been his advice. "You have to just be direct."

He also said Mr. Bush's coming campaign stop in the state shows the importance of winning Michigan. "You don't come to the state just for a picnic," he said.

Of the current 16 Republican presidential candidates, Mr. Schuette said about 10 are viable, but he expected there would be about five left by the time Michigan's primary comes in March.

**TAX-HIKING REPUBLICANS:** Scott Hagerstrom, former head of Americans for Prosperity Michigan, announced a new effort Monday to call out Republicans who have voted for tax increases.

The new federal campaign committee, Tax-Hiking Republicans, will be based in Michigan and its first effort will be to prevent Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Escanaba) from being nominated in the 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. House District.



"We're holding the fire to the feet of Republicans," Mr. Hagerstrom told Gongwer News Service of the purpose of the new fund.

Mr. Hagerstrom said Mr. Casperson was a logical first target because he had supported the Medicaid expansion and several efforts to increase fuel taxes. "He was a perfect person to be first to attack," Mr. Hagerstrom said. "We'll see how this goes and we'll look at others down the road."

He declined to indicate, prior to filing campaign finance reports, who was financing the new committee.

Presented To The Governor

By The House

**November 9, 2015**

**HB 4039** **PROPERTY TAX (Bumstead)** Revises delinquent tax notice by publication.

**HB 4134** **OCCUPATIONS (Barrett)** Authorizes certain military experience as the basis for licensure for a boiler installer, boiler repairer and boiler special inspector.

**HB 4195** **VENTURE FUND (Pscholka)** Prohibits Michigan early stage venture corporation entering new investments or creating additional venture funds.

**HB 4196** **VENTURE FUND (McCready)** Modifies sunset for the Venture Capital Authority Fund.

**HB 4362** **WORKER'S COMPENSATION (Sheppard)** Defines ownership of surplus by self-insurers.

**HB 4370** **INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX (Hughes)** Eliminates limitations and restrictions on deduction of certain retirement or pension benefits and restores treatment of senior citizens and the homestead property tax credit.

**HB 4390** **ECONOMICS CREDIT (Tedder)** Allows 1/2 credit of personal economics or financial literacy to satisfy economics credit required for Michigan Merit Curriculum.

**HB 4562** **HIGHWAY (Bumstead)** Designates a portion of M-37 as the "Brian Derks Memorial Highway."

**HB 4614** **TRANSPORTATION FUNDING (LaFontaine)** Includes tax on motor fuel and alternative fuel in streamlined sales and use tax revenue equalization act.

**HB 4616** **TRANSPORTATION FUNDING (McCready)** Eliminates flat tax rate and establishes an 18-month limitation period for filing refund claims.

**HB 4736** **VEHICLE REGISTRATION (McCready)** Increases passenger vehicle and motorcycle registration fees.

**HB 4737** **TRANSPORTATION DEBT SERVICE (McCready)** Earmarks revenue from increased vehicle registration fees to debt service under 1951 PA 51.

**HB 4738** **MOTOR FUEL (McCready)** Modifies wholesale rate for motor fuel.

By The Senate

**November 9, 2015**

SB 244 ILLEGAL HUNTING (Pavlov) Increases restitution for the illegal killing or possessing of certain game.

SB 245 ILLEGAL HUNTING (Zorn) Increases penalties for illegally taking or possessing certain game.

SB 246 SENTENCING GUIDELINES (Zorn) Updates references to sentencing guidelines.

SB 414 INCOME TAX (Schmidt) Reduces income tax rates.

Supplemental Event Planner

### **Thursday, December 3**

Rep. Mike Callton (R) PAC fundraiser, Karoub Associates, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 8 a.m., (Guests: Rep. Tom Barrett, Rep. John Bizon, Rep. Martin Howrylak, Rep. Holly Hughes, Rep. Brandt Iden and Rep. Jason Sheppard. Special Guest: Ron Weiser)

### **Wednesday, December 9**

Sen. Marty Knollenberg (R) fundraiser, Karoub Associates, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 7:30 a.m.

### **Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees**

### **Tuesday, November 10**

House Financial Services (Committee Record), (Chr. Forlini, 373-5176), Room 307, House Office Building, 8:15 a.m.

HB 5017 CREDIT UNIONS (Forlini) Makes general amendments to the Credit Union Act.

HB 5018 CREDIT UNIONS (Pettalia) Makes certain revisions regarding administration and operations of credit unions.

HB 5019 CREDIT UNIONS (Clemente) Revises authority to organize or invest in credit union service organizations that provide trust services and other services.

HB 5020 CREDIT UNIONS (Theis) Revises requirements regarding examinations by the Department of Insurance and Financial Services and provides for confidentiality of certain documents.

HB 5021 CREDIT UNIONS (Barrett) Revises provisions relating to mergers.

HB 5022 CREDIT UNIONS (Love) Authorizes loan promotion raffles.

Senate Elections and Government Reform (Committee Record), (Chr. Robertson, 373-1721), Room 110, Farnum Building, 9 a.m.

SB 13 STRAIGHT-TICKET VOTING (Knollenberg) Eliminate straight-ticket voting procedures.

House Transportation and Infrastructure (Committee Record), (Chr. Pettalia, 373-1260), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

**HB 4567** **EDUCATION FACILITIES** (Jacobsen) Clarifies jurisdiction of superintendent of public institution over approval of public school buildings and sites. (Testimony only)  
**HB 5006** **HIGHWAYS** (Cochran) Names certain portion of I-496 the "Lansing Firefighter Dennis E. Rodeman Memorial Freeway."

House Communications and Technology (Committee Record), (Chr. Jacobsen, 373-2002), Room 519, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

**HB 5034** **DIGITAL ASSETS** (Forlini) Enacts fiduciary access to digital assets act.

**Thursday, November 12**

~~Canceled: House Financial Services (Committee Record), (Chr. Forlini, 373-5176), Room 307, House Office Building, 8:15 a.m.~~

**HB 5017 CREDIT UNIONS** (Forlini) Makes general amendments to the Credit Union Act.

**HB 5018 CREDIT UNIONS** (Pettalia) Makes certain revisions regarding administration and operations of credit unions.

**HB 5019 CREDIT UNIONS** (Clemente) Revises authority to organize or invest in credit union service organizations that provide trust services and other services.

**HB 5020 CREDIT UNIONS** (Theis) Revises requirements regarding examinations by the Department of Insurance and Financial Services and provides for confidentiality of certain documents.

**HB 5021 CREDIT UNIONS** (Barrett) Revises provisions relating to mergers.

**HB 5022 CREDIT UNIONS** (Love) Authorizes loan promotion raffles.

~~Canceled: House Insurance (Committee Record), (Chr. Leonard, 373-8538), Room 521, House Office Building, 9 a.m.~~

**SB 177 CONTROLLING INTEREST** (Hune) Requires notice of divesting or acquiring controlling interest in an insurer.

**SB 178 RISK AND SOLVENCY ASSESSMENT** (Hune) Provides for procedures for own risk and solvency assessment.

House Workforce and Talent Development (Committee Record), (Chr. Johnson, J., 373-5176), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

**SB 500 TAXABLE WAGES** (Horn) Modifies benefits provision related to taxable wage base reduction.

**HB SCHOOL COUNSELORS** (Roberts, B.) Revises requirements for employment as a

4552 middle school and high school counselor.

HB **ELECTRICIANS (Price)** Revises number of apprentice electricians allowed for each

4813 journeyman or master electrician on a jobsite.

### **Supplemental Agency Calendar**

**Tuesday, November 10**

**~~Canceled: Indiana-Michigan Boundary Line Commission, County Commissioners Meeting Room, Seventh Floor, 227 West Jefferson Boulevard, South Bend, IN, 11 a.m.~~**

**Tuesday, January 12**


**Indiana-Michigan Boundary Line Commission, County Commissioners Meeting Room, Seventh Floor, 227 West Jefferson Boulevard, South Bend, Indiana, 11 a.m.**

**124 West Allegan Street, Suite 1200**

**Lansing Michigan 48933**

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**From:** Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 16, 2015 7:39 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Monday, November 16, 2015  
**Attachments:** Nov16.htm; Nov16Rules.htm; 151116plan.htm; 151116dayplan.htm



## **Michigan Report for Monday, November 16, 2015**

Snyder Pause On Syrian Refugees Prompts Divided Reaction

Court Rules For State In Dispute With HP

'Extortion' Texts Saga Ends With No Charges, Gamrat's Husband ID'd As Culprit

Switch Confirms Michigan Campus Pending Passage Of Legislation

Groups Announce Lawsuit Over Flint Water

Republican Attorneys General Defend Schuette On Clean Power Fight

Schuette Named Chair Of GOP Attorneys General

Radio Ad Calls For Competitive Energy Generation

'Sunshine Squad' Seeks To Increase Ethics, Transparency

Campaign Notes

Capital Notebook

## **Activity Reports**

Administrative Rules

## **Calendars**

Day Planner

Event Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #226 -- Monday, November 16, 2015

### Snyder Pause On Syrian Refugees Prompts Divided Reaction

Supporters of enabling more refugees from Syria to settle in Michigan sharply criticized { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s decision to suspend state efforts on that front in response to the recent terrorist attacks in Paris and Lebanon, while several Republicans praised the move, saying bringing the refugees was a horrible idea from the beginning.

Mr. Snyder has made a big point during his nearly five years in office of labeling himself the most pro-immigration governor in the country. And in the wake of the Syrian civil war, now raging for four years, hundreds of thousands of Syrians have fled the country as refugees, some 200,000 to Europe and another 4 million in other Middle East countries, according to the United Nations.

The governor's administration had been working with Lutheran Social Services of Michigan to intensify the state's efforts to place Syrian refugees, but those will now be put on hold, Mr. Snyder said. He is asking the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to review its procedures on vetting refugees to enter the country to determine whether strengthening is needed. He sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson making the request.

"It's important there are people in need across the world and we're open to those folk," Mr. Snyder told reporters Monday. "We just want to make sure we're following the best practices and keeping our country safe."

Several other governors declared they would block Syrian refugees from entering their states as well, and Mr. Snyder made a point of noting he is not permanently barring them from Michigan.

"It just seems prudent that we pause for a moment, pause for some time to work with the U.S. government to see are there are revisions in their procedures and practices that should be made given new information," he said.

How long the pause will last is up to Homeland Security in its review, Mr. Snyder said.

There already were 20 refugees in the pipeline going through the process of settling in Michigan. What happens with them is up to the federal government, Mr. Snyder said.

Several Republican members of the Legislature and Michigan's U.S. House delegation commended Mr. Snyder's move.

"With so many unknowns, the United States has a duty to pause and develop the necessary protocols before processing Syrian refugees," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=17501&locid=1" } (R-Rochester) said in a statement. "Our number one priority is keeping our families safe here at home, so I commend Governor Snyder for suspending his efforts to bring Syrian refugees to Michigan at this time. America will always be a nation of immigrants, but without adequate background information to crosscheck, it would be more than irresponsible to push ahead and simply 'hope for the best.'"

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=3701&locid=1" } (R-Harrison Township) said in a statement she had been worried about the Snyder administration's efforts on Syrian refugees from the start.

"Throughout his tenure, I think that Governor Snyder has done great things for Michigan, but I was very distressed about this particular initiative that he and Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley were pursuing," she said. "The fact is, as evidenced by Friday's horrific attack in Paris, terrorist organizations like ISIS are looking for any and every opportunity to exploit a nation's hospitality to carry out their barbaric attacks against the innocent. Anyone who says we can adequately and safely vet these refugees is wrong because there is no database in Syria and no way to identify who's who."

Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema, a virulent critic of Islam, said in a Facebook post he was "most pleased that (Governor) Snyder finally agrees with me concerning the security crises that the Syrian refugee(s) posed to Michigan and the U.S."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=291201&locid=1" } (R-Mancelona) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401&locid=1" } (R-Saginaw Township) were among those in the state Legislature hailing the move.

The Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs, which Mr. Snyder recently created and appointed, offered its condolences to those who lost loved ones in the two terrorist attacks and backed the governor's decision.

"While these events have a huge impact on us here at home, we all must remain united in order to defeat terrorism. Governor Snyder has paused the noble efforts Michigan is undertaking to welcome new refugees pending the complete and full review of security clearances and procedures by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Department of State," the commission said in a statement. "We support the Governor's step that is designed to ensure the safety and security of all Michiganders."

But liberal organizations deplored the actions of Mr. Snyder and other governors.

"Some politicians have attempted to fabricate a link between the tragedy in Paris and the resettlement of Syrian refugees to the United States," Cecillia Wang, director of the American Civil Liberties Union's Immigrants' Rights Project, said in a statement. "Making policy based on



this fear mongering is wrong for two reasons. It is factually wrong for blaming refugees for the very terror they are fleeing, and it is legally wrong because it violates our laws and the values on which our country was founded."

Progress Michigan called Mr. Snyder's action a cowardly reversal.

"This type of behavior is the exact cowardice and capitulation that the terrorists seek to force out of our elected leaders," Progress Michigan Executive Director Lonnie Scott said in a statement. "Instead of stoking the fear that drives his party to a frenzy, Gov. Snyder should do the right thing and show Michiganders that we're a state that will accept responsibility as global citizens to do our part to help people in crisis and that we can do that in a way that is both safe and responsible."

#### Court Rules For State In Dispute With HP

HP Enterprise Service must turn over to the Department of State the source code used as part of the Business Application Modernization project to upgrade the department's online services, a judge ruled Monday.

Kent Circuit Judge Christopher Yates granted the state's request for a preliminary injunction ordering HP to turn over the code, essentially calling it an obvious move.

The state terminated its contract with HP after several years and more than \$30 million spent to improve online services for customers on licenses and registration. But HP refused to turn over the source code, saying the contract clearly called for that to happen only upon completion of the entire project.

But the state warned of a potential massive collapse of the department's online services, as well as the inability to implement changes in vehicle registration fees that are part of the just-enacted road funding plan, without the source code.

"The state has paid for that source code and thereby obtained ownership of it, the state has previously received source code on three occasions without any adverse consequences, the state cannot move forward in implementing the registration-fee enhancements for the road funding plan without the current source code, the state cannot address potential security vulnerabilities without the current version of the source code and the state cannot effectively define the tasks for HP's replacement without the current source code," Mr. Yates wrote in his opinion. "To put it plainly, this is a situation that cries out for a straightforward injunctive order directing HP to turn over the current source code ... immediately."

The state's lawsuit alleging breach of contract, and HP's countersuit, remains pending before the court.

"We respect the ruling of the court, and its recognition that the state was wrongfully deprived of property it had fully paid for," { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52301&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52301&locid=1" } said in a

statement. "It's a shame we had to take them to court to force them to honor their agreement and responsibilities."

A message left with HP was not immediately returned.

### 'Extortion' Texts Saga Ends With No Charges, Gamrat's Husband ID'd As Culprit

The Lapeer County prosecutor is deciding not to press charges against Joe Gamrat for sending harassing text messages to his wife, former Rep. Cindy Gamrat, and former Rep. Todd Courser, with whom she was having an affair.

Mr. Courser said Monday Mr. Gamrat's actions were not what someone working to heal their marriage would do.

"That is abuse," he said.

The decision was unsurprising. Legal experts who reviewed the texts Mr. Gamrat sent to Mr. Courser said they did not rise to the level of extortion because he never made a demand for anything of value in exchange for staying quiet.

Lapeer County Prosecutor Timothy Turkelson said in a statement the investigation showed Mr. Gamrat sent the messages in an effort to end the extramarital affair. The messages urged Mr. Courser to resign from office or the affair would be revealed.

"A scheme was implemented to contact Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat through text messages sent from a pre-paid cell phone," the statement said. "The motivation behind the text messages sent from the individuals involved was to assist Joe Gamrat in ending the extramarital affair. The messages therefore do not rise to the level of criminal extortion."

The Department of State Police report, obtained by { [HYPERLINK](http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/cindy_gamrats_husband_behind_e.html) "http://www.mlive.com/lansing-news/index.ssf/2015/11/cindy\_gamrats\_husband\_behind\_e.html" \t "blank" }, shows Mr. Gamrat recruited a friend from work - David Horr - to purchase the phone and send the text messages. The police used GPS to determine the texts were sent from where the two men work. Neither man would cooperate with the police when initially asked if they were involved.

Mr. Courser initially was hesitant to give police his phone in case they bugged him, the report showed, though he did eventually relent.

The report also shows Mr. Gamrat bugged Ms. Gamrat's bag and was conducting surveillance on Ms. Gamrat since the summer of 2014. Mr. Gamrat allegedly told Dan Courser, Mr. Courser's brother, he had audio of his wife and Mr. Courser having sex.

Ms. Gamrat posted Monday on Facebook that she has not yet seen the report or spoken to the prosecutor. She said the text messages she received were disturbing and intimidating.

"As you can imagine, I was devastated to hear that the investigation appears to show that a number of individuals, including my husband, former staff from my office, and others, collaborated and had some degree of involvement together," Ms. Gamrat wrote. "However, I have not personally spoken with the prosecutor nor have I seen the full report.

"After I have taken the time to look at the full report, I will thoughtfully consider what the right action is to take to move forward in regards to this," she said.

Mr. Courser said he does feel slightly vindicated. When he initially released the texts, many suspected Mr. Courser himself sent them, similar to the fake email he had distributed claiming he had paid for sex with a male prostitute as a way of tainting any future subsequent allegations of an affair as part of a smear campaign.

"It was not me," he said. "I wasn't lying."

Mr. Courser has held that the reason he wrote the email, which also claimed he was addicted to drugs, alcohol and porn, is because of the intense pressure he felt from whoever was texting him.

A former staffer recorded the conversation of Mr. Courser asking him to send the email, which led to the House Business Office conducting an investigation on the two former lawmakers. The investigation found they had misused taxpayer resources for personal and political gain.

Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1) }, said the text messages were never seen as relevant in terms of the House investigation that led to Ms. Gamrat's expulsion and Mr. Courser resigning just before being expelled.

"We've held all along that the 'blackmail' was irrelevant to whether or not they were fit to serve in office," Mr. D'Assandro said. "That was the real question for the House to consider."

The police report also assumes the former staffers - Keith Allard, Joshua Cline and Ben Graham - were in contact with Mr. Gamrat and provided some information to him.

It also shows the State Police investigator became upset with Mr. Courser after "Trucker Randy" Bishop, a tea party activist, called the officer and said he heard from a source the police were not moving forward with an extortion charge.

The officer, according to the report, told Mr. Courser he was manipulating others to become involved in the case.

And it appeared the officer and Mr. Turkelson were prepared to offer Mr. Horr immunity if he told them everything. But in the end, Mr. Turkelson did not press charges.

Mr. Courser said he has made no decision on whether or not he will take legal action against any of those involved in sending the messages.

Mr. Turkelson said no one involved came to "the table with clean hands."

"All bear some responsibility in creating this embarrassing and costly chapter in our county's history," he said. "Under these circumstances I see no benefit in prolonging this saga at the expense of Lapeer County taxpayers in a prosecution that would be tenuous at best."

With this matter put to rest, the next question is whether the investigation the Department of State Police and Department of Attorney General are conducting into whether Mr. Courser and Ms. Gamrat committed any criminal misconduct will lead to any charges.

### Switch Confirms Michigan Campus Pending Passage Of Legislation

Switch, a Nevada-based data center company with international locations, confirmed Monday that it is indeed looking to build an eastern campus in West Michigan pending legislation introduced in both the House and the Senate that would exempt it from certain sales, use and property tax, and the committee chair of House Tax Policy expects a hearing on the bills as soon as possible.

"We'll be taking it up on the Tuesday of our return, though the bills will probably change from the way they were submitted," { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" } (R-Utica), said of { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB507401" }  
{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB507501" }  
{ and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB507601" }  
{, referring to December 1 when the Legislature returns from its break.

Mr. Farrington said the details are being worked out right now, so the changes are not likely to be significant.

"I think it's a good idea all around," he said.

Identical bills were introduced in the Senate last Tuesday as well ({ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61601" } { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61701" } and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61801" } ), and while the chair of the Senate Michigan Competitiveness Committee where the bills were sent was not immediately available late Monday to speak about their fate, the majority leader's spokesperson expressed enthusiasm about them.

"(This is a) great opportunity for Michigan and for the entire eastern half of the country," Amber McCann, spokesperson for Senate { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1>" } (R-West Olive), said Monday. "The Senate will work to help facilitate this new investment in our state."

Rumors had been swirling late last week that the company - whose 1,000 clients include eBay, Intel, Shutterfly, Dreamworks, HP, JP Morgan Chase and Google - was looking at a location previously owned by Steelcase, known as the Steelcase pyramid, but most legislators associated with the legislation were tight-lipped last week about early reports about the company being Switch (See { [HYPERLINK](#) "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542250104](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542250104)" } ).

The announcement, coming in a joint statement with The Right Place, Incorporated, was met more cautiously by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, to which { [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } has referred questions to about the project since being asked at recent events.

The MEDC said it does not comment on questions or pending legislation regarding potential business attraction deals, but it appreciated the public excitement and talk about the potential economic impact "when any business locates in Michigan and commits to creating high-paying jobs and a substantial private investment," MEDC { [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=336401&locid=1>" } said in a statement.

"We remain open to all options the Legislature provides us in leveling the playing field creating new business attraction opportunities in Michigan," he said.

If sent to Mr. Snyder, the legislation would mark a significant departure for an administration that moved away from using tax incentives to woo new business to the state, though the types of jobs the data center would eventually bring in are exactly what Mr. Snyder and his administration has been looking toward.

Birgit Klohs, president and CEO of The Right Place, said the impact Switch could have on the greater Grand Rapids area and the entire state of Michigan could not be overstated.

"The unparalleled technology and data infrastructure investments planned by Switch will unleash countless new possibilities for growth in our state," Ms. Klohs said in the statement with Switch. "The future of business will be driven by data, and Michigan will be well positioned as a hub of data innovation."

Indeed, Switch could be one of the most significant businesses to land in Michigan during the Snyder administration. The company had been looking for an eastern U.S. data center campus, and if all goes well, Michigan will be the home of the 2 million-square-foot, \$5 billion data center campus. The total capital investment reflects the costs for both the data centers and the computer servers that would be placed inside the buildings over a multi-year period, the company said.

"The campus will create thousands of well-paid construction jobs over the estimated 10-year build out of the entire project. Similar to their construction projects in Nevada, a vast majority of Switch's contractors will be hired from the local workforce," Switch said in the statement. "In addition, at full-build out Switch and its clients are projected to employ 1,000 people to work in the data center campus. With a current workforce comprised of 70 percent veterans, Switch will continue its commitment to hire the men and women who have served."

Pending passage of the legislation, SUPERNAP Michigan would be the largest data center campus in the eastern United States, Switch said, adding the campus would provide transformational infrastructure and serve the eastern U.S. by offering "the only Uptime Institute rated Tier IV Gold carrier-neutral colocation data center location outside of the SUPERNAP facilities in the western U.S."

"We are excited to be working with Governor Snyder, the Michigan Legislature, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and The Right Place, Inc. to bring Switch and its 1,000+ clients that make up the largest data center ecosystem in the world to Michigan," Adam Kramer, executive vice president of strategy for Switch, said in the statement. "Before Switch can finalize its announcement, it will work with the Michigan Legislature to pass new data center legislation that creates an equal playing field between Michigan and its neighboring states."

**MICHIGAN ADVANTAGE:** The company said it sought a location - similar to its home base in Nevada - that would be able to serve its necessary major markets without the obvious increased risk of natural disasters associated with coastline locations.

"Switch's enterprise business clients will collectively place billions of dollars of equipment at these selected Prime hubs, which is why geographic safety is critical," it said in its statement. "The Michigan SUPERNAP Prime would join those ranks and share the infrastructure attributes as well as follow the Switch site selection criteria."

Its location in Las Vegas, for example, is seven milliseconds from Los Angeles and 14 milliseconds from San Francisco. And SUPERNAP Tahoe Reno, the company's most recent expansion, is six milliseconds from Silicon Valley and 14 milliseconds from San Diego, Switch said.

Michigan's advantage, other than fewer natural disasters, Switch said, is its data center operations to be two milliseconds from Chicago and 14 milliseconds from New York, among other major population hubs, "without being burdened with the high power prices, taxes and earthquake/hurricane risks associated with those cities."

#### Groups Announce Lawsuit Over Flint Water

The Natural Resources Defense Council and the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan announced Monday their intent to file a federal lawsuit over the water crisis in Flint.

The groups argue city and state officials have continued to violate federal drinking water standards despite the recent move back to the Detroit water system from the Flint River water that caused problems.

Anjali Waikar, NRDC attorney, said Flint's water source is expected to change again next summer but neither the city nor the state have spelled out how they will ensure water remains safe.

"They haven't identified the manner in which they plan to amend their monitoring and testing protocols," Ms. Waikar said. "They may have conceded there were problems in the past."

Unlike some other lawsuits that have been filed regarding the water crisis, Ms. Waikar said the NRDC/ACLU lawsuit is not seeking damages. While the groups are planning to move forward with the lawsuit at this point, she said they would also see it as a victory if the city and state provided monitoring plans that she said have so far been missing.

Federal law requires that plaintiffs issue a notice of intent to sue before actually filing their case. Ms. Waikar said that period is designed precisely to give the government time to comply without court intervention.

"If they come forward with proposals and assurances, we would be delighted," she said.

Sara Wurfel, spokesperson for { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" }, declined to comment on the threatened lawsuit because she said the administration had not yet been served, but the state and the city have taken steps to resolve the issues with Flint's water system.

"The governor has outlined a detailed multiple step action plan for both immediate, mid and long term," Ms. Wurfel said. "He has also appointed a task force doing a very important job of reviewing all past actions. They are a bipartisan group of people of the highest integrity, experts in their fields and widely respected who are going to do a very thorough, objective review."

City officials did not respond to requests for comment.

## Republican Attorneys General Defend Schuette On Clean Power Fight

{ [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1>" } is working in the state's best interests when it comes to fighting the federal Clean Power Plan, the Republic Attorneys General Association said in an ad released Monday to counter spots released last week by environmental groups.

Independence USA PAC is running television ads in Michigan and other states arguing that attorneys general involved in challenges to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan were putting the interests of the coal industry ahead of those of their constituents (See { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542210105](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542210105)" }).

But the RAGA, of which Mr. Schuette is now president (see separate story), counters it is Michael Bloomberg, the primary financier of Independence USA, who is not looking out for the best interests of Michigan residents.

"The Obama/Bloomberg plan would raise your electric rates and kill jobs here in Michigan," the { HYPERLINK "https://youtu.be/oRbasvJydXs" \t "blank" } says. "Schuette fights Washington to save jobs in Michigan, keeping your energy costs down."

The RAGA is running similar ads for Attorney General Pam Bondi of Florida and Attorney General Brad Schimel of Wisconsin.

Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster, the other target of the Independence USA ads, is a Democrat.

RAGA officials did not return calls to clarify where or when the ads would run.

#### Schuette Named Chair Of GOP Attorneys General

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } was named chair of the national Republican Attorneys General Association, and he said he looked forward to working with the other GOP state lawyers to "fight to protect free enterprise, liberty and our constitution."

But a liberal organization said Mr. Schuette should dust off the U.S. Constitution because it is the job of the legislative and judicial branches to provide checks and balances to the president. A state attorney general's job is to protect the people of a state from criminals, pollution and corruption, they said.

The GOP organization, which now has 27 state attorneys general as members, was meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, when Mr. Schuette was elected chair of the group.

He will serve as chair through the 2016 elections.

Mr. Schuette is in his second and final term as attorney general and is considered a potential GOP candidate for governor in 2018.

Mr. Schuette said it was his "honor to serve as chair during this critical time in which federal government overreach is hurting job creation and economic growth in our states and our country."

Progress Michigan blasted Mr. Schuette for "using his elected position to defend polluters, fight to take away health care from Michigan citizens and attack individuals' freedoms," it said in a statement.

#### Radio Ad Calls For Competitive Energy Generation



A group called Unleash Michigan Energy has launched a radio ad calling for the Legislature to adopt competitive bidding on new energy generation similar to the concept of competitive bidding that was included in the highway funding package that is now law.

If competitive bidding will be good for the state in terms of driving down costs on road construction and maintenance, the same concept would help keep down energy and electrical generation costs, it said.

The ad released by the group, a 501c4 organization, also said { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) } has called for competitive bidding in all state services, so it would make sense to have it with energy policy too.

Where the ad is playing and for how long it will play was not released by the organization, but the group said the { [HYPERLINK "https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1jacGs0xbpYT2piYXBwRV9nSlk/view"](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B1jacGs0xbpYT2piYXBwRV9nSlk/view) } is its first.

The group consists of both legislators and businesses, including { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1) } (R-Clarklake) and Midland Cogeneration Venture.

Along with saving money, competitive bidding would also help attract more businesses to the state and create more jobs, the ad said.

### 'Sunshine Squad' Seeks To Increase Ethics, Transparency

Progress Michigan announced Monday it would launch a new website as part of a broader "Sunshine Squad" campaign seeking to make the Legislature more accountable on the heels of a report that indicated Michigan ranked last nationally when it comes to ethics and transparency laws.

The { [HYPERLINK "http://act.progressmichigan.org/go/223?t=2&akid=1349.112633.B9zqTp"](http://act.progressmichigan.org/go/223?t=2&akid=1349.112633.B9zqTp) } features every member of the Legislature, not including the seats yet to be filled by special elections, broken down by committee assignment and House or Senate district. Each legislator-specific page currently features committee assignments and searchable financial contributions so residents can find where their legislator's financial support is coming from, the group said in a statement.

"Our elected officials in the legislature have gotten away with shielding themselves from public scrutiny for too long. This campaign will shine some light on their actions and who is putting money into their campaign coffers," Executive Director Lonnie Scott said. "The Sunshine Squad's goal is to promote transparency, increase public disclosure and to hold our state lawmakers accountable. The launch of the website today is only the beginning."

Financial information included on the site comes from the National Institute on Money in State Politics via FollowTheMoney.org, and voting records are pulled directly from the House and Senate journals, the group said.

"Donation information and voting records, while public, can be difficult to find and track at times, so this website will be a one-stop resource for the public to hold their elected officials to account," Mr. Scott said. "Unlike some of the other voting sites out there, we hold no editorial sway over any of the information included on the website, we're just putting out the facts and letting the public use it how they will. It's important to see how money is influencing the voting tendencies of those in power."

Progress Michigan also said as the campaign moves forward, there will be additional elements added to the site and the information will be updated regularly.

### Campaign Notes

**DEMOCRAT FILES TO RUN IN 24<sup>TH</sup> HOUSE DISTRICT:** Democrat Dana Camphous-Peterson of Harrison Township announced on Monday she has filed to run in the 24<sup>th</sup> House District where Republican { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266801&locid=1>" } of Harrison Township cannot seek re-election because of term limits.

Ms. Camphous-Peterson works as an executive project coordinator in Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel's office and the co-founder of the child advocacy center, Care House.

"As a Macomb County employee, I've seen how decisions in Lansing affect our families and local businesses. I look forward to sharing my experience in local government and how that could help me speak for the residents of Harrison, Macomb and Clinton Townships," she said in a statement.

**MIELKE TRYING AGAIN IN 99<sup>TH</sup> HOUSE DISTRICT:** Democrat Bryan Mielke of Mount Pleasant will try again to win the 99<sup>th</sup> House District, this time with House { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1>" } (R-Mount Pleasant) unable to seek re-election because of term limits.

"While I came close in 2014, close is not enough for the people of Isabella and Midland counties," Mr. Mielke wrote on his Facebook page.

Mr. Mielke criticized the recent road funding solution Mr. Cotter crafted with his Republican caucus.

"(The road funding) law gives a tax break to the wealthiest in Michigan while raising registration fees, and adds cuts to fire and police services, education funding and health care. This disservice to the people of Michigan from lawmakers in Lansing has to stop. That's why I'll continue what I started in 2014," he said.

**DRISKELL ENDORSEMENT:** The Sierra Club has endorsed { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318101&locid=1" } (D-Saline) in her challenge to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=87801&locid=1" } (R-Tipton) in the 7<sup>th</sup> U.S. House District.

"Gretchen Driskell earned Sierra Club's endorsement because of her commitment to protecting Michigan's Great Lakes' way of life," Richard Barron, political chair of Michigan Sierra Club, said in a statement announcing the endorsement. "She understands the importance of clean air, clean water, and public health. We are confident that she will work to protect Michigan's environment for our families and our future."

**ANTI-BISHOP ADS:** The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee launched a series of radio advertisements this week hitting { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=17501&locid=1" } (R-Rochester) on his opposition to prevailing wage requirements and arguing loss of prevailing wage would disproportionately affect veterans.

"Michigan vets want politicians to stand up for their wages, but Mike Bishop would rather take the same side as the billionaires backing the anti-prevailing wage petition - and his campaign," the ads, which are running in the Lansing and Detroit markets, say.

The ads urge veterans particularly to call Mr. Bishop's office on the issue.

**REPEAL PLEDGE:** { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-Saint Clair), who is running for the 10<sup>th</sup> U.S. House District to succeed retiring { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=3701&locid=1" } (R-Harrison Township) has signed Independent Women's Voice's { HYPERLINK "http://www.therepealpledge.com/" } to repeal the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the group announced Monday.

"Phil understands the harm that ObamaCare has already caused and will continue to cause if it's not turned back," Heather Higgins, president and CEO of the group, said in a statement. "He recognizes that ObamaCare hurts seniors and increases costs for families. Moreover, he knows that ObamaCare means bigger government and less freedom, places government bureaucrats between doctors and their patients, and reduces our choice and control in health care decisions."

Capital Notebook

**MSU SAYS IT BEATS OTHER SCHOOLS IN PLACEMENT:** A new website launched by Michigan State University shows that 92 percent of students with undergraduate degrees are either working or in graduate school.

That means MSU's placement rate for students with undergraduate degrees is 12 percent higher than the average college in the U.S.

The Spartan Success website uses data derived from the annual destination survey conducted by the university's career services network. The data shows 63 percent of the graduates remain in the state and another 15 percent getting jobs or going to graduate school in the Midwest.

The website also shows 58 percent of the graduates working have salaries of \$40,000 a year or above.

**VETERAN-FRIENDLY EMPLOYERS:** The Veterans Affairs Agency on Monday recognized 37 employers for their efforts to hire and retain veterans among their workforce.


There were 1,000 jobs for veterans among the companies, officials said.

"I applaud those companies committed to helping our veterans build long-lasting careers," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } said in a statement. "Veterans are an important source of untapped talent in our state, they bring valuable skills to the workforce and are an integral part of Michigan's continued reinvention."

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Draft Rules Approved By Office Of Regulatory Reinvention

**Department of Environmental Quality, Drinking Water and Radiological Protection**

**Division:** Supplying Water to the Public Part 4. Public Notification and Public Education--Makes certain minor amendments to lead and copper regulations. (JCAR #2002-22, ORR #2001-004; November 12)

**Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Health Care Services:** Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery -- Continuing Education--Updates rules to current law and practice; reorders rule sections. (ORR #2014-002; November 10)

**Department of Health and Human Services, Population Health and Community Services:** Cancer Reporting--Restores certain entities as required reporters. (ORR #2015-070; November 12; RFR approved November 12)

**Department of Natural Resources, Law Enforcement Division:** Special Local Watercraft Controls--Updates to changes in daylight savings time. (ORR #2015-078; November 12; RFR filed November 10 and approved November 12)

Request For Rulemaking Approved By Office Of Regulatory Reinvention

**Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Professional Licensing:** Hospice Licensure--Revises rules. (ORR #2015-069; November 12)

Request For Rulemaking Filed With Office Of Regulatory Reinvention

**Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division:** Part 9. Emission Limitation and Prohibitions--Miscellaneous--Regulates large municipal waste combustors, other incinerators, and commercial and industrial solid waste incinerators. (ORR #2015-079; November 10)

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**From:** Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 02, 2015 9:17 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Friday, October 2, 2015  
**Attachments:** Oct2.htm; 151002dayplan.htm; Oct5Schedule.htm



## Michigan Report for Friday, October 2, 2015

State To Contribute \$1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix

House 80th Race Between Storey, Whiteford, Gamrat

19-Year MPERS Error Results In \$112M Refund To Seven Universities

Poll Suggests Support To End Prevailing Wage Is Tepid

Insurance Code Changes To See Committee Meeting This Week

Senate Legislation Seeks To Expand Promise Zones

Court Rejects City's Action To Change Retiree Insurance

Court Throws Out Gag Order In Wayne County Jail Case

Capital Notebook

Appointments By The Governor

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

## Calendars

Day Planner

Legislative Committee Schedules

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## Volume #54, Report #196 -- Friday, October 2, 2015

### State To Contribute \$1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix

In the short term, Flint residents will have access to water filters, some purchased with state funds, and in the longer term the city will be improving its corrosion controls to keep lead out of water supplies, state and city officials said Friday in unveiling a plan to address recent water safety concerns in the city.

Moving Flint back to getting water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage System is also still on the table for both state and local officials but will require negotiations, both sides said.

Both sides said the water itself is not the source of lead and the city will be working in the coming years to replace the lead service lines that are the source.

"We're working around the clock on every level with so many partners to address the immediate health concerns," Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said at a media event Friday to announce the plan. "We're now all working on a common response plan."

"We are focused on helping ensure safe, clean, accessible drinking water and addressing and mitigating concerns and protecting public health," { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, who did not attend the event, said in a statement. "Today's action plan builds upon ongoing work with local, state and federal agencies and our partnership with city and community leaders. Together, we are working to ensure that all Flint residents have accurate information and know that help is available to address potential problems."

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said the state still had substantial work to do.

"Filters and corrosion control additives are first steps, but anything less than an aggressive, comprehensive response is still unacceptable," Mr. Ananich said in a statement. "Our top priority remains ensuring Flint families have safe drinking water. I will continue to work to make that happen."

"We can't just rely on the kindness of strangers to protect our children," { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said, noting recent contributions toward water filter purchases. "The governor and Department of Environmental Quality need to make this an urgent priority."

And { [HYPERLINK](#)

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=349901&locid=1" } (D-Flushing)



said help needs to happen sooner rather than later. "This is a public health crisis, and our children are in danger," he said.

Mr. Phelps had been pushing the state and the city for more information on the water switch and its effects to little avail (See { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541950101) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\_id=541950101" }).

The Sierra Club Michigan Chapter urged that part of the plan be an executive investigation into why the DEQ did not act more quickly on the issue.

"The governor, finally, is assuming direct responsibility for responding to a crisis that every day is damaging the health of Flint's children," David Holtz, chair of the group, said in a statement. "His actions should be much stronger, however, and he needs to find out how we got to the point where Flint children are drinking lead and what the DEQ's role was in those decisions and actions."

The key elements of the plan, from the Snyder administration's perspective, are to continue testing and, in the short term, provide filters for those who need them, Environmental Quality Direct Dan Wyant said at the media event.

The state and the city will provide free water testing for anyone in the city, he said, and both entities are working to provide residents with water filters.

The state also will be testing the water in all schools in the city, Mr. Wyant said.

"We're working closely with public and private partners to provide water filters," Health and Human Services { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1" } said.

As part of that effort, the state will be providing \$1 million and a number of charitable groups are providing filters or funding toward them, but Mr. Lyon said officials were also working with retailers to provide free or low-cost filters.

United Way, General Motors and the Making Our Children Smile Foundation announced Thursday a joint contribution of \$105,000 toward purchase of filters.

Mr. Walling said filters would be available beginning Saturday morning.

Mr. Lyon warned, though, that the filters might not resolve the increase in blood lead levels found in recent testing.

"We cannot say conclusively water is the source of this," he said, noting that lead paint in older homes, and the remnants of it in the surrounding soils, continues to be the leading source of lead poisoning.

Mr. Lyons did not take issue with Genesee County's move Thursday to issue a water emergency for the city but said his agency would not be joining. "This is certainly an issue that deserves attention," he said. "I do not believe that it rises to the level of a statewide emergency. We are here with our resources."

Eden Wells, chief medical officer for the state, said two high-risk zip codes in the city did see increased blood levels in tested children after the city switched its water source, but she said levels in those areas, and citywide, were already at least twice the levels found in the rest of Genesee County and only increased significantly in one of the high-risk regions.

In the two highest-risk zip codes, blood lead levels were averaging 2.7 times averages for the county as a whole. After the water source switch, those averages climbed to 3.2 times the rest of the county. But for the city as a whole, lead levels were 2 times the rest of the county, she said.

Mr. Wyant argued the problem was the switch and not the water source. He said one of the state's efforts is to ensure the city has sufficient corrosion controls in place so when it switches sources again away from the Flint River, the problem does not reoccur.

"Every time we tested the water, it was non-detect for lead," Mr. Wyant said of the state's quarterly testing. "So our issue is lead service lines."

Mr. Wyant said the DEQ would be part of a new Mayor's Safe Drinking Water Advisory Committee that would also include officials from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

"With the mayor's help, we're going to expedite those corrosion controls," Mr. Wyant said.

"At this point we have confidence that we can put additional corrosion controls in place and it will be effective," he said.

Mr. Walling said the city also needs to step up its efforts to replace the lead service lines.

"We have a gap in our capital improvement plan that needs to be filled and we need to replace lead service lines in our city," he said.

Mr. Walling said the city was still considering switching back to Detroit water while efforts to finish an agreement with Karegnondi Water Authority are completed. But he said the switch would cost the city up to \$2 million a month.

"The city is not in a position to afford that cost, but I am looking to Lansing for additional funding and financing so that option could be available," he said.

Mr. Wyant, asked if the state would cover those costs, said only that the state had committed \$1 million already toward the problem.

Mr. Snyder said during an earlier media call he was mediating discussions between the city and the Detroit system.

"It's just something that's currently in process ... I'm looking at this as an alternative to go with all these action steps," Mr. Snyder said. "We trying to help everyone get the facts: What is the data on what would be involved with potentially switching back? What would be the cost parameters? That's one of the reasons for the technical advisory council, to make sure we would see better results with switching back."

"I'd like science to make that determination," Mr. Wyant said of the need to change water supplies. "It's our sense that corrosion controls are going to be needed in either case."

In addition to assistance on the ground, the state launched a website, { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater" \t "blank" }, with information about the state plan and other efforts to address the water issue.

#### House 80th Race Between Storey, Whiteford, Gamrat

While it is still believed a long shot for former Rep. Cindy Gamrat to come out of the House 80<sup>th</sup> District special election primary, the possibility is still there with an eight-person field.

But Ms. Gamrat faces tough competition with Allegan County Commissioner { HYPERLINK "http://www.storeyforallegan.com/" \t "blank" } and Allegan County GOP Vice Chair { HYPERLINK "http://www.votemarywhiteford.com/" \t "blank" } who are seen as frontrunners.

Mr. Storey of Holland appears to have the momentum on his side, at least this week, as he received an endorsement from former Governor John Engler. He also has the endorsement of former Rep. Bob Genetski and former Rep. Fulton Sheen.

The primary special election is November 3. The election comes after Ms. Gamrat of Plainwell was expelled from the House after participating in an extramarital affair with former Rep. Todd Courser and then being found through an internal investigation to have misused taxpayer resources for personal and political gains.

Mr. Sheen said voters in the district are looking for someone who has experience, and Mr. Storey has that in both the public and private sector.

"He's a known commodity," Mr. Sheen told Gongwer News Service Friday.

But he said Ms. Whiteford of Allegan is very much in the race as well, and is leading the field in signs around the district.

One issue with Ms. Whiteford, Mr. Sheen said, is her background is very similar to Ms. Gamrat's. He said they both tout their backgrounds as moms and nurses.

But Ms. Whiteford said that was an issue during the last campaign as well, and is not new to her. She said she tried to focus on her success as an emergency pediatric nurse. Ms. Whiteford noted she is not even sure where or how long Ms. Gamrat actually worked as a nurse.

Another factor for Ms. Gamrat, Jason Watts - who is also involved with the local party - said is that former Allegan County Commissioner Bill Sage, who has the endorsement of Republican National committeeman Dave Agema, will take some votes from the Gamrat camp.

Mr. Watts said he is not aware of Mr. Agema physically helping Mr. Sage in the district. Mr. Sage was also a part of a lawsuit the pair brought against Allegan County schools and the city after they brought a person into a school to talk about the "dangers" of Islam, but were shut down after law enforcement discovered the person may have had a \$25 million bounty on their head. The case was dismissed earlier this year.

Mr. Watts also said Democrats in the district may be attempting to get Ms. Gamrat through the primary so their sole candidate, David Gernant, has a chance in the general.

Ms. Gamrat said she was not sure how re-connecting with the voters would go for her after the "negative media" during the last six weeks, but she said it has been going well.

"A lot of people have said my personal life is none of their business and that what Lansing did was wrong," she said.

So far, the candidates said there has not been any mail. But all three candidates interviewed Friday said they will begin issuing mailers soon. Mr. Sheen said the Allegan County Tea Party sent out emails including a Ms. Gamrat piece with a photo of her looking angry and criticizing those in Lansing for expelling her.

There have been phone surveys and messages. Ms. Whiteford said she sent a message last night but has also heard two others without disclaimers.

Ms. Gamrat said there was one telephone push poll that was negative against her, and did not include a disclaimer.

Ms. Whiteford said she is focusing on herself and is not going to go negative against Ms. Gamrat.

Mr. Storey and Ms. Whiteford said they have been knocking on doors and attending several meetings.

Mr. Storey said voters are upset they even have to participate in the special election.

"They are not happy that we face this," he said. "But they are also not at all interested in anything other than sending someone who can restore respect for this county to Lansing."

Ms. Whiteford agreed, saying voters are concerned about having good representation in Lansing.

Ms. Whiteford said if elected, her priority is to create relationships and vote conservatively.

"My priorities are to build relationships and vote conservatively for the people of this county," she said. "And take advantage of being in the majority Republican caucus. I really want to bring a voice for our farmers and out educators."

Ms. Gamrat was kicked out of caucus four months into her term.

Ms. Gamrat said she believes people are underestimating voters in the district and their frustration with Lansing politicians, who passed the state's largest budget but still are exploring a tax increase to pay for roads.

"One of the things voters ask all the time, they say why do they flip, why do people say one thing while they are campaigning and they get into office and they do something else/" she said. "I have a strong record that shows I will stand for the issues against increasing taxes and stand for limited government, for life and for the second amendment."

Mr. Storey said his priorities would include reducing the size of government and fulfilling special projects for Allegan County.

"First of all my priority will be ... to restore respect for Allegan County and value for our voice," he said. "To build the kind of coalitions that is necessary to get anything done."

#### 19-Year MPSERS Error Results In \$112M Refund To Seven Universities

The recent discovery of an error in how the state calculated payments to the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System from seven universities prompted a \$112 million refund to those schools.

The state's Office of Retirement Services was in the middle of a review of a new accounting standard to assist the seven universities gradually phasing out of the MPSERS system when staff realized MPSERS had overcharged the universities going back to 1996, said Caleb Buhs, spokesperson for the Department of Technology, Management and Budget.

Seven universities began to phase out of MPSERS starting in 1997 and received a refund September 30: Central Michigan, Eastern Michigan, Ferris State, Lake Superior State, Michigan Technological, Northern Michigan and Western Michigan.

As part of the phase-out - in which new employees were not put into MPSERS - the state allowed the institutions to spread their full retirement liabilities across all employees but made a miscalculation in the process, Mr. Buhs said.

So difficult to detect was the mistake that multiple regular independent audits and peer reviews never discovered it, Mr. Buhs said.

As soon as Office of Retirement Services staff discovered the error, they alerted their superiors who advised universities of the situation, Mr. Buhs said.

The \$112 million is equal to just 0.25 percent of total MPSERS assets, he said, and so the refund would have no effect on the system's stability.

### Poll Suggests Support To End Prevailing Wage Is Tepid

While a plurality of voters favor ending Michigan's prevailing wage statute, it may not be enough support to prevent voters from blocking its repeal should it go to an election, a poll released Friday showed.

The poll, from Lansing-based Marketing Resource Group, showed that 49 percent of those asked supported repeal of the act, while 39 percent opposed it. Another 5 percent had no opinion and 11 percent did not know.

The results come from a poll done of 600 likely voters, with an error rate of plus or minus 4 percentage points. The poll was conducted from September 9 to September 14.

The issue of voter support may be moot if the Legislature approves an initiated act outlawing prevailing wage. Repeal supporters have turned in petitions signatures, which are still be reviewed by the state's elections officials.

If the Legislature does not approve the initiated act, then it would go before the voters in the 2016 election.

Perhaps one of the most surprising findings in the poll was that respondents who identified themselves as part of a union household were relatively split on the issue. While 43 percent were opposed, a surprising 39 percent were in favor of repeal.

Overall, those identifying as Republicans were strongest in support for repeal, with 60 percent in favor of ending the law. Democrats and ticket-splitting individuals were strongest against, with 53 percent against repeal.

And non-union households split dead-on, with 47 percent both supporting repeal and opposing repeal.

### Insurance Code Changes To See Committee Meeting This Week

The House Insurance Committee will take up legislation designed to improve competition in the insurance industry and increase company flexibility in developing new products for consumers, and unsurprisingly, the Michigan Association of Health Plans said it is supporting the bills.

The lead sponsor of the bills ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493301" }

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and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493501" }

☐) is { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=325701&locid=1" } (R-DeWitt Township), who said last week the association met with him on the concept and suggested the legislation.

The committee is meeting on the legislation, also sponsored by { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=312601&locid=1" } (D-Westland) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201&locid=1" } (R-Potterville).

The association said the package of bills is the first major update of state health insurance laws in more than 20 years. Over that time, insurance policies, consumers' needs and the insurance marketplace has changed dramatically. This package seeks to keep state laws strong, including those protecting consumers, while recognizing those changes in state and federal law.

"The health insurance industry is rapidly changing, and it is vital that state laws recognize those changes to allow companies to meet the needs of consumers," said Rick Murdock, executive director of the association, which represents virtually all state health insurance companies. "After discussions with Rep. Leonard, state regulators and consumer organizations, we believe this package addresses key issues while ensuring the state maintains strong solvency and consumer protection policies."

The bills, according to the association, would:

- Update the insurance code to give health insurers the ability and greater flexibility to develop new products in response to market demands;
- Streamline sections of the law that regulates health maintenance organizations to reflect changes in state and federal policies that now apply to all insurers;
- Clean up the code by eliminating duplication and outdated sections. For instance, Chapter 36, originally intended to regulate group disability policies, is now duplicated by Chapter 34, which originally regulated individual policies but has been amended over the years to include group insurers and HMOs. It also clarifies that several insurance mandates currently in law only apply to health insurance, and not to auto, life, or property and casualty insurers;
- Modernize the law to recognize electronic means of communications. For instance, it will allow insurance sales through websites without use of an insurance agent, while setting strong consumer protection standards to allow delivery of notices and forms to insureds and enrollees by electronic means if consumers desire;
- Recognize that virtually all insurers today are required to provide services that used to be provided mostly by HMOs, eliminating most special requirements on HMOs.

- Reduce regulatory requirements by streamlining the readability scoring process conducted by state regulators in certain cases where products are similar;
- Add language that addresses situations where policyholders sign up for coverage, use coverage, but never pay the premium;
- Revise the Code to conform to federal law prohibiting pre-existing condition exclusions and follow federal law for processing grievances, simplifying compliance for consumers and insurers; and
- Update the Patient's Right to Independent Review Act to enable Michigan to maintain its own external review process, rather than defaulting to the federal process.

#### Senate Legislation Seeks To Expand Promise Zones

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1) } and at least 12 other senators from both sides of the aisle have introduced legislation to expand promise zones and make some technical amendments for the Department of Treasury to better manage the program.

The bills, { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB53901)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB53901](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB53901)" }<sup>[9]</sup>

and { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54001)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54001](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54001)" }<sup>[10]</sup>,

consolidate current statute related to the program first created under former Governor Jennifer Granholm and inspired by the Kalamazoo Promise, which allows high school graduates from Kalamazoo Public Schools to attend certain universities or community colleges tuition-free within 10 years of graduation.

The main goal, Mr. Hansen's (R-Hart) legislative assistant Anna Mooney said, is to "continue to improve access to higher education for students across the state." The bills are already slated to have a committee hearing next Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in the Senate Economic Development and International Investment Committee chaired by { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301&locid=1>" } (R-Frankenmuth).

Mr. Hansen is the lead sponsor on SB 539, which contains the major components of the package. It allows a governing body, if it is determined to be in the best interest of the public, to declare its intent to establish a promise zone by resolution. That body must then set a date for a public hearing on the adoption of a proposed resolution at least 20 days and not more than 40 days before the date of a hearing, which also must be published twice in a newspaper of general circulation, the bill reads.

At least 15 days after the public hearing, if a governing body intends to proceed with the creation of a promise zone, it must submit an application to the Department of Treasury, which will



review the application and determine if the area is eligible to participate. If it is, SB 539 requires Treasury to certify the eligibility to establish a promise zone.

There were 10 promise zones created during the Granholm administration, but the Jackson Promise Zone recently dissolved and the Muskegon Promise Zone is still under development. Under the bill, 15 governing bodies of eligible entities may be established as promise zones.

"It would be expanding the number ... but also to make technical changes on how it's administered from Treasury's end," Ms. Mooney said.

She said Mr. Hansen and his staff have been working very closely with Treasury on the issue and there are no known issues at this time. They are hopeful that the bills will move quickly through the Legislature, but that of course remains to be seen.

"Some of the changes that are needed in this bill will allow for some Promise Zones to get off the ground," she said. "We believe the timing is pretty essential for some of these zones."

A promise zone is required to fundraise privately for the first two years to distribute scholarships. After that time, if it can raise enough money to show a valid public interest in the program (and thus be sustainable), the zone is able to capture half of the growth in the state education tax as determined by the formula outlined in the bill.

Mr. Hansen's bill also gives local school districts the option to not participate in the resolution set forth by promise zone governing body and lays out a process for dissolution of a promise zone by a governing body.

Cities, townships, counties, local school districts or intermediate school districts not eligible by state standards may also still create a promise zone under Mr. Hansen's bill, but would not be able to capture revenue from the state education tax.

The bill creates some reporting requirements for Treasury to assess how well the program is working. Under the bill, the report is due no later than February 15 of each year and must include:

- The number of students who received financial assistance pursuant to the approved Promise Zone Development Plan during the prior calendar year;
- Of those students, the number who successfully completed a certificate or associate program, a bachelor's program, or a postgraduate or professional program;
- The number who withdrew from classes during the prior calendar year;
- The number of students who initially reached successful completion of more than the equivalent of 223 semester credits during the prior calendar year and the average time that took; and

- The graduation rate for students who first received financial assistance during each of the six prior calendar years.

The other bill in the package, SB 540, sponsored by Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint), amends a section of the State Education Tax Act to align it with the other bill.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } (R-Escanaba), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101&locid=1" } (R-Evart), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301&locid=1" } (R-Sheridan), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161201&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), Sent. Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=57701&locid=1" } (R-Battle Creek), Sen. Jim Marleau (R-Lake Orion), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1" } (D-Dearborn Heights), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1" } (D-Southfield) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1" } (R-St. Joseph) are listed co-sponsors for both bills.

### Court Rejects City's Action To Change Retiree Insurance

Harper Woods could not simply change retiree health care benefits that were established contractually, the Court of Appeals ruled Friday.

In sending the case, *Harper Woods Retirees Association v. Harper Woods* ({ HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20151001\_C318450\_61\_318450.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" }), back to the trial court, however, the appeals panel also said the retirees will have to show they have a vested interest in the health care benefits that would extend beyond the limit of any contract.

In an effort to cut costs, Harper Woods notified retirees that it was changing its health care benefits plan to one that would impose larger deductibles and co-pays than the plan the retirees were using and had been included in their contract.

The retirees formed an association and sued, but the trial court found for the city.

Judge Michael Gadola, joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=76401&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152701&locid=1" }, held the city could not simply change the terms of the contract because it could save money.

The first principle of changing a contract is that a change be mutually agreed to, the court said. And even though the proposals to change the contract could appear reasonable, that is an invalid reason to unilaterally change a contract.

The court also rejected the argument that a 6<sup>th</sup> U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling allowing a community to change a contract was a governing ruling. State courts do not have to abide with the findings of U.S. courts that are lower than the Supreme Court, the appeals panel said.

### Court Throws Out Gag Order In Wayne County Jail Case

A gag order blocking anyone who might be involved in a trial involving the failed Wayne County Jail was thrown out by the Court of Appeals, which called the order overbroad, vague and constituting a prior restraint of the press and free speech.

The decision reversed the Wayne Circuit Court, in *People v. Sledge* and *People v. Collins* ({  
HYPERLINK  
"http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20151001\_C324680\_79\_324680.  
OPN.PDF" \t "blank" }).

The case revolves around the decision to halt construction of a new jail after only about a quarter of the structure was built and was running more than \$100 million over budget.

Carla Sledge was the county's former financial director and Steven Collins was the county's assistant corporation counsel, and both were indicted of two common law offences and two counts of willful neglect of duty.

The trial judge ordered proceedings in the case sealed, and further ordered that no one involved in the upcoming trial speak to reporters.

The Detroit Free Press protested and filed an action, arguing the orders were a violation of the constitutional right of freedom of speech. Following a hearing, the judge unsealed the proceedings but kept the gag order in place.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152701&locid=1"  
, joined by Judge Michael Gadola and { HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=190101&locid=1" }, held the gag  
order was an unconstitutional prior restraint on the freedom of the press.

In addition, it was unclear in its writing as to who might be considered a person participating in the trial, the appellate judges said. There are times when gag orders are permitted, the court held, but in this case the trial judge failed to meet the strict standards that would permit such an order.

### Capital Notebook

**WILDLIFE GRANTS:** The Department of Natural Resources this week awarded \$910,000 in grants for habitat improvement projects around the state.

The largest of the grants was \$99,400 to the Michigan United Conservation Clubs for projects across the Lower Peninsula, followed by \$81,095 for projects in Crawford and Oscoda counties.

The grants are funded with hunting and fishing license revenue.

**CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION:** Following adoption of new certificate of need standards, the Department of Health and Human Services has designated Accreditation for Cardiovascular Excellence and Corazon, Incorporated as the two accrediting bodies for cardiac catheterization services in the state.

**ACTIVE SHOOTER:** With the recent spate of mass shootings around the country, the Michigan Occupational Health and Safety Administration is participating in an active shooter training seminar hosted by the Delta College School of Criminal Justice.

"This training will focus on helping organizations develop strategies for effective crisis management to prepare for, manage, and recover from the aftermath of workplace violence, traumatic accidents, fatalities and workplace emergencies," the agency said in an email announcing the free training.

Those interested can register by contacting Dawn Jurik at (989) 686-9176 or { HYPERLINK "mailto:dawnjurik@delta.edu" \t "blank" }.

Appointments By The Governor

**COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMISSION:** State Police { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303901&locid=1" } of Brighton succeeds David Andrews to represent experts in the delivery of human, educational, environmental, or public safety services; Heidi Magyar of Laingsburg succeeds LaMont Campbell to represent experts in the delivery of human, educational, environmental, or public safety services; Michelle Rabideau of Grand Rapids succeeds Janet Lawson to represent experts in the delivery of human, educational, environmental, or public safety services; and Julie Calley of Portland, Robert Collier of Grand Rapids, Bob Kolt of Haslett, David Price of Lansing and John Truscott of Okemos are reappointed.

All of the appointments expire October 1, 2018 and are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

**EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Shirley Stancato of Detroit succeeds Roy Roberts, who resigned, for a term expiring August 8, 2017, and Mike Morris of Northville is reappointed for a term expiring August 8, 2019. The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

**MICHIGAN AUTISM COUNCIL:** Jeff DeLay of Davison succeeds Scott Gilman to represent Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans and Community Mental Health Services Programs and Diane Heinzelman of Petoskey, Anthony Ianni of Novi and Amy Matthews of Grand Haven are reappointed, all for terms expiring September 30, 2019. The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD INVESTMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Jason Gold of Ypsilanti and Beverly Burns of Detroit are reappointed for terms expiring July 22, 2019. The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

**EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES:** Karen McPhee of Lowell, senior education policy advisor to the governor; State Board of Education member Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor); and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393401&locid=1" } of Okemos are appointed for terms expiring at the pleasure of the governor.

**MIDWEST HIGHER EDUCATION COMPACT:** Steven Ender of Grand Rapids, Ms. McPhee and Mr. Whiston are appointed for terms expiring at the pleasure of the governor.

**STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION:** Pamela Jarvis of Hastings succeeds Dennis Schornack, who resigned, for a term expiring November 15, 2016, and David Doyle of Okemos is reappointed for a term expiring November 15, 2018. The appointments are subject to Senate advice and consent.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

**Tuesday, October 6**

**Veterans Trust Fund Board of Trustees, Veterans Trust Fund Central Office, Fifth Floor, 222 North Washington Square, Lansing, 10:30 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dmva/MVTF\_Agenda\_2014\_451554\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

**Thursday, October 8**

**Eastern Upper Peninsula Citizens Advisory Committee, Clark Township Community Center, 133 East M-134, Cedarville, 6:30 p.m. (Following Natural Resources Commission; { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/EUPCAC\_2015\_October\_8\_Agenda\_501422\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

Supplemental Event Planner

**Tuesday, October 6**

**Michigan Laborers' Training & Apprenticeship Institute's Mobile Training Unit Event, Capitol Building exterior, Lansing, 9:30 a.m.**

**Saturday, October 10**

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } (R)  
Fundraiser, Tavern and Tap, 101 South Washington Square, Lansing, 5 p.m.

## **Monday, October 19**

**82nd House District Candidate Jake Davison (R) Fundraiser, Cavelli's, 44 West Park Street, Lapeer, 5:30 p.m.**

**124 West Allegan Street, Suite 1200**

**Lansing Michigan 48933**

**Phone: 517-482-3500 | Fax: 517-482-4367 | Email: { HYPERLINK**

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**Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.**

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**From:** Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 16, 2015 6:42 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Friday, October 16, 2015  
**Attachments:** 151016dayplan.htm; Oct16.htm; Oct19Schedule.htm



## Michigan Report for Friday, October 16, 2015

Newsmaker Friday: Price Says Third Grade Reading Took Over Her Heart

Presumptive Parole Has Uphill Battle In Senate

EPA Creates Drinking Water Task Force For Flint

Bishop Shows Slight Lead Over Gilbert In Funds With All Reports In

Supreme Court Vacates Appellate Ruling On MCCA, FOIA

Snyder Names Task Force To Draft Special Education Changes

Appeals Court Upholds Registry For New Non-Sex Convictions

Campaign Notes

Capital Notebook: Court Again Continues Hearing In State, HP Case

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Subscribers Please Note

## Calendars

Day Planner

Legislative Committee Schedules

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## Volume #54, Report #206 -- Friday, October 16, 2015

### Newsmaker Friday: Price Says Third Grade Reading Took Over Her Heart

The process leading up to the vote on two separate bills related to education policy was "intense," { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1>" }, who led the charge on legislation to get third-graders reading at grade level and another outlining educator evaluations in the state, told Gongwer News Service.

"I think maybe I can sleep now," Ms. Price said Friday. The House voted Thursday { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482201](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482201)" }, which would set up interventions for students struggling with reading in their early elementary grades and would also retain students if they are not reading proficiently at the end of third grade.

The bill was more controversial than { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10301](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10301)" }, outlining educator evaluations, and it took two long session days this week before the third-grade reading bill had enough votes to eventually pass the House 57-48.

"It was a heavy lift," Ms. Price said.

Though a similar bill did come up last term on reading proficiency, it never got enough traction for the full House to bring it up on the floor.

But this term, { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } also made it a priority. A work group was put together with various lawmakers and stakeholders who met for three hours every Thursday during the summer, Ms. Price said.

"That process was very intense," Ms. Price said.

Ms. Price, during her floor speech on the bill Thursday, said she wouldn't consider herself "fire-y," but when talking with stakeholders on the third grade reading bill, she said it wasn't difficult for her to hold her ground on ideas she thought would harm the legislation.

"It's hard for me not to get fired up about this though," she said. "Every so often there is one piece of legislation that takes over your heart. For me it is this bill. I think it is likely because I love to read so much and I don't want any child to be deprived of that ability."



Ms. Price said her passion originated with hearing the statistics of how many students in the state were not reading proficiently before entering the fourth grade. Using the state assessment, it's 30 percent of kids, she said. But when looking at a more rigorous national assessment, it's almost 70 percent.

Ms. Price said she used to have conversations with former Rep. Joe Haveman about how the state could decrease its prison population, and both agreed it started at early childhood.

"If you start giving children a better education ... then they will have more options in life," she said.

The bill began as a bipartisan effort with Democrats involved in the work group and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301&locid=1) } (D-Ann Arbor), the minority vice chair on the Education Committee, and House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1) } (D-Auburn Hills) co-sponsors on the bill.

However, Democrats ended up offering a variety of amendments that were not adopted to the bill, and the bill passed with only three Democrats voting in support. Mr. Zemke and Mr. Greimel removed their names from the bill.

"I will just be honest," Ms. Price said of losing the Democratic support. "I was very disappointed."

Ms. Price said it is not a partisan issue, but there was a disagreement on how to get increased reading proficiency in the state.

"I don't think anyone disagrees our children's reading scores are too low," she said.

Ms. Price said the retention portion of the bill got too much attention. She said the intervention pieces in the bill are the key. But last term, instead of being in a single bill, the legislation was a package of two. One held the retention portion and the other held the interventions.

Ms. Price said she believes that led to a focus on the retention last term and this one.

"Truly, I do not want to retain any kids," she said.

On the Senate side, Ms. Price said she believes { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1) } (R-St. Clair), chair of the Senate Education Committee, is on board with the bill. She said he was on the work group as well.

"I have every reason to believe it will pass in the Senate," she said.

Another bill that passed this week, SB 103, which outlines educator evaluations in the state, began dramatically but eventually passed with relative ease in the House.

"If you had asked me about that three months ago, I would have (been surprised)," Ms. Price said of the bill passing drama-free.

But Ms. Price said the committee worked hard with stakeholders to get a final product out of committee.

"We were pretty confident when it came out of the committee it would move forward easily," she said.

On what's next for the Education Committee, Ms. Price said Mr. Zemke and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371701&locid=1" } (R-Holland), the vice chair of the committee, have been working in a group discussing teacher preparedness.

She also said a debate on how to move forward with Detroit Public Schools is also coming to the committee.

Mr. Snyder has advocated getting state funds help pay off DPS debt and developing a new district in the city.

Ms. Price said she understands where the governor is coming from with his proposal, but also knows her caucus will be hesitant because of the money involved.

She also said she wants something sustainable put in place.

"I am very concerned that whatever is put in place is sustainable and in 10 years we won't be right back here," she said. "That means for me financial stability and academic improvement."

## Presumptive Parole Has Uphill Battle In Senate

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } was not shy earlier this week about the fact that his caucus has numerous concerns and questions about a bill allowing presumptive parole for inmates reaching their earliest release date, and responses from several members of that caucus on Friday only further illustrate the bill is in trouble in the chamber.

"I did not hear one person pushing this at all, and I think it's very telling this wasn't referred to Judiciary committee or the corrections budget (subcommittee) where it should be," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1" } (R-Lawton) said of general caucus support or opposition to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413801" }

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Indeed, when the House passed the bill earlier this month, Mr. Meekhof sent it to the Senate Government Operations Committee, which tends to serve either as a bill graveyard or a place where very controversial legislation that needs a longer period of time to review goes.

Of the prospects of this bill in particular, Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801&locid=1" } (R-White Lake Township) said it was likely the latter. Mr. Kowall said he does not himself have a position on the bill as it was sent over.

"Right now I'm listening to all sides," he said. "There's concerns, rightfully so, with prosecutors and sheriffs. It's a long way from being done."

Having run a small police department himself, Mr. Kowall said, he shares the concerns of some on whether those who would be paroled are still a danger to society and whether they were prior to being locked up.

"It's all the typical concerns over what type of parolees will be looked at to let out, the danger to society, (and) are we letting out people we're afraid of or people we're simply mad at," Mr. Kowall said. "It's all the same discussions that have been going on in the House and it's just going to take a while."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1" } (R-St. Joseph), chair of the Senate Appropriations Corrections Subcommittee, said all the conversations are exactly what need to be had for meaningful reform, though. He said his colleagues have been interested in whether HB 4138 would indeed show savings to the cost of corrections, how much, and whether it begins to change the way the department operates "for the benefit of the taxpayers and public safety."

"I have a lot of questions as to what the intent of the bill is and whether or not the intent matches the goals and objectives. If the intent is to save us money, I'm not sure this gets us to the kind of savings we want," he said. "If the intent is to provide the kind of services necessary to reintegrate offenders into Michigan society after they've served their time, I'm not sure this accomplishes that goal either."

Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) earlier this week pointed to Mr. Proos as being one of the lead legislators on the matter as the Senate considers the legislation and other types of Corrections reform. When asked about those alternatives, Mr. Proos listed numerous options, including:

- Continuing investment in law enforcement as the deterrent and as the public safety factor;
- Continuing investment in things like the Swift and Sure program, as well as the pilot program Parole Sanction Certainty (which follow the same model as Swift and Sure on the probation side to ensure parolees are receiving the kind of services they need to prevent them from becoming repeat offenders, he said); and
- A continued effort to ensure the cost structure in the Department of Corrections is "closely aligned with private sector costs so as to get the best taxpayer value possible," he said.

In fact, those issues are so central to this matter, Mr. Proos said, that he expects to have a hearing to discuss prisoner education, the positives and negatives of that expenditure, and whether it's meeting present-day job needs in various communities.

"After all, every three-to-four years, we parole the entire population of the Department of Corrections," he said. "If the folks are not prepared for parole, the question should be asked, why aren't they?"

He continued, "You have to peel away all the misinformation that exists on all sides of the issues and try to get to the root cause and the root problem. This isn't just a discussion about finances, it's not just a discussion about criminals, it has to be a more comprehensive and broad conversation about corrections, the judiciary and law enforcement and our entire criminal justice system."

Of the House plan, he said it calls into question "the most salient question about parole" in that some offenders are not as ready as others to go before the Parole Board before their earliest release date.

But Ms. Schuitmaker, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee who also served on the House committee during her time there, said the rate at which Michigan already paroles most of its prisoners is exactly why the legislation isn't necessary.

"We've done a lot in probation and swift and sure ... to try to rehabilitate people or hold them accountable to break the cycle of crime," she said. "I think the statistics don't bear it out and most people are let out within their first year of their earliest release date."

"I think also, we've had two reports from (Council of State Governments) come in and dispel the myth that we have all these people in prison that shouldn't be there," Ms. Schuitmaker said. "I think when you take a look at how we rank comparatively, we send fewer people initially to prison than surrounding states and that's why you see on the back-end that we keep more people. Michigan does a good job keeping people with substance abuse problems out of prison."

And the cost savings are "minimal" at best, she said.

As to the chance the bill might have in the Senate, especially in the immediate future, Mr. Proos said his hope is simply that the bill takes the time necessary for such a monumental change.

"We'll look at the positives and negatives of the House package and take that into account as it relates to comprehensive reform and criminal justice," he said. "I commend the House for working on a package that has opened the door to real conversations (about Corrections)."

## EPA Creates Drinking Water Task Force For Flint

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced Friday it had developed a Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force to provide technical assistance to the city and the Department of Environmental Quality as they work through the water issues in the city.

The task force will be led by Region 5 Deputy Regional Administrator Susan Hedman and will assist with developing and implementing a plan to secure water quality, including measures to optimize corrosion control, it said. Task force members will also be available for consultation purposes, as well as to coordinate, as necessary, with federal, state and local public health agencies to assist with protection of public health.

"EPA is committed to working with our state and local partners to ensure a safe and reliable drinking water supply for the residents of Flint, Michigan," Ms. Hedman said in a statement. "The formation of this task force continues our commitment to providing technical assistance to the city of Flint and the state of Michigan."

The task force is intended to provide technical guidance for both the coming switch back to the Detroit Water and Sewerage System and, once it is completed, to the new pipeline from Lake Huron by the Karegnondi Water Authority. The various officials and experts are intended to be available on-site in Flint.

Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said the switch back to Detroit water was expected to be completed by 5 p.m. Friday, earlier than expected.

The DEQ welcomed the additional assistance, spokesperson Brad Wurfel said. "We are glad to have the continued technical support and counsel from our federal partners," he said. "We have been working closely with the U.S. EPA on the challenges in Flint, including its added presence on the city's technical advisory and the Governor's 10-point plan. This is welcome news and we anticipate it will help us implement the Governor's strategy."

Elected officials from the region also hailed the EPA's assistance.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1) } (D-Flint) said he had requested the EPA send in advisors.

"I welcome the EPA's announcement today that they'll be sending technical advisors to Flint to assist the city and MDEQ on site with ensuring the safety of Flint's water," Mr. Kildee said in a statement. "The task force is a result of letters and phone calls over the past week with Administrator McCarthy and the EPA. In those communications, I repeatedly requested that the EPA send technical advisors to Flint to help with the transition of water sources. I am pleased to see that within a week the EPA has responded positively to my request, and I'm hopeful that this announcement is a step forward for the future of Flint's water."

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=7801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=7801&locid=1) } (D-Bloomfield Township) also took some credit for the additional assistance being lent to Flint.

"All Michiganders deserve access to safe and clean drinking water, and the increased lead levels found in the Flint water system are simply unacceptable. I personally raised this issue with EPA Administrator McCarthy and have called on the EPA to provide the necessary resources and technical expertise to help ensure the water system is safe for drinking, cooking and bathing," Mr. Peters said in a statement. "All levels of government need to work together to prevent this

type of situation from ever happening again, and the Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force is a good first step."

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1>" } (D-Flint) was also pleased to hear the news.

"The EPA plays an important role in managing Flint's crisis recovery. We should work closely with them and consider whether they may be able to offer additional support," Senate { [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1>" } (D-Flint) said. "I also hope the EPA will be able to help us determine what happened and provide us with a solid oversight framework going forward. It's crucial that we take steps to ensure this never happens again."

The Task Force will be comprised of scientists and technical experts from the EPA Region 5 office in Chicago, the National Risk Management Research Lab in Cincinnati and the EPA drinking water program. In addition, EPA will ask { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } to designate a DEQ official and the Mayor of Flint to designate a city official to serve as points of contact for the Task Force, the EPA said.

Bishop Shows Slight Lead Over Gilbert In Funds With All Reports In

{ [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=17501&locid=1>" } was able to outraise Democratic challenger Melissa Gilbert, but not by much, his quarterly campaign finance report showed.

Mr. Bishop (R-Rochester) raised \$213,962 for the quarter compared to the \$200,372 Ms. Gilbert raised (See { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542050104](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542050104)" }). But his \$396,776 in cash gave him a substantial funding head start in the race. He has raised \$529,352 total for the cycle. He also brought in \$2,975 total for the cycle from other authorized funds.

He did, though, still have \$31,872 in debt.

Paul Mitchell is leading the race to succeed { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=3701&locid=1>" } (R-Harrison Township), at least based on funding, reporting \$328,025 raised in his first quarter in the race. He had \$363,758 cash on hand but also had a \$250,000 loan from himself as part of those funds.

Ms. Miller, as she wound down her campaign, still had \$739,721 in cash, though she raised nothing for the quarter and only \$7,675 for the cycle.

Democrat Paul Clements does have a way to go to catch { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=2401&locid=1>" } (R-St. Joseph)

on fundraising. Mr. Upton reported collecting \$235,000 for the quarter and \$1.28 million so far for the cycle. He had \$829,168 in cash.

Among his total funding, Mr. Upton had \$67,493 for the quarter and \$89,790 for the cycle from other authorized committees.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=246701&locid=1" } (R-Crystal Falls), had he chosen to run, would have been substantially behind his likely Democratic challenger, at least in current fundraising. Mr. Benishek reported raising \$119,903 for the quarter and \$633,467 for the cycle. He showed \$446,341 cash on hand, which was more than Lon Johnson, but still had outstanding debts of \$89,500.

**SUBSCRIBERS PLEASE NOTE: { HYPERLINK**

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=87801&locid=1" } (R-Tipton) slightly outraised challenger { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318101&locid=1" } (D-Saline) for the quarter. In addition to the \$133,160 his campaign raised in contributions for the quarter, his leadership fund, the Walberg Victory Fund, transferred \$77,970 to his campaign committee. That fund provided him \$93,844 in total for the cycle. Those receipts were included in his \$922,034 in cash on hand reported Thursday.

**Supreme Court Vacates Appellate Ruling On MCCA, FOIA**

The Supreme Court in { HYPERLINK "http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hubfs/434504/150001\_2015-10-16\_or.pdf?t=1445014759186&utm\_source=hs\_email&utm\_medium=email&utm\_content=22923628" \t "blank" } has vacated a Court of Appeals ruling holding that the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act and remanded the case to the appellate court for further action.

Specifically, the Supreme Court vacated the conclusion of the Court of Appeals that the establishment of the MCCA did not violate Article IV, Section 25 of the Constitution, which requires the section or sections of any act altered or amended by a bill to be re-enacted and published at length.

The MCCA statute specifically exempts the records of the association from being public, but the Legislature did not also amend the FOIA to exempt MCCA records.

In its order regarding *CPAN v. Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association* (SC Docket No. 150001), the Supreme Court said the Court of Appeals on remand should rule on an issue it left untouched in its first ruling - whether the MCCA is a public body. If it is a public body, then it should again decide whether the statute creating it violated the Constitution's requirement that all statutes amended should be re-enacted and published.

If it is not a public body, then the entire issue is moot because then the MCCA would not fall under the jurisdiction of the FOIA.

The Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault and others have urged the opening up of MCCA records. Insurers, which run the MCCA, have resisted the change.

The Supreme Court held arguments Tuesday on whether to grant leave to appeal (See { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542030104](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542030104)" } ).

Major points of discussion during those arguments were the question of whether the MCCA is a public body and whether the Legislature erred in not amending the Freedom of Information Act.

Attorneys for the two sides vigorously disagreed on whether the MCCA is a public body with CPAN contending it is and the MCCA arguing it is not.

In a statement, CPAN general counsel George Sinas said he expected CPAN to prevail on the question of whether the MCCA is a public body.

"When the Michigan Legislature publicly creates such entities through its legislative power, the entity created should be considered a 'public body' and therefore be subject to FOIA," he said. "This allows that all interested citizens who impacted by that entity will have the ability to learn the truth about the way it operates."

#### Snyder Names Task Force To Draft Special Education Changes

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } announced Friday a new task force to turn the comments { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1>" } collected over the summer on special education into new policy recommendations on special education.

Mr. Calley started his listening tour on special education at about the same time the Department of Education was seeing substantial backlash to a package of administrative rules changes that opponents said would give more power to school districts to limit or deny services.

Among the key recommendations Mr. Calley collected from his public meetings and online surveys was stronger language controlling how districts use restraint and seclusion to control behavior.

He had asked the State Board of Education, when he presented his findings to that body (See { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=541760103](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541760103)" } ), for help developing a dispute resolution process.

Mr. Snyder is seeking quick work from the task force, asking for a final report before the end of the year.

"This group will help us remain focused on putting Michigan's special needs children and their families front-and-center when considering reforms to this vital component in our educational system," Mr. Snyder said.



In addition to Mr. Calley, who will chair the panel, the task force includes education board members Michelle Fecteau (D-Detroit) and Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor).

Legislators on the panel include { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-Saint Clair), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=41301&locid=1" } (D-Taylor), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353601&locid=1" } (R-Clarkston) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=264501&locid=1" } (D-Allen Park).

Karen McPhee, Mr. Snyder's education adviser, as well as Walled Lake Schools elementary teacher Melody Arabo, who was Michigan Teacher of the Year for 2014-15 will also participate, as will Mary Bouwense, president of the Grand Rapids Education Association and a special education teacher; Elmer Cerano, executive director of Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service; Teri Chapman, director of the Department of Education Office of Special Education; Diane Heinzelman director of special education for Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District and chair of the Michigan Autism Council; Laura Jones, founder of Special Education Advocacy and Development; Scott Koenigsknecht, superintendent of the Ingham Intermediate School District; and Marcie Lipsitt, founder of Michigan Alliance for Special Education.

### Appeals Court Upholds Registry For New Non-Sex Convictions

The requirement, added in 2011, that those who have a prior criminal sexual conduct conviction who commit a new felony have to register as sex offenders is a recidivist law and so is constitutional, the Court of Appeals said in a case released Friday.

Anthony Tucker, who was required to register after pleading guilty to felonious assault and domestic violence charges, argued the law was unconstitutional because it added to the penalty of his prior offense. He had been released from probation for a 1990 assault with intent to commit criminal sexual conduct conviction before the registry took effect in October 1995.

Mr. Tucker argued the new provision requiring him to register was an ex post facto addition to that earlier charge.

The court, in a per curiam published decision signed by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=108801&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152701&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77401&locid=1" } (*People v. Tucker*, { HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20151015\_C322151\_31\_322151.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" } }), found the law met the standards for a recidivist statute.

"Defendant's registration was not required until he committed another felony in 2013," the court said. "His 1990 conviction was used to enhance the consequences of his 2013 felony, which was committed after the effective date of the statute."

To be considered *ex post facto*, the law would have had to require Mr. Tucker to register immediately on its effective date based on his prior conviction, the court said.

The court also rejected Mr. Tucker's argument that the prohibition on him being in school safety zones and the requirement that he register in person were cruel and unusual punishment. The court, citing a variety of prior cases, found the provisions were not punishment.

**CONDOMINIUM OWNERS:** Residents of a condominium are on their own land and so cannot sue for slip and fall injuries, the court said (*Francescutti v. Fox Chase Condominium Association*, { HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20151015\_C323111\_36\_323111.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" }).

Michael Francescutti sued after such a fall, arguing the association was negligent for not keeping the snow and ice from the walks. The association countered that it was an open and obvious hazard.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=108901&locid=1" }, joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=220101&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152801&locid=1" }, said the association owed Mr. Francescutti no duty as a lessor because it was not. He, as a unit owner, was a co-owner of the common area where he fell.

"Defendant is not leasing the common areas to plaintiff under a lease and, therefore, it is not a 'lessor'," Mr. Sawyer said.

Nor, because he is a co-owner, is he an invitee or a licensee owed any duty of care by the association, Mr. Sawyer said.

## Campaign Notes

**FARM BUREAU ENDORSES WHITEFORD:** The Michigan Farm Bureau AgriPAC has endorsed Rep. Mary Whiteford of Allegan in the 80<sup>th</sup> House District special election.

Ms. Whiteford is up against seven other Republicans in the special election primary for the seat, which was vacated when former Rep. Cindy Gamrat was expelled. Ms. Gamrat is also running for re-election.

The Farm Bureau also endorsed Ms. Whiteford in her 2014 bid.

Capital Notebook: Court Again Continues Hearing In State, HP Case

Kent Circuit Judge Christopher Yates continued the hearing held Friday on the state's request for a preliminary injunction ordering Hewlett Packard to turn over the source code for the Business Application Modernization project for the Department of State and assist the department with an orderly transition following the state's termination of HP's contract.

Department spokesperson Gisgite Davila Gendreau said the two sides have agreed on a transition plan and that HP agreed to provide the source code by Monday until the judge rules on the state's request.

The hearing will continue November 2.

**TOURISM SOCIAL MEDIA WORKSHOP RFP:** Travel Michigan has issued a request for proposals for a contractor to create a series of regional workshops and materials to educate Michigan's travel industry on utilizing social media to promote their destinations and better engage with Pure Michigan.

The RFP seeks a contractor to educate members of the state's tourism industry on the latest social media strategies, trends and best practices; organize and host a series of regional, in-person workshops and develop a Social Media Tourism Toolkit; create and maintain a social media Resource Library and provide industry members with a self-assessment workbook that will allow them to audit their social media efforts and presence.

Application questions will be due via email by 3 p.m. Eastern Time on October 22, 2015, a q-and-a posted to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation website on October 28 and electronic proposal submissions due by 3 p.m. on November 4, 2015.

The complete RFP can be viewed online at { HYPERLINK "http://www.michiganbusiness.org/public-notice-rfps/" \t "blank" }

**BONE MARROW STANDARDS:** The Certificate of Need Commission announced Friday that the members of its Bone Marrow Transplant Standards Advisory Committee had been posted on its { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71551\_2945\_5106-122713--,00.html" \t "blank" }.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## **Tuesday, October 20**

**Administrative Board/Building Committee, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/bcagenda\_16764\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

**Administrative Board/Finance and Claims Committee, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/fcagenda\_16770\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

Administrative Board/Transportation and Natural Resources, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.michigan.gov/documents/buymichiganfirst/dnr\_agenda\_222565\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }

## Wednesday, October 21

Natural Resources Trust Fund, Lansing Community College West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone, Lansing, 9 a.m. ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Agenda\_-\_October\_21\_2015\_\_502659\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }

## Thursday, October 22

~~Canceled: State Police Retirement Board, Conference Room A, First Floor, General Office Building, State Secondary Complex, 7150 Harris Drive, Dimondale, 1:30 p.m.~~

### Subscribers Please Note

An item in Thursday's Capital Notebook contained the incorrect year through which Court of Appeals { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=76201&locid=1" }'s term as chief judge runs. It runs through 2017.

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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**From:** Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 12, 2015 7:04 PM  
**To:** Bennett, Jennifer (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Friday, June 12, 2015  
**Attachments:** Jun12.htm; 150612dayplan.htm



## **Michigan Report for Friday, June 12, 2015**

Newsmaker Friday: Fitton Reminds Policymakers 'Health Care Is Different'

Smith Preliminary Hearing Postponed For Medical Evaluation

Appeals Court Outlines Limits On Emergency Managers In Flint Water Case

Whiston: Focus Has To Be On Classroom

Report: Most Counties Short On Physicians

Courser Gets Some Push Back On Vaccine Post

Former Rep. Roy Schmidt Released On Bond, Faces Pot Charges

Budget Bills Presented

State Reports First West Nile Activity Of 2015

Snyder Announces Restructuring Of Great Lakes Governors

Snyder Appoints Middle-Eastern American Affairs Commission

Calley's Brother Charged In Hit And Run

Reports Of Auditor General Doug Ringler

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

## **Calendars**

Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #116 -- Friday, June 12, 2015

### Newsmaker Friday: Fitton Reminds Policymakers 'Health Care Is Different'

As he prepares to retire after spending his entire professional life working on the Medicaid system in Michigan, Stephen Fitton said in an interview: "Health care is different," it does not work like classic economic markets, and the country is still struggling to find the model that will work to provide the best mix of overall coverage while promoting personal responsibility and cost effectiveness.

Lawmakers and other policymakers should watch how the various experiments work and "try to be objective about what works and what doesn't, because you end up with ideology, and I'm not trying to point in either direction really, sort of driving how people interpret, you know, everything through this lens of ideology," Mr. Fitton, now head of the Medical Services Administration in the Department of Health and Human Services, said.

Officially leaving state service on June 30, Mr. Fitton was hired by the state in February 1973. His retirement at this time matches the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of Medicaid by Congress and then President Lyndon Johnson, and in an interview he noted how his career has largely spanned the history of that law.

He called the work, "incredibly important, and I think it's incredibly gratifying to be in a profession that does have the potential to contribute in a positive way to a lot of peoples' lives."

Medicaid has helped individuals get medical care. That means more than helping people when they are sick, though that alone is important, he said. It means helping people be able to return to the labor market, helping them find jobs and live a more full life.

Which helped bring meaning to his life as well, Mr. Fitton said. "I'm a Christian," he said, "And when I look at the Bible, it really is about being helpful to those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged and poor."

"Ultimately, if you aren't about helping your fellow man, you're missing out," he added.

Interviewed in his office, where his desk, worktable and credenza are stacked with papers and reports ("It's always kind of been about the work") and a model of Spartan Stadium, Mr. Fitton joked about how recently he has stopped getting the important emails. Those now go elsewhere.

He has also had visitors. Signing in with the security guard at his office's building, the guard asked the reporter, "Going to say goodbye, huh?" Shortly before sitting down for the interview, Mr. Fitton was visited by former Community Health Director Jim Haveman to commiserate, and grab a picture of the two together.

He says he stumbled into working with Medicaid. His original plan, when he was hired, was to go to graduate school and look at being a counselor. He realized quickly he was not cut out to be a counselor.

But, he also said it would have been "kind of absurd" to tell him then that he would end up overseeing Medicaid in the state.

"I didn't even aspire to it because it took a long time to kind of progress," he said.

And while he has spent his career working in various aspects of Medicaid in the state and in the different departments that oversaw it, Mr. Fitton said the biggest success he was part of came only recently.

The Healthy Michigan Medicaid expansion has been the "crowning achievement," Mr. Fitton said. The expansion allowed the state to expand services to a "new, big population" of individuals whose incomes are up to 137 percent of the federal poverty level.

The program was adopted by the Legislature following a difficult and lengthy debate in 2013. It officially began accepting individuals in April 2014, and at the time state officials expected that by the end of 2015, 470,000 people would sign up for the program.

In fact, the state was far short on its estimate. As of this past Monday, more than 585,400 people had signed up for coverage under the program.

"It was landmark legislation," Mr. Fitton said. He gave most credit for the success in winning the program to { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } and to Mr. Haveman. A proposal that massive and significant "needs champions," Mr. Fitton said, and that Mr. Snyder was "all in was huge."

Mr. Fitton said his biggest part in the effort was to show legislators that Michigan had an effectively run Medicaid system, to combat the attitude some lawmakers had that, "Why would we put people in a broken system?"

By showing lawmakers the state had good outcomes with its Medicaid plan, "that changed the tone in that part of the debate."

One of the few frustrations Mr. Fitton expressed in the interview was that at his position he is removed from the ability to work with and see first-hand how the program can and has helped individuals. Some of that is evident from assessments filled out by participants, but it does not put him in contact with persons who have enrolled in the program and been helped.

In terms of advice he would provide state policymakers, Mr. Fitton said: "You have to start with one fundamental truth: everyone needs access to health care."



The debate on health insurance and access to insurance has often faced arguments from typically younger, healthier people that they take care of themselves and don't need insurance. But "nobody knows when they will get sick," and access to health care has to be there, he said.

The federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act - which made the Healthy Michigan program even possible - "is certainly imperfect," Mr. Fitton said, and "we spend too much on healthcare" in the United States. He said changes have to be found to help control the overall costs.

He acknowledged that Americans do need to take better care of themselves by not smoking, by eating a healthier diet and by exercising. The Healthy Michigan plan, in fact, requires individuals to take steps to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

But still, "it has to be recognized that everyone needs access when they need it," Mr. Fitton said.

He also said officials need to be wary of arguments that government should get out of health care altogether and let it operate as a free market enterprise.

Health care does not fall into classic market scenarios, it cannot be traded as a commodity, he said. It is not cost sensitive as are other products and services. The consumers tend not to be price sensitive, Mr. Fitton said. When most people are faced with having to have a service that could save their lives, they tend not to care about the cost, he said. And prices and costs can be negotiated down dramatically by large insurance carriers but not by individuals.

Health care can "incent demand," in a way few other industries can do, Mr. Fitton said. For example, he said commercials encouraging the elderly to get mobility scooters because Medicare will help pay for the scooter has led to a sharp rise in the use of scooters.

All that means the U.S. will continue to experiment to find the most effective way to provide health care, and lawmakers should watch how those systems work before jumping to conclusions based on individual ideologies, he said.

While retiring from the state, Mr. Fitton said he plans to continue working in the field by consulting.

"I hope I have the same satisfaction, translating that into helping people have better lives," he said.

#### Smith Preliminary Hearing Postponed For Medical Evaluation

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1) }'s preliminary hearing for allegedly shooting up his ex-wife's vehicle has been postponed to June 25 so he can undergo a medical evaluation, as his lawyer requested on Friday.

Mr. Smith's (D-Detroit) attorney Godfrey Dillard did not return requests for comment on what kind of medical evaluation Mr. Smith needs and why he requested one.

36<sup>th</sup> District Judge Michael Wagner adjourned the preliminary hearing and set the new date for June 25.

Mr. Smith is facing charges of felonious assault, domestic violence, malicious destruction of personal property \$20,000 or more and possessing a firearm during the commission of a felony after an incident with his ex-wife last month.

Though the two have different versions of the story, Mr. Smith did tell police - according to a police report obtained by The Detroit News - that he did the "most stupid thing in his life" when he shot at his wife's vehicle.

Since the incident, Mr. Smith has returned to the Senate, though he has been stripped of committee assignments and other responsibilities.

Also according to { HYPERLINK "<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2015/06/12/virgil-smith/71114472/>" \t "blank" }, Mr. Smith's ex-wife held a brief press conference following Friday's hearing where she said she is a survivor of domestic violence.

Anistia Thomas was married to Mr. Smith for six months in 2009. She said although some have tried to discredit her, she will continue to tell her story that she was attacked by Mr. Smith last month.

She also said she now has a personal protection order against Mr. Smith and the violence committed against her is more important than Mr. Smith's Senate seat.

#### Appeals Court Outlines Limits On Emergency Managers In Flint Water Case

Flint's former emergency manager did not have the authority to raise and ratify water and sewer rates in violation of the city's ordinances, a unanimous Court of Appeals panel ruled on Friday.

The decision, in *Kincaid v. Flint* ({ HYPERLINK "[http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20150611\\_C318906\\_42\\_318906.OPN.PDF](http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20150611_C318906_42_318906.OPN.PDF)" \t "blank" }) also marks one of the first major decisions outlining limitations on an emergency manager appointed under the authority of { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB86501](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB86501)" } (which was quickly enacted after the voters rejected { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB421401](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011HB421401)" } in the 2012 election).

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245601&locid=1>" } wrote the decision, which { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=109301&locid=1>" } and { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=108701&locid=1>" } joined.

The case stems from a complaint filed by William Kincaid and three other Flint residents against former Flint Emergency Manager Michael Brown, who, in September 2011, increased city water fees by 12.5 percent and sewage fees by 45 percent. The city had already instituted smaller water and sewer increases earlier that year, before the start of the 2011-12 fiscal year. After that increase was enacted, the city was put under emergency management and Mr. Brown named the emergency manager.

Mr. Brown found that city's water department was in financial turmoil and would likely not meet required payments, so he enacted the increases.

The plaintiffs argued that the rate increases violated the city ordinances requiring notice of increases and that they be enacted before the start of the fiscal year. The trial court granted summary disposition for the city.

But Ms. Stephens said Mr. Brown overstepped his authority by essentially ratifying the rate increases. PA 436 does not give an emergency manager the authority to ratify his or her actions, the court said.

An emergency manager and the manager's powers are creation of the Legislature, the court said, and as such the legislation creating the position does not convey to the emergency manager the power to ratify the actions the manager takes. That ruling could take away much of the force of a manager's authority.

The city had urged the appeals panel to view the decisions of the emergency manager as actions by the governor. But the court said the acts clearly state the emergency manager has the authority of many officials but those are all local officials, not state officers.

An emergency manager has the authority to initiate some actions to deal with a financial emergency, the court said, but not the authority to ratify some actions.

The court also said the actions of the emergency manager increasing the water and sewer rates violated the ordinances dictating when those rates could be increased.

Whiston: Focus Has To Be On Classroom

In whatever education policy making happens over the next few years, leaders have to be focused on the function of the classroom, incoming Superintendent of Public Instruction Brian Whiston said Friday on Public Television's Off the Record.

He said parents and students need to have choice, but he said there has been too much focus on who runs the schools, particularly in Detroit.

"If we don't focus on what's happening in the classroom ... five, 10 years from now we're still going to be talking about what we need to do in Detroit," he said.

While he said he would like to see the state's largest district returned to the control of the elected board and the superintendent it appoints, he said he was open to other structures if they can be shown better for the students.

"I can't imagine how that would be best, but I will be focused on what's best for kids as superintendent," he said of proposals to dissolve Detroit Public Schools.

He did commit to helping { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } sell additional funds to repay DPS' back debt, but acknowledged some form of state oversight might be needed to get public and legislative support.

Mr. Whiston praised the governor for including extra funds for the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System.

"Helping us with the retirement costs is the only thing helping 50, 60 districts, maybe more," he said.

Recent changes to the system will allow it to remain solvent, he said, but it will take as much as 20 years to get to that point as teachers under the current system are replaced with new teachers.

But he said districts will need to be able to pay teachers more in the long run to continue recruiting them. He said graduates from teacher education programs are falling because pay is relatively low and there has been so much controversy about the field.

"If education is our highest priority, why aren't we paying our teachers as a highest priority?" he said.

On the theme of concentrating on what happens in the classroom, he said the state needs to find ways to reduce the amount of testing it does, particularly when combined with the testing local districts do for their own purposes. He urged finding a test that would serve both state accountability and local curriculum needs.

Mr. Whiston said he would also work with { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } on returning the Office of School Reform/Reinvention.

"I hope that he sees I'm for holding schools accountable and that, in the natural course of business and working together, he's going to want to return it to the Department of Education," he said.

#### Report: Most Counties Short On Physicians

The state has enough primary care physicians, but they are not all where they are needed, the Citizens Research Council said in a report issued this week.

The { HYPERLINK

"[http://crcmich.org/PUBLICAT/2010s/2015/primary\\_care\\_physician\\_shortage-2015.pdf](http://crcmich.org/PUBLICAT/2010s/2015/primary_care_physician_shortage-2015.pdf)" \t "blank" }, which examined various studies of primary care physician availability as well as some general statistics, found that only 12 percent of those physicians in the state were not accepting new patients, yet about 75 percent of the counties do not have enough physicians to cover all the residents.

"The shortages were not geographically isolated to certain parts of the state, but the northern half of the Lower Peninsula had a greater frequency of shortages," the report said. "For example, statewide, Michigan has roughly the same share of internists as the national average, but within Michigan, these shortages are heavily concentrated in the northern half of the Lower Peninsula and the eastern half of the Upper Peninsula. Similarly, counties where the ratios of pediatricians and general surgeons to the population are below suggested targets are almost exclusively in the northern half of the Lower Peninsula and across the Upper Peninsula. In contrast, Oakland and Washtenaw counties have at least ten times the ideal physician-to-population ratio for pediatricians."

Among the report's recommendations is increasing funding for graduate medical education, a point of budget contention in recent years.

Working with medical schools to admit more students who might become primary care physicians and providing loan forgiveness to those working in underserved areas could also help to alleviate the shortages, the report said.

It also recommended policy changes to encourage use of medical homes, where physicians coordinate services and so can potentially serve more patients, and expanding the scope of practice for some non-physicians to allow them, within their training, to fill some of the need.

"Primary care is an integral part of an affordable and effective health care system. Policymakers, in collaboration with health care providers, universities, and other stakeholders can play an important role in coordinating a well-researched and integrated plan to help alleviate the state's primary care physician shortages," the report said. "The future of our public's health relies on primary care services, provided from a variety of provider types, and needs the support of policymakers and citizens alike to reinstate a sense of value in primary care."

Courser Gets Some Push Back On Vaccine Post

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=217101&locid=1>" } posted earlier this week on his Facebook page that parents should have the right to choose to not vaccinate their children, and posted Friday he's gotten an "enormous" amount of email feedback.

"Both sides of the debate have been nearly equal in their passion regarding vaccines. I do not mind healthy debate at all, but I am not writing about what the studies say about autism or a connection to vaccines," Mr. Courser wrote. "I am writing to say it is not the place of the

government to do forced injections or forced medical care into people's children any more than it is the proper role of government to force immunizations or medical care into adults."

Mr. Courser (R-Silverwood) said he is questioning if government should be able to force vaccinations on anyone - child or adult - including children with parents who believe strongly that the vaccines cause autism.

The "theory" that vaccinations cause autism has been discredited by numerous scientific studies.

"I am not a doctor or a researcher and I do not know the validity of studies for or against immunizing, but it is not for me with all the data in the world, supporting or opposing immunizing, to tell a family their children belong to the government and the government has decided for them that immunizing is their required obligation," Mr. Courser continued. "The government is not the parent; the parents must decide what type of medical care to give their children and we all lose when we lower the threshold of decision making on parenting to the bowels of the government."

A national furor has erupted against the anti-vaccination movement this year, including when more than 100 people, including one Michigan resident, contracted measles at the Disneyland amusement park in California.

The state allows parents to refuse to vaccinate their children for religious and philosophical reasons.

**ENERGY CHOICE:** Mr. Courser also said in a separate email to supporters that he has introduced a bill that would "change our approach to energy policy in the state."

Currently, the Legislature is debating whether to continue with the 10 percent choice cap in the energy market, expand it, or get rid of choice altogether.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201&locid=1>" } (R-Lawton), chair of the House Energy Policy Committee, supports ending choice. { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } wants to see the choice piece continue, but with certain changes to the requirements of those participating.

"Unbelievably, the Republican leadership in the Legislature has been moving a package of bills that will eliminate what little competition we have in our state's energy market and will raise energy prices again on our citizens," Mr. Courser wrote, although no bills have been reported. "We have two companies (DTE and Consumers) who have a 90 plus percent control of the energy market. To achieve the best prices and options for consumers, the marketplace should not be distorted by government interference, which protects certain preferred sellers and guarantees them profits while taxpayers and citizens subsidize any risks they may take."

Mr. Courser said the state has some of the highest energy prices in the country and to bring those prices down, it must allow the free market to work, not end choice in the energy market.

Mr. Courser said many of his conservative colleagues will still say they stand against government overreach, and some might vote the "correct" way if "they are released to do so by leadership."

"But what so few will do is offer other bill options to showcase what a free market bill looks like or simply advocate against the powerful interests that run Lansing," he said. "They don't because if they do then they are cut off from funding for their next election. It is unfortunate but much is done and not done with the sole eye on how that will cause certain groups to line up in support or opposition in the next election."

### Former Rep. Roy Schmidt Released On Bond, Faces Pot Charges

Former Rep. Roy Schmidt was released on personal recognizance bond Friday after being arrested Thursday following an ongoing narcotics investigation by the Kent Area Narcotics Enforcement Team.

The team, within the Kent County Sheriff's Department, searched two homes in Grand Rapids associated with Mr. Schmidt on Wednesday, a statement said. On Thursday, charges were authorized against Mr. Schmidt.

Mr. Schmidt was released on a \$5,000 personal recognizance bond and is charged with manufacturing/delivery of marijuana, a four-year felony.

His arraignment took place Friday at the 61<sup>st</sup> District Court.

Mr. Schmidt served in the 76<sup>th</sup> House District, where { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=329801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=329801&locid=1) } (D-Grand Rapids) now serves. He lost to Ms. Brinks in 2012 after he switched parties from Democratic to Republican and then got involved in an election scandal, that also caught up former House Speaker Jase Bolger, over making it tougher for Democrats to put up a candidate in the race.

Mr. Bolger and Mr. Schmidt, leading up to the May 15, 2012, deadline to file for that year's elections, worked out a strategy where Mr. Schmidt, at that time a lifelong Democrat, would join the Republicans at the last moment on the filing day to maximize his chance of winning election as a new member of the GOP.

The two men agreed that Mr. Schmidt should find a straw Democratic candidate - someone with no legitimate interest in running - to file for the 76th House District to make it much more difficult for Democrats to nominate via write-in a real member of their party to run against Mr. Schmidt. Mr. Schmidt recruited a friend of his son's and nephew's - Matt Mojzak, a bodybuilder with no evidence of any serious interest in politics - to run in part with a promise of \$450. Mr. Bolger's deputy chief of staff, Phil Browne, filed both Mr. Schmidt's and Mr. Mojzak's paperwork minutes before the deadline.

Details of the plan quickly became public as a firestorm engulfed the young Mr. Mojzak, especially after it emerged that he signed, under oath, statements on his campaign affidavit of

identity that he lived in the district and had lived in Kent County for 22 years. Neither of those statements was true. Mr. Mojzak eventually withdrew from the race.

A grand jury investigation soon followed, but after several months it filed no charges against Mr. Bolger or Mr. Schmidt.

#### Budget Bills Presented

The 2015-16 fiscal year budget was officially placed on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s desk on Friday.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB13301" }, which funds the state's departments and agencies, and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB411501" }, funding the state's community colleges, universities and K-12 schools, were both presented Friday by their respective chambers.

Also presented to Mr. Snyder by the House on Friday:

{ FOSTER CARE RATES ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB411501" })  
HYPE Eliminates sunset on certain administrative rate changes to foster care services and  
RLIN makes subject to appropriations.  
K  
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=legisla  
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43401"  
}  
{ SUNSET EXTENSION ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB411501" })  
HYPER Extends sunset on water pollution, sewerage, solid waste and recycling fees.  
LINK  
"http://  
www.go  
ngwer.c  
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x.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB444101" }<sup>3</sup>

{ COMMERCIAL FEED ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276301&locid=1" })  
NK Makes certain amendments to feed law.

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB445101" }<sup>3</sup>

State Reports First West Nile Activity Of 2015

Crows in Ingham County have been found infected with West Nile Virus, marking the first presence of the disease in the state in 2015, officials with the departments of Health and Human Services, Agriculture and Rural Development and Natural Resources said Friday.

With the discovery, officials also urged individuals to show caution against the mosquito-borne disease by limiting exposure when mosquitoes are active, using insect repellent and making sure pools of standing water are emptied to prevent breeding areas.

West Nile Virus was first reported in the state in 2001. In 2014, the state reported 34 serious illnesses among humans with two deaths. Over the last 14 years, the number of cases and fatalities have widely varied. In 2002, there were 51 deaths from West Nile Virus.

No human infections have been reported yet, but the discovery in the three dead crows does mean the virus is active in the state. Typically, the chance for infection grows later in the year as the specific species of mosquito that carries the disease is most active then.

The virus can cause serious neurological diseases including meningitis and encephalitis.

The mosquito that carries the virus often breeds near homes in drains or anything that can hold standing water, so officials called for residents to clear standing water away. Also, officials urged individuals to report findings of any dead birds or birds that appear to be acting oddly, especially crows, blackbirds, owls and hawks.

Snyder Announces Restructuring Of Great Lakes Governors

A restructured Council of Great Lakes Governors, now called the Conference of Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers, was announced at the annual summit, held this year in Quebec City.

As part of the announcement, the group also said it would take steps to control algae blooms in Lake Erie that last summer forced the shutdown of water to residents in Toledo and parts of southeastern Michigan, as well endeavor to double shipping traffic on the lakes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } is chair of the group this year.

Under the restructured arrangement, the governors of Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota as well as the premiers of Ontario and Quebec (Canada's two largest provinces) will all have equal voices in adopting policies to both protect the Great Lakes and boost the region's economy.

The group released a series of policy objectives to double the region's maritime trade, while reducing the effect of increased traffic (particularly in protecting against the presence of invasive species).

In terms of invasive species, Michigan, Ohio and Ontario will begin a test project to harmonize their invasive species regulations.

The group also called for developing economic cluster areas as well as protecting the area's industrial base.

#### Snyder Appoints Middle-Eastern American Affairs Commission

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } appointed the first members Friday to the new Middle-Eastern American Affairs Commission some two years after his first attempt at a body to represent those of Arab and Chaldean descent in the state.

"The Middle Eastern American community plays an integral role in our state, and this commission will help ensure Michiganders from diverse backgrounds have the best opportunities to actively work together," Mr. Snyder said on naming the first 15 members.

The new commission was created in February ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/snyder/EO\_2015-6\_481726\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }) to replace the Council on Arab and Chaldean American Affairs, which he had created in June 2013 but then never filled.

On the new commission, Dave Abdallah of Dearborn Heights, Susan Dabaja of Dearborn, Helen Habib of Farmington Hills, Sharif Hussein of Grand Ledge and Paul Sophiea of Dearborn will serve terms expiring April 19, 2017. Wendy Acho of West Bloomfield, Mariam Bazzi of

Dearborn, Michael Romaya of West Bloomfield, Manal Saab of Fenton and Suzanne Sukkar of Ypsilanti will serve terms expiring April 19, 2018. Bishr Al-Ujayli of Rochester Hills, Fey Beydoun of Dearborn, Haifa Fakhouri of Troy, Lina Harajli of Dearborn and Abe Munfakh of Plymouth will serve terms expiring April 19, 2019.

The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent and regular commission terms will be four years.

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING COMMISSION:** Valerie Bass of Ypsilanti and Deborah Monroe of Madison Heights were appointed, both representing survivors for terms expiring March 1, 2017. The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

**BEEF INDUSTRY COMMISSION:** Leonard Brown of Sandusky succeeds Daniel Javor representing dairy farmers, Jon Haindl of Cooks succeeds Timothy Andrews representing cattle growers and Dale Oeschger of Bay Port is reappointed, all for terms expiring May 31, 2018. The appointments are subject to Senate advice and consent.

**CERTIFICATE OF NEED COMMISSION:** Tom Mittelbrun of Lake Orion succeeds Charles Gayney representing organized labor and Democrats for a term expiring January 1, 2018. The appointment is subject to Senate advice and consent.

**MANUFACTURED HOUSING COMMISSION:** Bryan Davis of Redford succeeds Thomas Lutz representing organized labor for a term expiring May 9, 2018. The appointment is subject to Senate advice and consent.

**UNARMED COMBAT COMMISSION:** Josh Bocks of New Hudson succeeds James Weber, who resigned, to represent individuals with experience, knowledge, or background in mixed martial arts for a term expiring June 5, 2016, and Bruce Hundley of Howell succeeds Michael Martin representing the general public for a term expiring June 5, 2019. The appointments are subject to Senate advice and consent.

#### Calley's Brother Charged In Hit And Run

John Calley, younger brother to { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1) }, was charged Friday in a hit and run incident the occurred in January.

The younger Mr. Calley is charged with three misdemeanors - reckless driving, failure to stop at the scene of an accident and failure to report an accident - for an incident involving a woman would was apparently a passenger in his vehicle.

The woman had reportedly gotten out of the vehicle at a gas station and tried to get back in while Mr. Calley was pulling away, being dragged for some distance.

Neither the victim's name nor her relationship to Mr. Calley have been released.

## Reports Of Auditor General Doug Ringler

Auditor General Doug Ringler released a survey summary of the ProjectWise system at the Department of Transportation.

The notice with the summary reports the performance audit was being terminated because no concerns were raised that would warrant continuing the audit.

ProjectWise is a system that allows MDOT employees across the state electronic, and others, access to files on transportation projects, including project schedules and contracts. The summary said there are slightly more than 2,700 users of the program, 1,700 of which are MDOT employees and 1,000 who are outside users.

## Supplemental Agency Calendar

### **Monday, June 15**

**Governor's Talent Investment Board, Michigan Manufacturing Association, 620 South Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/wda/GTIB\_June\_15\_Meeting\_Board\_Book-Public\_491623\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

**Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw, Lansing, 1:30 p.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/mpsc/orders/agendas/2015/150615.pdf" \t "blank" })**

### **Tuesday, June 16**

**Administrative Board, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/buymichiganfirst/sab\_agenda\_226061\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

**Certificate of Need Commission MRI Services Workgroup, Rooms B/C, First Floor Conference Center, Capitol View Building, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, 1:30 p.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/DRAFT\_Agenda\_6-16-15\_MRI\_Workgroup\_491409\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

### **Wednesday, June 17**

**Natural Resources Trust Fund, Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary, 500 West Fletcher, Alpena, 9 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Agenda\_-\_June\_17\_2015\_491412\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

**Manufactured Housing Commission, Conference Room 3, First Floor, 2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK**

"http://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/lara\_bcc\_mhc\_packet\_061715\_491605\_7.pdf" \t  
"blank" })

**Appellate Defender Commission, Suite 3300, 645 Griswold, Detroit, 12 p.m.**

## **Thursday, June 18**

**Veterans' Facilities Board of Managers, Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, 3000 Monroe Avenue Northeast, Grand Rapids, 9 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dmva/Board\_of\_Managers\_Agenda\_462027\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

**Board of Psychology, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/lara\_psyc\_061815agd\_491186\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }); Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately following ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/lara\_psyc\_061815dagd\_491188\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })))**

**Eastern Upper Peninsula Citizens Advisory Committee, Conference Room, Luce-Mackinac-Alger-Schoolcraft District Health Department, 14150 Hamilton Lake Road, Newberry, 6:30 p.m. (Agenda)**

## **Friday, June 19**

**Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission, Michigan State University Detroit Center, 3408 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, 9 a.m.**

**Commission on Services to the Aging, Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor, 9 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/June\_2015\_CSA\_Agenda.doc" \t "\_blank" })**

**Board of Counseling, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Disciplinary Subcommittee)**

## **Thursday, June 25**

**Unarmed Combat Commission, Conference Room 1, Second Floor, 2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/UCC\_Agenda\_6-25-2015.doc" \t "\_blank" })**

**Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees**

## **Tuesday, June 16**

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88701&locid=1" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/finance.html" \t "blank" }},

(Chr. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" }, 373-5312),  
Room 210, Farnum Building, 8:30 a.m.

{       **TRANSFER TAX** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYPERL** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355601" }) Modifies  
**INK**       refunds and exemptions of real estate transfer tax.

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{       **PROPERTY TAX** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355601" }) Modifies  
**LINK**       filing deadlines, exemptions and requirements in the general property tax act.

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{       **PROPERTY TAX** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355601" }) Modifies

**RLIN**       certain definitions, dates and filing deadlines; and provides for other general amendments  
**K**       to state essential services assessment.

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{ **PROPERTY TAX** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=205001" }) Modifies

**RLIN** certain definitions, dates and filing requirements; and provides for other general

**K** amendments in the alternative state essential services assessment.

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{ **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=205001" }) Modifies

**LINK** distribution of local community stabilization authority act share revenues.

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{ **PLANT REHABILITATION** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701" }) Modifies

**LINK** certain exemptions in the plant rehabilitation act.

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www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB455701"


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{ **USE TAX** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPERLINK** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701" }) Modifies the  
**HYPERLINK**state share tax and provides for other general amendments to the local community  
"http://stabilization share tax increase.

www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB455801"

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{ **DELINQUENT TAXES** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPERLINK** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301" }) Revises  
**HYPERLINK** delinquent taxes notice provision.

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB34901" } 

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(Chr. { **HYPERLINK**

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001&locid=1" }, 373-

5795), Room 327, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

{ **CRIMINAL PROCEDURE** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=317301" }) Modifies

**LINK** fixing period and conditions of probation.

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{ **PAROLE** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPERLIN** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001" })

**K** Modifies criteria for placement on parole.

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{ **INDECENT LANGUAGE** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355701" }) Repeals

**RLIN** provisions regarding playing of National Anthem, use of indecent language in front of

**K** women and children and improper disposal of refrigerators.

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{ **CRIMINAL TRESPASS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPERLI** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=359101" }) Repeals  
**NK** certain penalties for trespassing.

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{ **ENDURANCE CONTESTS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284401" }) Repeals  
**LINK** prohibitions against certain endurance contests.

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{ **FIREARM CRIMES** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001" }) Eliminates  
**LINK** two-year mandatory sentencing requirement for felony firearm conviction.

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{ **FIREARM CRIMES** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPER LINK** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=189001" }) Provides for sentencing guidelines for crime of felony firearm.

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB442001" }

{ **CRIMINAL PROCEDURE** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPER LINK** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001" }) Revises sentencing guidelines to reflect certain repealed crimes.

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB450101" }

{ **WRONGFUL IMPRISONMENT** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPER LINK** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358301" }) Provides compensation for wrongful imprisonment for crime. (Testimony only)

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB453601" }

{ **HUMAN MONSTROSITY** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPERLINK** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355401" }) Eliminates

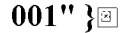
INK references to "human monstrosity."

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{ **CAMPING** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269201" }) Modifies  
**LINK** penalty for violators related to camping on state-owned lands.

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{ **COMBINED PENALTIES** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=359101" }) Modifies  
**RLINK** provision related to alternative or combined penalties and repeals certain other  
"http://provisions.

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284701&locid=1" }, 373-

2115), Room 519, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

{ **HEALTH PROFESSIONALS** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HY** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501" }) Allows

**PE** employment of or contracting with health professional to provide medical treatment to

**RLI** nursing home patients regardless of business entity status of nursing home.

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{ **LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES** ({ **HYPERLINK**

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**ERL** application of definition of learned profession to certain health professionals.

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{ **BUSINESS CORPORATIONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501" }) Clarifies  
**ERL** application of definition of learned profession to certain health professionals.

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{ **EPI-PENS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201" }) Allows  
**RLIN** prescribers to prescribe and pharmacists to dispense epinephrine to authorized entities  
**K** under certain circumstances and limits liability.

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{ **CHIROPRACTORS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353001" }) Gives  
**RLIN** chiropractors the authority to prescribe treatment by a licensed physical therapist or  
**K** physical therapist assistant.

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=305301&locid=1" }, 373-  
7156), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

{ **TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401" }) Establishes  
**LINK** regulations for transportation network companies.

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{ **TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201" }) Exempts  
**RLINK** transportation network companies from limousine transportation act.

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{ **TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355201" }) Allow insurers  
**RLIN** to exclude transportation network company vehicles from automobile coverage,

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{ **TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201" }) Adds  
**RLIN** passengers riding in a transportation network company vehicle as priority for personal  
**K** protection insurance coverage for passengers in certain vehicles.



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{ TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES ({ HYPERLINK  
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=349901" }) Exempt  
ERLI transportation network company drivers from obtaining a chauffeur's license and provide  
NK minimum levels of insurance coverage for vehicles used by transportation network  
"http company drivers.

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(Chr. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" }, 373-1260), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

{ **EDUCATOR EVALUATIONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801" }) Revises  
**RLIN** performance evaluation requirements for teachers and school administrators.

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"http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=339" \t "blank" },  
(Chr. { **HYPERLINK**  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316701&locid=1" }, 373-  
5176), Room 521, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

{ **WEAPONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPERL** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353301" }) Exempts  
**INK** law enforcement officers from purchase permit process.

"http://w  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=89201&locid=1" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/judiciary.html" \t "blank" },

(Chr. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" }, 373-1721),

Room 110, Farnum Building, 3:30 p.m.

{ WEAPON-FREE ZONES ({ HYPERLINK

HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288101" }) Expands

RLIN waiver for certain individuals to carry weapons in weapon free zones to include certain

K corrections, probation and parole officers.

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{ PURCHASE OF GUNS OR AMMUNITION ({ HYPERLINK

HY "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701" }) Prohibits gun

PERsellers and federally licensed firearms dealers from creating a visual representation of an

LIN individual who purchases a firearm or ammunition or linking such a visual representation to

K an individual under certain circumstances and eliminates pistol database entry.

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{ **FIREARMS SENTENCING** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPERL** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701" }) Updates  
**INK** sentencing guidelines.

"http://w  
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?link=legi  
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lldetail.cf  
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2601" }

{ **TOBACCO SALES** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601" }) Increases  
**LINK** penalties for selling tobacco products to minors.

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lid=201  
5SB340  
01" }

{ **DHHS INSPECTOR GENERAL POLICE POWERS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277001" }) Allows the  
**ERL** inspector general within the Department of Health and Human Services to appoint agents  
**INK** with limited arrest powers and the powers conferred on peace officers.

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{ **DHHS INSPECTOR GENERAL WEAPONS** ({ HYPERLINK  
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Exempts from  
ERL certain weapons provisions certain agents of the Department of Health and Human  
INK Services Office of Inspector General.

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2015  
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{ **COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS** ({ HYPERLINK  
HY "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" }) Reinstates the  
PERprohibition on courts taking under advisement certain offenses committed by a person while  
LIN operating a commercial motor vehicle or a person licensed to operate a commercial motor  
K vehicle while operating a noncommercial motor vehicle.

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**Wednesday, June 17**

{ HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=93501&locid=1" }  
{ HYPERLINK  
"http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=306" \t "blank" },  
(Chr. { HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" }, 373-  
5795), House Appropriations Room, Capitol, 9 a.m.

- **Legislative transfer 2015-4**

{ **SUPPLEMENTAL** ({ HYPERLINK  
**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601" }) Provides for  
**LINK** supplemental appropriations in for fiscal year 2014-15.  
"http://w  
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ail.cfm&  
billid=20  
15HB409

501" } ☒

{ EDUCATION ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=100001" }) Allows  
LINK refunding bonds for bonded indebtedness of original school district involved in  
"http:// consolidation.

www.go  
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nk=legi  
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bill deta  
il.cfm&  
billid=2  
015HB4  
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{ EDUCATION ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401" }) Provides for  
RLINK use of proceeds of dissolved school district buildings and restrictions on demolition of  
"http:// school buildings.

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lid=201  
5HB46  
4401" }

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~~Canceled:~~ { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=94201&locid=1" }  
{ HYPERLINK "http://www.council.legislature.mi.gov/CouncilAdministrator/jcar" \t  
"blank" }}, (Chr. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269801&locid=1" }, 373-5773), Room 426, Capitol, 9 a.m.

- JCAR 15-17 Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Director's Office, Construction Code-Part 5. Residential Code (2013-022 LR)
- JCAR 15-18 Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Director's Office, Construction Code-Part 10. Michigan Energy Code (2013-095 LR)

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92801&locid=1" }

{ HYPERLINK

"http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=305" \t "blank" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=324201&locid=1" }, 373-8538), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

{ FOOD INSPECTION EXEMPTIONS ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" }) Provides for ERLI exemption from inspection and managerial certification requirements if serving low-risk NK foods.

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"http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=333" \t "blank" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK



"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266801&locid=1>" }, 373-5176), Room 326, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

{ **FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=203301>" }) Requires  
**RLINK** posting of fees and rates for money orders and other money transmission services.  
"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_bill\\_detail.cfm&billid=2015HB424201](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_bill_detail.cfm&billid=2015HB424201)" } 


{ **HYPERLINK**  
"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=94601&locid=1>" }  
{ **HYPERLINK**  
"<http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=347>" \t "blank" },  
(Chr. { **HYPERLINK**  
"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1>" }, 373-2002), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

{ **PRIVATE PRISONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER** "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289301>" }) Allows  
**LINK** certain privately owned prisons to house adult inmates.  
"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_bill\\_detail.cfm&billid=2015HB446701](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_bill_detail.cfm&billid=2015HB446701)" } 

{ **REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITIES** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER** "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284401>" }) Allows for  
**LINK** creation of regional airport authorities.  
"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_bill\\_detail.cfm&billid=2015HB446701](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_bill_detail.cfm&billid=2015HB446701)" }

www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB446801" } 

{ **PROPERTY TAX** ({ **HYPERLINK** **HYPERLINK** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355601" }) Allows splitting of qualified agricultural property to allow a portion to be taxed differently.

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB467701" } 

{ **HYPERLINK** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92301&locid=1" }  
{ **HYPERLINK** "http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=341" \t "blank" },  
(Chr. { **HYPERLINK** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1" }, 373-1260), Room 307, House Office Building, 12 p.m.


{ **RECORDING REQUIREMENTS** ({ **HYPERLINK** **HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301" }) Modifies **ERLI** recording requirements to include electronic signatures.

**NK**  
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{ ANNEXATION ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001" }) Requires  
LINK township board to approve placing annexation question on ballot.

"http://w  
ww.gong  
wer.com/  
index.cf  
m?link=l  
egislatio  
n\_billdet  
ail.cfm&  
billid=20  
15HB400  
401" }

{ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=359301" }) Authorizes  
LINK contracting for services to assist victims of domestic violence.

"http://  
www.go  
ngwer.c  
om/inde  
x.cfm?li  
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lation\_b  
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HB4563  
01" }

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=92401&locid=1" }  
{ HYPERLINK  
"http://house.michigan.gov/MHRPublic/CommitteeInfo.aspx?comkey=346" \t "blank" },  
(Chr. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701&locid=1" }, 373-2115), Room 519, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

- Testimony only:

{ **POWDERED ALCOHOL** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER**"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701" }) Prohibits sale,  
**LINK** use, or possession of powdered alcohol.

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slation\_  
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illid=20  
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001" }<sup>[2]</sup>

{ **POWDERED ALCOHOL** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292701" }) Prohibits  
**LINK** sale, use or possession of powdered alcohol.

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HB44160  
1" }<sup>[2]</sup>

{ **MIDWIVES** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPERLI** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001" }) Provides  
**NK** licensing and regulations for midwives.

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.com/index  
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2015HB45  
9801" }<sup>[2]</sup>

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=96801&locid=1" },

(Chr. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" }, 373-

8080), House Appropriations Room, Capitol, 1 p.m.

- Quarterly report presented by Mary Ann Cleary, Director of the House Fiscal Agency.

**Thursday, June 18**

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=89801&locid=1" }

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/transportation.html" \t

"blank" }, (Chr. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" }, 373-5323),

Room 210, Farnum Building, 8:30 a.m.

- Presentation by International PROOF Systems

{ RAILROAD CROSSINGS ({ HYPERLINK

HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201" }) Amends

RLINK criteria for vehicles to proceed without stopping at inactive railroad track grade

"http://crossings.

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HB431

901" } ☐

{ SCHOOL VEHICLES ({ HYPERLINK

HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201" }) Revises

LINK requirement for driver of school bus to stop at certain railroad track grade crossings.

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ngwer.c



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cfm&billid=2015HB432001" }

 { **SLEEPING BEAR DUNES** ({ **HYPERLINK** **HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101" }) Creates funding-raising registration plate for Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.  
**NK**  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB9101" } 

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Lansing Michigan 48933  
Phone: 517-482-3500 | Fax: 517-482-4367 | Email: { **HYPERLINK** "mailto:gongwer@gongwer.com" }

{ **HYPERLINK** "mailto:smiller@gongwer.com" }, President | { **HYPERLINK** "mailto:amiller@gongwer.com" }, Vice President | { **HYPERLINK** "mailto:jwlindstrom@gongwer.com" }, Publisher | { **HYPERLINK** "mailto:zgorchow@gongwer.com" }, Editor | { **HYPERLINK** "mailto:cklaver@gongwer.com" }, { **HYPERLINK** "mailto:demerson@gongwer.com" }, { **HYPERLINK** "mailto:kasbena@gongwer.com" }, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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**From:** gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service  
<gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 30, 2015 9:18 AM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_clips@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips



## **Michigan News & Opinion For December 30, 2015**

### **News**

3rd marijuana petition OK'd to collect signatures (Associated Press, 12/30/2015)

2015 deaths of famous Michiganders (Detroit Free Press, 12/30/2015)

Snyder apologizes, Wyant resigns in Flint water crisis (Detroit Free Press, 12/30/2015)

Missed Votes Report: See which votes area legislators missed in 2015 (Holland Sentinel, 12/30/2015)

Schools cry foul over bill limiting millage proposal publicity (Lansing State Journal, 12/30/2015)

Detroit watchdog group calls for Michigan State Police to investigate fatal police shooting (Michigan Radio, 12/30/2015)

DEQ spokesman also resigns over Flint water crisis, says city 'didn't feel like we cared' (MLive, 12/30/2015)

Fair Michigan gay rights, anti-discrimination petition approved for circulation (MLive, 12/30/2015)

Gov. Rick Snyder says he's sorry for Flint's lead-in-water crisis (MLive, 12/30/2015)

Flint water report prompts apologies, resignations (The Detroit News, 12/30/2015)

Rep. Upton plans congressional review of concussions (The Detroit News, 12/30/2015)

### **Editorials**

Editorial: Tell Snyder to veto majority's election 'reforms' (Battle Creek Enquirer, 12/30/2015)

Look back: What's it like to own the train station? (Detroit Free Press, 12/30/2015)

Gov. Rick Snyder still doesn't get it when it comes to Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 12/30/2015)

State must pay for justice, not defendants (Port Huron Times Herald, 12/30/2015)

Editorial: Emergency management law working for cities (The Detroit News, 12/30/2015)

## Blogs

The Surprise In Wyant's Resignation Is Timing (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 12/29/2015)

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**From:** gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service  
<gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 16, 2015 8:55 AM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_clips@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips



## Michigan News & Opinion For October 16, 2015

### News

A Chaldean enclave in Detroit yearns for Syrian refugees (Bridge Magazine, 10/16/2015)

For impoverished Michiganders, a little help in the kitchen (Bridge Magazine, 10/16/2015)

Concerns raised about ability to stop Asian carp (Detroit Free Press, 10/16/2015)

Legal fight could mean longer lines to renew licenses (Detroit Free Press, 10/16/2015)

Road deal: There may still be hope (Detroit Free Press, 10/16/2015)

Senate approves, Snyder signs cash for Flint water fix (Detroit Free Press, 10/16/2015)

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder signs spending bill with \$9.35M for Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 10/16/2015)

Michigan House panel OKs foster kid credit check bill (Lansing State Journal, 10/16/2015)

Michigan Workforce Development chief leaves for federal post (Lansing State Journal, 10/16/2015)

Challenge accepted: Michigan Senators to debate road funding, fuel taxes in public forum (MLive, 10/16/2015)

FBI probes state-run school reform district in Detroit after internal review (MLive, 10/16/2015)

Mandatory nursing levels would improve patient care, nurses say (MLive, 10/16/2015)

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder signs spending bill with \$9.35M for Flint water crisis (MLive, 10/16/2015)

Michigan House OKs 3rd grade reading bill to hold back struggling students, boost intervention (MLive, 10/16/2015)

Newsweek column calls Flint 'cheapskate city that poisoned its children' (MLive, 10/16/2015)

Sports betting could help fix Michigan roads, bill sponsor says (MLive, 10/16/2015)

Teacher evaluation proposal sails through Michigan House after 'huge improvements' (MLive, 10/16/2015)

ACLU files complaint with state about Catholic hospital (The Detroit News, 10/16/2015)

State's \$6M aid for Flint water switch signed into law (The Detroit News, 10/16/2015)

## **Editorials**

The right recipe for transforming Michigan public education (MLive, 10/16/2015)

Sometimes, justice has to take the long route (Port Huron Times Herald, 10/16/2015)

Federal probe of state reform district is troubling (The Detroit News, 10/16/2015)

Lennox: Presidential politics hangs over Mich. gov race (The Detroit News, 10/16/2015)

Our Editorial: Doctors key in halting painkiller abuse (The Detroit News, 10/16/2015)

Frank Kelley: Pillar of Michigan's political past, beacon for future (Toledo Blade, 10/16/2015)

## **Blogs**

The Presumptive Parole Fight: Schuette Vs. Everyone (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/15/2015)

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<gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 19, 2015 9:00 AM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_clips@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips



## Michigan News & Opinion For October 19, 2015

### News

Michigan bills would ban second-term abortion procedure (Associated Press, 10/19/2015)

Alec Baldwin, Rosie O'Donnell donate to Melissa Gilbert (Detroit Free Press, 10/19/2015)

Concerns raised about ability to stop Asian carp (Detroit Free Press, 10/19/2015)

Flint gets EPA help in reconnecting to Detroit water (Detroit Free Press, 10/19/2015)

Planned Parenthood inspired bill in the Legislature (Detroit Free Press, 10/19/2015)

Federal task force will advise Flint, Michigan DEQ on city water (Flint Journal, 10/19/2015)

Flint reconnects to Detroit water, may take 3 weeks to clear all pipes (Flint Journal, 10/19/2015)

UAW: Michigan DHHS wants to outsource CPS work (Lansing State Journal, 10/19/2015)

Advocates: Schuette spreading misinformation about parole legislation (Michigan Radio, 10/19/2015)

Senate bill expands community college degree programs (Midland Daily News, 10/19/2015)

4 years after Michigan tenure reform, 'everything in place' for new teacher evaluation law (MLive, 10/19/2015)

Michigan House OKs 3rd grade reading bill to hold back struggling students, boost intervention (MLive, 10/19/2015)

Sports betting could help fix Michigan roads, bill sponsor says (MLive, 10/19/2015)

Three takeaways from U.S. Sen. Gary Peters' Muskegon visit (MLive, 10/19/2015)

GOP opponents seek to quash Courser comeback (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Melissa Gilbert taps Hollywood stars for campaign cash (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Michigan DEQ vows changes in Flint water crisis (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Schools face learning curve with SAT prep (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Two-thirds of Michigan's abortions in Detroit area (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Michigan House bill would give amnesty for prescription drug emergencies (The State News, 10/19/2015)

## **Editorials**

To repair racial wounds in criminal justice, start with language (Bridge Magazine, 10/19/2015)

Time for a new Ambassador Bridge? Maybe (Detroit Free Press, 10/19/2015)

Why fear-mongers are losing the prison reform fight (Detroit Free Press, 10/19/2015)

New pills, better practices can combat Michigan's drug overdose epidemic (MLive, 10/19/2015)

Paying for fetal tissue donations could be a crime in Michigan (MLive, 10/19/2015)

Guest commentary ---- Built to Last: Line 5 meets or exceeds today's standards for new pipelines (Petoskey News-Review, 10/19/2015)

Column: Boost schools, end prevailing wage (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Jacques: What's next for Detroit schools? (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Mitchell: We need leadership to solve road challenge (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Our Editorial: Impasse on roads not an option (The Detroit News, 10/19/2015)

Pausing paroles (Toledo Blade, 10/19/2015)

## **Blogs**

'Charles Hertel' Debating 'Paul Colbeck' (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/16/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For October 20, 2015**

### **News**

Michigan Supreme Court hears arguments on prevailing wage law (Bridge Magazine, 10/20/2015)

Blind activist to stand trial for resisting police (Detroit Free Press, 10/20/2015)

Federal appeals court hears Ambassador Bridge challenge (Detroit Free Press, 10/20/2015)

DEQ chief says state used wrong federal water rules in Flint for 17 months (Flint Journal, 10/20/2015)

DEQ replaces water official after state acknowledges 'mistake' in Flint (Flint Journal, 10/20/2015)

Emails show feds warned state in February of leaching lead in Flint (Flint Journal, 10/20/2015)

Michigan marijuana arrests rise as use increases nationwide (Michigan Radio, 10/20/2015)

'Green Tea' Party? Far right Republicans, liberal Democrats aligning on Michigan renewable energy issue (MLive, 10/20/2015)

How Snyder plans to sell his \$715 million plan for Detroit schools to Michigan lawmakers (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Schuetz fights resentencing as 'juvenile lifers' debate returns to U.S. Supreme Court (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Watch live: Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder to detail plans for Detroit schools, debt relief (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Legislation calls for microbead ban, environmentalists say its not enough (Petoskey News-Review, 10/20/2015)

Mich. GOP calls on Gilbert to refund spouse's cash (The Detroit News, 10/20/2015)

Snyder defends environmental director on Flint crisis (The Detroit News, 10/20/2015)

### **Editorials**

Gov's plan to fix DPS: The best we've got (Detroit Free Press, 10/20/2015)

Column: Teacher evaluation bill lacks mandates experts say are necessary to lift student achievement (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Lawmakers must stand up for Medicare cancer care in Michigan (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Susan J. Demas: Here's how bad things are for Democrats in Michigan (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Column: Update young offender sentencing (The Detroit News, 10/20/2015)

Right-to-know victory (Toledo Blade, 10/20/2015)

## **Blogs**

The Road Funding Debate And Michigan State's Miraculous Win (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/19/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For October 21, 2015**

### **News**

Michigan lawmakers approve teacher evaluation framework (Associated Press, 10/21/2015)

Snyder signs bills improving access for service animals (Associated Press, 10/21/2015)

Top Dem calls for hearings, audit on Flint water crisis (Associated Press, 10/21/2015)

Legislature OKs increasing Michigan 529 college savings account limit to \$500,000 (Crain's Detroit Business, 10/21/2015)

Bill to set new standards for teacher evaluations (Detroit Free Press, 10/21/2015)

Lt. Gov. Calley holding fund-raiser in Lansing Thursday (Detroit Free Press, 10/21/2015)

Senate calls for fast action on deal to fix state roads (Detroit Free Press, 10/21/2015)

Snyder signs forfeiture reform laws (Detroit Free Press, 10/21/2015)

Read state DEQ emails as lead-in-water crisis unfolded in Flint (Flint Journal, 10/21/2015)

Snyder orders flags lowered for fallen state worker (Lansing State Journal, 10/21/2015)

Meekhof urges action on 'last best deal' for Michigan roads (MLive, 10/21/2015)

Michigan DEQ 'completely failed' Flint residents, says Ananich, calling for water investigation (MLive, 10/21/2015)

Gov envisions progress on bridge with Canada's new PM (The Detroit News, 10/21/2015)

Senate GOP leader seeks to kick-start road aid talks (The Detroit News, 10/21/2015)

### **Editorials**

Gov's plan to fix DPS: The best we've got (Detroit Free Press, 10/21/2015)

Snyder gets the Boehner treatment (Detroit Free Press, 10/21/2015)

Flint water crisis exposes Michigan's infrastructure funding problem (Flint Journal, 10/21/2015)

Rep. Moolenaar: Constituent's idea becomes tax relief bill (Greenville Daily News, 10/21/2015)

Schor: End wage gap, bring pay equity for women (Lansing State Journal, 10/21/2015)

Snyder's plan to fix Detroit's schools will fall on deaf legislative ears (Michigan Radio, 10/21/2015)

Ken Braun: Should lying be illegal for everyone but the politicians? (MLive, 10/21/2015)

Right to Work lawmakers impose their own 'union dues' (MLive, 10/21/2015)

List mania putting our privacy, security at risk (Port Huron Times Herald, 10/21/2015)

Editor's Note: Minimum sentence bill not dangerous (The Detroit News, 10/21/2015)

Heise: Presumptive parole is safe, smart justice (The Detroit News, 10/21/2015)

Letier: State's energy future at crossroads (The Detroit News, 10/21/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For October 23, 2015**

### **News**

Building a path to better, higher-paying Michigan jobs (Bridge Magazine, 10/23/2015)

Three years later, jury still out on Michigan's cyber school expansion (Bridge Magazine, 10/23/2015)

Court: Parole board must consider inmate's release (Detroit Free Press, 10/23/2015)

Everything we know about the House roads package (Detroit Free Press, 10/23/2015)

MDOT age discrimination claim tossed out (Detroit Free Press, 10/23/2015)

Michigan poised for big shift in how it pays for roads (Detroit Free Press, 10/23/2015)

Why Michigan lost shot at \$45M for charter schools (Detroit Free Press, 10/23/2015)

Detroit group meets with DEQ director on Flint water, asks him to resign (Flint Journal, 10/23/2015)

State says it will speed up money transfer to Flint for Detroit water (Flint Journal, 10/23/2015)

Fuel taxes, registration fees and tax relief: 14 things to know about new House GOP roads plan (MLive, 10/23/2015)

Gov. Snyder says \$1.2B House road funding plan is positive, but needs 'extensive analysis' (MLive, 10/23/2015)

Michigan congressman asks FBI chief how refugees are vetted (MLive, 10/23/2015)

Michigan State Police using cell snooping devices (The Detroit News, 10/23/2015)

New Michigan roads plan strains budget, but 'doable' (The Detroit News, 10/23/2015)

### **Editorials**

We've seen what happens without a prevailing wage in Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 10/23/2015)

Chirkun: Let's find a road funding fix, Lansing (The Detroit News, 10/23/2015)

Harris: Think outside the box in reforming DPS (The Detroit News, 10/23/2015)

Our Editorial: Keep momentum on roads solution (The Detroit News, 10/23/2015)

Ferry operator looks out for Detroit (Toledo Blade, 10/23/2015)

## **Blogs**

Snyder 'Rockin Out' To Paul McCartney (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/22/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For October 27, 2015

### News

Pension debt could give new Detroit Schools a stumbling start (Bridge Magazine, 10/27/2015)

Proposed state bill has doctors, nurses at odds over who can give anesthesia (Bridge Magazine, 10/27/2015)

Increase in drug abuse, death prompts state action plan (Detroit Free Press, 10/27/2015)

Michigan Farm Bureau asks to join clean water lawsuit (Detroit Free Press, 10/27/2015)

Michigan Senate to take up roads plan today (Detroit Free Press, 10/27/2015)

State school superintendent's son killed in car crash (Detroit Free Press, 10/27/2015)

Ex-emergency manager says local leaders made decision to use Flint River water (Flint Journal, 10/27/2015)

\$1.2B House road funding plan set up for swift action in Michigan Senate (Lansing State Journal, 10/27/2015)

Michigan State Police trains new motor carrier officers (Lansing State Journal, 10/27/2015)

Murray who? Meet state office buildings' namesakes (Lansing State Journal, 10/27/2015)

Michigan marijuana legalization groups confident in cash backing for petition drives (MLive, 10/27/2015)

Report: DeVos family, Michigan's 'most potent interest group,' spent \$4.9M in 2014 elections (MLive, 10/27/2015)

Calley: Fight overdoses with tighter drug monitoring (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

Coalition: Lawmakers should target rising health costs (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

DeVos clan outspends UAW in 2014 Michigan election (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

Gamrat goes on offensive in bid to win back House seat (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

Group: Prevailing wage effort has duplicate signatures (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

Michigan Senate prepares to vote on road aid bills (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

Video: Mich. abortion clinic director recorded covertly (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

## **Editorials**

Many reasons to dislike latest road-funding bills (Detroit Free Press, 10/27/2015)

Legislature, feds should take on Flint water investigation (Flint Journal, 10/27/2015)

Dems learn what's not working for people (Midland Daily News, 10/27/2015)

Michigan prevailing wage supporters challenge 'woeful' petition drive signatures (MLive, 10/27/2015)

Column: Don't blame EM for Flint water disaster (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

Our Editorial: Weigh value of tax hikes (The Detroit News, 10/27/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For October 12, 2015

### News

Active shooter training part of security plans at Michigan universities and colleges (Associated Press, 10/12/2015)

Michigan State researchers studying algae on Torch Lake (Associated Press, 10/12/2015)

State under mounting scrutiny for Flint's water crisis (Associated Press, 10/11/2015)

DTE, Consumers Energy want to shut off Michigan's renewable energy mandates (Crain's Detroit Business, 10/12/2015)

Flint doctor makes state tell truth about lead in water (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

Major reforms afoot for juvenile offenders (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

Michigan House looks at banning microbeads (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

Michigan's Energy Evolution: A Special Report (Detroit Free Press, 10/11/2015)

U-M freshman class has more minorities (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

Who gets money in Vets Day raffle? (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

First warning of rising lead levels in Flint water came 9 months ago (Flint Journal, 10/10/2015)

Flint water crisis doesn't change KWA pipeline plan to finish in June or July (Flint Journal, 10/11/2015)

Trust needed for Flint to rebound from water crisis, say those who know (Flint Journal, 10/12/2015)

8 facts about property assessments and tax rates in Michigan (Kalamazoo Gazette, 10/12/2015)

Bill would reopen Maxey, restore 65 state jobs (Lansing State Journal, 10/12/2015)

State nurses say they work too much OT (Lansing State Journal, 10/11/2015)

Report: Nearly \$24 million in suspected drug assets seized (Macomb Daily, 10/12/2015)

Detroit-area law enforcement join AG Bill Schuette to oppose parole reform (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Michigan AG Bill Schuette alleges anti-police sentiment, elitism in presumptive parole legislation (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Michigan Political Points: Sponsor sees 'green' on medical marijuana dispensary bill (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Lawmakers, parents seek 'Wyatt's Law' to protect kids (The Detroit News, 10/10/2015)

Mich. cops seized \$24M in 2014 in drug cases (The Detroit News, 10/11/2015)

Michigan finds electronic thieves at the gas pump (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

Schuette calls complaint about campaign ads 'pathetic' (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

Snyder officials take on painkiller overdose 'epidemic' (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

## **Editorials**

Battle is on for control of Michigan's marijuana market (Detroit Free Press, 10/11/2015)

Brian Dickerson: Was Schuette's \$2-million lesson a bargain? (Detroit Free Press, 10/11/2015)

Our view: Time for an independent redistricting commission? (Midland Daily News, 10/11/2015)

Prison time, forfeiture and medical pot: Lansing is on a bipartisan roll (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Proposed legislation addresses Michigan's gap in early literacy: guest column (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Rick Haglund: Finding funds for road repair not an easy fix (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Improvements in college counseling are underway (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

Our Editorial: Detroit's blight progress (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

Jack Lessenberry: Matty Moroun and the Port Authority (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 10/12/2015)

## **Blogs**

Flint Water Catastrophe Roils Snyder Administration (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/9/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For October 28, 2015

### News

State oil pipeline safety board to hold first meeting (Associated Press, 10/28/2015)

How Snyder's plan to fix Detroit school debt impacts other districts (Bridge Magazine, 10/28/2015)

Senate adjourns without consensus on a fix for roads (Detroit Free Press, 10/28/2015)

Senate leaders on roads plan (Detroit Free Press, 10/28/2015)

Student debt at Michigan colleges up 57% since 2004 (Detroit Free Press, 10/28/2015)

Tough new state exam stumps Michigan students (Detroit Free Press, 10/28/2015)

State DEQ pulls request for help with image amid Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 10/28/2015)

Disability worker: DHHS punished me for having MS (Lansing State Journal, 10/28/2015)

Murray who? Meet state office buildings' namesakes (Lansing State Journal, 10/28/2015)

Snyder merges retirement system boards (Lansing State Journal, 10/28/2015)

Ananich blasts former emergency manager for Flint water switch 'fairy tale' (MLive, 10/28/2015)

Michigan's autism fund will run out of money in November, officials say (MLive, 10/28/2015)

No deal: Road funding plan hits another snag in Michigan Senate (MLive, 10/28/2015)

See Todd Courser explain why he should be re-elected after resigning seat (MLive, 10/28/2015)

DeVos clan outspends UAW in 2014 Michigan election (The Detroit News, 10/28/2015)

DPS could be insolvent by spring, state treasurer warns (The Detroit News, 10/28/2015)

Ex-Rep. Courser: Wife endorses state House candidacy (The Detroit News, 10/28/2015)

House registration fee hike trips up Senate road talks (The Detroit News, 10/28/2015)



Michigan lawmakers spar on export subsidy bank (The Detroit News, 10/28/2015)

## **Editorials**

Michigan is the dark money capital of American politics (Bridge Magazine, 10/28/2015)

Raising the talent level of Michigan workers (Bridge Magazine, 10/28/2015)

Now who needs an emergency manager? (Detroit Free Press, 10/28/2015)

State, emergency managers can't escape blame for Flint water switch (Flint Journal, 10/28/2015)

Medical marijuana should stay tax-free (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 10/28/2015)

House plan for Michigan roads funding is not a solution (MLive, 10/28/2015)

Ken Braun: 2018 GOP hopefuls for governor gathering ammo, taking shots (MLive, 10/28/2015)

Our Editorial: Weigh value of tax hikes (The Detroit News, 10/28/2015)

## **Blogs**

The Latest Jam On Road Funding (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/27/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For October 29, 2015**

### **News**

Agency criticized over Flint water drops marketing plan (Associated Press, 10/29/2015)

Ban on powdered alcohol signed into law (Detroit Free Press, 10/29/2015)

Barge, shipwrecked on Lake Erie in 1930s, leaking oil (Detroit Free Press, 10/29/2015)

Detroit to get \$21 million more for blight demolition (Detroit Free Press, 10/29/2015)

Detroit to hold public hearing on new marijuana rules (Detroit Free Press, 10/29/2015)

Driskell's missed road aid votes set off highway fight (The Detroit News, 10/29/2015)

Michigan inks unique pact to help in 3 national forests (The Detroit News, 10/29/2015)

Michigan's Weiser chairs anti-Clinton super PAC (The Detroit News, 10/29/2015)

### **Editorials**

Fish farms don't belong in the Great Lakes (Detroit Free Press, 10/29/2015)

Will Snyder give us straight talk or lipstick on roads? (Detroit Free Press, 10/29/2015)

Austin: Michigan is not done with bullying (The Detroit News, 10/29/2015)

Berman: Show me a hero to save Michigan's roads (The Detroit News, 10/29/2015)

Editor's Note: Detroit kids face woes beyond school (The Detroit News, 10/29/2015)

Editorial: State police dragnet should be stopped (The Detroit News, 10/29/2015)

### **Blogs**

New Lottery Ticket Honors Fallen Veterans (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/28/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For October 30, 2015**

### **News**

Improved smiles for some low-income Michigan children (Bridge Magazine, 10/30/2015)

Courser text scandal case heads to Lapeer prosecutor (Detroit Free Press, 10/30/2015)

Downriver, Allen Road miss out on U.S. DOT grants (Detroit Free Press, 10/30/2015)

Flint City Council votes to hire outside legal help on water issue (Flint Journal, 10/30/2015)

Seven key takeaways from a town hall meeting on Flint's water crisis (Flint Journal, 10/30/2015)

City Council president: Emergency manager set Flint on path to river water (MLive, 10/30/2015)

House Speaker Paul Ryan: See how Michigan lawmakers are reacting to election (MLive, 10/30/2015)

Whitmer/Richardville 2018? Former Senate GOP leader open to bipartisan gubernatorial run (MLive, 10/30/2015)

Why Michigan education officials aren't freaking out over dismal scores on new M-STEP test (MLive, 10/30/2015)

Mich. leads nation in Supreme Court election spending (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

Mystery group attacks GOP challenger to Gamrat (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

Pot legalization group stops collecting signatures (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

State police give Courser text report to prosecutor (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

### **Editorials**

A small victory for regional transit in metro Detroit (Detroit Free Press, 10/30/2015)

Government messed up in Flint water crisis, what next? (Detroit Free Press, 10/30/2015)

Are we there yet? The Senate says no (Michigan Radio, 10/30/2015)

Susan J. Demas: GOP roads plan could kill Snyder's signature 2011 tax reform (MLive, 10/30/2015)

High schools should pay for SC4 classes (Port Huron Times Herald, 10/30/2015)

Our editorial: Anybody but Courser, Gamrat (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

Rothwell: Assessing Michigan's talent future (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

It's time for Americans and Canadians to own the Ambassador Bridge (Toledo Blade, 10/30/2015)

## **Blogs**

The Subject Was Term Limits, The Discussion Elevated For Once (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/29/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For November 2, 2015

### News

Courser, Gamrat seek 2nd chance after affair scandal (Associated Press, 11/2/2015)

Asian carp found 12 miles closer to Lake Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Auto insurance, liquor sales are subjects of new bills (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Ballot committee forms for LGBT constitutional amendment (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Courser-Gamrat special elections to cost thousands (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Michigan political odd couple join forces at NYC marathon (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

No roads fix, but more than 70 bills are now Mich. law (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Online vehicle registration system at risk, state says (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Senator Ananich says water woes will have lasting impact on Flint community (Flint Journal, 11/2/2015)

The auditor, the bureaucrat: A push for lean government (Lansing State Journal, 11/2/2015)

Forlini's bill to help families care for the disabled signed into law (Macomb Daily, 11/2/2015)

Bill introduced to manage digital assets after death or incapacity (Michigan Radio, 11/2/2015)

'Fiscal time bomb' or welcome relief? Income tax rollback linked to Michigan roads plan (MLive, 11/2/2015)

Cindy Gamrat says she is 'confident' going into Tuesday's election (MLive, 11/2/2015)

Michigan DEQ audit expanded to include Flint water response (MLive, 11/2/2015)

Michigan Political Points: Money flows to judges, gov prospects and Courser/Gamrat opponents (MLive, 11/2/2015)

No more money: Michigan autism fund runs dry as its architect calls for reconsideration (MLive, 11/2/2015)

Anti-prevailing wage group starts over on ballot issue (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

Bipartisan group seeks gay rights plan on 2016 ballot (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

DPS unions: Include labor contracts in Snyder overhaul (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

Mich. lawmakers pledge to save crop insurance program (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

## **Editorials**

Help college students get their money's worth (Bridge Magazine, 11/2/2015)

Detroit schools plan shows lack of faith in democracy (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Education in Michigan can improve, if it's done right (Detroit Free Press, 11/2/2015)

Coy: Michigan energy law needs competitive bidding (Lansing State Journal, 11/2/2015)

Pardee: Prevailing wage law supports families, service (Lansing State Journal, 11/2/2015)

McCann: Energy policy should be fair to everyone (Midland Daily News, 11/2/2015)

We're all too fond of solutions in pill form (Port Huron Times Herald, 11/2/2015)

Blueprint for fixing Detroit schools (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

Finley: Gov. Snyder — break a leg, or several (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

Pannebecker: Prevailing wage bad for Michigan (The Detroit News, 11/2/2015)

Leading on juvenile justice (Toledo Blade, 11/2/2015)

George Weeks: Dark money and the Michigan Supreme Court (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 11/2/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For November 4, 2015

### News

Federal agency conducting review of Flint water supply (Associated Press, 11/4/2015)

2015 Michigan General Election: Macomb County results (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

2015 Michigan General Election: Oakland County results (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Everything we know about the Senate roads plan (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Former Reps. Courser, Gamrat defeated in comeback tries (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Legislature passes funding plan for roads (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

U.S. EPA will conduct 'full review' of Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 11/4/2015)

Michigan Legislature OKs roads plan with gas, fee hikes (Macomb Daily, 11/4/2015)

Election results around Michigan (Michigan Radio, 11/4/2015)

ABC's '20/20' filming Cindy Gamrat as election results come in (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Cindy Gamrat: 'I'm at peace with how it turned out' (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Election results: Full coverage of school bonds, state House primary and city leaders (MLive, 11/4/2015)

In re-election defeat, ex-state Rep. Todd Courser says he's 'walking corpse' (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Karen Weaver makes history, elected Flint's first woman mayor (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Michigan road funding deal: How they voted, and what they're saying about \$1.2 billion plan (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Two years after opening Detroit office, Republicans still eyeing long-term gains in Democratic stronghold (MLive, 11/4/2015)



Carson taps Mike Shirkey to chair Mich. campaign (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Election results for Wayne County (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Ex-DPS official 'steered' \$40M deal, feds say (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Snyder says he's ready to sign \$1.2B road fund package (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

## **Editorials**

Fixing our roads, at the expense of everything else (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Lawmakers fail LGBT in Mich., who deserve civil rights (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Michigan continues its dark money streak (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Michigan road funding bill: How we got to a bad deal (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Judy Pulnam: Medicare costs curbed but only for some (Lansing State Journal, 11/4/2015)

Ken Braun: Michigan needs a Taxpayer Bill of Rights (MLive, 11/4/2015)

State View: Why hasn't Michigan banned microbeads? (Petoskey News-Review, 11/4/2015)

Berman: UAW is neglecting workers (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Michigan brings transparency to civil forfeiture (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Wozniak: Campaign against clean air is embarrassing (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For November 5, 2015

### News

Governor orders flags lowered for former Michigan senator (Associated Press, 11/5/2015)

Voters oust Flint mayor amid city's water problems (Associated Press, 11/5/2015)

Asian carp recommendations could take 4 more years (Detroit Free Press, 11/5/2015)

How legislators voted on the two main road-funding bills (Detroit Free Press, 11/5/2015)

Snyder cautious about borrowing against new road money (Detroit Free Press, 11/5/2015)

4 new things in the House bill to overhaul Michigan's energy policy, slated for a committee vote (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Could Democrats get a win in Michigan energy overhaul? Energy efficiency revived as bargaining chip (MLive, 11/5/2015)

GOP ready to 'move forward' after Courser, Gamrat crushed in Michigan primaries (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Inside Michigan's new road funding deal: fuel taxes, registration fees, tax relief and more (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Michigan awards \$500k in campus sexual assault prevention grants; See which colleges got funding (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Michigan PTA president: 'Guns have no place in our schools' (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Walling plans to stay in Flint, won't rule out politics after mayoral defeat (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Wins for write-in mayor, openly gay candidate and recreational marijuana in Metro Detroit elections (MLive, 11/5/2015)

Drivers shouldn't expect big road gains in a hurry (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

Mich. plan to cut algae relies on past measures (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

Snyder hits Carson's political inexperience (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

Snyder says he's ready to sign \$1.2B road fund package (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

Stabenow urges faster push to block Asian carp (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

## **Editorials**

Streams leading into Great Lakes need protection, too (Detroit Free Press, 11/5/2015)

Supporting education for all (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 11/5/2015)

Roads deal: mission accomplished or can kicked? (Michigan Radio, 11/5/2015)

Kelly: Getting state money should include real change (Midland Daily News, 11/5/2015)

Finley: Why Michigan can't fix its schools (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

Our Editorial: Road deal not great but good enough (The Detroit News, 11/5/2015)

## **Blogs**

Unpacking The Roads Proposal Headed To Snyder's Desk (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/4/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For November 9, 2015

### News

Michigan road-fix plan becomes 2016 campaign issue (Associated Press, 11/9/2015)

State rolls dice on sports betting (Crain's Detroit Business, 11/9/2015)

House wants tougher penalties for abuse of elderly (Detroit Free Press, 11/9/2015)

Metro Detroit itching to get new aid for roads (Detroit Free Press, 11/9/2015)

Michigan ranks last in laws on ethics, transparency (Detroit Free Press, 11/9/2015)

New program gives expanded care for low-income people (Detroit Free Press, 11/9/2015)

Bill would give some state workers police powers (Lansing State Journal, 11/9/2015)

More than scales: A day with a motor carrier officer (Lansing State Journal, 11/9/2015)

Gov. Rick Snyder backs committee-approved House energy plan for Michigan (MLive, 11/9/2015)

How to thank this veteran (and others): Support prevailing wage (MLive, 11/9/2015)

Michigan AG Bill Schuette targeted by national PAC for Clean Power Plan lawsuit (MLive, 11/9/2015)

Michigan Political Points: Tough-vote fatigue, buyers remorse in wake of road funding deal (MLive, 11/9/2015)

Michigan lawmaker calls for swift action against Asian carp threat (Peloskey News-Review, 11/9/2015)

Experts: Water health dangers don't subside in Flint (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

Lawmakers, Snyder pivot to energy, Detroit schools (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

PAC ad knocks Schuette for opposing clean energy plan (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

Prison call rate cuts help inmates, hurts jail budgets (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

Senate leader opposes bonds to accelerate road fixes (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

## **Editorials**

Robert Erwin: Republican roads fix unfair, unrealistic (Battle Creek Enquirer, 11/9/2015)

Is Michigan on the road to ruin? (Detroit Free Press, 11/9/2015)

Year before water change, state knew of risks in Flint (Detroit Free Press, 11/9/2015)

Full investigation needed at every level in Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 11/9/2015)

Rick Haglund: Will new UAW contracts help restore Michigan's middle class? (MLive, 11/9/2015)

Bill restores fairness to tax assessing (Port Huron Times Herald, 11/9/2015)

Arellano: Strong evaluations can boost teaching (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

Finley: Politics of road deal are baffling (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

Our Editorial: Blight program needs diligent watchdogs (The Detroit News, 11/9/2015)

## **Blogs**

About That Poll On Central Registration For Schools In Detroit... (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/6/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For November 10, 2015**

### **News**

A bill aims to more fairly split purses at state's last two racetracks (Bridge Magazine, 11/10/2015)

State rolls dice on bills that would expand sports betting (Bridge Magazine, 11/10/2015)

New virtual tour of Michigan Capitol building unveiled (Crain's Detroit Business, 11/10/2015)

Keep guns out of Michigan schools, poll respondents say (Detroit Free Press, 11/10/2015)

Snyder to sign road funding package Tuesday (Detroit Free Press, 11/10/2015)

State Sen. Tom Casperson announces congressional run (Detroit Free Press, 11/10/2015)

Flint students can be tested for lead after toxic levels found in schools (Flint Journal, 11/10/2015)

Stamas, Pettalia welcome Miss Michigan to Capitol (Midland Daily News, 11/10/2015)

How much does it cost to demolish a house? Here's a look at the price tag in five Michigan cities (MLive, 11/10/2015)

Jeb Bush to visit Grand Rapids for town hall Thursday (MLive, 11/10/2015)

Utility influence in Michigan energy debate includes \$500,000 in political donations, 69 lobbyists (MLive, 11/10/2015)

What Mayor Mike Duggan called 'No. 1 risk to Detroit's recovery' (MLive, 11/10/2015)

Michigan backers plan fundraiser for Kasich (The Detroit News, 11/10/2015)

Michigan's public disclosure laws slammed (The Detroit News, 11/10/2015)

Rick Santorum goes speechless in Michigan (The Detroit News, 11/10/2015)

### **Editorials**

Michigan Legislature, heal thyself (Detroit Free Press, 11/10/2015)

Stephen Henderson: Through the doors of 7124 Tuxedo (Detroit Free Press, 11/10/2015)

Kelly: Getting state money should include real change (Lansing State Journal, 11/10/2015)

Robbins: Michigan forests don't take care of themselves (Lansing State Journal, 11/10/2015)

Don't let politicians eliminate clean energy standards (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 11/10/2015)

Our view: A long time coming (Midland Daily News, 11/10/2015)

M-STEP scores may shock, but don't shoot the messenger (MLive, 11/10/2015)

Michigan dead last on integrity report card (Port Huron Times Herald, 11/10/2015)

Bensten: Why the Common Core tests are collapsing (The Detroit News, 11/10/2015)

Our Editorial: Keep momentum on rape kit testing (The Detroit News, 11/10/2015)

## **Blogs**

Bloomberg PAC Ad Against Schuette Feels Like First 2018 Shot (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/9/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For November 12, 2015

### News

Michigan touts net reduction of 2,100 rules since 2011 (Associated Press, 11/12/2015)

'88 Free Press article helps clarify Ben Carson claims (Detroit Free Press, 11/12/2015)

Gloves off as Senate OKs ban on straight-ticket voting (Detroit Free Press, 11/12/2015)

Gov. Rick Snyder signs \$1.2B road funding package (Detroit Free Press, 11/12/2015)

Lawmaker arrested for drunk driving near Lansing (Detroit Free Press, 11/12/2015)

Lawmaker: Give Flint \$50M to replace lead water pipes (Detroit Free Press, 11/12/2015)

Appeals court: State worker not disabled (Lansing State Journal, 11/12/2015)

DHHS to lawmakers: We're not 'playing police' (Lansing State Journal, 11/12/2015)

Senate nixes paid union release time for public workers (Lansing State Journal, 11/12/2015)

Democrat to seek Speaker Cotter's seat representing 99th District (MLive, 11/12/2015)

Michigan Democrats run 'birthday tax' ads blasting Republican road funding plan (MLive, 11/12/2015)

Michigan police propose changes to medical pot dispensary bill, end of caregiver model (MLive, 11/12/2015)

Pay to play: How Michigan makes it hard to fight for property seized by police (MLive, 11/12/2015)

What Michigan's new road funding rules mean for you, your taxes and your roads (MLive, 11/12/2015)

Why Michigan's proposed 30 percent clean energy goal may not be as impressive as it sounds (MLive, 11/12/2015)

Flint Mayor Karen Weaver talks water (The Detroit News, 11/12/2015)



GOP rivals Bush, Rubio differ in tactics in Michigan (The Detroit News, 11/12/2015)

Michigan's public disclosure laws slammed (The Detroit News, 11/12/2015)

Snyder signs road-spending bills with tax hikes (The Detroit News, 11/12/2015)

## **Editorials**

Road deal made by politicians who won't face the consequences (Bridge Magazine, 11/12/2015)

Legislators play kick the can (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 11/12/2015)

Moolenaar: Medals for our heroes (Midland Daily News, 11/12/2015)

On parole reform, evidence says the sky won't fall (MLive, 11/12/2015)

Lansing set to ignore '02 voting referendum (Port Huron Times Herald, 11/12/2015)

Jacques: Lawmakers reluctant on fixing Detroit schools (The Detroit News, 11/12/2015)

Pavlov: Michigan needs more jobs, not handouts (The Detroit News, 11/12/2015)

Thompson: Flint mayor sees hope, challenges ahead (The Detroit News, 11/12/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For November 13, 2015**

### **News**

Senate bill would drop protections for gray wolves (Associated Press, 11/13/2015)

What's so good about land banks? A Q and A (Bridge Magazine, 11/13/2015)

Bills seek to assure clean, affordable water for all (Detroit Free Press, 11/13/2015)

Candidates set for 2016 Michigan presidential primary (Detroit Free Press, 11/13/2015)

State board to consider Gov. Snyder recall petition (Detroit Free Press, 11/13/2015)

County Health Department, state partner to educate Flint area on lead (Flint Journal, 11/13/2015)

Four ways Flint failed in its testing for lead in water (Flint Journal, 11/13/2015)

DHHS improving technology for caseworkers (Lansing State Journal, 11/13/2015)

Snyder's plan for Detroit Public Schools faces serious challenges (Michigan Radio, 11/13/2015)

'I know how to do this,' Jeb Bush says in Grand Rapids (MLive, 11/13/2015)

'Water is a human right,' Democrats say with new bills addressing Flint crisis, Detroit shutoffs (MLive, 11/13/2015)

Big new tenant for Steelcase pyramid is 'a done deal,' says State Rep. Ken Yonker (MLive, 11/13/2015)

Detroit school overhaul unlikely by end of year (The Detroit News, 11/13/2015)

Flint may have failed to follow US water testing rules (The Detroit News, 11/13/2015)

Weather costs Jeb Bush campaign time in Grand Rapids (The Detroit News, 11/13/2015)

### **Editorials**

College affordability will shape Michigan's future economy (Bridge Magazine, 11/13/2015)

When the Free Press met Dr. Ben Carson ... in 1988 (Detroit Free Press, 11/13/2015)

Anderson: Road funding "fix" needs to be fixed (Lansing State Journal, 11/13/2015)

Rising resolve is protecting The Great Lakes now and in future (Macomb Daily, 11/13/2015)

Is the state to blame for local financial distress? (Michigan Radio, 11/13/2015)

Susan J. Demas: What Snyder gets wrong about welders and higher education (MLive, 11/13/2015)

Clean up regulations, don't forget obligations (Port Huron Times Herald, 11/13/2015)

Dickens: Enforce Detroit pot laws with care (The Detroit News, 11/13/2015)

Our Editorial: Michigan growing, but not fast enough (The Detroit News, 11/13/2015)

Williamson: Let's transform Detroit schools (The Detroit News, 11/13/2015)

Snyder's OK of road bill has basis (Toledo Blade, 11/13/2015)

## **Blogs**

A Little Analysis On Medicaid Expansion Across The States (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/12/2015)

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# Michigan News & Opinion For September 13, 2013

## News

Snyder says announcement on re-election plans still months away (Detroit Free Press, 9/13/2013)

Michigan Senate bans gas chambers in animal shelters (Associated Press, 9/13/2013)

State lawmaker slams appointment by Pontiac EM (Detroit Free Press, 9/13/2013)

Bills to authorize 'mental health courts' to offer treatment, counseling approved by House panel (MLive, 9/13/2013)

'Fracking' debate erupts (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 9/13/2013)

Failing a drug test - or refusing to take one - could cost Michigan job seekers unemployment benefits (MLive, 9/13/2013)

Detroit mayoral candidates gather weighty endorsements as city considers health care shift (MLive, 9/13/2013)

Governor's office stands by former Pontiac emergency manager's order creating powerful new position (MLive, 9/13/2013)

Flint union chiefs cautious about appointment of Darnell Earley as new emergency manager (MLive, 9/13/2013)

ACLU takes aim at Detroit Police Department stop-and-frisk policy (MLive, 9/13/2013)

State Senate Committee for Economic Development to host committee meeting in Flint (MLive, 9/13/2013)

Gov. Rick Snyder to attend funeral of fallen Michigan State Police trooper Paul Butterfield (MLive, 9/13/2013)

Michigan Senate passes bill to outlaw gas chambers at animal shelters (Detroit Free Press, 9/13/2013)

Duggan and Napoleon: Orr can go back to D.C. (Detroit Free Press, 9/13/2013)

Detroit mayoral candidates pick up more endorsements as race heats up (Detroit Free Press, 9/13/2013)

Ex-Gov. John Engler says Michigan business climate 'on the mend' (Detroit Free Press, 9/13/2013)

The Bing-Orr divide: Mayor frustrated by 'supposed partnership' of power (Detroit Free Press, 9/13/2013)

## **Editorials**

Editorial: State must resolve mandatory-life issue (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 9/13/2013)

Editorial: Poor pension management helped land Detroit in the poor house (Detroit Free Press, 9/13/2013)

There are Two "Detroits" (Dome Magazine, 9/13/2013)

Don't derail Michigan's fracking potential (Detroit News, 9/13/2013)

OUR SAY: Give juveniles who have served mandatory minimum sentences a second chance (Oakland Press, 9/13/2013)

Editorial: Celebrate gifts of life at the Capitol (Lansing State Journal, 9/13/2013)

Editorial: Delaying Medicaid expansion places an unnecessary burden on state (Grand Rapids Press, 9/13/2013)

Michigan Scorecard solutions elude policymakers (Bridge Magazine, 9/13/2013)

Mike Thompson: Orr's health care coverage plan for Detroit retirees (Detroit Free Press, 9/13/2013)

Rochelle Riley: Detroit's soul is where the healing begins (Detroit Free Press, 9/13/2013)

Breathing fire over threat to DIA's collection (Detroit News, 9/13/2013)

## **Blogs**

A Time Translation Could Have Helped (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 9/12/2013)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For November 17, 2015

### News

City blues: MSU study finds state tax policies cripple cities (Bridge Magazine, 11/17/2015)

Gamrat husband ID'd as person who sent Courser texts (Detroit Free Press, 11/17/2015)

Parole for medically frail inmates proposed by House (Detroit Free Press, 11/17/2015)

Snyder change on Syrian refugees leads more opposition (Detroit Free Press, 11/17/2015)

Study: Economy adds to traffic, which raises road deaths (Detroit Free Press, 11/17/2015)

Class action lawsuit claims Snyder, Flint put water cost above safety (Flint Journal, 11/17/2015)

Howard Croft, Flint official responsible for water oversight, resigns (Flint Journal, 11/17/2015)

Lead-exposed Flint kids need better nutrition now, Stabenow says (Flint Journal, 11/17/2015)

Attorneys discuss a Flint water class action lawsuit (Michigan Radio, 11/17/2015)

'People should be outraged' by allowing guns at school, Grand Rapids superintendent says (MLive, 11/17/2015)

7 takeaways from police investigation into Todd Courser, Cindy Gamrat 'extortion' texts (MLive, 11/17/2015)

Switch confirms plans for \$5B investment, 1,000 jobs at West Michigan data center (MLive, 11/17/2015)

Syrians, advocates on Michigan's refugee stance: 'They forget that we're all humans' (MLive, 11/17/2015)

National group defends Schuette on pollution fight (The Detroit News, 11/17/2015)

Report: Joe Gamrat denied he planned threatening texts (The Detroit News, 11/17/2015)

Snyder among at least a dozen governors not taking Syrian refugees (The Detroit News, 11/17/2015)

## **Editorials**

Editorial: Be straight with voters (Battle Creek Enquirer, 11/17/2015)

Why collective bargaining still works (Detroit Free Press, 11/17/2015)

Editorial: Roads funding plan is a start (Lansing State Journal, 11/17/2015)

Brian Pannebecker is dead wrong on overturning prevailing wage in Michigan (Macomb Daily, 11/17/2015)

Candice Miller: Gov. Snyder's prior willingness to accept Syrian refugees was 'off the mark' (MLive, 11/17/2015)

Lupher: Initiative petition process cries for reform (The Detroit News, 11/17/2015)

## **Blogs**

Runner's World Covers Calley, Bernstein Running NYC Marathon Together (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/16/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For December 28, 2015**

### **News**

Convicts paying for courts as lawmakers trump ruling (Associated Press, 12/28/2015)

2015: A list of state legislative achievements, inaction (Detroit Free Press, 12/28/2015)

Michigan mead-makers looking for a way to change laws (Detroit Free Press, 12/28/2015)

Road agencies: We're ready for whatever winter brings (Detroit Free Press, 12/28/2015)

State's handling of Flint water samples delayed action (Detroit Free Press, 12/28/2015)

Congressman calls for state water crisis health fund on Rachel Maddow show (MLive, 12/28/2015)

Gov. Snyder calls Flint water issue 'greatest challenge' during interview (MLive, 12/28/2015)

Schools celebrate more local control with new federal law (MLive, 12/28/2015)

Sluggish population growth may cost Michigan another Congressional seat after next Census (MLive, 12/28/2015)

Flint water scandal slops over onto DEQ (Port Huron Times Herald, 12/28/2015)

Mich. officials push back as feds recall military gear (The Detroit News, 12/28/2015)

Michigan's beach testing faster but expansion uncertain (The Detroit News, 12/28/2015)

Snyder signs bills granting tax breaks to data centers (The Detroit News, 12/28/2015)

State denies hiding Flint data on rising lead levels (The Detroit News, 12/28/2015)

### **Editorials**

Bizon: I heard constituents and voted against SB13 (Battle Creek Enquirer, 12/28/2015)

Legislature lets tragic failure in Detroit schools go on (Detroit Free Press, 12/28/2015)

Hurley: Michigan must get smarter, or it will get poorer. (Lansing State Journal, 12/28/2015)

Banning pit bulls is a knee-jerk response to a larger problem (MLive, 12/28/2015)

Blame term limits for Lansing's lack of sense (Port Huron Times Herald, 12/28/2015)

Our editorial: Transparency is Job One in demo work (The Detroit News, 12/28/2015)

Senate Bill 571 censors factual election information (The Detroit News, 12/28/2015)

Michigan's Medicaid victory (Toledo Blade, 12/28/2015)

George Weeks: Reflections on political deadlock (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 12/28/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For November 18, 2015**

### **News**

Michigan moves toward renewable power goal, not mandate (Associated Press, 11/18/2015)

Democrats target Rep. Mike Bishop in ads (Detroit Free Press, 11/18/2015)

Michigan could potentially see more Syrian refugees (Detroit Free Press, 11/18/2015)

Snyder change on Syrian refugees leads more opposition (Detroit Free Press, 11/18/2015)

EPA group to take testimony on Flint water crisis as it weighs rule changes (Flint Journal, 11/18/2015)

Read resignation letter of Flint official in charge of city water (Flint Journal, 11/18/2015)

Lawmakers push to expand Promise scholarship in Michigan (Michigan Radio, 11/18/2015)

After Syrian refugee stance, is Michigan's Rick Snyder still the most pro-immigration governor? (MLive, 11/18/2015)

Bay County group opposing guns in school heads to Lansing with 1,584 signatures (MLive, 11/18/2015)

Former Rep. Cindy Gamrat 'shocked' by police report that detailed her husband's involvement (MLive, 11/18/2015)

Army Corps gets \$1.35M to study upgrade for Soo Locks (The Detroit News, 11/18/2015)

Michigan can't bar refugees; it's up to feds (The Detroit News, 11/18/2015)

### **Editorials**

How technology can disrupt divide over government's role (Bridge Magazine, 11/18/2015)

Protecting and preserving our Great Lakes (Holland Sentinel, 11/18/2015)

Keeping guns out gets us nowhere in staying safer (MLive, 11/18/2015)

Bieber: Shine a light on state contracts (The Detroit News, 11/18/2015)

Bill a step toward fair, secure energy for Michigan (The Detroit News, 11/18/2015)

Editorial: Reject short-sighted child abuse list bills (The Detroit News, 11/18/2015)

Sen. Colbeck: Healthcare option could finance roads (The Detroit News, 11/18/2015)

## **Blogs**

Tax Breaks To Lure Data Center Set Up Intriguing Switch For State (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/17/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For November 19, 2015**

### **News**

Anti-fracking group falls short in signatures for ballot (Detroit Free Press, 11/19/2015)

Flint lead problems raised at national water hearing (Detroit Free Press, 11/19/2015)

Scientists to feds: Great Lakes wolves not endangered (Detroit Free Press, 11/19/2015)

Refund Flint \$2 million for cost of Detroit water, Kildee tells Gov. Snyder (Flint Journal, 11/19/2015)

Story of Flint water crisis, 'failure of government,' unfolds in Washington (Flint Journal, 11/19/2015)

Schor on union leave time ban: 'What's the point?' (Lansing State Journal, 11/19/2015)

Todd Courser says he was a 'bad victim' in extortion text scandal (MLive, 11/19/2015)

Study: Eight Michigan companies receive perfect scores in LGBT equality (Oakland Press, 11/19/2015)

Bush group buys \$1.8M in TV ads for Michigan primary (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

FAA seeks to fine Detroit Metro airport \$200,000 (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

Flint officials, experts hit lead contamination law (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

Patterson to Pontiac: Don't take Syrian refugees (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

Skillman leader: Don't expect foundation rescue of DPS (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

### **Editorials**

Facts about refugee resettlement should ease fears (Detroit Free Press, 11/19/2015)

Snyder talks tough on refugees, flunks social studies (Detroit Free Press, 11/19/2015)

What federal transportation bill will mean for Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 11/19/2015)

Teacher evaluation bill set (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 11/19/2015)

Snyder trying to clear his record in statements on refugees (Michigan Radio, 11/19/2015)

To prevent Great Lakes oil spills, map the risks and strengthen rules (MLive, 11/19/2015)

Buss: The UAW's short view (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

Editorial: Pause on refugees can't be permanent (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

McNeilly: Lawmakers need workplace oversight (The Detroit News, 11/19/2015)

## **Blogs**

Trails Expanding, But Still Lacking Some Key Amenities (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/18/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For November 25, 2015**

### **News**

Michigan to finalize more than 120 adoptions today (Detroit Free Press, 11/25/2015)

Appeals court greenlights hearing on Flint water rate ruling (Flint Journal, 11/25/2015)

Lansing improves chronic absenteeism 3 years running (Lansing State Journal, 11/25/2015)

Arrest report: 'Super drunk' Michigan lawmaker was swerving, speeding, nearly hit another car (MLive, 11/25/2015)

Michigan's presidential primary ballot can include local races, proposals under new law (MLive, 11/25/2015)

State strikes new deal with Fiat Chrysler on MEGA credits (MLive, 11/25/2015)

Ted Cruz supporters plan live Christian nativity scene at Michigan Capitol (MLive, 11/25/2015)

Dingell probes why Ann Arbor VA cancels vets' surgeries (The Detroit News, 11/25/2015)

Public hearing set for Dec. 17 on medical pot centers (The Detroit News, 11/25/2015)

State talks to GM; Fiat Chrysler accepts \$1.7B tax cap (The Detroit News, 11/25/2015)

### **Editorials**

'Dark store' tax assessment loophole hurts local governments (MLive, 11/25/2015)

Syrian refugees present a choice: our fears or our ideals of freedom (MLive, 11/25/2015)

Optional kindergarten is a quaint, outdated idea (Port Huron Times Herald, 11/25/2015)

Editorial: Privacy bill could hurt mentally ill (The Detroit News, 11/25/2015)

Labor Voices: Online charter schools pose problems (The Detroit News, 11/25/2015)

### **Blogs**

Booth Newspapers Rises Again In State Government Communications (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 11/24/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For December 1, 2015**

### **News**

Michigan colleges offering best bang for the buck (Bridge Magazine, 12/1/2015)

More Michigan schools may face higher borrowing costs (Detroit Free Press, 12/1/2015)

White House offers governors more info on refugees (Detroit Free Press, 12/1/2015)

KWA picks Sanilac drain commissioner as chief, new Flint mayor tries for the job (Flint Journal, 12/1/2015)

State overpaid disability claim by more than \$100K, auditor says (Lansing State Journal, 12/1/2015)

Split government? Open seats in 2016 could give Democrats a chance at state House control (Michigan Radio, 12/1/2015)

3 major issues facing Michigan Legislature with just 3 session weeks left in 2015 (MLive, 12/1/2015)

Officials: Concealed pistol licensees unlikely to notice change in law (Oakland Press, 12/1/2015)

Michigan's straight-ticket voting option may be eliminated (Petoskey News-Review, 12/1/2015)

Rubio gets support of some key Detroit area execs (The Detroit News, 12/1/2015)

Stabenow among 13 female senators who back Clinton (The Detroit News, 12/1/2015)

### **Editorials**

To rebuild Detroit, restore the schools (Bridge Magazine, 12/1/2015)

Drivers who block first responders deserve jail (Port Huron Times Herald, 12/1/2015)

Editor's Note: Unions can't force members to stay (The Detroit News, 12/1/2015)

Michigan should adopt 'criminal intent' rule (The Detroit News, 12/1/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For December 4, 2015

### News

Gov. Snyder proclaims Friday 'Spartan Green Day' (Detroit Free Press, 12/4/2015)

Push to recall Snyder over Flint water crisis stalls (Detroit Free Press, 12/4/2015)

State says blood-lead levels in Flint kids have dropped (Detroit Free Press, 12/4/2015)

Flint water still unsafe without lead filters, professor says (Flint Journal, 12/4/2015)

New tests show toxic lead in plumbing at Flint elementary schools (Flint Journal, 12/4/2015)

Michigan cops fume over loss of U.S. military vehicles (Livingston Daily Press and Argus, 12/4/2015)

High school charges student reporter \$8,806 for public information (Michigan Radio, 12/4/2015)

5-year budget deficits prompt state review of 11 Michigan school districts (MLive, 12/4/2015)

House Elections Committee still considering straight-ticket voting box ban (MLive, 12/4/2015)

Petition language to recall Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder flops again at Board of State Canvassers (MLive, 12/4/2015)

Presidential candidate and U-M graduate Ben Carson returning to Ann Arbor (MLive, 12/4/2015)

Foes attack bill ending straight-party voting (The Detroit News, 12/4/2015)

GOP lawmakers oppose state aid for Planned Parenthood (The Detroit News, 12/4/2015)

Michigan may dump cities' bans on pit bulls (The Detroit News, 12/4/2015)

Senate approves data center tax break bills (The Detroit News, 12/4/2015)

State: 30 Flint residents have elevated lead levels (The Detroit News, 12/4/2015)

Treasury study might lead to school emergency managers (The Detroit News, 12/4/2015)

## **Editorials**

What's your take? (Battle Creek Enquirer, 12/4/2015)

Don't deny voters the right to vote a straight ticket (Detroit Free Press, 12/4/2015)

Fight economic inequality with collective bargaining (Detroit Free Press, 12/4/2015)

Gun control inaction makes mass shootings a way of life (Detroit Free Press, 12/4/2015)

Open the door to lending for more minority businesses (Detroit Free Press, 12/4/2015)

Vote next week for 2015's best political quotes (Lansing State Journal, 12/4/2015)

Bring Switch to Michigan, but be smart with data center tax breaks (MLive, 12/4/2015)

Detroit education reforms also must address 'school-to-prison pipeline' (MLive, 12/4/2015)

Deregulating toxic air chemicals a major shift (The Detroit News, 12/4/2015)

Editorial: Put priority on fixing Detroit tax system (The Detroit News, 12/4/2015)

Moss: State Dems favor expansion of FOIA (The Detroit News, 12/4/2015)

## **Blogs**

Recalling A Forgotten Representative (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 12/3/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For December 7, 2015**

### **News**

Lawmaker apologizes for racially insensitive comments (Associated Press, 12/7/2015)

Michigan data center tax breaks show rift over strategy (Associated Press, 12/7/2015)

Data center tax breaks win narrow approval from Michigan Senate (Crain's Detroit Business, 12/7/2015)

Audit finds \$3.4M discrepancy in prison meal counts (Detroit Free Press, 12/7/2015)

Election law front and center in newly introduced bills (Detroit Free Press, 12/7/2015)

Lawmakers blast alleged plan to charter Detroit schools (Detroit Free Press, 12/7/2015)

Oil spill, high waves: A Great Lakes disaster scenario (Detroit Free Press, 12/7/2015)

Water tests conducted at Flint homes by Wayne State University researchers (Flint Journal, 12/7/2015)

Audit: State paid Aramark \$3.4M for unverified meals (Lansing State Journal, 12/7/2015)

Concealed pistol licenses increase sharply (Macomb Daily, 12/7/2015)

House bill would make citizenship test a high school graduation requirement (Michigan Radio, 12/7/2015)

Sen. Gary Peters applauds Army review of soldiers' mental health-related dismissals (MLive, 12/7/2015)

Loan forgiveness sought for Flint to replace lead pipes (The Detroit News, 12/7/2015)

No-reason absentee voting bill pushed in Michigan House (The Detroit News, 12/7/2015)

### **Editorials**

What's your take: Straight-party voting (Battle Creek Enquirer, 12/7/2015)

Hit the books, Michigan, and get smart about economic growth (Bridge Magazine, 12/7/2015)

All the risk, none of the rewards for Michigan cities (Detroit Free Press, 12/7/2015)

Anders: The house that Gary built (Midland Daily News, 12/7/2015)

Let local laws determine how to reduce dog attacks, restrict breeds (MLive, 12/7/2015)

Editorial: Raise juvenile age in Michigan (The Detroit News, 12/7/2015)

Finley: Gun laws won't stop terror (The Detroit News, 12/7/2015)

Letter: Bill benefiting telecom firms risks roads work (The Detroit News, 12/7/2015)

George Weeks: Multi-media push for more open gov't (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 12/7/2015)

## **Blogs**

Conservation Officers Saving Lives, And The DNR Knows How To Tell It (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 12/4/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For December 8, 2015

### News

A year post-bankruptcy, Detroit still has a long to-do list (Bridge Magazine, 12/8/2015)

Michigan officials: Let cops keep military surplus (Detroit Free Press, 12/8/2015)

Crusading Flint doctor says 'we're not done' fighting fallout of lead in water (Flint Journal, 12/8/2015)

Kildee: Forget firings and apologies in water crisis, take care of Flint kids (Flint Journal, 12/8/2015)

Medical marijuana may go the way of alcohol in Michigan Senate (MLive, 12/8/2015)

Michigan House conservatives fight Planned Parenthood family planning grant (MLive, 12/8/2015)

Should utilities build new plants? Groups push for competitive bidding (MLive, 12/8/2015)

Two presidential candidates to speak in Michigan on Wednesday (MLive, 12/8/2015)

Why Michigan Gov. Snyder's \$715M Detroit schools rescue plan won't get done in 2015 (MLive, 12/8/2015)

Daily fantasy sports sites under review in Michigan (The Detroit News, 12/8/2015)

Ex-Courser, Gamrat aides sue Michigan House (The Detroit News, 12/8/2015)

Knollenberg apologizes after education comment uproar (The Detroit News, 12/8/2015)

Lawmaker makes controversial comments on race (The Detroit News, 12/8/2015)

Mich. residents: Trump's Muslim ban 'just not America' (The Detroit News, 12/8/2015)

Michigan may get hit by retaliatory tariffs (The Detroit News, 12/8/2015)

Odd Michigan lawmaker coalition fights solar rate cut (The Detroit News, 12/8/2015)

### Editorials

Editorial: Raising the age (Battle Creek Enquirer, 12/8/2015)

Time to rewrite the regulatory compact (Bridge Magazine, 12/8/2015)

Third-grade reading bill hurts kids learning English (Detroit Free Press, 12/8/2015)

Vote: Best quote from Courser-Gamrat scandal (Lansing State Journal, 12/8/2015)

Susan J. Demas: Hidden poverty is hurting Michigan's economic recovery (MLive, 12/8/2015)

Humiliation of getting caught isn't punishment (Port Huron Times Herald, 12/8/2015)

Pure Michigan outshone by efforts of other states (The Detroit News, 12/8/2015)

Upton: We can't arrest our way out of opioid epidemic (The Detroit News, 12/8/2015)

## **Blogs**

Supporters Of Dog Breed Bans Make Case After Attacks (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 12/7/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For January 23, 2015**

### **News**

Gov. Rick Snyder talks about education (Detroit Free Press, 1/22/2015)

Michigan senators propose Keystone bill changes (Detroit Free Press, 1/21/2015)

Snyder: Detroit could be 'template' for education reform (Detroit Free Press, 1/23/2015)

Snyder issues flag order to honor former lawmaker (Grand Haven Tribune, 1/23/2015)

Singh bill would double energy efficiency standards (Lansing State Journal, 1/23/2015)

Governor Snyder's agenda for the year ahead (Michigan Radio, 1/22/2015)

Religious freedom bill returns in Michigan Senate (MLive, 1/22/2015)

State says its already 'working diligently' on Flint's water problems (MLive, 1/22/2015)

New EM: Detroit Public Schools staff layoffs possible (The Detroit News, 1/22/2015)

Snyder's welfare plan needs 'mother of all waivers' (The Detroit News, 1/22/2015)

### **Editorials**

Other voices: Help give Michigan's homeless homes (Battle Creek Enquirer, 1/22/2015)

Grading Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder: How did he do on his 2015 State of the State speech? (MLive, 1/21/2015)

Focus on 'people not programs' is welcome indeed (The Daily Mining Gazette, 1/22/2015)

Jacques: Finish work on teacher evaluations (The Detroit News, 1/23/2015)

McNeilly: End the prevailing wage in Michigan (The Detroit News, 1/23/2015)

Gov. Snyder appears ready to stand up more to Mich. GOP lawmakers (Toledo Blade, 1/23/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For December 15, 2015**

### **News**

Low-income workers must 'make it stretch' (Bridge Magazine, 12/15/2015)

Hillary Clinton campaign forms Mich. Leadership Council (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2015)

Report: Straits of Mackinac oil pipeline not necessary (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2015)

Mayor Karen Weaver declares water crisis state of emergency in Flint (Flint Journal, 12/15/2015)

Chief justice: State worker ruling unrelated to right-to-work (Lansing State Journal, 12/15/2015)

Where are tax dollars most at risk? (Lansing State Journal, 12/15/2015)

Lawmakers to argue energy overhaul, data center tax breaks in last week of 2015 (Michigan Radio, 12/15/2015)

Long-shot Dem seeks ballot access in Michigan primary, Donald J. Trump adds middle initial (MLive, 12/15/2015)

Detroit ranks No. 2 in Affordable Care Act contest (The Detroit News, 12/15/2015)

Donald Trump returns to Michigan for rally next week (The Detroit News, 12/15/2015)

Election board rejects recall petition against Snyder (The Detroit News, 12/15/2015)

Gov. Snyder 'open' to ending EAA school reform (The Detroit News, 12/15/2015)

### **Editorials**

The forest-loving Farm Bill at 25 (Bridge Magazine, 12/15/2015)

New bills boost legislators' attack on democracy (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2015)

Editorial: Body camera footage is public (Lansing State Journal, 12/15/2015)

Worse than Citizens United (Michigan Radio, 12/15/2015)

As Legislature considers medical marijuana proposals, facts must overcome fiction, myths (MLive, 12/15/2015)

Rick Haglund: Michigan business tax incentives here to stay — for now (MLive, 12/15/2015)

Susan J. Demas: Courser-Gamrat scandal now threatens to take down House GOP in 2016 (MLive, 12/15/2015)

## **Blogs**

Even The Oversight Chair Can (Unofficially) Lose Control Of Time (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 12/14/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For December 29, 2015**

### **News**

Mich. elections board to consider gay rights petition (Associated Press, 12/29/2015)

Should Wisconsin city get OK to tap Lake Michigan water? (Detroit Free Press, 12/29/2015)

State police probe sought in fatal shooting by officer (Detroit Free Press, 12/29/2015)

Auditor General's report says Flint water should have gotten corrosion control (Flint Journal, 12/29/2015)

Fair Michigan gay rights, anti-discrimination petition going before state board for review (MLive, 12/29/2015)

Michigan criminal justice reforms, shelved in 2015, are on the radar for first half of next year (MLive, 12/29/2015)

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, legislative leaders name top accomplishments of 2015 (MLive, 12/29/2015)

State Rep. Gary Glenn named 'freshman lawmaker of the year' by news service (MLive, 12/29/2015)

Auditor general findings set off Flint water debate (The Detroit News, 12/29/2015)

Snyder plan to fix Detroit schools slow to gain steam (The Detroit News, 12/29/2015)

### **Editorials**

Black lives, Tamir Rice and America's uncivil history (Detroit Free Press, 12/29/2015)

Election reform laws headed in wrong direction (Midland Daily News, 12/29/2015)

Helping our veterans in Michigan and beyond (Oakland Press, 12/29/2015)

Lawmakers reinforce contempt for voters (Petoskey News-Review, 12/29/2015)

Bieda: Bills would leave voters in dark (The Detroit News, 12/29/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For December 17, 2015**

### **News**

Michigan letting school retirees return with pension (Associated Press, 12/17/2015)

Legislation to fix Detroit schools stalled until 2016 (Detroit Free Press, 12/17/2015)

MDOC restricts access to day rooms at women's prison (Detroit Free Press, 12/17/2015)

Michigan Senate, House OK end to straight ticket voting (Detroit Free Press, 12/17/2015)

Read Flint mayor's state of emergency declaration on water crisis (Flint Journal, 12/17/2015)

Public defender reform to get tougher (Lansing State Journal, 12/17/2015)

Michigan bills would ease vaccination waiver process, undermine new health rules (MLive, 12/17/2015)

Michigan Legislature caps 2015 with flurry of election bill action (MLive, 12/17/2015)

New contracts approved: State employees to get 1% raise, 1.5fixpercent lump sum payment (MLive, 12/17/2015)

New way to measure student growth for teacher evaluations in the works (MLive, 12/17/2015)

Mich. lawmakers vote to end straight-party voting (The Detroit News, 12/17/2015)

New law exempts young adults if they report drug abuse (The Detroit News, 12/17/2015)

Spending bill aids Great Lakes cleanup, MSU facility (The Detroit News, 12/17/2015)

### **Editorials**

When it comes to talent, Michigan needs more of everything (Bridge Magazine, 12/17/2015)

For Detroit students, don't go back to status quo (Detroit Free Press, 12/17/2015)

When did state know kids in Flint were lead poisoned? (Detroit Free Press, 12/17/2015)

Reading bill focuses on advancing students to proficiency (MLive, 12/17/2015)

Senate absentee-voting bill takes away more than it gives (MLive, 12/17/2015)

Without guidelines for Michigan teacher evaluations, everyone is awesome (MLive, 12/17/2015)

Durant: Give Michigan schools more freedom to innovate (The Detroit News, 12/17/2015)

Editorial: Deal to cap GM should be public (The Detroit News, 12/17/2015)

Letter: Time, dollars needed for juvenile justice (The Detroit News, 12/17/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For October 5, 2015**

### **News**

Prevailing wage backers push for public vote on repeal (Associated Press, 10/3/2015)

Prevailing wage law: Backers ask for public vote on repeal (Battle Creek Enquirer, 10/3/2015)

Only two cases remain in more than dozen filed over new bridge to Canada (Crain's Detroit Business, 10/4/2015)

Bill Schuette on race for reelection (Detroit Free Press, 10/5/2015)

Bills target property tax cuts for 'big box' stores (Detroit Free Press, 10/3/2015)

Candidates for Courser seat gather for forum (Detroit Free Press, 10/2/2015)

Michigan Legislature: Bills on helmets, puppy mills, more (Detroit Free Press, 10/3/2015)

Michigan AG Bill Schuette to unveil new book, share 'Big Lessons from a Small Town' (MLive, 10/5/2015)

Michigan Political Points: Vice presidential speculation begins for Gov. Rick Snyder (MLive, 10/5/2015)

Courser, opponents debate gun control at forum (The Detroit News, 10/3/2015)

Former aides sue ex-Reps. Gamrat, Courser (The Detroit News, 10/2/2015)

Jeb Bush plans return to Michigan for fundraiser (The Detroit News, 10/2/2015)

### **Editorials**

Avoiding tap water has become a way of life in Flint (Detroit Free Press, 10/3/2015)

For Flint, vindication -- for Snyder, more questions (Detroit Free Press, 10/2/2015)

The case against term limits in the Michigan Legislature (Detroit Free Press, 10/4/2015)

Help Michigan schools and economy: Expand -- don't end -- electricity choice (Midland Daily News, 10/4/2015)

Ken Braun: Proposed laws would bring sensible speed limits and phantom student funding (MLive, 10/4/2015)

Rick Haglund: Gov. Snyder working hard to build future trade relationships (MLive, 10/4/2015)

Feds: Proposed pipeline rules could have prevented Michigan and other spills (Petoskey News-Review, 10/2/2015)

Drews and Johnson: Lobbying gone awry in Lansing (The Detroit News, 10/5/2015)

Editorial: Finish rape kit tests statewide (The Detroit News, 10/5/2015)

## **Blogs**

Amash Gets A Nod From Conservative Publication (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/2/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For October 6, 2015**

### **News**

Prevailing wage backers push for public vote on repeal (Associated Press, 10/3/2015)

Stepped-up drunken driving patrols lead to 100s of arrests (Associated Press, 10/6/2015)

Senators urge NASA to continue monitoring Lake Erie (Detroit Free Press, 10/6/2015)

Advocates call for Michigan gun control (Lansing State Journal, 10/6/2015)

Sorting out accountability in Flint water issues is "relatively complex" (Michigan Radio, 10/6/2015)

Michigan AG Bill Schuette takes a tip from Taylor Swift in releasing book of life lessons (MLive, 10/6/2015)

Roads deal 'close,' says Michigan House Speaker, with plan 'on pace' to hit floor in October (MLive, 10/6/2015)

Snyder talks job creation, STEM and auto careers at Michigan Works conference (MLive, 10/6/2015)

Ted Cruz in Michigan: 'Nothing short of crazy' to take in Syrian Muslim refugees (MLive, 10/6/2015)

State plans Flint water filter giveaway Tuesday (The Detroit News, 10/6/2015)

### **Editorials**

John Bizon: Biologic medications offer great promise (Battle Creek Enquirer, 10/6/2015)

Try again, try harder to get FCA deal for UAW (Detroit Free Press, 10/6/2015)

Judy Putnam: Doctors trump insurance in new model (Lansing State Journal, 10/6/2015)

McBroom: Courser, Gamrat expulsions warranted (The Detroit News, 10/6/2015)

Moore: Anti-sanctuary bill wrong for Detroit (The Detroit News, 10/6/2015)

Our Editorial: Toughen proposed forfeiture reforms (The Detroit News, 10/6/2015)

Rep. Forlini: 'Michigan penalty' harms taxpayers (The Detroit News, 10/6/2015)

## **Blogs**

Dantonio's Forward For Schuette Book Irks Some Democratic Spartans (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/5/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For October 8, 2015**

### **News**

Dingell to have 2nd heart procedure, stays in hospital (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Group: IRS should probe pro-Schuette spending (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Michigan House OKs medical pot rules with wide support (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

State moving 1,600 prisoners out of Kinross in U.P. (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

State nurses say they work too much OT (Lansing State Journal, 10/8/2015)

Forfeiture package sails through Michigan Legislature, requiring police to disclose profits (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Medical marijuana dispensaries, taxes and edibles approved by Michigan House (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Michigan Senator challenges 'any state elected official' to gas tax debate (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Planned Parenthood not mishandling fetal remains in Michigan, state finds (MLive, 10/8/2015)

30,000 Michigan Teamsters face pension cuts (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Flint health experts support Detroit water reconnection (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

House votes to expand types of medical pot allowed (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Law that ends tax-debt loophole snags homeowners (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Mass evictions loom after homes sold off (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Our editorial: Good behavior paroles will cut costs (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

### **Editorials**

Michigan legislators need to check their priorities (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Waiting for answers, action in Flint water crisis (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Sex Trafficking in Michigan (Huffington Post, 10/8/2015)

Stop flow of microbeads into Great Lakes and break toxic chain (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Moss: Mich. Supreme Court shuts door on young readers (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

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Joey Gamrat Video: Mom 'Not Here To Play Games And Attend Cocktail Parties' (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/7/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For October 9, 2015**

### **News**

Snyder signs law to let drivers show insurance on phone (Associated Press, 10/8/2015)

Echoing state, Detroit schools cut back on standardized tests (Bridge Magazine, 10/8/2015)

Giving Michigan nurses more authority to prescribe drugs and treat patients (Bridge Magazine, 10/8/2015)

Feds to release 83 prisoners in Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Former Rep. John Dingell gets pacemaker (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Group says high fees used to conceal state records (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Treasury: 'We really goofed this up. We're fixing it.' (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Capitol drone ban bill introduced (Lansing State Journal, 10/9/2015)

Complaint asks IRS to investigate dark money group behind pro-Bill Schuette ads (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Michigan dog 'breed discrimination' ban would prohibit local ordinances (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Michigan House revealed information on Courser and Gamrat, but won't disclose on 108 other reps (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Michigan's Candice Miller floated as possible 'interim' House Speaker (MLive, 10/9/2015)

Snyder seeking \$9.35M in state aid for Flint water crisis, and Michigan lawmakers are on board (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Complaint: Schuette supporters won't disclose donors (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Duggan in D.C. talking housing, refugees (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Flint water tests suggest statewide lead issues (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Michigan leader defends Planned Parenthood (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Michigan pays \$1.9M in legal fees for gay marriage case (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

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Flint water crisis: An obscene failure of government (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Our view: Asset seizure bills provide transparency (Midland Daily News, 10/9/2015)

Electric regulation must move Michigan toward renewables, efficiency (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Susan J. Demas: GOP gay marriage fight cost Michigan much more than \$2M (MLive, 10/9/2015)

Frost: Detroit's growth must be inclusive (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

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How's Come Utah Figured How To Raise Money For Roads? (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/8/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For October 13, 2015**

### **News**

Michigan close to banning powdered alcohol from shelves (Associated Press, 10/13/2015)

Michigan utilities want to end renewable energy mandate (Bridge Magazine, 10/13/2015)

Guns in Michigan churches? Bars? Schools? Maybe (Detroit Free Press, 10/13/2015)

Mich. House may ban bits in soaps that hurt Great Lakes (Detroit Free Press, 10/13/2015)

AG Bill Schuette rallies against parole reform, proposes more privatization (MLive, 10/13/2015)

Concealed guns in schools? Bill gets hearing this week (MLive, 10/13/2015)

Midland Rep. Moolenaar votes to de-fund Planned Parenthood, repeal Obamacare (MLive, 10/13/2015)

Ousted Rep. Cindy Gamrat, 6 others set for candidates forum (MLive, 10/13/2015)

U.S. Sen. Gary Peters makes first Bay City visit since taking office (MLive, 10/13/2015)

Snyder officials take on painkiller overdose 'epidemic' (The Detroit News, 10/13/2015)

State's \$300,000 e-textbooks flunk out with critics (The Detroit News, 10/13/2015)

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Battle is on for control of Michigan's marijuana market (Detroit Free Press, 10/13/2015)

Michigan has no real solution to gun violence (Detroit Free Press, 10/13/2015)

What happens to Flint kids poisoned with lead? (Detroit Free Press, 10/13/2015)

Susan J. Demas: Dave Agema may run for Congress - and he hasn't changed a bit (MLive, 10/13/2015)

Lansing's handgun swap will let weapons in schools (The Detroit News, 10/13/2015)

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The Debut Of A Dog Into Paw-litics (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/12/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For October 14, 2015

### News

Senate panel OKs concealed guns in 'gun-free' zones (Associated Press, 10/14/2015)

'Clean slate' law for offenders could be boon for business (Bridge Magazine, 10/14/2015)

Poll: Michigan voters strongly favor state prison reform (Bridge Magazine, 10/14/2015)

Michigan Senate panel OKs concealed weapons in schools (Detroit Free Press, 10/14/2015)

Road funding talks break down over income tax cut (Detroit Free Press, 10/14/2015)

Ex-emergency manager says he's not to blame for Flint River water switch (Flint Journal, 10/14/2015)

Flint City Council OKs \$2 million for reconnection to Detroit water (Flint Journal, 10/12/2015)

Lawmaker's lawsuit claims Flint, state withheld documents on water safety (Flint Journal, 10/12/2015)

Michigan lawmakers 'offended' by lack of DHHS answers (Lansing State Journal, 10/14/2015)

Michigan Supreme Court returns to Capitol for a day (Lansing State Journal, 10/14/2015)

Aide to Michigan congressman accused of attacking man with kitchen knife, using gay slur (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Ann Arbor schools chief asks lawmakers to keep concealed guns out of schools (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Cindy Gamrat says a Republican lock-out would be a slap in the face (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Income tax debate at heart of latest Michigan road funding stalemate (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Meth lab map shows why Michigan lawmakers are continuing crackdown (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Powdered alcohol ban passes Michigan House (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Court: Pot as tip no reason for police to seize car (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Gun control debate draws voters' attention in Mich. (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Snyder: Road fund talks hit dead end (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

## **Editorials**

Editorial: No need for more speed on Michigan highways (Battle Creek Enquirer, 10/14/2015)

For GOP, bloodying unions comes before fixing roads (Detroit Free Press, 10/14/2015)

Sorry seems to be the hardest word for the state to say to Flint (Flint Journal, 10/12/2015)

Ken Braun: Fixing the federal debt needs to start at Michigan's Capitol (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Column: Presumptive parole isn't safe for Michigan (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Editorial: Detroit community policing cutting murders (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Letter: Dem tax plan would help families (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Yanez: Prevailing wage good for Michigan (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Flint's lessons (Toledo Blade, 10/14/2015)

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Flint Crisis Comes On Eve Of Mayoral Election (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/13/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For October 15, 2015**

### **News**

Chief judges appointed to improve trial courts (Associated Press, 10/15/2015)

House OKs bill shielding youth who report drug overdoses (Associated Press, 10/15/2015)

Bill banning powdered alcohol on way to becoming law (Detroit Free Press, 10/15/2015)

Can Flint residents sue over bad water? (Detroit Free Press, 10/15/2015)

Road funding talks enter 'cooling off' phase (Detroit Free Press, 10/15/2015)

State jobless rate below national average (Detroit Free Press, 10/15/2015)

Flint's \$2 million share for Detroit water reconnection a done deal (Flint Journal, 10/15/2015)

When did state know about lead in Flint water? 6 takeaways from Snyder plan (Flint Journal, 10/15/2015)

Civil Rights Department names director finalists (Lansing State Journal, 10/15/2015)

Michigan state employees would see raises under deals (Lansing State Journal, 10/15/2015)

Poll: Minimum nurse staffing levels a win with voters (Lansing State Journal, 10/15/2015)

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder backs presumptive parole proposal as AG Bill Schuette leads opposition (MLive, 10/15/2015)

Fed corruption probe targets DPS, EAA officials (The Detroit News, 10/15/2015)

House OKs \$9.3M for Flint water switch (The Detroit News, 10/15/2015)

Right to Life sits out Gamrat, Courser GOP primaries (The Detroit News, 10/15/2015)

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Michigan's mounting water failures (Detroit Free Press, 10/15/2015)

Stabenow: Equipping a new generation of workers (Lansing State Journal, 10/15/2015)

Lawmakers have lost their minds, and it's time to call them out (Michigan Radio, 10/15/2015)

Snyder, Schuette must act now to take oil out of Straits pipeline (MLive, 10/15/2015)

COLUMN: Pass presumptive parole reform to save millions without threatening public safety (Oakland Press, 10/15/2015)

Lawmakers need to fix school problems, not add to them (Port Huron Times Herald, 10/15/2015)

Finley: Road deal too elusive, too long (The Detroit News, 10/15/2015)

Gamrat's campaign takes its cue from Kardashians (The Detroit News, 10/15/2015)

Howes: Roads impasse 'embarrassing' for leaders, GOP (The Detroit News, 10/15/2015)

McNeilly: Will Lansing side with corporations or kids? (The Detroit News, 10/15/2015)

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Whiston, The Parliamentarian (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/14/2015)

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## **MIRS BREAKING NEWS: Flint To Return To Detroit Water, Gov Asks Lawmakers To Help Cover Costs -- 11:18 a.m.**

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(FLINT) -- The city of Flint will transition back to getting its water from Detroit within weeks, and Gov. Rick **SNYDER** said today he is in "full support" of the move.

In addition to that, Snyder said he would be asking the Legislature for \$6 million to assist with the move, which will make up half of the estimated \$12 million it will cost Flint to go back to its old water supply, as estimated through next summer.

The other \$6 million will be divided up between Flint itself (\$2 million) and from a donation from the Mott Foundation (\$4 million).

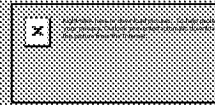
The cost estimate is based on the time it will take to complete the connection to Flint's new permanent water supply, the Karegnondi Water Authority. That's expected to go live in June 2016.

Snyder said the decision to support the move back to Detroit water -- something he said the city is ultimately in charge of deciding -- was based in part by a recommendation made by a meeting of technical experts Wednesday.

Joining Snyder at the press conference today were some of his cabinet officials and Flint leaders, as well as Senate Minority Leader Jim **ANANICH** (D-Flint), who described today's actions as a step in the right direction, but going forward, he said there must be more transparency and that the state's action plan be implemented fully.

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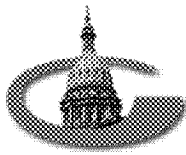
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Volume #54, Report #206, Article #1--Friday, October 16, 2015

Printer Friendly

## Newsmaker Friday: Price Says Third Grade Reading Took Over Her Heart

The process leading up to the vote on two separate bills related to education policy was "intense," Rep. Amanda Price, who led the charge on legislation to get third-graders reading at grade level and another outlining educator evaluations in the state, told Gongwer News Service.

"I think maybe I can sleep now," Ms. Price said Friday. The House voted Thursday ~~HS 4322~~, which would set up interventions for students struggling with reading in their early elementary grades and would also retain students if they are not reading proficiently at the end of third grade.

The bill was more controversial than ~~SB 103~~, outlining educator evaluations, and it took two long session days this week before the third-grade reading bill had enough votes to eventually pass the House 57-48.

"It was a heavy lift," Ms. Price said.

Though a similar bill did come up last term on reading proficiency, it never got enough traction for the full House to bring it up on the floor.

But this term, Governor Rick Snyder also made it a priority. A work group was put together with various lawmakers and stakeholders who met for three hours every Thursday during the summer, Ms. Price said.

"That process was very intense," Ms. Price said.

Ms. Price, during her floor speech on the bill Thursday, said she wouldn't consider herself "fire-y," but when talking with stakeholders on the third grade reading bill, she said it wasn't difficult for her to hold her ground on ideas she thought would harm the legislation.

"It's hard for me not to get fired up about this though," she said. "Every so often there is one piece of legislation that takes over your heart. For me it is this bill. I think it is likely because I love to read so much and I don't want any child to be deprived of that ability."

Ms. Price said her passion originated with hearing the statistics of how many students in the state were not reading proficiently before entering the fourth grade. Using the state assessment, it's 30 percent of kids, she said. But when looking at a more rigorous national assessment, it's almost 70 percent.

Ms. Price said she used to have conversations with former Rep. Joe Haveman about how the state could decrease its prison population, and both agreed it started at early childhood.

"If you start giving children a better education ... then they will have more options in life," she said.

The bill began as a bipartisan effort with Democrats involved in the work group and Rep. Adam Zemke (D-Ann Arbor), the minority vice chair on the Education Committee, and House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) co-sponsors on the bill.

However, Democrats ended up offering a variety of amendments that were not adopted to the bill, and the bill passed with only three Democrats voting in support. Mr. Zemke and Mr. Greimel removed their names from the bill.

"I will just be honest," Ms. Price said of losing the Democratic support. "I was very disappointed."

Ms. Price said it is not a partisan issue, but there was a disagreement on how to get increased reading proficiency in the state.

"I don't think anyone disagrees our children's reading scores are too low," she said.

Ms. Price said the retention portion of the bill got too much attention. She said the intervention pieces in the bill are the key. But last term, instead of being in a single bill, the legislation was a package of two. One held the retention portion and the other held the interventions.

Ms. Price said she believes that led to a focus on the retention last term and this one.

October 2015						
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- Presumptive Parole Has Uphill Battle In Senate
- EPA Creates Drinking Water Task Force For Flint
- Bishop Shows Slight Lead Over Gilbert In Funds With All Reports In
- Supreme Court Vacates Appellate Ruling On MCCA, FCIA
- Snyder Names Task Force To Draft Special Education Changes
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All Special Coverage

"Truly, I do not want to retain any kids," she said.

On the Senate side, Ms. Price said she believes ~~Sen. Phil Pavlov~~ (R-St. Clair), chair of the Senate Education Committee, is on board with the bill. She said he was on the work group as well.

"I have every reason to believe it will pass in the Senate," she said.

Another bill that passed this week, SB 103, which outlines educator evaluations in the state, began dramatically but eventually passed with relative ease in the House.

"If you had asked me about that three months ago, I would have (been surprised)," Ms. Price said of the bill passing drama-free.

But Ms. Price said the committee worked hard with stakeholders to get a final product out of committee.

"We were pretty confident when it came out of the committee it would move forward easily," she said.

On what's next for the Education Committee, Ms. Price said Mr. Zemke and ~~Rep. Daniela Garcia~~ (R-Holland), the vice chair of the committee, have been working in a group discussing teacher preparedness.

She also said a debate on how to move forward with Detroit Public Schools is also coming to the committee.

Mr. Snyder has advocated getting state funds help pay off DPS debt and developing a new district in the city.

Ms. Price said she understands where the governor is coming from with his proposal, but also knows her caucus will be hesitant because of the money involved.

She also said she wants something sustainable put in place.

"I am very concerned that whatever is put in place is sustainable and in 10 years we won't be right back here," she said. "That means for me financial stability and academic improvement."

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Volume #54, Report #206, Article #1--Thursday, October 15, 2015

Senate Activity Report | House Activity Report

Printer Friendly

## Most Dems Drop Support As Third Grade Reading Bill Passes

While Democrats were hopeful after a late session Wednesday they would be able to support a bill designed to get elementary students reading proficiently before entering fourth grade, in the end, House Republicans passed the bill Thursday with only three Democratic lawmakers in support.

The bill, [HB 4822](#), cleared the chamber 57-48. Immediately after the bill's passage, both [Rep. Adam Zemke](#) (D-Ann Arbor) and House [Minority Leader Tim Greime](#) (D-Auburn Hills) requested they be removed as co-sponsors.

Under the bill, students could be retained in the third grade if they do not test proficiently in reading. The bill does outline multiple reading intervention programs in an effort to get students reading at grade level before retention is necessary. There are also "good cause exemptions" outlined in the legislation.

Additionally, in a change adopted Thursday, the retention portion of the bill would not go into effect until the 2019-20 school year, a two year delay from what was in the reported version of the bill.

Democrats speaking on the House floor said they were concerned about the lack of parental involvement in the retention process, the negative impacts of retention and the possibility that the funding in the current year budget for literacy programs would not actually cover the costs to schools.

Mr. Zemke, who had been working with fellow Democrats and the bill's sponsor, [Rep. Amanda Price](#) (R-Park Township), on an agreement, said in his opposition speech he still considered Ms. Price a friend, though she might not feel the same.

Mr. Zemke said he was voting no because an amendment he offered, which would allow a student who has been working on an individualized reading plan since the end of second grade, but was still not proficient in reading by the end of third grade, to move on to the next grade level while still working the individualized plan, was not adopted.

"I am not going to remove the hope of a 9-year-old. Period," he said on the House floor. "You want to see what's going to happen when you paint that picture. ... They're working hard, they're playing by the rules, they're doing everything right. ... And then you take it away. What do you think they're going to do for the rest of their educational career? They're not going to try. Because they played by the rules and they got screwed anyway."

Ms. Price said she was disappointed to lose Mr. Zemke's support, but said his proposed amendment watered down the retention provisions in the bill to a point where she was no longer comfortable.

"I understand what he was saying," she said. "But right from the get-go, the line in the sand has been for people to say, 'No, you need to read.' And we can't keep promoting kids because we're not getting them where they need to be."

Ms. Price said the reason the House worked so hard to get the bill passed this week rather than working longer behind the scenes is she wanted to get it done before the Legislature finds itself in an election year and before other education policy debates, like Detroit Public Schools, come up.

According to the House Fiscal Agency analysis, in the 2013-14 school year as many as 39 percent or 42,500 third grade students did not test proficiently in reading under the Michigan Educational Assessment Program.

With the "more rigorous" National Assessment of Educational Progress test, in 2013, 69 percent of fourth-graders did not reach proficient reading levels.

[Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons](#) (R-Alto) said the bill is not a reactive, retention-focused measure. She said it includes many intervention programs that work to help students improve their reading.

"It is not acceptable to allow our kids to not be able to read and yet send them along their way," she said.

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- Most Dems Drop Support As Third Grade Reading Bill Passes
- Educator Evaluations Appear Finally Set As House OKs Bill
- Ananich On Flint Water Funds: 'This Is By No Means Over'
- Driskell, Walberg Close In Third Quarter Fundraising, Gilbert Tops \$200,000
- Payton Introduces Bills To Prohibit Sale Of Fetal Tissue, Parts
- Domestic Violence Package Clears House
- EAA Official Pleads To Tax Evasion In Corruption Probe
- Dems Plan Legislation With Minimum Nurse Staffing Standards
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## Special Coverage

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All Special Coverage

Rep. Harvey Santana (D-Detroit), one of the three Democrats who voted for the bill, said there is a 47 percent illiteracy rate in Detroit. He said current policies tell children in Detroit, "It's okay to be a failure."

He criticized comments from other members saying retention would emotionally impact children.

"How emotionally affected is that third-grader going to be when they grow up to be an adult with kids of their own who they cannot take care of because the system failed them?" he said.

The Great Lakes Education Project praised the passage of the bill, saying it was "a great day for school children in Michigan."

"We extend our deep appreciation to Rep. Amanda Price, the chair of the House Education Committee and the bill's primary sponsor, as well as to House leadership and those 57 members who voted to help kids today," GLEP Executive Director Gary Naeyaert said in a statement. "As the leading advocacy organization supporting this bill, we are confident Senator Phil Pavlov and the Senate Education Committee will schedule hearings soon so this common sense policy can be evaluated and passed in the Senate and then sent to the governor for his signature."

The bill outlines intervention programs for children before they go into the third grade. Students are allowed to be taught other subjects that they are proficient in - like reading and math - in a fourth grade setting, while still receiving reading interventions at the third grade level. There are also good-cause exemptions to retention outlined in the bill.

The Department of Education would be required to approve at least three reliable reading assessment systems and recommend or create a reading/literacy coach model. The reading/literacy coach would be required to undertake 11 tasks, including working with teachers to diagnose and address reading deficiency.

The bill would increase the costs for the department, but the 2015-16 fiscal year budget included \$900,000 to implement the early literacy initiatives. The school aid budget also included additional funding for a portion of the implementation costs for schools.

Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, school boards and charter school boards of directors would be required to select one of the reading assessments from the MDE and provide any student with a reading deficiency at any time with a reading improvement plan and provide notice to parents about the student's reading deficiency.

Reading intervention programs for those students showing a deficiency would need to include a screening of progress at least three times per year; provide a highly effective core reading instruction; and take place during regular school hours. Parents would also receive a "read at home" plan.

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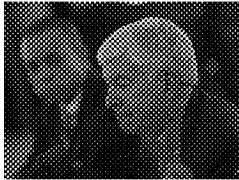
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# Gov's plan to fix DPS: The best we've got

The Detroit Free Press Editorial Board 8:50 p.m. EDT October 19, 2015



(Photo: Romain Blanquart)

We'd all better hope Gov. Rick Snyder's plan to fix Detroit's public schools works (<http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/19/snyder-offers-more-details-detroit-schools-plan/74208674/>), because it's the best option on the table.

But neither Detroit Public Schools' profound challenges — nor the district's dearth of options — ensure the plan's success, either in the Michigan Legislature or among Detroiters.

Without legislative approval, the package of reform bills for which Snyder hopes to build bipartisan support will never pass; without buy-in from Detroiters, enrollment in the the district and the city's other public schools will continue to decline, a physical vote of no confidence cast by parents in search of quality and stability for their children.



DETROIT FREE PRESS

Snyder's plan to overhaul DPS could cost \$715M

(<http://www.freep.com/story/news/2015/10/19/snyder-offers-more-details-detroit-schools-plan/74208674/>)



DETROIT FREE PRESS

In finances, governance, governor's DPS plan lacking

(<http://www.freep.com/story/opinion/editorials/2015/09/01/governors-detroit-plan-lacking/71529638/>)

Snyder outlined the broad strokes of a schools reform plan in April, and filled in some details Monday: Detroit Public Schools will split, a la General Motors. DPS will retain the district's operating millage, and pay off its anticipated \$715 million in debt, under the oversight of the city's financial advisory board. The new Detroit Community School District would do the business of educating children, with the state's education allowance, but minus the old district's millage. Because that puts the new district about \$70 million in the hole each year, Snyder says the state will make up those dollars from its school aid fund, which he expects to bulk up to fill the gap without cuts in other districts.

This plan attempts to address Detroit schools' problems by reducing the district's debt, freeing about \$1,100 per student for the new district to spend in the classroom.

Snyder is right to ensure the state fill the gap caused by the old district's need to retire its debt. That debt, after all, was largely incurred under state oversight.

DPS would almost certainly have acquired debt even if three successive governors hadn't enforced state control of its finances. The district's enrollment, and thus its revenue, has plummeted in the past few decades. But the promise of state intervention and emergency management is improvement, of better outcomes than could be achieved otherwise. So far, that hasn't happened. So it is appropriate that Snyder acknowledges the state's complicity in, and assumes responsibility for, DPS' debt.

And it's counter to early reports that more money for Detroit would mean less for other districts, a proposition so distasteful to out-state lawmakers as to be impracticable.

That should settle the Legislature.

But how to earn the trust of Detroiters?

Snyder's pitch to reform Detroit's public schools comes as the biggest failure of his administration plays out in Flint. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality now admits it made mistakes in evaluating the safety of Flint's water — a crisis that took shape under the oversight of Snyder-appointed emergency managers. Emergency managers were supposed to help Flint, to improve its finances, but not at the expense of its children's health and safety. The MDEQ failed in its charge, misapplying federal rules meant to ensure that lead and copper were kept out of drinking water. Because lead damage is irreversible, Flint kids exposed to dangerous lead levels will pay for the administration's mistakes.

So why should residents of Detroit trust the governor to fix DPS — or anything else?

When asked, Snyder pointed to his track record — emergency managers in Detroit and other cities have effected, thus far, the promised turnarounds, without public safety hazards. And the question of oversight rests with the MDEQ, not the succession of emergency managers who have led Flint since 2013.

Moreover, Snyder says, the plan he's pitching will end emergency management of DPS, not prolong it. There's a healthy incentive for Snyder to get out of the district — there's no margin in continuing to manage a failing district by proxy — but regardless of motive, the result is a plan for the district to transition to local control. That's a good thing.

A plan crafted earlier this year by a diverse coalition of metro Detroiters and spearheaded by the Skillman Foundation would have returned the district to its local elected officials immediately. That plan was developed by a group with deep roots in the community, capable of building support for reform. Snyder would be wise to enlist that group's support of his plan.

Still absent from the conversation is comprehensive reform of the way we fund schools, or a solution that could be applied to other struggling districts. Both are necessary.

But DPS can't wait — Detroit's kids can't wait — and this plan is the only viable plan out there.

So let's hope it works.

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Nov. 28, 2015, 11:02 p.m.



Volume #54, Report #228, Article #1--Wednesday, November 18, 2015

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## DPS Coalition Hopeful Legislation Can Clear Senate This Year

Although the conversation and subsequent action has not happened as quickly as those with the Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren had originally hoped, leaders of the group are still optimistic bills will be introduced and clear the Senate in the nine days left of session.

On Wednesday, coalition leaders held a press conference in Lansing to preview some findings from a Skillman Foundation-commissioned study looking at what it will take to advance the recommendations put together by the group last March.

Tonya Allen, a coalition co-chair and Skillman Foundation president and CEO, said the study was commissioned about three months ago.

Other coalition leaders at the press conference included John Rakolta Jr., who is also CEO of Walbridge; David Hecker, president of AFT Michigan; Clark Durant, co-founder of Cornerstone Schools; and former Rep. Thomas Stallworth, who is an advisor for the group. All said they were hopeful legislation would be introduced in the Senate on or around December 1, when the Legislature returns for its nine remaining days of session for 2015.

Mr. Stallworth said there are a variety of concerns that have led to the bills not being introduced. He said the coalition is working tirelessly with all involved with a goal to get the introduced legislation as close to the coalition's recommendations as possible.

For example, the coalition recommended Detroit Public Schools to immediately go back to a local elected school board. However, some legislators want a transition period and recommended seven years. [Governor Rick Snyder](#) made a similar recommendation in his plan for the district.

Mr. Stallworth said that is too long and will not get support from Democratic members. So, looking for an agreeable transitioning period is one point of negotiations. He said it is important to those involved that the package be bipartisan.

Another is the Detroit Education Commission. The coalition would like the Detroit mayor to have the majority of appointees. Legislation that has been drafted grants the governor the majority of the members, in line with his recommendations.

Mr. Stallworth also said the process should not be used as a wedge against collective bargaining rights. He was not specific, but said there were some issues regarding collective bargaining that have been mostly solved.

Mr. Stallworth said he would like to see something through the Legislature by February. He said some are saying March, but that makes him "real nervous."

Mr. Rakolta acknowledged that other topics, like the DEC and transitioning periods, are being negotiated. But said the real problem legislators do not have a clear answer on is the money.

[Governor Rick Snyder](#) is calling for \$715 million during 10 years.

Mr. Rakolta said the state has a choice: to figure out how to make the money portion work, or allow the schools to collapse, a bankruptcy equivalent. He said the state would be on the hook for much of the debt if that happened.

He also said it's up to legislators to decide where that money comes from, School Aid Fund or otherwise.

"This is what they were elected to solve for us," he said. "They need to put their own election below this decision. They have to come to the debate with what they really believe, in their heart, and what's really right for the state of Michigan, and let the chips fall where they may."

Ms. Allen said she is optimistic legislators will "see the light of day on this." And she said she has been impressed with leadership from both parties.

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- [DPS Coalition Hopeful Legislation Can Clear Senate This Year](#)
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- [Fracking Opponents Still Way Short Of Ballot Access](#)
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Detroit Financial Crisis	Cassini- Gomel Scandal	Flint Water Crisis
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- [DPS Coalition Hopeful Legislation Can Clear Senate This Year](#)
- [Education Board Urges Faster Move To Elected Detroit Board](#)
- [Meekhof Talks DPS, Post-Roads Agenda](#)
- [Detroit Unions Push For Role In District Redesign](#)

[All Special Coverage](#)

Ms. Allen also said philanthropy will not be used to pay off the debt that was mismanaged by state and local government. She said it is projected to take \$350 million at least during the 10 years after a fix is put in place to get schools where they need to be.

She also said students in Detroit need many wrap around services, and that is where the Skillman Foundation and others will put their money.

Mr. Stallworth said there is some pushback from legislators asking why their districts should have to pay \$50 per pupil toward Detroit. Mr. Stallworth said the plan actually is a bailout for the state, which would be on the hook for hundreds of millions in DPS pension obligations if the district were to financially collapse.

"Quite frankly, this is a little like Titanic heading for the iceberg," he said.

Ms. Allen said if nothing is done, the cost will be \$300 per student.

While the coalition has waited for action in the Legislature, it has also looked at what it will take to move to a more coherent system of schools. The study commissioned by the Skillman Foundation and done by a Boston based company, Parthenon EY, looks at just that.

The full study is not yet released, but will be in parts to legislators as questions come up. The full study will be released in 2016.

The study showed a need to recruit and develop 10,000 teachers and 350 principals during the next 10 years in both traditional and charter schools.

That will be a challenge because DPS is paying its teachers less than surrounding districts. The average salary for Detroit teachers is \$57,800 per year, with new teachers earning about \$33,000 per year.

"Ask yourself how a person lives on \$33,000 a year. Being a college graduate," Mr. Rakolta said.

The average salary for Oak Park teachers is \$60,900 per year, \$75,500 in Allen Park and \$69,100 in Dearborn Heights, according to data from the coalition.

Ms. Allen said the DPS salaries are not competitive and it is about finding and retaining talent in the district.

On how this relates to the legislation expected to help solve the DPS issue, Mr. Rakolta said the district currently does not have enough money to pay its teachers, let alone hire new teachers. He said if the debt situation is solved, the other problems can be more easily addressed.

The study also found a strong and unbiased emphasis on balancing the number of quality classroom seats in different neighborhoods with the neighborhood's population.

Data provided showed the 7th and 4th Detroit City Council districts had thousands of more children in their population than available seats.

And in the 5th and 6th city council districts, classroom capacity is significantly higher than the population.

The final finding of the study shared was a projection that the implementation of the coalition's "roadmap" would lead to "substantial" academic gains estimated at a 25 percent increase in proficiency during the next 10 years. The coalition said this would "rival the most successful education reforms."

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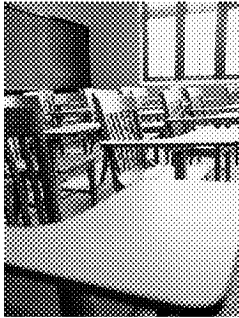
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# Detroit schools plan shows lack of faith in democracy

Thomas C. Pedroni and Karen D. Twomey, Free Press guest writers 11:01 p.m. EDT October 31, 2015



(Photo: Ryan McVay)

When did we stop believing in democracy? Not so long ago most Americans would have professed a belief that democracy shielded citizens from the callous excesses of distant power.

Today in Michigan we've become mush-mouthed about democracy. On the one hand, we will still send our children to die thousands of miles away in its name. Yet back at home we scuttle it with barely a murmur — as if it were an ornate relic, no longer adequate for facing down the challenges of perennial budget shortfalls in our schools and municipalities since the financial collapse of 2008.

Flint's water should have woken us up. Did it? If the reality of lead in tainted city water damaging the brains of Flint's children isn't enough to bring us back to our belief in citizen oversight of government, then we really have unilaterally surrendered. The citizens of Flint spoke out for months, but stripped of their democratic voice under emergency management, the problem developed unchecked.



DETROIT FREE PRESS

Detroit lawmakers say keeping school board top priority

(<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/10/30/detroit-lawmakers-keep-school-board/74886394/>)

If you're finally paying attention now, then take note: The same power that poisoned Flint's children — the power of state displacement of locally elected governance — announced last week that it intends to double down on the damage already visited upon the minds of Detroit's children through Gov. Snyder's newly unveiled plan for the city's schools.

Just as in Flint, the facts are now clear. Detroiters remember that before the succession of state interventions started in 1999 DPS had a \$93 million dollar operating surplus, enrollment over 173,000, and academic gains. Six years of emergency management from Lansing since 2009 has widened the performance gap between Detroit's students and their Michigan counterparts; enrollment has plummeted; and the district's operating deficit and long term debt have smashed all previous records. Throughout those years, educational and financial professionals and impacted parents warned us, but stripped of an empowered Board to appeal to, the problems grew.

In case you're still not there, then take a moment to reflect on the latest torrent of bad news coming out of our Lansing-managed schools in Detroit. Under Emergency Manager Robert Bobb, money intended for our children instead paid the grossly inflated salary of admitted criminal Barbara Byrd-Bennett, sentenced to 7.5 years after pleading guilty to a kickback and bribery scheme involving a \$20 million contract she engineered for her former employer in her role as CEO of Chicago Public Schools. Byrd-Bennett, we have recently learned, may have also thanked former boss Robert Bobb with a lucrative Chicago Public Schools contract.

The feds are now reportedly digging to see what Byrd-Bennett might have achieved during her DPS tenure. Observers have noted the \$40 million contract she helped engineer here with publisher Houghton Mifflin Harcourt — immediately after she retired as that textbook company's Superintendent in Resident. The democratically elected board reported these and many more irregularities, but stripped of their powers of oversight those who might have protected the interests of Detroit's children had no recourse.

It certainly doesn't end with Byrd-Bennett. The Detroit Free Press has in recent days reported that at least a dozen officials who worked with the Education Achievement Authority have received grand jury subpoenas, with former EAA principal KC Willbourn pleading guilty to corruption charges. What is unclear is how wide this web of profitable friendships spans.

Snyder's EAA has proven to be a ripe staging ground for many other schemes, none in the interest of the children and families who have fled the new district by the thousands. Two for-profit partners, School Improvement Network and Agilix, sought to develop and market a computer platform that arrived late, incomplete, and largely non-functional — all on the backs of Michigan's most educationally vulnerable children. Despite the elected board's awareness of predation by these companies, their many efforts in the defense of the families who elected them to get the appointed EAA Board to enforce its directives were ignored.

In 2014, EAA Chancellor John Covington resigned in disgrace after an external review of the district's checkbook revealed extravagant spending on chauffeurs and hotels.

Every time we fall for faux oversight our state pays more to clean up pipes, financial books, or, as we learned last week, to fill the holes of a \$45 million federal grant for charter school development that our state lost because of lax oversight. By accepting the usurpation of democracy and oversight, we risk losing not just dollars but also our souls. The fight for democracy is happening right here on our own soil, and our children's lives are in peril. Are we really content with our rebranding on the world stage — from arsenal of democracy to this?

Why do we have such little faith in allowing the same power for Detroit that has produced this state's most successful school districts —citizens choosing an elected school board?

The very thread that stitches the strength into the fiber of our nation is our democracy, and in each case of corruption and spiraling failure this has been the missing thread. We stand up for the elected offices of our communities. Perhaps it is time to ask Detroiters and those they have elected what they want. We are a country founded on a distrust of government, but when did we stop believing in democracy and the voice of our people?

Karen D. Twomey is a member of the Ferndale Board of Education and teaches in Bloomfield Hills. Thomas C. Pedroni is an associate professor of curriculum studies and director of the Leonard Kaplan Education Collaborative for Critical Urban Studies at Wayne State University. Together they lead the Detroit Data and Democracy Project.

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Nov. 28, 2015, 11:02 p.m.



Volume #54, Report #237, Article #4--Thursday, December 3, 2015

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## Deficit Districts Decline; 11 Headed For Preliminary Review

The number of deficit districts has declined for the first time since 2002-03 and 20 districts emerged from deficit at the end of the most recent school year, [Superintendent of Public Instruction Brian Whiston](#) reported Thursday, but 11 deficit districts are also now slated for preliminary review by the Department of Treasury under the new early warning system for financially distressed schools.

Only five new deficit districts - the Bay City Academy in the Bay-Arenac ISD, Tahquamenon Area Schools in the Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD, Sarah J. Webber Media Arts Academy in Oakland Schools, Posen Consolidated School District #9 in the Cheboygan-Otsego-Presque Isle ESD, and Gaudior Academy in the Wayne RESA - joined the list in 2014-15, the fewest since 2002-03.

Twenty-one districts were able to reduce their deficits in 2014-15.

All told, the state dropped from 56 deficit districts in the 2013-14 school year to 41 at the end of June. Under the new structure of the early warning system, 24 of those deficit districts will stay with the Department of Education while the other 17 will be under the oversight of the Department of Treasury.

And 11 of those districts have deficit elimination plans projected to take longer than five years, subjecting themselves to the preliminary review. The highest projected end balance of those schools goes to Hazel Park City School District, part of Oakland Schools, which projects to have a 25.1 percent deficit based on revenue as of June 30, 2016.

Following Hazel Park is Mackinaw City Public Schools (24 percent deficit), Flint Community Schools (14.9 percent), Westwood Community Schools in the Wayne RESA (12.4 percent), Mount Clemens Community School District (10.9 percent), Lincoln Consolidated Schools (3.3 percent), Bridgeport Spaulding Community School District (2.5 percent), Vanderbilt Area Schools (0.2 percent) and Southgate Community School District at 0 percent deficit.

Also on that list of 11 is New Haven Community Schools, which projects to come out of its deficit with a 0.4 percent fund balance at the end of this school year, and Clintondale Community Schools, which projects a 1.1 percent fund balance.

While most of the members of a joint committee of the House and Senate Appropriations School Aid subcommittees were pleased with the progress, some were still cautious.

"It's discouraging to see that schools under our watch are growing deficits," [Rep. Tim Kelly](#) (R-Saginaw Township), chair of the House subcommittee, said.

But Mr. Whiston said he will continue to work with the administration to ensure all districts, especially those in deficit, will not fall by the wayside. One key to that, he said, will be to ensure those schools losing students and thus putting themselves at further risk of financial instability can at least maintain, or even attract, students based on their academic offerings.

"If you're losing kids on a constant basis and you're making cuts, you're losing programs parents want. We have to improve educational offering so more kids come back," Mr. Whiston said. "We have to find that balance between balancing budgets and offering an education program that entices people to stay or come back to that district."

And he said he is working with various school officials on such issues.

But [Sen. Phil Pavlov](#) (R-Saint Clair) still had some concerns. He questioned how some schools getting substantially more in a foundation allowance could continue to have performance issues if finances are following quality as Mr. Whiston and [Treasurer Nick Khouri](#) suggested.

"There are additional dollars going into the school buildings that have poor academic performance, yet that performance isn't following the dollars," Mr. Pavlov said.

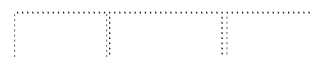
"In these days with limited resources, we look for ways to provide economies of scale, to provide the services more efficiently," Mr. Khouri said, but that doesn't always work out, Mr. Whiston added.

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## Special Coverage



"And that's okay," Mr. Whiston said, noting that the state will be in a continual process of development with these schools and, consequently, their students.

And Rep. Sarah Roberts (D-Saint Clair Shores) suggested it might be worth reviewing schools of choice, especially the way in which a charter school, for example, can open a new building whenever it wants for whatever reason, which then draws students out of other buildings and increases the financial distress for districts, she said.

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1	STATE BUDGET OFFICE			
2	BUDGETARY TRANSACTION PROCESSING IN MAIN-FACS			
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5	TYPE OF TRANSACTION:	Supplemental		
6	AGENCY CODE:	391		
7	DEPARTMENT:	Department of Health and Human Services		
8	FILE #:	391007		
9	FISCAL YEAR:	2016		
10	DATE:	11/13/2015		
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14	UNIT/LINE ITEM TITLES		AY	APPR #
15	TO:	FAMILY, MATERNAL AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH SERVICES		
16		Childhood Lead Program	2016	14254
17		State general fund/general purpose		
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19	GRAND TOTAL:			
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21	EXPLANATION:	To appropriate supplemental funds authorized in P.A. 143 of 2015 for the Flint water project.		
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**From:** CommOffice  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 10, 2015 11:03 AM  
**To:** CommOffice  
**Subject:** MEDIA CLIPS FOR 9.10.15

[State urges water tests at Flint homes, businesses](#)

[November is Michigan Diabetes Awareness Month](#)

[Flint students can be tested for lead after toxic levels found in schools](#)

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[Foundation to expand Chaldean outreach in Detroit area](#)

[Inspectors: Tough Conditions For Workers At State Hospital](#)

[State urges water tests at Flint homes, businesses](#)

The Detroit News – November 10, 2015

FLINT — The results of water tests at several hundred buildings in Flint indicate that drinking water at all homes, businesses and schools needs to be tested for possible lead contamination, state officials said.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality said tests from nearly 400 homes and businesses as well as comprehensive results from Freeman Elementary School indicate problems with lead are localized to individual buildings or even individual faucets.

“The results from this data underline the need for water testing at all homes, businesses, schools and other buildings in Flint,” George Krisztian, the DEQ’s Flint Action Plan Coordinator, said in a statement Monday. “We want to see all families in Flint take advantage of free water testing from the state.”

Flint switched from Detroit’s water system last year to Flint River water in a cost-cutting move while under state emergency financial management. The Flint River was supposed to be an interim source until the city could join a new system getting water from Lake Huron.

But residents complained about the taste, smell and appearance of the water. Officials maintained the water met safety standards, but children were found to have elevated levels of lead in their blood and it was determined that corrosive river water was drawing lead from aging pipes.

Flint has since switched back to water from Detroit’s system. Last week, voters ousted Flint’s mayor amid fallout over the city’s drinking water problems. Newcomer Karen Weaver beat incumbent Dayne Walling, who led the city during the public health emergency and blamed state and federal agencies for the city’s water problems.

Weaver was sworn in Monday, saying her election showed residents are “sick and tired of poison water” and she renewed her call on the federal government to declare the city a federal disaster area.

At Freeman Elementary, 31 faucets were tested. There was no lead exposure from 22 outlets, but nine came back with initially high results. When the faucets and fountains were operated for several minutes, lead levels fell significantly, in some cases to non-detectable levels, the state said.

The DEQ is suggesting that the faucets be flushed before use but on the long-term need to be replaced.

Meanwhile, parents in Flint can get their children tested for lead during an education program hosted by the school district Thursday at Brownell STEM Academy, The Flint Journal reported.

<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/11/10/flint-water/75507860/>

## November is Michigan Diabetes Awareness Month

UP Matters – November, 10, 2015

LANSING – An estimated 10.4 percent of Michigan adults 18 years and older have been diagnosed with diabetes. That’s why the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is highlighting Michigan Diabetes Awareness Month with an event at the Michigan Capitol Building on Thursday, November 12 at 9:30 a.m. at the State Capitol Rotunda. The event is jointly sponsored by the American Diabetes Association and the Diabetes Partners in Action Coalition.

By maintaining a healthy lifestyle through regular physical activity, healthy nutrition, and using medications wisely, diabetes can be managed effectively and type 2 diabetes can be prevented or delayed. “Eat Well, America!” is the theme of this year’s awareness month.

“This event will show participants that it’s never too late or too complicated to eat well,” said Nick Lyon, director of the MDHHS. “With a little planning, prepping, and cooking, you can take charge of your diabetes and help prevent its deadly complications. For those at risk for type 2 diabetes, healthy habits go a long way in preventing or delaying diabetes.”

The event is designed to engage and empower Michigan residents about how eating healthy can be simple and fun – from planning and prepping to cooking and plating a delicious and nutritious meal. In recognition of November being American Diabetes Month, the American Diabetes Association will introduce fun and easy recipes around specific meal times including breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks and special occasions at [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org).

The Michigan Diabetes Awareness Month Capitol Event is open to the public, legislators, and health care and community health practitioners who work with diabetes management and prevention programs. Guest speaker Robin Nwankwo, RD, MPH, CDE, a diabetes educator, will speak about eating to manage and prevent diabetes. The 2015 winner of the Sally Joy Leadership Award will also be presented at this event.

Lifestyle change programs – like the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-led National Diabetes Prevention Program – can help those at high risk of developing the disease. For more

information about the Diabetes Prevention Program and a list of Michigan programs visit <http://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/prevention/index.htm>. Diabetes self-management education programs for those diagnosed with diabetes can be found at [http://michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71550\\_2955\\_2980---,00.html](http://michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71550_2955_2980---,00.html)

For more information about the Capitol event, please contact Gary Dougherty at the American Diabetes Association at [GDougherty@diabetes.org](mailto:GDougherty@diabetes.org) or visit [www.dpacmi.org](http://www.dpacmi.org)

<http://www.upmatters.com/news-upmatters/november-is-michigan-diabetes-awareness-month>

Bill would let state workers arrest retailers engaged in welfare fraud

Michigan Radio – November, 10, 2015, By Rebecca Kruth

A Michigan senate bill would let some state workers arrest people for retail trafficking of food stamps and other benefits.

The bill would give a small group of specialized state agents power to arrest retailers without a warrant if they have probable cause.

Currently, agents with the state Department of Health and Human Services can only take action against benefit recipients engaged in trafficking.

When it comes to retailers, DHHS must rely on federal agents with the US Department of Agriculture.

"Right now, our Office of Inspector General receives daily tips on retailer trafficking of food benefits," said DHHS spokesman Bob Wheaton.

"We just want to have tools and resources to make sure public assistance dollars go to those truly in need and are spent in accordance with program requirements," Wheaton said.

Sen. Peter MacGregor, R-Rockford, the bill's sponsor, said it could save the state millions.

"This [bill] helps not only the integrity of the [welfare] program, but also our taxpayers," he said.

MacGregor said agents serving with the specialized unit would first have to go through background checks.

"I'm working with both the Michigan State Police and DHHS to come up with language that satisfies both departments in terms of what training [agents] will need to have," MacGregor said.

Sen. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge, is sponsoring a separate companion bill that would allow the specialized agents to carry firearms.

<http://michiganradio.org/post/bill-would-let-state-workers-arrest-retailers-engaged-welfare-fraud#stream/0>

## Flint students can be tested for lead after toxic levels found in schools

MLive.com – November 9, 2015, By Dominic Adams

FLINT – Parents in Flint can get their children tested for lead during an education program hosted by the Flint School District after toxic levels of lead were found at three elementary schools in the district.

The program will be from 3-6 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 12, at Brownell STEM Academy, 6302 Oxley Drive. It will include information from the Genesee County Health Department's medical and sanitation professionals, optional lead testing of children and follow-up support, the district said in a statement.

The event is targeted for infants to 5-year-old children because they are considered high risk and children who attend Brownell/Holmes STEM academies, Eisenhower and Freeman elementary schools because the facilities tested above 15 parts per billion for lead – the safety standard set by the federal government.

"Flint Community Schools is committed to getting as much information to families and providing avenues for additional support that can help them keep their children healthy and ready to learn today and down the road," Superintendent Bilal Tawwab said in a statement. "We are very grateful to our community partners who have stepped up to help us put together this wide-ranging educational and informational program. Our goal is to empower parents and families with information so they can make good decisions."

The county health department and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services planned to send out a letter to parents with information about lead testing, how to reduce lead exposure and where lead comes from, as well as other useful information.

Flint has since switched back over to getting its water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.

Flint changed its water source from Lake Huron to the Flint River in April 2014, a move that required increased testing inside homes. In the first 100 homes tested that year, results showed elevated lead in water, with 10 percent of homes having 6 parts per billion or more of lead.

The lead levels were within the federal action limit of 15 ppb, triggering only more testing, but marked the first time since 2005 that lead had been found in detectable levels in tap water sampling in Flint.

Thursday's program will give parents and families information that can help them decide if they want their children tested, the Flint School District said in a statement.

Blood tests will be completed by the Genesee County Health Department, which also will follow up with families and assist with care and treatment.

"We always encourage Flint Community School families to make sure that their child sees a primary care physician regularly, and that's an opportunity to follow up on lead testing over time," Eileen Tomasi, Flint School District health services assistant said in a statement.

The county health department also will distribute free water filters and there will be instruction on how to properly install the filters.

The Mass Transit Authority will provide transportation for families from Freeman and Eisenhower elementary schools at 3:15 p.m., the statement said

[http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/education\\_program\\_to\\_provide\\_t.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/11/education_program_to_provide_t.html)

### New STD outreach effort targets Muskegon's college campuses, high schools

MLive.com – November 9, 2015, By Michelle D. Anderson

**MUSKEGON TOWNSHIP** – A new effort targeting local college students could help Public Health–Muskegon County fight the area's high rate of sexually transmitted diseases.

The health department's disease intervention specialists, Brandon Burrel and Art Matten, began offering free chlamydia and gonorrhea testing at Muskegon Community College and Baker College of Muskegon this fall.

The new effort is part of the agency's ongoing education and outreach duties, which entails providing testing at places like Mercy Life Counseling and the Muskegon County Jail.

The health department hired Burrel and Matten in the last two years to help the agency with sex partner notification duties, a time-consuming process that entails notifying infected residents to ensure they've been treated and to identify and treat their partners.

Muskegon County had the state's third highest rate of chlamydia cases per capita in 2013, according to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

More than half of those infections occurred in residents 24 years and younger, revealing the urgent need to reach traditionally-aged college students.

Burrel worked with MCC's student success and student life department led by Sally Birkam to get monthly testing approved at the campus, located at 221 Quarterline Road in Muskegon Township.

The service, which takes place every second Tuesday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in Room 305, began in September.

Baker College of Muskegon officials followed suit in October, allowing monthly testing the first Thursday of every month from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in room M114.

Although the free service targets students who are considered "at-risk," the events are open to the public, Burrel said.

The department relies on a non-invasive testing approach by using a urine collection kit for men and women.



The urine kits, unlike endocervical and urethral swabbing, don't detect STD infections that can be transmitted through the throat and anus and linger there for months and or even years, but Burrel said it's better than nothing.

"We're trying to promote that as much as possible. It's hard to get kids to come down and get tested," Burrel said. The campus has publicized the service in a student newsletter and through flier distribution, he said.

Neither MCC nor Baker have student health clinics that are customary at larger institutions, like Grand Valley State and Central Michigan universities.

Some higher education officials attribute this to the fact that many community colleges and smaller educational institutions have little-to-no on-campus residents.

But MCC President Dale Nesbary said other factors can impact whether health centers and services are offered on college campuses, like the availability of allied health services and the proximity of primary care services in the local community.

Nesbary added that MCC could offer more health services to students in the future.

"We are currently discussing the possibility of partnering with a health care provider to site a primary care clinic on campus to service MCC and the broader community," Nesbary said.

Now that the department has hit local college campuses, interventionists are focused on getting inside the county's high schools, particularly those located in areas where chlamydia rates are the highest, Burrel said.

Data from 2009 shows that the highest number of STD infections affect residents living in the 49444, 49442 and 49440 zip codes, areas that include the city of Muskegon, Muskegon Heights and Muskegon Township.

Department epidemiologist Jean Chang said although the statistics are nearly six years old, the data still holds true in terms of STD rate distribution in the community.

Only two high schools in Muskegon County, Muskegon High School and Muskegon Heights Public Academy, have health centers, both of which are operated by Hackley Community Care Center.

Further, only the Teen Health Center at Muskegon High School offers STD diagnoses and treatment. The facility serves as the "network hub" for the four satellite school-based health centers Hackley Community Care opened during the 2014-15 school year.

Those satellite locations include the Heights Academy, Muskegon Covenant Academy and Nelson and Marquette elementary schools.

Staff at the Teen Health Center at Muskegon High School said in 2012 that STD testing was the third most popular service behind sports exams and hearing tests, showing that teens value the service.

Hackley Community Care's main location in Muskegon Heights, along with Muskegon Family Care, Planned Parenthood of West and Northern Michigan and local emergency departments handle a bulk of the facility-based STD testing in the area, according to health department officials.

The health department offered the service at its Apple Avenue headquarters until it received permission from the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners this spring to stop so staff could focus on partner notification.

Today, Planned Parenthood offers STD testing at the department's Apple Avenue office, along with other family planning services.

[http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2015/11/ongoing\\_std\\_outreach\\_effort\\_ta.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2015/11/ongoing_std_outreach_effort_ta.html)

#### Foundation to expand Chaldean outreach in Detroit area

Philadelphia Tribune – November 9, 2015, By Jennifer Chambers

**STERLING HEIGHTS** — More than 16,000 immigrants and refugees walked into the Chaldean Community Foundation last year and left with a lifeline to navigate their new world.

The Sterling Heights-based foundation helps its clients learn English, find jobs, become citizens and access health care in Metro Detroit, where Chaldeans number about 150,000, making the region home to the second-largest Chaldean community in the world.

Preparing for an influx of Middle East refugees to Michigan in the next year amid an international refugee crisis, the foundation is expanding its services and footprint by building a new community center, according to The Detroit News.

The foundation officially moves into a 11,500-square-foot space on Friday just a quarter-mile away from the cramped strip mall office it's called home since 2011.

Foundation president Martin Manna says the ultimate goal of the foundation is to help immigrants and refugees adapt to a new culture and become less dependent on government-funded services. The new center provides an opportunity to knock down inaccurate notions of immigrant and refugee populations by educating the community on what the foundation does, he said.

"We always wanted to create this kind of pathway to prosperity, this independence. We want them to be independent of government subsidies," Manna said. "Many people assume immigrants are here illegally, they don't pay taxes for seven years, and they are on government assistance. No, that is not true. They pay taxes. Everyone we are serving is here legally."

The center, which is expected to serve 20,000 people a year, will allow the foundation to house all of its social and health services under one roof and provide more breathing room for its 23-member staff, which includes caseworkers and attorneys who are often trilingual, speaking English, Aramaic and Arabic.

The center will provide a classroom for Macomb Community College instructors to teach English, another area to hold town hall meetings to talk about health care and wellness, and a computer lab to

work on job retraining. There also will be a program to teach younger children Aramaic, the native language of Chaldeans.

“We close at noon for lunch and people will line up. ... This is not a career, it’s a calling,” said Manna, who also is president of the Chaldean Chamber of Commerce. “People drive from Saginaw and Lansing here because they know they will get the best quality service.”

Sharon Hannawa, foundation program manager, said some refugees suffer from post-traumatic stress due to their experiences fleeing their homeland and trying to live in a new world with no job or English skills. Often, they just need someone to talk to in their native tongue.

“As part of intake process, we focus on them as humans and what they need addressed. Through the process we are able to ask all these questions on what they need,” Hannawa said.

The foundation has a program that helps clients with developmental disabilities, with two distinct programs for those with visual impairments and those with hearing impairments.

Hannawa said the average age of a client is 38 and most come from Macomb County, but the foundation serves anyone in southeast Michigan.

“When you help one member of the family, you help the entire family,” she said.

The foundation has a \$5 million fundraising campaign underway — \$3 million for the new center, \$1 million for the Chaldean Loan Fund and \$1 million for long-term housing. Manna said it has raised \$2.1 million. Of that, \$1.7 million has been privately donated, he said.

The new center will serve as a community hub open to all, Manna said, and it gives the foundation the platform to educate the public on who the Chaldeans are, why they migrated here and what their contributions have been to this region.

Most Chaldeans are Eastern Rite Catholics who speak their native language, Aramaic, and are indigenous to Iraq, Syria and parts of Iran and Turkey. Chaldeans also own more than 15,000 businesses in Michigan, and there are at least 12 Chaldean Catholic churches in Michigan.

Michigan ranks third in the nation in accepting refugees. About 4,000 were resettled here last year, with more than half of those from Iraq, according to data from the U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement within the Department of Health and Human Services. It’s unclear how many Syrian refugees the state will get, though Gov. Rick Snyder has said he wants Michigan to be a “welcoming state.”

Iraqi Sarmad Esttaifan fled his homeland in 2010 after working as a barber for U.S. military personnel.

Once he began getting death threats, he made plans to leave.

The 37-year-old came to Michigan and with the help of the foundation, received a green card, his state barber’s license and a car loan through the foundation’s special program.

Esttaifan now works as a barber and lives in Madison Heights.

“They helped me with a car and get good credit,” he said through an interpreter. “They have an open heart to help me.” — (AP)

[http://www.phillytrib.com/foundation-to-expand-chaldean-outreach-in-detroit-area/article\\_58551b96-4e8f-527d-be89-6d38f41df7.html](http://www.phillytrib.com/foundation-to-expand-chaldean-outreach-in-detroit-area/article_58551b96-4e8f-527d-be89-6d38f41df7.html)

### **Inspectors: Tough Conditions For Workers At State Hospital**

The Associated Press – November 9, 2015

KALAMAZOO – Inspectors are recommending a buddy system, more training and protective sleeves after finding “workplace violence” among employees who deal with patients at a state psychiatric hospital in Kalamazoo.

The Kalamazoo Gazette says Michigan workplace inspectors learned that workers have suffered bites, fractures and concussions. The Oct. 21 report says there was a serious violation of failing to have a workplace free from certain hazards.

The Department of Health and Human Services says it has reached an informal settlement with the state Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Spokeswoman Jennifer Eisner says the hospital will ensure there are appropriate safety plans and documentation

<http://detroit.cbslocal.com/2015/11/09/inspectors-tough-conditions-for-workers-at-state-hospital/>

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**From:** Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 17, 2015 10:39 PM  
**To:** LaCourt, Donna (MDARD)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Thursday, December 17, 2015  
**Attachments:** Dec17.htm; Dec17House.htm; 151217dayplan.htm



## **Michigan Report for Thursday, December 17, 2015**

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Snyder Appoints Hollins To Oversee Flint Water Efforts

HICA, DPS, Energy Remain In Senate For '16

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Snyder Says He Will Not Take Cabinet Job Just To Set Up Calley For Governor

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## Volume #54, Report #247 -- Thursday, December 17, 2015

### Feds OK Healthy Michigan Waiver

Michigan government got a Christmas present from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on Thursday when the agency approved a waiver that will allow the Healthy Michigan Medicaid expansion program to continue to operate for years to come.

Had the state not gotten the waiver from CMS by December 31, the program that provides health insurance for some 600,000 people in Michigan with incomes between 100 to 133 percent of the federal poverty level would have ended on April 1.

The waiver permits the state on April 1, 2018, to require Healthy Michigan recipients who have been in the program for four years to elect to either get coverage through the federal health care exchange or remain with Healthy Michigan and by following healthy behavior requirements have lower cost sharing. The cost sharing on Healthy Michigan for recipients could be as much as 7 percent of their income, but state officials said Thursday it is unlikely most people would pay more than 5 percent of their income.

Earlier this week officials, including Governor Rick Snyder and Health and Human Services Director Nick Lyon, said they were confident the state would get the waiver, though as the days wore on state officials were clearly getting a bit antsy for the federal government to issue a statement.

The state received a letter Thursday notifying it that CMS had approved the waiver.

A spokesperson for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services said the federal agency was pleased "we have an agreement with Michigan that will allow nearly 600,000 low-income citizens to continue to have access to quality health services. This agreement is consistent with Michigan's proposal and ensures important beneficiary protections guaranteed" under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

In a statement, Mr. Snyder said Healthy Michigan - which was approved by the Legislature after an extensive political battle in 2013 and which then took effect on April 1, 2014 - had given Michiganders "the opportunity to improve their health and wellness by enrolling in health care coverage."

In passing the legislation in 2013, the Legislature required the state to get two waivers from the federal government, with the second waiver setting up the cost-sharing system in Healthy Michigan.

The 7 percent figure caused some concerns with the federal government and was subject to a number of discussions.

Mr. Lyon, in talking with reporters, said the second option will allow the state to focus more on encouraging healthy behaviors of recipients and following those behaviors will help ensure those recipients pay lower cost sharing rates.

Participating in the healthy behaviors means the cost sharing a client will face will not exceed 5 percent, he said.

And, under the waiver, if a person - unless one is considered medically frail - chose not to participate in the healthy behaviors, they will take part in the health care exchange where their total cost sharing is also to be 5 percent.

It would be very rare, Mr. Lyon said, that a person would pay more than 5 percent.

This will only affect recipients on April 1, 2018, who have been participating in Healthy Michigan for four years.

The news of the waiver resulted in enthusiastic responses from a variety of groups.

Rick Murdock with the Michigan Association of Health Plans called the announcement, "good news" for the state and said it brings the state closer to his group's goal of ensuring all persons have health care coverage.

Brian Peters, CEO of the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, said the Healthy Michigan plan has helped residents who were previously uninsured "to access the care they need in the right place, at the right time and at an affordable price."

And Gilda Jacobs, president of the Michigan League for Public Policy said the group was "thrilled" at the news of the waiver. "This is tremendous news for our entire state," she said.

#### Snyder Appoints Hollins To Oversee Flint Water Efforts

Governor Rick Snyder, in response to preliminary recommendations from the Flint Water Advisory Task Force, appointed Harvey Hollins, the director of his Office of Urban Initiatives, to oversee efforts to resolve the water issues in the city.

But Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said the issue needed stronger oversight than Mr. Hollins could provide.

"Harvey is well-versed in the issues and the challenges faced by our cities and will be effective in this role," Mr. Snyder said.

He said his administration would also work on an Internet dashboard to display progress made on the water issue.



The task force is still working on its final recommendations, but members said they issued the preliminary recommendations - in a letter dated December 7 but released Thursday - to get some of the changes in place more quickly.

"We felt it was imperative to make these initial recommendations to help address the water crisis in Flint instead of waiting until our final report is submitted," Task Force Co-Chair Chris Kolb said. "We appreciate the prompt acceptance of our request for action by the governor and see it as a step forward."

Co-Chair Ken Sikkema also said the initial review presented "a distributing situation."

"While the Task Force is far from done with our work, the initial review has presented a very disturbing situation that will require many actions to help those that have suffered," Mr. Sikkema said. "We saw no reason to wait until the final report to make these initial recommendations. We also anticipate that we will made additional recommendations prior to the final report."

Mr. Ananich urged the Department of State Police, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to take charge of water testing, distribution of water filters and other efforts to control lead exposure in the city.

"Political appointees and public relations people are what got us into this mess, and they aren't who we need leading us out of it," Mr. Ananich said. "Anything less than a professional trained in emergency management or public health will not suffice."

In the letter, the task force said the governor's 10-point action plan was being implemented, but without measures to determine success.

"One primary concern we have at this point is that the current efforts appear to be taking place in the absence of a larger project coordination framework that measures results and clearly delineates responsibilities for continuing actions to protect public health," the task force said in the letter.

Task force members said the departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services needed to set goals for the various efforts underway in the city as well as contingency plans if those goals are not being met.

The task force called for a single person or entity to coordinate the efforts.

Mr. Snyder acceded to that request for a coordinator in a letter back to the task force dated December 12. That also was released Thursday.

HICA, DPS, Energy Remain In Senate For '16

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof said late Wednesday he expects to take up an extension on the Health Insurance Claims Assessment as soon as his caucus comes back in January, but

two other huge policy goals will be competing for legislators' time before they dive head-first into the next budget cycle.

The House extended HICA into 2025 via [HB 5105](#), but some senators have "some other ideas" on the tax that helps the state receive federal Medicaid matching funds, "so we weren't in a place where we could vote for it yet," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) told reporters.

Asked about the urgency given the current HICA tax does not expire until 2017, Mr. Meekhof said, "That's when we have the time. If we can pick those things up now, before DPS and energy debates start, I think that's wise."

But those last two items cannot be left on an island either. House members will be running for re-election next year, so as the year goes on, it will get increasingly harder to pass such major legislation in the Senate and expect to see the same in the House. And Mr. Meekhof conceded as much.

"It being an election year next year, it's probably less than half of the year that we have for things to work on," he said, acknowledging also that the process becomes further complicated by budget discussions beginning around February. "But we do have time in January that we generally don't have a lot on our plate and ... let's try to get the understanding of everybody what the policy issue is and what we could be doing, because most of it has still been in committee up until this point."

**DPS:** The struggle in providing funding for Detroit Public Schools to the tune of \$715 million over 10 years was expected to see some more clarity with bills introduced before the Legislature left for the year, but that too saw too many hiccups to be made possible. [Sen. Geoff Hansen](#) (R-Hart), who is leading that discussion in the Senate (and in the Legislature generally), has been tight-lipped about any kind of details on the policy in an effort to prevent it from falling apart before it starts, and that hasn't seemed to bother most people.

But [Sen. Bert Johnson](#) (D-Highland Park) said that legislation can't fall by the wayside either.

"They're not ready because there's an issue with discerning where you're going to get the money from to pay this \$715 million and a new situation called new public schools Detroit, or whatever it's going to be called," Mr. Johnson told Gongwer News Service in an interview. "That's the big issue.

"What cannot happen is we allow the clock to run out, and people, because of political aspirations in the next year, or just sheer reticence to support Detroit issues say 'well, we're just not going to do anything.' Then it gets to be blamed on Detroit, which is not going to happen, not on my watch," he said.

He said there is not just one version of the bills at this point either.

"We've had a lot of compromise discussions between ourselves and Senator Hansen, the governor's office. Everybody has been committed to trying to drive the same message, but then

there's been some hiccups where we've seen some things maybe being done behind the scenes with EAA and DPS perhaps looking to charter a number of schools without us understanding that, and that created a problem for us as well," Mr. Johnson said.

"It's a fluid process, and this is sausage-making, and it's ugly, and it's going to take us some more time," he said. "We'll have some conversations during the break and see if we can come back with a package people can get behind."

**ENERGY:** One area where the House is seemingly slightly ahead of the Senate is in the area of energy policy. As the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency collects plan-of-action reports from the state on its federal Clean Power Plan to reduce emissions, the question is how Michigan will respond.

The House Energy Policy Committee reported its version of how that future will look in November, but was unable to move those bills off the floor this week.

The Senate has been a bit slower to move. Despite advertising boasting a "Nofs-Nesbitt energy plan," Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek) has been adamant about proposing his own plan separate of what House Majority Floor Leader Aric Nesbitt (R-Lawton) is pushing in his chamber, and despite the two do have some similarities in certain sectors of the debate.

Some utilities like Consumers Energy will be shutting down numerous plants in 2016, but even so, the Midcontinent Independent Systems Operator - which oversees the energy market for certain states, including Michigan - insists Michigan should not have to worry about a shortage of energy in 2016 (though there is some question as to how much sooner Michigan should worry after that). And Attorney General Bill Schuette is litigating the pressure from the EPA to conform to its Clean Power Plan.

Even so, both sides of the energy debate say Michigan needs to act sooner rather than later.

And while just about every member of legislative leadership will mark energy as a priority for next year, the question still remains where this major policy initiative will be able to fit legislation, debate and voting on that legislation into the big picture of 2016.

Schuette Bets On Bush; Talks Parole Changes, Statewide School Gun Option

In a wide-ranging discussion, Attorney General Bill Schuette on Thursday expressed confidence former Florida Governor Jeb Bush would win the 2016 Republican nomination and said he would be willing to look at a system that allows for easier parole so long as persons convicted of major felonies were not included and would back a consistent statewide approach letting people with concealed weapons permits carry in so-called "gun-free zones."

Mr. Schuette also said that he would think it reasonable for legislators to insist Detroit schools show academic progress if the state agreed to help fix its debt.

And when asked about what he had learned about the same-sex marriage court fight that led the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold that same-sex marriage is constitutional, Mr. Schuette said he was right to fight to protect Michigan's Constitution.

He also was coy when asked about fundraising activities.

Mr. Schuette met with reporters on Thursday to review the year and said besides the thousands of cases his office works on, he had been especially touched by an individual effort to help a woman who was victimized by sex trafficking. Mr. Schuette has played an active role with the state in changing its human trafficking laws.

He also said his office had helped collect more than \$22 million in unpaid child support payments, bringing the total to more than \$120 million since taking office.

And he and officials from his office also held 1,000 meetings at schools to talk about bullying and threats posed by students against others in the "Okay2Say" program, he said.

Mr. Schuette is one of the most prominent supporters of Mr. Bush for the 2016 GOP nomination for president, and despite Mr. Bush polling well below Donald Trump, Texas U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz and Florida U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, Mr. Schuette expressed total confidence that Mr. Bush would hang on to win the nomination.

"For Jeb there is only one way, and that is up," he said. "There is no quit" in the Bush family in a campaign.

There is no one more skilled or qualified to be president, Mr. Schuette said of Mr. Bush. Mr. Trump is now riding a wave of support because there is genuine fear and worry in the U.S. because of the foreign and economic policies of President Barack Obama, he said.

But Mr. Schuette said he is anxious for the presidential primaries to begin to allow for the winnowing out process of Republican candidates. "They can't come soon enough," he said.

**PRESUMPTIVE PAROLE:** Mr. Schuette has also led opposition to proposals in the Legislature to allow for a system that would give many prisoners a better opportunity for parole upon reaching their earliest release date. The proposals are backed by a number of people seeking both to reduce the cost of corrections and help individuals get back into normal life.

Joined by numerous county prosecutors and sheriffs, Mr. Schuette has attacked what he calls "auto-pilot parole" as a threat to public safety.

However, in the round table, Mr. Schuette said he and his allies "would be open to a discussion about excluding violent crimes" from the types of offenses that could be considered for automatic parole. Mr. Schuette did not commit to supporting the proposal, but said he could be open to discussing changes.

**CONCEALED CARRY:** In terms of changing the state's gun laws to allow individuals with concealed weapons permits to go into schools and other areas now off limits, Mr. Schuette said he is an "NRA attorney general. I make no bones about it."

The proposal made by Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville) in SB 442<sup>29</sup> would work best, Mr. Schuette said, because it would provide "a consistent approach across the state" as well as back up the Second Amendment.

Governor Rick Snyder has said he is opposed to the bill, a position he repeated to Gongwer News Service during an interview on Wednesday. Mr. Snyder said there has to be room for each district to make up its own mind on whether to allow for individuals with concealed weapons access to schools.

Mr. Schuette said that sometimes he and the governor have differences, but he still believes a consistent, statewide approach is best on the issue.

**DPS:** With Mr. Snyder hoping the Legislature will act on a proposal to help Detroit schools deal with its debt and restructure itself, Mr. Schuette said the focus should be on a school system that has continually failed its students.

If the Legislature votes to have the state help pay off the Detroit Public Schools debt, then there has to be assurance on what new outcomes will be had for the district, Mr. Schuette said.

**SAME-SEX MARRIAGE:** During 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court, in a 5-4 decision, ruled against arguments Mr. Schuette brought defending the Michigan Constitution's provision banning same-sex marriage and any of its equivalent. The nation's highest court held that same-sex couples had a constitutional right to marry.

Mr. Schuette repeated, as he had throughout the years the issue was litigated, that his duty was to defend the Constitution, all sections of it. Asked if he had learned anything from the decision, Mr. Schuette said what he learned was, "I did the right thing" in fighting for the Michigan ban.

**FURTHER CAMPAIGNS:** Mr. Schuette also was asked about fundraising he had done in Washington D.C. Some of that, he said, was for the Republican Attorney Generals Association, and some was for him.

Mr. Schuette cannot run for re-election but he is seen as a sure candidate to run for governor in 2018. Asked why he would raise money for himself, he said only that "I still got the itch." What he was itching to do politically, he would not say.

In other topics:

- Mr. Schuette said the investigation into former Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat is ongoing, but that it should be completed relatively soon;

- He stuck to his prediction that the "days are numbered" for Enbridge line 5 under the Mackinac Straits, but he could not say when the pipeline would be closed or what would be a safer option to move oil and natural gas products. He did say there are ongoing discussions on matters such as increasing the insurance on the pipeline; and
- He did not indicate there would be any charges brought against anyone in regards to the Flint water situation, but his office would defend the state against any suits brought against it.

### Snyder Says He Will Not Take Cabinet Job Just To Set Up Calley For Governor

If a Republican wins the White House in 2016, Governor Rick Snyder said in an interview this week he would not accept a job in the Cabinet to enhance Lt. Governor Brian Calley's chances of winning the governorship in 2018.

Speaking to Michigan Public Television for its annual "Evening with the Governor" program, Mr. Snyder showed little to no interest in joining the Cabinet of a Republican administration, but also made it clear he would never leave as part of a strategic move to let Mr. Calley ascend to the governorship to raise his chances of winning in 2018.

Mr. Calley has not said he is running, but expectations are high that he will.

"I'm not going to simply leave office to help with that issue because it's too important being governor," Mr. Snyder said.

And Mr. Snyder signaled a Cabinet post is not of much interest to him personally, saying he is aware every day that he has one less day in office.

"I have a responsibility to the citizens of Michigan," he said.

First Lady Sue Snyder also shed some light on the circumstances under which Mr. Snyder ruptured his Achilles' tendon in early January and how frightening the ensuing blood clot, which led to the governor spending several days in the hospital, was.

"It was a very scary time for all of us," she said, even saying at one point the possibility of Mr. Snyder dying crossed her mind.

The actual injury occurred after Mr. Snyder had concluded a jog on the beach and was walking. Mr. Snyder said he took too long a stride and heard a pop. Ms. Snyder, who had earlier advised him to ease back on his jogging, which he had just taken up, had been by a pool.

"All of a sudden I see him hobbling back. I said, 'What is going on?'" she said.

Mr. Snyder told her, "'I don't know, I think I ripped something.'" Ms. Snyder said she retorted, "I told you."

In the aftermath of the injury, Mr. Snyder, while at work, told Ms. Snyder his leg was swelling. Ms. Snyder said it became so swollen that his pant leg was taut around his leg.

"He says, 'I think I better go to the hospital, to the emergency room,'" she said.

Mr. Snyder during the interview said, when asked whether term limits should change, that the topic is "fair question." He said term limits could be made more flexible instead of limiting members to six years in the House and eight years in the Senate. For years, there has been discussion about a 14-year limit on total legislative service, but it has gone nowhere.

The governor, however, said the eight year limit on constitutional officers is appropriate.

#### Audit Cites DTMB For Lax Server Security

Auditors have found that most of the state's UNIX servers had not been properly secured, an audit released Thursday said.

The performance audit of statewide UNIX security controls, for the period October 1, 2012, through August 31, 2015, found that of 63 servers tested, 59 had vulnerable security configurations. And 47 of the servers had not had a vulnerability scan conducted in more than a month.

But auditors found the department was moderately effective at both implementing security and access controls on the servers and establishing governance structures over the servers.

The state operates about 950 UNIX servers, the report said.

The department agreed with the findings and said it had purchased software to automate security settings and regular security scans on the servers. It said it is also developing a process to ensure vulnerability remediation is assigned to the correct division.

Auditors also cited the state for not consistently using supported versions of the operating system and not timely applying patches. The department also gave too much control over the servers to the Agency Services Division, allowing the possibility that security measures could be circumvented, the report said.

On the operating systems, the department said it is implementing policies to require all agencies to upgrade to supported versions as well as automated patch management.

It also said it is working to better segregate duties among the various groups overseeing the servers.

#### Snyder Signs Epi-Pen Bills

Anyone operating an activity where anaphylaxis-causing allergens may be present has the ability under a bill signed into law Thursday by Governor Rick Snyder to make available auto-injectable epinephrine devices, commonly known as Epi-Pens.

The bill, HB 4438 (PA 221), specifically mentions recreation camps, youth sports leagues, amusement parks, nonpublic schools, religious institutions or sports arenas, but does not limit the law's applicability just to them. The law, which takes effect March 16, broadens previous law that limited access to school districts.

The bill enables those entities that stock Epi-Pens to have their employees administer the injections, provided they have undergone training, without risk of liability.

"Making Epi-Pens more readily available is a common sense way to protect those who have severe allergies," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "With this new law, parents can be more confident sending their kids to camp or on field trips without constant worry of a severe allergic reaction that could threaten their health."

Activists working to protect children with food allergies praised Mr. Snyder's signature of the bill.

"Kids and adults with life threatening food allergies will soon be a lot safer thanks to Governor Snyder and the state legislature," Lisa Rutter, the mother of a child with food allergies and founder of the Michigan-based No Nuts Moms Group, said in a statement. "Many parents know that their children suffer from food allergies, but for the thousands of parents in Michigan who have no idea their children are at risk, this new law could make all the difference in the world."

Mr. Snyder also signed:

HB 4594, PA 222 SCHOOL AID (McBroom) Expands shared time participation and reimbursement to kindergarten.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016

HB 4790, PA 223 SCHOOL AID (McBroom) Expands counting of nonresident shared time pupils in membership to include kindergarten.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016

SB 400, PA 224 HAZARDOUS WASTE (Schmidt) Modifies liquid industrial waste programs.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016

SB 401, PA 225 HAZARDOUS WASTE (Stamas) Changes references to liquid industrial waste to liquid industrial by-product in hazardous materials transportation act.



Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016

SB 402, HAZARDOUS WASTE (Schuitmaker) Modifies description affected document of  
PA 226 false statement concerning liquid industrial by-product.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016

SB 529, RELATIVE GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE ACT (Emmons) Modifies relative  
PA 227 guardianship assistance act to include a successor guardian provision.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: December 17, 2015

SB 530, PA FOSTER CARE (Emmons) Modifies definition of relative and adds definition  
228 of sibling.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: December 17, 2015

SB 151, PA DNA EVIDENCE (Bieda) Removes filing deadline for petition seeking review  
229 of DNA evidence.

Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: December 17, 2015

### Garcia Bills Aim To Give Schools Autonomy In Calendar Setting

Rep. Daniela Garcia on Thursday introduced two bills that would establish criteria for school calendar waivers to be automatically granted and prohibiting calendar items as subjects of collective bargaining.

The bills, HB 5193 and HB 5194, were sent to the House Education Committee.

"I've had the opportunity to speak with school superintendents and administrators throughout Michigan who have asked for increased flexibility at the local level," Ms. Garcia (R-Holland) said in a statement. "As the number of days of pupil instruction increases to 180 in the 2016-2017 school year, we must remove barriers for our schools to meet this new threshold."

The first bill would establish criteria for school calendar waivers to be automatically granted and require school districts to hold a public hearing prior to applying for a start date waiver.

"Parents, families and the entire community should be engaged in this conversation," Ms. Garcia said. "The ultimate goal is to ensure that our students are getting a quality education so that they are prepared to be successful and productive members of society."

The second bill includes calendar and scheduling items as prohibited subjects of bargaining and would provide local school districts autonomy in determining the calendar and schedule.

"I have faith in school boards and their superintendents to adopt a calendar and schedule that is in the best interests of students and parents, respects the time and talents of staff and adheres to state law," she said. "This discussion should be centered around our children's education and not be used as a bargaining chip by adults."

### Runestad Wants President To Treat ISIS Attacks As Genocide

State Rep. Jim Runestad is asking President Barack Obama to declare ISIS terrorism as an act of genocide against Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East.

Mr. Runestad (R-White Lake) said Thursday the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham's violent terrorist attacks against religious minorities must be considered genocide, which would enable governments and the United Nations to intervene more directly with more resources.

"A resolution was introduced in Congress urging the president to declare the atrocities to be a genocide," he said in a statement. "Southfield resident Bishop Francis Kalabat, head of the Chaldean Catholic Diocese of the United States, testified before a U.S. House Subcommittee on Human Rights, and is working to encourage states to introduce their own resolutions calling for a genocide to be declared. He fully supports my legislative resolution."

Mr. Runestad introduced a similar resolution in the House on Thursday.

"Christians have existed as a cultural group in the Middle East and have lived in peace with their neighbors for 2,000 years until now," he said. "Christians and other religions are being targeted and slaughtered as a cultural minority and we must declare this to be a genocide for the crisis to be stopped."

### Capital Notebook: Smith May Not Go To Trial

Embattled Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) was in court Thursday for a pre-trial hearing on his case involving his alleged assault of his ex-wife and shooting at her Mercedes-Benz in May, and while there was no plea agreement announced, Mr. Smith's attorney told Wayne County Circuit Judge Lawrence Talon it seemed both sides could "work something out."

The Detroit Free Press reported that Mr. Dillard plans to present a proposal to prosecutors before Christmas Day to see if a resolution can be reached before Mr. Smith's trial begins on March 7, 2016 (it was originally scheduled for December 7).

Mr. Talon, the Free Press said, ordered the parties to return to his courtroom on January 15 at 8:30 a.m. so he can be told if an offer to resolve the case had been made and whether Mr. Smith would accept or reject it.

Mr. Smith faces charges of felonious assault, malicious destruction of personal property of \$20,000 or more, possessing a firearm during the commission of a felony and a misdemeanor for domestic violence.

**RECYCLING CARTS:** The Department of Environmental Quality announced Thursday it is accepting applications for grants for local communities to purchase recycling carts.

Department officials said the carts, as opposed to the bins many communities use, increase recycling rates and so would contribute to Governor Rick Snyder's goal of doubling recycling rates.

The DEQ is offering up to \$450,000 toward cart purchases. Applications for the grants are posted on the DEQ website and are due March 31.

**LATE ELK SEASON:** Despite conditions, the late elk season was successful for the vast majority of hunters, the Department of Natural Resources announced Thursday.

The season, which ended Sunday, did not have the usual snow that allows hunters to track and see the elk, but still 46 of the 50 hunters were successful, the department said.

Appointments By The Governor

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PAIN AND SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT:** John Mulder of Spring Lake succeeds Steven Roskos, who resigned, to represent the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. The appointment is for the remainder of a term expiring July 1, 2017, and is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**ASPARAGUS MARKETING ADVISORY BOARD:** Dwight Fuehring of Mears and Kyle Weber of Watervliet are reappointed for terms expiring November 13, 2018. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS:** Kelly Mitchell of Grand Rapids is reappointed for a term expiring September 30, 2019. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**CITY OF PONTIAC RECEIVERSHIP TRANSITION ADVISORY BOARD:** Doug Bernstein of Royal Oak succeeds Lou Schimmel, who resigned, to represent members with relevant professional experience for a term expiring at the pleasure of the governor.

**MICHIGAN BOARD OF OPTOMETRY:** Sarah Kile of Gladwin succeeds Robert Perino to represent the general public for a term expiring June 30, 2019. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.


**MICHIGAN CARROT COMMISSION:** Nathan Karnemaat of Fremont is reappointed for a term expiring October 31, 2018. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**MICHIGAN STATE CAPITOL COMMISSION:** Travis Weber of Grand Rapids succeeds Sally Durfee to represent the governor. The appointment is for a term expiring at the pleasure of the governor and is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

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## Michigan Report for Monday, December 28, 2015

Auditor General Criticizes, Supports DEQ On Flint Water

Lyon: Flint Did Not Meet Lead Expectations, Wants Department More Preventative Oriented

Ananich Reflects On Rocky Year For Caucus, Hometown

Supreme Court To Hear Transmission Line Case

Campaign Finance Bill Presented, But No Signings Anticipated This Week

Dow Sues Treasury In New Tax Dispute

Snyder Activates Emergency Operations Center In Response To Winter Storm

## Calendars

Day Planner

Event Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #252 -- Monday, December 28, 2015

### Auditor General Criticizes, Supports DEQ On Flint Water

Democrats saw "serious failings" of the system in an { HYPERLINK "http://www.audgen.michigan.gov/finalpdfs/15\_16/1761032015.pdf" \t "blank" } released Monday from the Office of the Auditor General on the state's ability to adequately address a drinking water crisis in the city of Flint earlier this year.

The report primarily consisted of answers to questions posed by Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) in a letter he sent to the auditor general in October during the height of the water crisis, but Mr. Ananich and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said in a statement that some of those answers "confirmed that Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality failed to ensure proper corrosion control was used to treat Flint River water and that the state was responsible for the decision to use the river as the city of Flint's primary drinking water source."

Mr. Ananich also said the results suggest that legislative oversight of the situation was best and expected hearings on the situation to be "high on the agenda" when the Legislature returns.

"What's clear is that corrosion control should have been used and there are serious failings in our system that must be addressed," he said in the statement. "Between the FOIA emails released recently and these findings, it's obvious that legislative oversight is the best way to see how all of these pieces fit together."

But the administration saw the responses differently.

"The letter from the Office of the Auditor General includes some criticisms, but also reflects that state officials were following accepted protocols, or in one case, an interpretation of the corrosion control program that the EPA later clarified," Dave Murray, spokesperson for { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, said in a statement.

"But we need to do better in ensuring Flint residents have safe water and tracking children affected by elevated lead levels. We continue to work with the bipartisan task force that is reviewing all the actions at the state, local and federal level and is expected to offer recommendations in a month or so. Governor Snyder is committed to working with Flint Mayor Weaver and officials on these issues," Mr. Murray said.

And DEQ spokesperson Brad Wurfel said the department agreed with the findings in the AG's review.

"The findings align with our internal department review," he said. "We appreciate the auditor general's work to provide a fair and well considered look at some key issues."

One key finding was supporting the DEQ's decision to drop the two samples with the highest lead content in its second six-month sample. That decision has come under withering scrutiny, but the auditor general report set it was appropriate under federal rules.

The report answered questions on how the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance ensures the data it receives is accurate - to which the auditor general noted two potential improvements for the Flint water sampling process - and what accountability measures are in place for office staff who fail to follow data verification protocols.

"DEQ does not provide any direct oversight over the Flint Water Treatment Plant (Flint WTP) and, therefore, does not have any accountability measures over the Flint WTP's LTR (Lead Copper Rule) data verification protocols," the report indicated. "We did not identify any instances in which ODWMA staff failed to verify that submitted samples were certified by the Flint WTP."

On accountability measures in place for Drinking Water staff who lie or misrepresent information, the auditor general noted only one e-mail exchange between the DEQ and the Environmental Protection Agency that appeared to be a "significant contributor" to the concern that the DEQ misrepresented information to the EPA.

"The EPA requested clarification on February 26, 2015 regarding the type of optimized corrosion control **treatment** (their emphasis) the Flint WTP was using. DEQ responded on February 27, 2015 that the city had an optimized corrosion control **program** in place, but DEQ did not provide any program details," the report outlined. "DEQ informed us that the Flint WTP corrosion control **program** included performing lead and copper monitoring for two consecutive six-month periods to determine whether corrosion control **treatment** would be necessary in the future.

"However, it appears the EPA interpreted corrosion control **program** to mean that corrosion control **treatment** was being performed," the audit stated.

Still, based on its review of numerous e-mails, the auditor said it had no specific reason to believe the DEQ willfully misrepresented the information to the EPA.

But Democrats pointed out other issues: In response to the question about whether corrosion control treatment should have been maintained when the switch for the water source was made to the Flint River, the AG letter concludes, "We believe that corrosion control treatment should have been maintained," Democrats noted.

And with regard to how the decision was made about using the Flint River as the primary drinking water source, the letter states, "Although the Flint City Council voted in March 2013 in support of moving to the KWA (Karegnondi Water Authority) pipeline, the vote was silent on the use of Flint River water as a temporary drinking water source," Democrats said.

"This is another example of how the state failed initially, and continues to fail by not treating this situation like the emergency it is," Mr. Neeley said in a statement. "We need answers, we need action, and we need them sooner rather than later."

The full report on the ODWMA within the DEQ is not expected until late February.

Lyon: Flint Did Not Meet Lead Expectations, Wants Department More Preventative Oriented

Testing for childhood lead exposure has not typically included water tests, so when Flint-area physicians earlier this year reported children with higher concentrations of lead, the state had to look at what could cause it, Health and Human Services { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1) } said in an interview. And when it was clear the increased levels correlated with the city's switch to water from the Flint River, the state almost immediately took action, he said.

Mr. Lyon also said finding ways of reducing exposure to lead has been a priority of his and the department. The almost unique circumstances surrounding the Flint situation, "is not my issue," Mr. Lyon said. "My issue is how do I reduce the exposure to lead in children of Flint? That's the immediate concern, and then the next concern is, what sort of interventions are needed in the future?"

In one sense, trying to anticipate what future interventions are needed ties into a theme Mr. Lyon stressed repeatedly in the interview, which was how to make the Department of Health and Human Services more pro-active and preventative-oriented to help prevent issues from arising.

If, for example, the department can help a family that appears to have problems before a child is abused or neglected, then the child and the family both are spared traumas that could have dramatic effects years later, and the state will save the cost of the intervention system it has to go through, he said.

Mr. Lyon has also overseen the integration and adjustment of the department - a merger of the former departments of Community Health and Human Services - through 2015 and said it had forced him to "drink from the fire hose" as he familiarized himself with all the programs offered and the people who worked for the combined department.

And one of the things he found that impressed him most was the "trust and optimism the employees of both agencies displayed in a great period of uncertainty" that "really gave me a belief we could accomplish a lot," he said.

In looking back at the year, the Flint water situation was not initially something anticipated.

The city in 2014, then under an emergency manager, decided to switch its water system away from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department system as Flint worked on its own water system that would draw water from Lake Huron. As a cost savings measure, the city moved to have its water come from the Flint River in the interim.



Officials in the Department of Environmental Quality said the water had met requirements for safety. And while almost immediately residents complained about the taste, the smell and the appearance of the water, state officials insisted the water was safe.

But DEQ officials, speaking on background, have acknowledged that the department did not anticipate the effects the water could have on the antique plumbing systems, causing them to leach lead.

That was also not something DHHS had anticipated, Mr. Lyon said. DHHS was brought into the controversy late, and specifically because of the issue of whether children exposed to the water were seeing increased lead levels.

Typically, children are exposed to lead in houses with old lead-based paint that chips and flakes and is consumed by children. They are also exposed to lead in the overall environment. Mr. Lyon said typically lead levels rise in the summer when doors and windows are opened more, releasing chips of paint, and kids are playing outside more.

Plus, data on lead level exposure is kept on a county level.

DHHS did not anticipate an issue with lead in water due to antique pipes, Mr. Lyon said. And that proves to be a lesson to the state, he said: When issues of lead exposure come up it may mean the state will also have to check plumbing systems in older houses.

Nor did the state see any significant changes in lead exposure in county data from Genesee County, he said.

But Flint-area physicians were reporting higher lead levels in children from the area. "We are never dismissive of the data," Mr. Lyon said. "Data is data."

While saying that now, a department spokesperson told The Flint Journal in September the state had better data than Hurley Medical Center on the question of lead exposure. That spokesperson did say at the time the department was reviewing the Hurley data.

When the state got the reports of the higher lead levels in Flint, DHHS scientists had to look at it. That research showed higher levels in the ZIP Codes where the affected children lived.

And that evidence led to state action. Once he had spoken to the Executive Office about the findings, it began to take steps to reconnect the city to the Detroit system, ensure water filters were distributed and began doing additional testing of exposed children and adults.

In terms of better coordinating services a family or individual may be eligible for, local departments will also play a big role with the state in meeting individual needs, Mr. Lyon said. That will mean overall improved communications between the state and local departments, all with an eye towards recognizing that both agencies are serving the same people.

**PROACTIVITY AND COMPACT DEPARTMENT:** When the merger of DHS and DCH was announced a year ago, Mr. Lyon - then newly on the job as director of DCH - said he wanted to improve overall coordination to ensure a family had easier access to all the services it was entitled to. Some of that already was in the works because there is a large degree of overlap in people who need both food assistance and Medicaid.

But in terms of having the department take on a more proactive attitude, Mr. Lyon said he hopes to find a way "to use our caseworkers more like success coaches." That will take some work in both the state and local offices, as well as getting buy-in from the federal government "to say what can we do when those individuals walk in the door, what can we learn from them and what do they need a self-determination aspect to be successful and how do we craft that person's needs" with available programs.

In addition, given the state's budget situation which will likely prevent his being able to add personnel, finding ways of helping individuals off the system could go a long way to reducing what Mr. Lyon acknowledged were dramatic caseload levels. Caseworkers often find themselves with as many as 600 to 800 cases to handle.

And by helping those individuals work their way out of programs, that would eventually reduce the overall cost of the programs to the state, he said.

As currently structured, state programs are designed to be reactive, Mr. Lyon said. Taking the example of an abused child, Mr. Lyon said the state will get a report of an incident, investigate the incident, if needed put the child in a foster care situation, if needed search out a permanent placement and, again if needed, involve the courts. All those are reactions, Mr. Lyons said.

But if the state gets a tip of problems brewing, it can do nothing unless there is an actual incident of abuse or neglect. That means a child has to suffer a trauma that could have both dramatic effects on his or her physical and mental health in later years, as well as expose the family to trauma and stigma, he said.

Getting a more proactive approach will require federal government approval to shift funding - and Mr. Lyon said he is working on that - that would look at those at-risk families and try to see if there are services they need to help ensure that "initial mistake or event never happens. If you talk to most parents they don't want to abuse their children or neglect this child. I believe that to the core, and if we can find that family and teach them the skills necessary to prevent something bad from happening" again it will save money, he said, but more importantly prevent the trauma both the child and family can experience.

Asked if that would not draw criticisms of the state acting as Big Brother for these families, Mr. Lyon said he would hope the families would understand and accept why the help is being offered.

"If I can prevent something bad from happening to a child that will impact that child for the rest of their lives, that is something I am willing to save from happening," Mr. Lyon said.

Being proactive applies to other areas. Asked, for example, if the state would need to look at reopening the now closed Maxey juvenile justice center, Mr. Lyon said the state should have the capacity needed to deal with youth in legal trouble.

More importantly, he said, is to find ways to help those kids before they get in trouble. Many have behavioral health issues, Mr. Lyon said, "and what are we doing to make sure they are getting the treatment they need? ... Warehousing them in a jail or juvenile facility, I don't think that's right thing to do."

### Ananich Reflects On Rocky Year For Caucus, Hometown

It was a whirlwind of a 2015 for Senate { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1) }, who not only saw some ups and downs within his own caucus, but also had to deal with emergency appropriations for a Third World-like water emergency in his hometown this year.

And despite the last-minute push from legislative Republicans to pass major election-related reforms late at night during last two session days of the year, Mr. Ananich (D-Flint) said he remains optimistic that his caucus will be united and his relationship with Senate { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1) } (R-West Olive) will still be cordial in 2016.

The Senate adjourned late on December 17, passing very little legislation except a couple of major election-related bills and recessing most of the day otherwise. At one point, it seemed like the elimination of straight ticket voting ( { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB1301"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB1301) } ), one of those reforms, would be shelved until next year, as speeches of good holiday cheer and well wishes filled the Senate chamber. Both Mr. Ananich and Mr. Meekhof complimented their colleagues on their professionalism for the first year of the new term. And in an interview with Gongwer News Service, the tone was no different.

"The relationship between me and Arlan and our staffs is something that's very strong, and I want to continue that," Mr. Ananich said in an interview on December 17, prior to those controversial elections bills passing. "For 2016, I want to see the Democrats, my caucus and the chamber as a whole doing things in a bipartisan way."

Roughly four hours later, that couldn't have been further from reality, as predominately Republicans eliminated straight ticket voting and substituted what was previously a bipartisan bill ( { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB57101"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB57101) } ), for a more divisive one that opponents worry will significantly affect local government and its ability to communicate to citizens about ballot questions (See { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542460104"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542460104) } )

Asked after session if what he viewed as a good, professional relationship with the majority leader may have gone a bit awry with that legislation, Mr. Ananich seemed changed, but not entirely.

"We're going to stand up and have aggressive and robust debates about things and do it in a professional way. We're going to win some and we're going to lose some," he told reporters. "We think our values are right and their values are wrong, and this is one of those opportunities, but that doesn't change the fact we're going to do it in a professional way. We're still going to fight for what we think we're right, and that's what we did tonight."

And it wasn't the first adversity Mr. Ananich had faced, of course. Earlier in the year, Republicans passed legislation to repeal the state's prevailing wage law. Around the same time, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1) } (D-Detroit) was involved in an incident with his ex-wife that is still playing out in court with potentially felonious implications. Then the Flint clerk told candidates for the mayoral race the wrong deadline to submit their paperwork, requiring a very quick fix in the Legislature or else a costly write-in campaign for most candidates.

And another, more serious situation was developing in his hometown involving lead in the water that would spur numerous headlines in the fall.

To that end, Mr. Ananich said he was in contact with pastors and others working the water issues in Flint, but he was primarily working on the cost of the water initially.

"I heard of a lot of people that were having shutoffs, similar to Detroit, probably proportionally worse in Flint, because the costs are more expensive," Mr. Ananich said in his interview with Gongwer.

Then there was an E. Coli breakout, he said, and other issues, "but we were sure over and over again that this was it, we got it fixed," he said.

Then Mr. Ananich said he saw a report by the ACLU and read findings (sometimes in September) by Doctor Marc Edwards, a Virginia Tech professor who has been following the Flint water crisis and recently alleged the Department of Health and Human Services had data showing elevated lead levels in Flint's water but delayed releasing that data to others for review (See { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542490102"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542490102) } ).

"I really tried to get the administration and other folks to all come together and fix this problem, and then obviously we saw the administration's sort of denial at first, attacking individuals that were heroes really for trying to help solve this issue, and then they realized they were telling the truth and they started the ball rolling. I expected a lot more urgency," Mr. Ananich said. "I still think it's much more important to protect the citizens than to protect the reputation of certain departments, and I still see a little more of that than I do of making sure we're really addressing this issue, the urgency we need."

"But things are moving in the right direction. I'm going to keep pushing for more action and more tangible results for my citizens, but it's unfortunate it's something some of my citizens are going to have to deal with the ... generation maybe, depending on how bad it ends up being," he said.

In hindsight, Mr. Ananich said he couldn't really complain about the response from his colleagues in the House and Senate, but the administration and some state departments are a different story.

"I was very appreciative of the help with the money and switching back to Detroit, and now we're just going to keep working to make sure the kids get the nutrition they need and the services," he said. "The administration still, I think, seems to lack the sense of urgency that I expect, but they've done some positive steps in the right direction. They still have folks, Brad Wurfel for one, who are still making statements that aren't really true, I think, to the public.

"You can't say it's the faucets in the school. If it wasn't for the corrosive, poisonous water, we wouldn't have a problem. It's another example of trying to make it sound like it wasn't their fault as opposed to just fixing the problem," he said.

Mr. Wurfel, spokesperson for the Department of Environmental Quality, disputed Mr. Ananich's comment.

"The governor's 10-point plan includes an unprecedented look at lead levels in Flint schools, free testing around the community, free home water filters until we can be confident the system returns to acceptable levels, and a series of immediate, near-term and long-term steps to protect Flint families. We are doing the work and presenting the data as it comes forward," he said.

"I'm a department spokesman. I'm as good as the information I get to work with. And we've tried to do a very careful job of making sure folks in Flint get accurate information on this issue, because it is a very serious one for thousands of families. This administration acknowledged an error in October and has been working hard since then to partner with communities and deliver necessary resources to protect kids and families."

But Mr. Ananich did compliment the governor's task force - one of many groups reviewing the issue - whom he believes will come up with an "independent" analysis of the situation. The task force issued some early statements on what it saw as a "disturbing situation" (See { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542470102"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542470102) } ).

And on Monday, Mr. Ananich and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1) } (D-Flint) got some answers they were seeking when the auditor general responded to Mr. Ananich's request for more information on what happened in Flint (see separate story). The auditor general's full response, specifically on the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance within the DEQ, is not expected until late February.

**BIPARTISANSHIP AND DPS:** Asked about his caucus goals for 2016, Mr. Ananich said they are similar to 2015: "to make sure we felt like a united caucus that stands up for the things we believe," he said. "I think we've done that. I think we showed a sense of professionalism and willingness to work together when we have agreement. I think the difference in the tenor and the differences in the House and Senate is obvious to pretty much everyone."

Mr. Ananich said he is hopeful his caucus and Senate Republicans can do more together, and there will be plenty of opportunities to do that, he said.

Among the policy issues are finding a resolution to the crippling debt of Detroit Public Schools, workforce development, skilled trades funding, education funding and energy law overhaul, the minority leader said.

"I think those are the kinds of things that would be best if they came out of the chamber with bipartisan support, and that's what I want to see us do," he said.

He said he genuinely believed Mr. Meekhof wanted to find a bipartisan solution on DPS, and putting { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1>" } (R-Hart) in charge of the matter "is a very good step in that direction," Mr. Ananich said.

Democrats, especially within his caucus, will be looking for some form of an elected school board, he said, as well as ensuring that when all the debt is retired that there are resources available to provide a quality education for the students in the district and that the Legislature does not have to revisit such a situation again.

And he said he does not believe current teachers, staff or students should be punished in any way for the actions of others that led DPS into this situation.

"There's going to be a lot conversation going forward, and we'll find some things we want, some things they want ... but I think overall the package, if it's going to be successful, will have those elements in it and won't adversely affect other districts to the point that we're hurting other children to help DPS," Mr. Ananich said.

Though Mr. Hansen has kept talks about the DPS legislation tight-lipped, one thing that has so far been cited about DPS talks is a debate over governance. Mr. Ananich said some of those questions are about whether the governor, the mayor, or others should do the appointing officials to fix DPS, or whether they should be elected.

The minority leader said the Legislature needs to get "very serious" about resolving the matter around the first of the year because it will only become more distant and complicated when the state begins determining its next budget in February.

**ELECTIONS:** Though the Senate is not up for re-election until 2018, Mr. Ananich said his caucus will continue to help the House with its fundraising and candidate recruitment efforts for their 2016 election.

"The relationship between the House and Senate Democrats is the best it's been in a long time," he said.

But he isn't putting off 2018 for long either.

"Like I said before, the relationship between me and Arlan is very good, but we have a fun competition and we plan on being competitive in 2018," he said.

### Supreme Court To Hear Transmission Line Case

The Supreme Court has ordered arguments in a case where a Kalamazoo County township has challenged an award by the Public Service Commission for an electric transmission line across its property.

The Supreme Court agreed to hear the case, *Oshtemo Township v. Michigan Electric Transmission Company* (SC docket No. 150695), more than 13 months after the Court of Appeals upheld a 2013 order issued by the PSC allowing for the construction of the line in both Oshtemo and Almena Township in Van Buren County.

In calling for arguments, the Supreme Court said the parties should issue briefs on whether the state's Electric Transmission Line Certification Act of 1995 is consistent with the "first sentence" of Article 7, Section 29 of the Constitution.

That sentence reads: "No person, partnership, association or corporation, public or private, operating a public utility shall have the right to the use of the highways, streets, alleys or other public places of any county, township, city or village for wires, poles, pipes, tracks, conduits or other utility facilities, without the consent of the duly constituted authority of the county, township, city or village; or to transact local business therein without first obtaining a franchise from the township, city or village."

A date for the arguments has not been set.

### Campaign Finance Bill Presented, But No Signings Anticipated This Week

The last remaining bill awaiting presentation to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, a hotly controversial one involving campaign finance issues, was formally presented Monday.

That means the last two remaining bills to win approval from the Legislature prior to adjourning for the year are now on Mr. Snyder's desk. Those bills would end the ability for voters to select a party's slate of candidates with a single mark on the ballot ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB1301" }<sup>3</sup>) and enact a wide variety of campaign finance changes, notably barring local governments and school districts from issuing any communication regarding local ballot proposals ({ HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB57101](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB57101)" }<sup>2</sup> ).

Mr. Snyder is out of state vacationing with his family this week, press secretary Dave Murray said Monday. Mr. Murray said he does not anticipate any bills being signed or vetoed this week.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1>" } could make the signing or veto decision with Mr. Snyder out of state, but typically Mr. Calley has signed noncontroversial bills in which he has personally worked the issue.

Mr. Snyder has until January 5 to sign or veto the end of straight ticket voting. He has until January 11 to sign or veto the campaign finance bill, which also would prohibit corporations from collecting contributions to political action committees not affiliated with the corporation via employee payroll deduction.

### Dow Sues Treasury In New Tax Dispute

The Dow Chemical Company is disputing how the Department of Treasury calculated its tax credit under the Michigan Business Tax, { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/public/Dowsuit.pdf>" } in the Court of Claims on how the department applied tax credits.

In September, the department issued a notice of adjustment to Dow regarding its 2008 Michigan Business Tax return, decreasing its tax credit carryover from the 2008 tax year to the 2009 tax year by about \$1.6 million.

The dispute concerns the order in which a business applies its credits.

Dow applied its credits "in a specific order," the company said in its lawsuit, including applying its compensation credits, investment tax credits and research and development credits before applying its Single Business Tax carryover credits.

The department, however, applied the carryover credits first.

Dow pointed to an unpublished November 2015 Court of Appeals ruling (*Ashley Capital v. Department of Treasury*) holding that compensation credits and investment credits take priority. Dow also pointed to a Court of Claims ruling earlier this month involving Dow Corning.

### Snyder Activates Emergency Operations Center In Response To Winter Storm

A winter storm forecast to coat much of the Lower Peninsula with ice, potentially as much as a half-inch in some locations, prompted { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } to activate the State Emergency Operations Center on Monday.



The major concern with the projected ice storm is the potential loss of electrical power. A half-inch of ice, coupled with the strong winds expected to accompany the winter storm, would likely lead to considerable tree damage and subsequent damage to electrical lines.

Mr. Snyder also ordered all state offices in the Lower Peninsula to close at 1 p.m. to enable employees to leave early with road conditions deteriorating.

The Supreme Court and Court of Appeals closed their offices early. The House closed its offices at noon.

The worst icing was expected to take place on the west side of the state with between 0.4 to 0.5 inches of ice forecast between an area roughly bounded by I-96, U.S. 127, M-55 and the Lake Michigan shoreline. The state's freeways were littered with traffic crashes by early afternoon.

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**Sent:** Friday, October 02, 2015 2:46 PM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_updates@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** NEWS UPDATE--State To Contribute \$1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix



Friday, October 2, 2015, 02:45 PM

## State To Contribute \$1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix

In the short term, Flint residents will have access to water filters, some purchased with state funds, and in the longer term the city will be improving its corrosion controls to keep lead out of water supplies, state and city officials said today in unveiling a plan to address recent water safety concerns in the city.

Moving Flint back to getting water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage System is also still on the table for both state and local officials, but will require negotiations, both sides said.

Both sides said the water itself is not the source of lead and the city will be working in the coming years to replace the lead service lines that are the source.

Environmental Quality Direct Dan Wyant acknowledged that testing shows increased lead levels in the water since the city moved from the Detroit system in 2014, but he argued the problem was the switch and not the water source. He said one of the state's efforts is to ensure the city has sufficient corrosion controls in place so when it switches sources again away from the Flint River, the problem does not recur.

Mr. Wyant said the state has continued quarterly testing of the city's water source and those tests have continued to show no lead.

Eden Wells, chief medical officer for the state, said blood tests for children in the city did not change after the water change, but she said tests of children in two high-risk ZIP codes did, as tests by Hurley Medical Center had shown earlier, show increased blood lead levels in those areas after the water change.

But she and others said it was still not confirmed that the water was the source of the additional lead exposure.

Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said the city was still considering switching back to Detroit water while efforts to finish an agreement with Karegnondi Water Authority are completed. But he said the switch would cost the city up to \$2 million a month it does not have.

Mr. Wyant, asked if the state would cover those costs, said only that the state had committed \$1 million already toward the problem but that Governor Rick Snyder had said he would be willing to mediate discussions between the city and the Detroit system.

Gongwer News Service will have more on this story in the full Michigan Report.

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**From:** gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service  
<gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 10:22 AM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_updates@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** NEWS UPDATE--Snyder Asks Legislature For \$6M To Reconnect Flint To Detroit Water



Thursday, October 8, 2015, 10:21 AM

## **Snyder Asks Legislature For \$6M To Reconnect Flint To Detroit Water**

FLINT – Governor Rick Snyder said today that Flint will reconnect to the Detroit water system and no longer draw water for its residents and businesses from the Flint River, a move that comes in response to insufficient corrosion treatment for the river water causing unsafe levels of lead to leach into the water.

The announcement follows one of the most serious environmental crises to confront the state and a major outcry that Mr. Snyder's administration, and the man he appointed to run the city when it was in a financial emergency, failed to assure the river water – more corrosive than the water from Lake Huron, where the Detroit system draws its water – was properly treated before making the switch to the river. Testing has shown rising levels of lead in the blood of some children in the city and pockets of the city with lead levels in the water that exceed recognized limits for safety.

Mr. Snyder said it will cost \$12 million to shift Flint to Detroit water through next summer, when a new pipeline to Lake Huron is expected to be completed to supply Flint and surrounding areas with its water. He said he is asking the Legislature to supply \$6 million. The Mott Foundation will contribute \$4 million and the city of Flint will chip in \$2 million.

Gongwer News Service will have more on this story in today's Michigan Report.

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**From:** gongwerreports@gongwer.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service  
<gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 14, 2015 8:45 PM  
**To:** Michigan\_State\_Employees\_updates@gongwer.com  
**Subject:** NEWS UPDATE--House Approves Flint Water Fix



Wednesday, October 14, 2015, 08:43 PM

## House Approves Flint Water Fix

The House unanimously voted this evening to approve \$9.35 million of state funds to return Flint to the Detroit water system and pay for additional state staff in the city's schools to gauge exposure to lead, handle evaluation and protocols on drinking water and to assist with plumbing engineers.

Governor Rick Snyder last week called for state funds to return the city to drawing water from the Detroit system and ending a disastrous move to pull water from the Flint River, as well as funds to pay for additional state staffers from the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs working in the city.

The supplemental (HB 4102) allocates \$6 million to get the city back on Detroit's water system; \$300,000 for DEQ's drinking water and environmental health services; \$1 million for DEQ's laboratory services; \$1 million for DHHS emergency services to purchase and distribute water to Flint residents; \$850,000 for follow up services for children, including testing lead levels and care for those with abnormal levels; and \$200,000 for plumbing inspections.

Insufficient corrosion controls for water drawn from the river – which is inherently more corrosive than water drawn from Lake Huron, where the Detroit system draws its water – caused lead from the city's old service lines to leach into the water, leading to lead levels in the water exceeding the federal standard to trigger remediation and to elevated lead levels in the blood of some Flint children.

Gongwer News Service will have more on this story in Wednesday's Michigan report.

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**From:** Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 10:18 PM  
**To:** Baker, Kay (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Wednesday, September 30, 2015  
**Attachments:** 150930dayplan.htm; Sep30House.htm; Sep30Senate.htm; Sep30.htm



## Michigan Report for Wednesday, September 30, 2015

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MSHDA Board Approves \$3M Toward Improvements In Detroit

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## Volume #54, Report #194 -- Wednesday, September 30, 2015

### Cotter Said Now To Back \$800M New Revenue For Roads

One of the key pieces for legislative leaders to resolve as they negotiate a road funding package appears to have cleared a key marker with several sources telling Gongwer News Service that House Speaker Kevin Cotter supports raising \$800 million in new revenue.

There is no agreement, no deal, not even a framework, not yet, for the long-sought roads package.

But six weeks ago, when the House attempted to pass a plan relying on \$600 million in new revenue and \$600 million shifted from the General Fund to roads, it was plainly clear - from both House Republican sources and sources among others close to the negotiations - that \$800 million in new revenue was not under consideration at that point in the House.

In fact, one source close to the negotiations said at the time that Governor Rick Snyder, Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) and the Democratic legislative leadership were willing to work toward a framework of \$800 million in new revenue and \$300 million shifted from the General Fund, but that Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) was not part of the talks leading to that conclusion.

Now, however, sources, who spoke on condition they not be named given the sensitivity of the negotiations, say Mr. Cotter is there on \$800 million in new revenue. Exactly how much would come from the General Fund is less clear, but sources said the \$400 million figure seems likely because it would mean not putting any additional pressure on the General Fund than it will devote to roads in the 2015-16 fiscal year that starts Thursday and it would meet the \$1.2 billion figure long cited as the target for new road funding. The 2015-16 fiscal year budget contains \$400 million from the General Fund for roads.

Mr. Cotter, asked Wednesday whether he has embraced an 800/400 dynamic, did not directly answer.

"There are a lot of variables, so we haven't settled on a framework just yet, but are working through all of the individual pieces of it," Mr. Cotter said in an interview. "We had a very good meeting today, and I think we are getting very close. Each meeting has been productive, but I think now we are down to a period of maybe a couple of weeks and we could have something."

The frequency of the meetings has picked up. Mr. Snyder and the Legislative Quadrant met twice Tuesday and again Wednesday.

If the leadership and Mr. Snyder can in fact check off the box on how much new revenue to raise, it leaves two major unfinished components.



One: what other bills and issues would be part of an overall deal? Two: once the complementary pieces come together, can Mr. Cotter and House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) persuade enough members of their caucuses to vote yes to reach the 54 votes needed for passage?

Those following the issue say Mr. Cotter will likely want something in the vicinity of half his caucus, which has 61 members, before proceeding. And that would mean needing about half the Democratic caucus to get to 54.

### Tinsley-Talabi Implicated In Bribe While On Detroit Pension Board

Questions about whether Rep. Alberta Tinsley-Talabi could face legal scrutiny in the wide-ranging federal criminal investigation of corruption in the Detroit pension system came roaring back to life Wednesday.

Roy Dixon, an investor who brought several investment proposals before the city's two pension boards, was sentenced to more than three years in prison for disbursing more than \$244,000 in bribes to secure support from the pension boards for his proposals. Federal authorities concluded that Mr. Dixon embezzled millions from those investments for personal gain.

At the time of these offenses, Ms. Tinsley-Talabi (D-Detroit) was a member of the Detroit Police and Fire Retirement System Board. George Stanton, who was her chief of staff while she served on the city council and pension board, already has pleaded guilty to accepting a \$20,000 bribe from Mr. Dixon and has cooperated with authorities.

Questions have lingered for years about whether Ms. Tinsley-Talabi herself might face trouble, but she has never been charged. In 2013, The Detroit News reported that Ms. Tinsley-Talabi took "a Caribbean trip, campaign cash and a donation from a businessman while supporting his \$10 million city pension fund deal." At the time, Ms. Tinsley-Talabi said authorities had not contacted her, but she would cooperate if they did.

The sentencing memorandum from the U.S. attorney in Detroit, filed a week ago, sheds more light on what allegations have been leveled against Ms. Tinsley-Talabi. Mr. Dixon contributed \$1,000 to Mack Alive, a nonprofit tied to Ms. Tinsley-Talabi.

And the sentencing memorandum for Mr. Stanton, who faces sentencing Thursday, was more specific. That memorandum says that in 2006, Mr. Stanton agreed to accept more than \$100,000 from Anmar Sarafa, an owner of Steward Capital Management and Munros Capital, in exchange for Mr. Stanton helping Mr. Sarafa's \$20 million Steward Capital investment proposal pending before the Police and Fire Retirement System Board.

Mr. Sarafa is a member of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation Executive Committee.

"Stanton passed on to Sarafa directions from Tinsley-Talabi," the memorandum from the government says. "Tinsley-Talabi directed Sarafa, through Stanton, that Sarafa needed to donate

\$3,000 to Tinsley-Talabi's political campaign. She also directed that Sarafa should give money to former Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick's Civic Fund in order to secure the votes of Treasurer Jeffrey Beasley and the votes of the mayoral bloc. Finally, Sarafa was told to give money to the Detroit Police Officers Association in order to secure the votes of co-defendant and Trustee Paul Stewart and Trustee Martin Bandemer."

The memorandum says the contributions were made, and the board approved his proposal.

The sentencing memorandum from Mr. Stanton's attorney indicates that Mr. Stanton at one point secretly recorded Ms. Tinsley-Talabi, but no incriminating information emerged.

A spokesperson for the U.S. attorney in Detroit did not respond to a message seeking comment about whether a decision has been to charge Ms. Tinsley-Talabi.

Ms. Tinsley-Talabi did not respond to a message left with her seeking comment, nor one left for her via a spokesperson.

#### Question Raised On Bush-Era Memo As Larsen Named To Court

Newly named Supreme Court Justice Joan Larsen was hailed by Governor Rick Snyder and others as an outstanding choice for the court, but her co-authorship of a memo during the administration of former President George W. Bush dealing with habeas corpus rights of terrorism suspects quickly came to the forefront with some individuals calling for her to disclose her role in the controversial actions following September 11, 2001.

During a press conference where she was introduced, Ms. Larsen was asked if she had been involved in any advice to the president on "enhanced interrogation techniques," and Ms. Larsen said she had "no role in interrogation techniques" and only learned about some of the controversy after she came to Michigan to teach at the University of Michigan.

However, after her appointment to the Supreme Court was official, the Michigan chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union released a list of memos the national organization had sought when it questioned whether the Bush administration had authorized torture and constitutionally questionable detention methods of Al Qaeda members and other terrorism suspects, many held at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.

Among those memos is one from March 5, 2002, co-authored by Ms. Larsen - who was then a deputy assistant U.S. attorney general in the Office of Legal Counsel - and Gregory Jacob, an attorney advisor in the office of legal counsel, on the availability of habeas corpus rights to detainees. The memo was addressed to other attorneys in the U.S. Department of Justice and the memo itself has never been released to the public.

Kary Moss, executive director of the Michigan ACLU, said the organization took no position on judicial appointments, but, "this appointment should be accompanied by full disclosure about the role Larsen played in the development" of policies that authorized "torture, warrantless wiretapping, indefinite detention and other abuses."

A spokesperson for Mr. Snyder - who was asked after the press conference if the governor was aware of the questioned memo when Ms. Larsen was selected - said in an email, "Justice Larsen was fully vetted and we are confident in the decision and her talent, background and abilities."

Ms. Larsen succeeds Justice Mary Beth Kelly, who officially leaves the Supreme Court on Thursday. Ms. Kelly was the top vote getter for the court when she was elected in 2010, and Ms. Larsen will have to run in 2016 to complete Ms. Kelly's term on the court.

Ms. Kelly is resigning to return to private practice and advocate for juvenile justice issues.

Ms. Larsen's name caught many by surprise when it was revealed she was Mr. Snyder's top choice for the court. She has no judicial experience herself - but neither did Justice Bridget McCormack (who Ms. Larsen described as a friend and one of her biggest backers for the court) nor Justice Richard Bernstein when they were elected - and she said in a press conference it had been "years and years and years" since she had argued a case in court.

That should not matter, she said, since teaching and preparing lectures was described by a friend of hers as arguing in front of the Supreme Court.

Ms. Larsen is a graduate of the Northwestern Law School. Her undergraduate degree is from the University of Northern Iowa. She clerked for U.S. Appeals Judge David Sentelle and then U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. Ms. Larsen called them both great role models "in terms of thinking through the cases carefully, taking every case as if it is the most important case to be decided, treating the litigants with respect, knowing that their arguments are important to the litigants and to the court."

She also practiced law with the Washington, D.C., firm of Sidley and Austin.

Ms. Larsen joined the U-M law faculty in 2003, and her husband, Adam Pritchard, is also a faculty member. She joked that he was giving up his sabbatical to take over teaching her classes after her appointment to the court.

Asked about her judicial philosophy, Ms. Larsen said, "In short, I believe in enforcing the laws as written by the Legislature, signed by the governor. I believe in enforcing the text as written. I don't think that judges are a policy-making branch of government, and our role is to serve the people by enforcing the laws in the way they were written by the Legislature."

But when asked if she was a member of the conservative law group The Federalist Society, her answer was indefinite and roundabout.

"So, that's a great and interesting question, and I'm not actually sure I know the answer to it. ... If you look on the web you'll see I'm on their speakers list; I occasionally do programs for them. But, whether I'm actually a member or I pay dues, I honestly don't know the answer. So, I, I'm not dodging the question, I just don't actually know the answer. I've done some events for them," she said.

Ms. Larsen has done some events for The Federalist Society, including one in which Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. appeared.

She will also run for election for the first time in 2016 and said she did not think campaign contributions made to her would influence her.

Ms. Larsen was asked if she played any role in the controversy during Mr. Bush's administration on interrogation techniques. "The answer to that is none. I was in the Office of Legal Counsel at the time, but those national security measures in the Justice Department were classified and a close hold. And as you may have read how that process was run there, (there) were only certain people read in those things and I was not one of them. So, I read about the controversial memos when I got back to, when I was here in Michigan. I read them in the newspapers just like I assume you did."

She was not asked specifically about the memo on habeas corpus rights.

Mr. Young called her appointment a "perfect fit with a court that is second to none in its commitment to the rule of law and legal scholarship."

Attorney General Bill Schuette also said Ms. Larsen would be a "strong voice for rule of law" in Michigan.

But the question of the memo she co-authored did raise hackles.

Lonnie Scott, executive director of the liberal activist group Progress Michigan, said her working in the Office of Legal Counsel during Mr. Bush's administration came at "one of the darkest chapters in American history," and "Michiganders deserve to know whether their new justice believes that torture is legal, that the 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment doesn't protect Americans from extensive secret government surveillance and that they can be imprisoned without trial."

Supplemental Sees \$7M For State Police Lawsuit, \$6M For BAM Continuation

The Department of State Police would receive the funds to pay out a massive \$7.7 million settlement for a crash involving a State Police trooper broadsiding another vehicle while in pursuit, killing one woman and injuring the two other women in the vehicle under a supplemental appropriations bill approved Wednesday by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

It is the biggest single settlement or judgment in a single case involving the State Police in the data available online from the Senate Fiscal Agency, which goes back to the 1985-86 fiscal year. In most years, combined settlements and judgments involving the department amount to something in the low hundreds of thousands.

Last year, three women - Jacqueline Nichols, Precious Cochran and Ms. Cochran's daughter, Robbie - were driving to a beauty salon together when State Police trooper Timothy Fagin went in pursuit of an individual driving a car without a seatbelt. After signaling the driver to pull

aside, the driver didn't stop, and the chase was on, according to a report by MLive regarding the incident.

Eventually, the driver continued to speed throughout the backstreets of Flint, and Mr. Fagin, in pursuit, struck the vehicle with the three women. One of the women, Ms. Nichols, was thrown from the car and died. The other two women, including the driver, Precious Cochran, survived, albeit injured.

The Nichols family sought to sue the state for \$50 million, according to news reports, and it appears from the supplemental (HB 4102) approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee that the eventual payout among four separate cases all stemming from the incident - *Michael Nichols, et al v. Trooper Fagin; Michael Nichols, et al v. Michigan State Police, Robbie Cochran v. Trooper Timothy Fagin, and Robbie Cochran v. Michigan State Police* - that the settlement will cost the state \$7,725,000.

An amendment was adopted to the bill (HB 4102) to allow \$1 million of that to come from the Risk Management Revolving Fund rather than all General Fund. It was estimated that the fund had about \$8.5 million and maximum that could be pulled for a settlement of this nature was \$1 million, said Sen. Dave Hildenbrand (R-Lowell), chair of the committee.

"We hope issues like this don't arise, but when they do, it's our responsibility to take care of them," Mr. Hildenbrand said in responding to a question from fellow committee member Sen. Darwin Booher (R-Evart) about the situation.

Shanon Banner, spokesperson for the State Police, said she was unsure how the settlement would be divvied up, as that is something for their lawyers to decide. Mr. Fagin was previously cleared of any criminal wrongdoing by the Genesee County Prosecutor's Office, Ms. Banner said, though the State Police did conduct an internal investigation and found that a violation of department policy had taken place and Mr. Fagin was disciplined accordingly. He remains a trooper.

Ms. Banner was unsure whether the settlement was the largest the State Police had ever seen, but admitted "we don't see settlements this large in our department."

"Michigan State Police does regret the tragic outcome, and while it doesn't change what happened, we hope it will provide some restitution to the affected families," Ms. Banner said.

**BAM PROJECT:** Also contained within the supplemental is boilerplate language for the Department of State is \$6 million for the troubled Business Application Modernization project, which is to be re-appropriated for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015.

An explanation states that provision re-appropriates the funds "as a result of vendor extenuating circumstances associated with the remaining contract deliverables impacting the department's legacy system."

Earlier this month, the state announced it had filed a lawsuit against HP over the project, arguing the company was not complying with requirements that it service the pieces it had completed. A

termination of cause letter was issued on August 28, arguing a lack of progress on the project, but HP was to continue providing support for the project.

Hildenbrand Chief of Staff Fred Schaible said the money was appropriated because the BAM project is still going to move forward in some form and this would allow that to continue. Otherwise, those funds would lapse into the General Fund, he said.

Department of State spokesperson Fred Woodhams said none of the money is going to HP.

"The supplemental continues the money set aside for the BAM project. It is money that was not paid to HP due to nondelivery of project items," he said. "The money allows the department to support, to the extent we can, working portions of the project - our online services portal at ExpressSOS.com and the system that serves vehicle manufacturers."

He also said that another vendor had not yet been selected for the project.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICY COMMISSION:** Another \$50,000 General Fund was also appropriated to the Legislative Council for its Criminal Justice Policy Commission. Officials with the Senate Fiscal Agency said the money is intended to pay for the commission work itself, not a staff member. The commission is chaired by Republican former Sen. Bruce Caswell of Hillsdale.

Sen. Tonya Schuitmaker (R-Lawton) raised concerns about the funding, though, and it was ultimately cause for her to abstain from a vote on the S-1 substitute adopted to HB 4102, as well as abstaining from reporting the bill to the full Senate.

Appeals Court: Retroactive Exit From Compact Constitutional

Michigan violated neither its Constitution nor the U.S. Constitution when it retroactively withdrew from the Multistate Tax Compact in 2014 to avoid the possibility of losing as much as \$1 billion in revenue, the Court of Appeals ruled Wednesday.

The court unanimously upheld a ruling issued late last year by the Court of Claims, in *Gillette Commercial Operations v. Treasury* (COA docket Nos. 325528, et al).

The decision, written by Judge Christopher Murray and joined by Judge Kathleen Jansen and Judge Patrick Meter, encompasses cases brought by dozens of non-Michigan headquartered companies, including IBM.

Given the nature of the case, and what it could prove to be worth to both the companies and the state, an appeal to the Supreme Court is likely.

It was a decision involving IBM from the Supreme Court in July 2014 that led the Legislature to move quickly to take Michigan out of the compact.

In the 4-3 decision (it was a three-justice majority with one justice concurring, a technical issue that led some lawyers at the time to suggest the decision was not so sweeping), the Supreme Court held a non-Michigan based company could pass its income under the now-defunct Michigan Business Tax, which was an income tax and would allow companies to apportion their income under a three-step test. That meant the company's income was less and state budget and finance officials warned that the decision could cost Michigan's General Fund as much as \$1 billion, which would have had to come from the 2014-15 fiscal year.

The Legislature passed a new statute in early September 2014 withdrawing retroactively from the compact so the companies could not claim the tax break for the years the MBT was in place.

In its ruling, the appeals court noted that the Supreme Court said the Legislature could have chosen to retroactively exit the compact when it enacted the MBT in 2007. The court also said it was following a U.S. Supreme Court holding that tax laws may generally be repealed retroactively, and that taxpayers have no vested interest in any tax law at any particular time.

The appeals court rejected arguments that the statute ending the state's presence in the compact violated federal and state constitutional provisions against impairment of contract. The compact was not enacted by Congress, the court said, so Michigan law governs its interpretation and it is not a contract between the states and the companies. Nor did joining the compact give the compact oversight body regulatory authority over the state and its tax laws.

The court said the compact specifically says that any state can withdraw unilaterally and without notice to the other states.

Nor did exiting the compact retroactively violate the companies' due process rights because the property rights in this instance were not vested. Quoting the U.S. Supreme Court, the appeals court said that taxes are not penalties nor liabilities but the way of apportioning the cost of government to those who derive benefits from its operations.

And the Legislature had a legitimate purpose in enacting the retroactive law, given the possible impact that the state would have to cut as much as \$1.1 billion from the General Fund, the court said.

The court also rejected the argument the Legislature violated the constitutional provisions regarding separation of powers. The Legislature did not reverse the Supreme Court's *IBM* decision, the courts said; it enacted a new law. The law did not "impinge" on the Supreme Court, but corrected a mistake the Supreme Court itself noted.

Also rejected was an argument the law violated the Commerce Clause in the U.S. Constitution because the law does not overburden interstate commerce, nor is it discriminatory. While some legislators made comments in the press the plaintiffs said indicated an intent to discriminate, the appeals court said individual comments by legislators do not speak to overall legislative intent.

An argument that the law violated the First Amendment's right to free speech and to redress grievances to the government failed, the appeals court said, because there is no guarantee the speech or advocacy will persuade or be effective.

### Federal Court Rejects Arguments Against New Bridge

Efforts by the owners of the Ambassador Bridge to get a federal court to block the Gordie Howe International Bridge failed Wednesday, as a U.S. District Court judge in Washington, D.C., rejected most arguments brought by the company.

The decision by Judge Rosemary Collyer, in *Detroit International Bridge Company v. Canada* (USDC docket No. 10-476) did not dispute that construction of the new bridge would hurt the business of the Ambassador Bridge. But she rejected virtually every argument the company made that the 2012 decision between the Canadian government and Governor Rick Snyder amounted to an unconstitutional taking of the company's property, or that the Ambassador Bridge was affected by a presidential proclamation to build a new bridge.

She particularly rejected the arguments by the company that it had an exclusive authority to operate bridges between Canada and the Detroit area. The complaints failed to state a claim, Ms. Collyer said.

And Ms. Collyer said an argument by the Ambassador Bridge that any action to build a new bridge should be subject to judicial review would violate the separation of powers.

She rejected an argument that a federal law on international bridges - which allowed for the agreement on the bridge - unconstitutionally delegated powers of dealing with foreign governments. Ms. Collyer said Congress can delegate its authorities and has done so in foreign affairs to the executive branch, so there is no issue on which to base a claim.

Officials with the Ambassador Bridge company could not be reached for comment on the decision or whether they would appeal.

### Snyder: Details On Flint Water Action Coming

With pressure growing to resolve Flint residents' concerns about their drinking water, Governor Rick Snyder said Wednesday that later this week there would be more discussion on "more tangible action items" that will involve Flint city government and the federal government.

Mr. Snyder did not outline what will be discussed later this week except Mr. Snyder suggested that the action he and the state took to distribute water filters to Flint residents over the summer - which only came to light this week - may be part of the continuing action to assist the city until it can complete a system that will draw water from Lake Huron instead from the Flint River.

Asked if Flint officials - the city was under the control of an emergency manager appointed by Mr. Snyder - made a mistake in shifting their water system away from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department to drawing water from the Flint River (as it is preparing to have a system



drawing from Lake Huron), Mr. Snyder said it was possible the implications "weren't as fully understood" when the switch was made.

Water from the river has been found to have higher concentrations of lead, and many local activists have called for the city to switch back to the Detroit system.

On Wednesday, the Legislative Black Caucus called on Mr. Snyder to issue a state of emergency in Flint because of concerns with the water.

#### Bill Creating More Safety Requirements For Boats, Jet Skis Gets Pushback

Rep. Klint Kesto saw resistance from some Republicans on his bill requiring personal watercrafts with individuals in tow to display a flag to help others operating vessels in the water know to keep a look out.

Under HB 4534, a vessel with a person in tow must display a bright or brilliant orange or red flag that is 12 inches by 12 inches and is visible from all directions.

"In tow" is defined in the bill as an extended towline attached to a vessel for the purpose of engaging in a water sport.

Mr. Kesto (R-Commerce Township) told the House Regulatory Reform Committee Wednesday that he generally is not in favor of additional regulations, but, "in this case I believe it is appropriate," he said.

In 2012, he told the committee, a friend of Mr. Kesto's who lives in his district was towing his three children on tubes from a jet ski. A boat then broke the towline and two of the children were killed and one severely injured.

The operator of the boat was not drunk and no charges were filed against him, Mr. Kesto said.

The vice chair of the committee, Rep. Brett Roberts (R-Eaton Township) said he does not think a flag will help. He also said the jet skier Mr. Kesto talked about broke a number of laws - particularly not having a spotter when towing his children. And, he said, the boater who broke the tow line was clearly not paying attention.

"I worry that we are regulating everybody," he said. "We're going to be forced to put these flags on, and I know on my vessels that I own right now ... I don't have any place to even put this flag."

Mr. Roberts also said of the more than 5,000 boating accidents last year, only 52 were related to towing.

Mr. Kesto said it's hard to tell if the flag would have helped in the 2012 incident.

"The question is if we can, and it's not overly burdensome, are we still going to say no because it is only 1 percent (of accidents)," he said. "If you save one life, is it worth it?"

The two lawmakers exchanged a lengthy back and forth discussing if an operator of a vessel would see the flag and how effective it might be.

Rep. Scott Dianda (D-Calumet) wondered if the bill should regulate how many people a person can tow, saying the man towing three of his children was maybe towing too many.

But Rep. Andy Schor (D-Lansing) said he thought the bill was a good idea.

The committee did not act on the bill.

**TEAM PHYSICIANS:** The committee did report HB 4792, which would allow out-of-state sports team physicians to legally treat their team when traveling to the state for competitions.

### Board Approves Contracts Despite Protests Over Protest Process

State officials were warned Wednesday that they could see Freedom of Information Act requests multiply after the Administrative Board's decision to reject protests over two contracts.

The primary focus at Wednesday's meeting was a contract to develop a funding adequacy study for education in the state, but those involved in a bid for incontinence supplies for the Department of Technology, Management and Budget also objected to the abbreviated time to review and protest those bids.

Officials with DTMB said both the bids and the FOIA process were followed for both contracts. Bidders under the current process have five days to file a protest once the bid is announced, and FOIA provides five days for the subject agency to respond to the request.

Both Alex Rosaen, director of public policy and economic analysis for Anderson Economic Group, which had bid in the education adequacy analysis, and Len Wolfe, an attorney with Dykema Gossett representing one of the unsuccessful bidders on the incontinence supplies contract, said they had essentially three days to decide on and file a protest because there was a weekend during the five days to file the protest.

And both said they did not receive requested documents on the winning bid until after the protest deadline had passed.

"The official right to protest this contract has been a sham," Mr. Rosaen said. "No one outside the government knows what was in the winning bid."

Mr. Wolfe said the result in the two contracts would mean more work for the state on future bids. "You are basically creating a FOIA problem," he said. "If you going to basically tell people you've got to file a FOIA ... you're going to have vendors file FOIAs."

Officials said bids were ripe as subjects for FOIA requests once the bid submission deadline passed. Both Mr. Rosaen and Mr. Wolfe indicated they filed requests after the contract winner was announced.

Mr. Rosaen said there had also been concerns raised that the legislation requiring the education cost review had been designed to exclude certain bidders.

The concern was sufficient that Attorney General Bill Schuette's representative on the board said he was abstaining from voting on the education review contract. He supported approval of the remaining contracts before the board.

### MSHDA Board Approves \$3M Toward Improvements In Detroit

In two separate projects, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority approved \$3 million total aimed at improving the housing market and economy in Detroit.

But officials said the projects were essentially pilots for ideas that could be used in other communities.

The new programs are designed to boost home values that in many areas of the city are held artificially low by the lack of sales, MSHDA Executive Director Kevin Elsenheimer told the board.

"We have an opportunity coming up that we don't want to let go to make some strategic investments in the city of Detroit," Mr. Elsenheimer said.

The first program, the Detroit Mortgage Program, will use \$1.5 million in MSHDA funds, as well as federal funds and grants from philanthropic groups, to back mortgages that banks would otherwise not be able to issue in the city.

The program is not related to the subprime lending situation that led to widespread foreclosures during the recession, Frank Altman, president of the Community Reinvestment Fund, a lead partner in the project, said. "This is a program primarily for conforming borrowers and nonconforming properties," he said. "We're going to look for borrowers who have the ability to repay it."

But he said the mortgages could be for as much as 150 percent of the value of the house.

In addition to improving values by helping owners rehabilitate their homes, the project is also designed, through using first mortgages for the purchase and second mortgages for the rehabilitation, to increase the number of housing transactions in the city, Mary Townley, director of the MSHDA Home Ownership Division, said.

Part of the reason for the low values, she said, is the lack of comparables real estate appraisers use to set a property value.

Ms. Townley said the agency is working with as many as 10 banks for the program, and Mr. Altman said six banks had committed to issue a total of 1,000 loans.

The board approved \$1.5 million for the coming year, but Mr. Elsenheimer said the agency could need to spend as much as \$6 million over the next five years to keep the program going.

With other funds considered, Mr. Altman said the program had a total potential value of \$250 million.

And Mr. Elsenheimer said it could expand to other cities if it works as hoped.

"We hope this will be proof of concept here in Michigan," he said. "We have some other cities that have similar problems."

Another \$1.5 million was approved for the Public Spaces Community Places Initiative.

The MSHDA funds would be matched by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and expanded through a crowdfunding program, supporters said.

The program would provide communities with traditional downtowns to apply for grants for community facilities.

"Michigan's done a phenomenal job for setting our communities on a path to planning and placemaking," Katharine Czarnecki, MEDC Community Development Director, said. "The funds are for brick and mortar public spaces."

"It aligns with what our division is currently doing," Tiffany King, placemaking development consultant for MSHDA, said.

Mr. Elsenheimer said cooperation between MSHDA and MEDC makes sense.

"MEDC does some community development things that are very similar to the community development things we do here at MSHDA," he said. "We think it's time to talk seriously about how do we best leverage our resources as well as MEDC's."

**RESTRUCTURING:** Mr. Elsenheimer told the board in his first quarterly report on the agency's activities that he had made some structural changes that should save money but also make the agency a better place to work.

A first action, he said, is cutting back some on grants from MSHDA's foundation funds. Mr. Elsenheimer said the agency is running a "technical deficit" that he and his administration are working to erase.

"We are in no way running a general deficit," he said. "Our position is very, very strong."

But he said much of the agency's funds are restricted or committed, leaving them unavailable for general operations or certain grants.

Among other key changes is a new travel policy and a new procurement office, he said.

The travel policy, spurred in part by the excesses that caused the resignation of Mr. Elsenheimer's predecessor, included a move to the state's system from the in-house system the agency had been using, he said. It also has cut travel expenses by some 25 percent.

The new procurement office is overseeing about 120 contracts for the agency and is also producing some savings, he said.

But Mr. Elsenheimer has launched an Office of Employee Services and is developing a formal employee engagement process that he said is designed to make the agency a "destination" workplace in the state.

#### State: No Long-Term Health Effects Expected From Breathing Oil Spill Chemicals

Those living around the 2010 oil spill into the Kalamazoo River should not expect long-term health effects from breathing the chemicals released by that spill, the Department of Health and Human Services said in its final report on the issue Wednesday.

The report acknowledged that those living near the spill did experience health effects, including headaches, nausea, respiratory discomfort, and eye irritation, near the time of the spill in July 2010.

"By August 18, 2010, concentrations of oil-related chemicals in the air had fallen below human health screening levels that protect the public, including vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and those with preexisting illnesses," the department said in releasing its public health assessment on the issue.

The report said additional testing in 2011 and 2012 showed no oil-related chemicals in the air around the spill zone at levels exceeding human health protection limits.

#### Howrylak Offers Bill To Re-open Maxey

With the 2015-16 budget taking effect Thursday, Rep. Martin Howrylak introduced a supplemental appropriations bill Wednesday that would re-open W.J. Maxey Training School for juvenile offenders, which was closed under the budget approved earlier this year for the fiscal year that starts Thursday.

HB 4925 was sent to the House Appropriations Committee.

Mr. Howrylak said the school specialized in treating youth with mental health illnesses, and he doesn't believe the two public facilities, nor a private facility, will help those previously in Maxey.

He said at Maxey there was exceptionally low turnover, highly qualified staff and statistics proving their work was effective.

"Closing Maxey, I am quite certain, is going to help increase the possibility that these kids are going to end up in prison in the long term," he said.

He said those who were advocating for the Maxey closure do not have a plan and are simply hoping it won't be a regrettable decision.

Mr. Howrylak said some of the youth would end up in prison because of the closure, but Department of Health and Human Services spokesperson Bob Wheaton said no youth are being placed in prison, from Maxey or the other school, because of the closure.

The 48 youths in Maxey have been sent to one of the other two state facilities - Shawono or Bay Pines - independent living facilities, step-down facilities or "half-way houses," or private residential facilities, Mr. Wheaton said.

He said those who were in Maxey have been assigned to a variety of placements by the judges based in part on recommendations from the department on which facility would best meet the needs of the youths and provide the services that the youths need to rehabilitate.

"The closing of Maxey has resulted in no youths from Maxey going to prison or jail. And no youth were sent to prison or jail from Shawono to make room for youth from Maxey," Mr. Wheaton said.

Mr. Wheaton noted Shawono was not at capacity before the Maxey closure, but it is at capacity now.

He also said some who were in Maxey, and who have completed their treatment, have been sent home. But he said they would have been sent home even if Maxey hadn't closed, because their treatment was finished.

Mr. Wheaton said all of the youth have been transferred to new placements as of Wednesday, the last day of the fiscal year. He said the transfers have been taking place for months since the final decision to close the center was made.

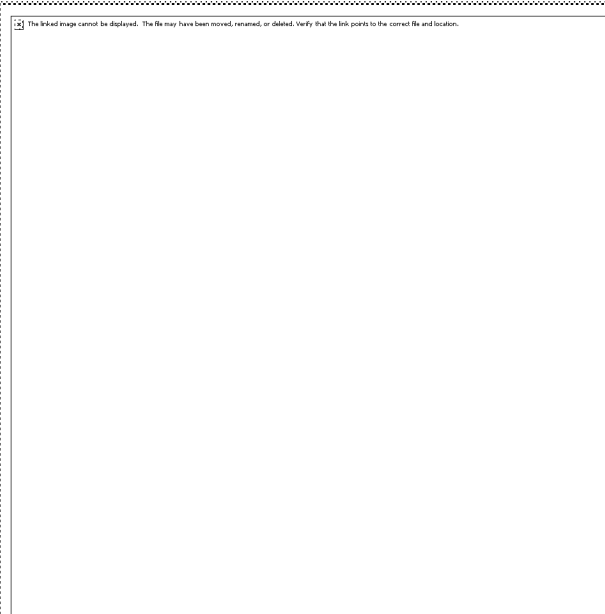
The department will continue to have a small crew of staff members remaining at Maxey to finish closing the facility down, he said.

#### Senate Appropriations Renames Room For Gast

Former Sen. Harry Gast's memory as chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee will live on after the committee on Wednesday officially renamed the room to honor of the Southwest Michigan native that served some 32 years in Lansing, 18 of which were spent working on the budget.

Mr. Gast died at the age of 92 at the end of July (See [Gongwer Michigan Report, July 30, 2015](#)).

"He always kept the local focus. If you wanted to meet with him, you'd hope that you could meet with him on his tractor," [Sen. John Proos](#) (R-St. Joseph) said of Mr. Gast on the Senate floor as it adopted a concurrent resolution of tribute ([SCR 16](#)). "This family is a unique family - they gave their dad up for us, to have his great service in our chamber."



Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee gather for a picture to rename the room after the late former Sen. Harry Gast, whose daughter (blue coat) was also present for the ceremony.

Once session adjourned, most of the committee members met in their room, joined by [Rep. Al Pscholka](#) (R-Stevensville) and [Rep. Dave Pagel](#) (R-Berrien Springs), to recall memories of Mr. Gast, who served in both the House and the Senate. Mr. Gast's daughter, Barbara Curtis, was also present.

"With term limits, none of us on this panel got the privilege to serve with Senator Gast. I had an opportunity to meet Senator Gast ... to this day, I have no idea what the meeting was about because I was so nervous," [Sen. Dave Hildenbrand](#) (R-Lowell), chair of the committee, said. "I'll never forget the impression he left on me because of the respect he had of this place ... and how influential he was."

The panel was treated to a history lesson from a Capitol tour guide about the significance of the Senate Appropriations Room, which of course used to be the room for the Michigan Supreme Court to hear cases.

"If we had a Mount Rushmore for public servants, Harry Gast would be on that mountain," Mr. Pscholka said. "He was one of a kind."

Mr. Pscholka later spoke on the House floor at it adopted the Senate's resolution.

Mr. Proos gave one more story about when he spoke in front of Mr. Gast for [U.S. Rep. Fred Upton](#) (R-St. Joseph), and how after that, Mr. Gast "pulled me by the tie and said, 'you don't have enough damn gray hair yet,'" Mr. Proos said. "And by that, he meant, listen and learn."

Ms. Curtis gave a statement to Mr. Proos to read on behalf of her family and made only a quick comment about her father after.

"He strongly believed there were the right things to do and he could facilitate those things ... by bringing the right people together to talk about those things and the issues for both sides," she said.

Two signs indicating the official name of the room will be split, with one directly outside of it and the other inside, Mr. Hildenbrand noted.

#### Senate Approves Electronic Proof Of Insurance

Legislation enabling drivers to present electronic proof of auto insurance was approved by the Senate on Wednesday and sent to Governor Rick Snyder's desk.

HB 4193 would ensure that Michigan is no longer the only state in the Midwest that does not allow drivers to use a phone application for insurance validity. The bill saw unanimous approval from the chamber.

"This legislation simplifies life for Michigan drivers by allowing them to present proof of insurance on their phones and other devices, which they always have with them," said Rep. Aric Nesbitt (R-Lawton), sponsor of the bill, in a statement. "There are many benefits to allowing electronic proof of insurance, including the fact that electronic coverage is more difficult to falsify, so cases of insurance fraud will go down."

Currently, those who do not have proof of insurance during a traffic stop may later reduce the amount of a fine or fee by visiting the local courthouse with a paper copy of their insurance documents. But with electronic proof, Mr. Nesbitt said, people will save time and money by not having to drive to a courthouse after a traffic stop.

"This bill utilizes the best technology available so drivers don't have to jump through so many hoops if their insurance information is not correct in the LEIN system," he said. "It also allows law enforcement and the SOS to identify people who are skirting the law, which will make our streets and highways safer and save law-abiding motorists money. It's time to bring our insurance enforcement into the 21st century."

#### Heise To Run For Plymouth Township Supervisor

Rep. Kurt Heise announced Wednesday he is running for the Plymouth Township supervisor post in 2016.

Mr. Heise (R-Plymouth) cannot seek re-election in the House due to term limits.

"Plymouth Township I really think is on the wrong track right now on many levels," Mr. Heise said on why he running for the post.

Mr. Heise said his skill-set and education - he has two law degrees and will soon be in his 25<sup>th</sup> year as an attorney in the state - set him up to bring accountability to the position. He said the current board is more worried about politics than professionalism.



Mr. Heise said he will be challenging Shannon Price, the current supervisor, who was appointed in April. Mr. Heise said the interview and selection process was controversial. Mr. Price is well-known in Republican circles and is a former Wayne County commissioner, setting up a big-time battle for the GOP nomination.

If elected, the term lasts from 2016 until 2020. Mr. Heise said at this point he is not interested in running for attorney general in the future.

"I am really more of a local government guy," he said. "I think this would be an exciting new chapter of service."

#### Capital Notebook

**MASSASAUGA RATTLESNAKE:** The state might have to make some changes in the management of some of its lands in eastern massasauga rattlesnake territory if the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service enacts proposed rules naming the snake as a threatened species.

But those changes would be minimal, Dan Kennedy, endangered species coordinator for the Department of Natural Resources, told Gongwer News Service, because the DNR has been preparing for the federal rules since they were first recommended in 1999.

"The DNR's been working with the Fish and Wildlife Service on massasauga conservation for 16 years," he said.

The department is in final negotiations on management plan that would allow the state to continue most of its work with some changes, mostly in timing of activities, since it would become illegal to kill the snakes, Mr. Kennedy said.

For instance, the department would have to time prescribed burns to have the least impact on the snakes.

Mr. Kennedy said he did not know what effect the federal rule, expected to take effect in September 2016, might have on private land use in the region.

Massasaugas prefer swampy areas with nearby grasslands and are declining across their range (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Ontario, Canada) largely due to loss of habitat.

**CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE:** The DNR launched a new [video](#) Wednesday explaining the neurological disease in deer and how it will affect hunters with the archery season beginning Thursday.

**ONLINE SHOPPING:** The Department of Treasury reminded online shoppers Wednesday that, beginning Thursday, they would need to keep any receipts from their purchases.

New legislation takes effect October 1 that clarifies which online businesses have to collect sales tax and, where the business does not, the customer is required to pay use tax on the purchase.

"It is important for individuals to understand that this is not a new tax; Michigan's tax on these types of sales has been on the books for more than 80 years," Treasurer Nick Khouri said in a statement. "The new provisions simply mean that various on-line and remote sellers, that will now be deemed to have some presence in the state, will begin collecting tax on the sales they make into Michigan."

**CLEAN FUELS MICHIGAN:** Nearly 30 companies and organizations in Michigan on Wednesday announced the formation of Clean Fuels Michigan, a new 501(c)(6) organization aimed at maintaining Michigan's position as a global leader in automotive manufacturing by advancing a "clear vision, strategy and advocacy centered on advanced powertrain technology and innovation," the groups said in a statement. "The overall goal is to promote investment, job growth and sustainable technologies in Michigan."

Michigan is one of relatively few states with no incentives supporting the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles, the group cautioned, and the state must act quickly so it can capitalize on that developing marketplace and improve its overall economic competitiveness.

"Our members collectively believe in economic opportunities that stem from developing this technology and markets in Michigan," Eric Clinton, Manager of NGV Business Development at DTE Energy, said in a statement.

The group will advance clean fuel neutral policies, such as electric, natural gas, propane and hydrogen fuel cell technology, as well as advise policymakers and help commercialization efforts.

**GRAND HAVEN EXPANSION:** GLASSource, a specialty glass and mirror facility in Grand Haven, will expand its facility with the help of \$209,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds for infrastructure improvements heading to the city of Grand Haven.

The street is in very poor condition, a statement from the Michigan Economic Development Committee indicated, and needs to be reconstructed before an expansion can take place. The project - expected to generate nearly \$2 million in private investment and create 21 jobs - will result in the reuse and development of an old manufacturing facility.

MEDC also announced Michigan Strategic Fund approval of \$152,119 in Community Development Block Grant funds for the city of Grand Haven to make facade improvements for buildings located in downtown Grand Haven. The project will generate private investment of \$69,835.

Signed by the Governor

SB 62, PA RECORDING REQUIREMENTS (Hertel) Modifies recording requirements to  
131 include electronic signatures.

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015

SB 281 FILED FILING FEES (Schuitmaker) Provides for reallocation of portion of certain filing fees, PA 132 paid to the Wayne County retirement system for bailiffs in the thirty-sixth district court under certain circumstances.

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015

SB 468 PHARMACY TECHNICIAN (Green) Modifies eligibility for licensure of pharmacy PA 133 technicians and requirements for limited license pharmacy technicians.

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: September 30, 2015

HB 4070 PA PUBLIC OFFICERS (Heise) Creates incompatible officers exception for public 134 safety positions.

Signed: September 30, 2015; Effective: December 29, 2015

Supplemental Event Planner

### **Thursday, October 1**

Rep. Sheldon Neeley **(D) Fundraiser, 110 West Michigan Avenue, Suite 1200, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.**

### **Saturday, October 3**

Rep. Klint Kesto **(R) Fundraiser, 4050 Vanstone, Commerce Township, 1 p.m.**

### **Tuesday, October 6**

Sen. John Proos **(R) Fundraiser, 225 Washtenaw Street, Lansing, 8 a.m.**

Rep. Larry Inman **(R) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 5 p.m.**

**Michigan Senate Democratic Fund, Joe Louis Arena, 19 Steve Yzerman Drive, Detroit, 5:30 p.m.**

### **Wednesday, October 7**

Rep. Al Pscholka **(R) Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 7:30 a.m.**

Rep. Pat Somerville **(R) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 8 a.m.**

Rep. Jim Tedder **(R) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 11:30 a.m.**

## **Thursday, October 8**

Rep. Brandt Iden (R) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 7:30 a.m.

House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D) Fundraiser, 332 Townsend Street, Lansing, 8:30 a.m.

Rep. Anthony Forlini (R) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.

## **Wednesday, October 14**

Rep. Andy Schor (D) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.

## **Thursday, October 15**

~~Canceled: Rep. Michael Webber (R) PAC fundraiser, Michigan Restaurant Association, 225 West Washtenaw Street, Lansing, 7:30 a.m.~~

## **Wednesday, October 21**

University of Michigan Graham Sustainability Institute presentations by Wolverine Caucus, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 11:30 a.m.

## **Supplemental Agency Calendar**

## **Thursday, October 8**

Board of Dentistry, Conference Room 3, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. (Agenda; Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately following (Agenda))

## **Tuesday, October 13**

Accessibility Advisory Council, Flynn Pavilion, Picnic Way and Loiter Way, Belle Isle Park, Detroit, 10 a.m. (Agenda)

## **Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees**

## **Thursday, October 1**

~~Canceled: House Insurance (Committee Record), (Chr. Leonard, 373-8538), Room 519, House Office Building, 9 a.m.~~

HB 4836 **LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE** (Lyons) Provides for establishing partnership programs under federal law.



House Education (Committee Record), (Chr. Price, 373-1260), Room 521, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

SB **EDUCATOR EVALUATIONS** (Pavlov) Revises performance evaluation requirements  
103 for teachers and school administrators.

House Military and Veterans Affairs (Committee Record), (Chr. Barrett, 373-2002), Room 308, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

- **Presentation by Chet Gryczan, project director of Defense Brake Systems**

HB **VETERANS** (Franz) Provides for employment protections for National Guard members  
4796 who work outside of the state where they mobilize.

HR **MILITARY VEHICLE SAFETY** (Barrett) A resolution to urge the United States  
156 Congress and the U.S. Department of the Army to accelerate federal funding to improve military vehicle safety from rollover accidents.

House Tourism and Outdoor Recreation (Committee Record), (Chr. Rendon, 373-8474), Amway Grand Plaza, Hotel Heritage Hill Room, 187 Monroe Avenue Northwest, Grand Rapids, 4:30 p.m. or after session

- **Presentations given by Experience Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids Chamber, City of Grand Rapids, Kent County and ArtServe/ArtPrize**

**Tuesday, October 6**

Senate Judiciary (Committee Record), (Chr. Jones, 373-1721), Room 110, Farnum Building, 3 p.m.

HB **WEAPON-FREE ZONES** (Johnson, J.) Expands waiver for certain individuals to carry  
4159 weapons in weapon free zones to include certain corrections, probation and parole officers.

SB **IGNITION INTERLOCK SERVICING CENTERS** (Schuitmaker) Revises motor  
174 vehicle service and repair act to provide interlock servicing center to be included within the definition of motor vehicle repair facility.

SB **IGNITION INTERLOCK DEVICE** (Schuitmaker) revises guidelines for crime of  
175 knowingly providing false information concerning an ignition interlock device.

SB **IGNITION INTERLOCK SERVICING CENTERS** (Schuitmaker) Provides for  
176 department of state oversight of ignition interlock servicing centers.

SB **OPERATING WHILE INTOXICATED** (Jones) Amends certain definitions and  
207 procedures of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance, or both.

SB **ALCOHOL IGNITION INTERLOCK MECHANICS** (Schuitmaker) Includes breath  
357 alcohol ignition interlock mechanics and servicers in motor vehicle service and repair act.

SB **ROADSIDE DRUG TESTING** (Casperson) Creates pilot program for preliminary drug  
434 testing at roadside stop.

SB **WEAPON-FREE ZONES** (Jones) Expands waiver for certain individuals to carry

516 weapon in weapon-free zones to include certain corrections, probation and parole officers.

**SB ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM** (Jones) Authorizes the state court administrative office to establish electronic filing system.

**SB 532 JUDICIAL ELECTRONIC FILING FUND** (Proos) Establishes judicial electronic filing fund.

**SB ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO COURTS** (Schuitmaker) Allows court or court funding unit to charge certain fees for electronic access to courts.

## **Wednesday, October 7**

Senate Education (Committee Record), (Chr. Pavlov, 373-5314), Room 110, Farnum Building, 8:30 a.m.

**HB PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES** (Hughes) Eliminates sunset on the allowance of retired public school employees to be employed at a reporting unit under certain circumstances without forfeiting retirement or health care coverage.

**HB ECONOMICS CREDIT** (Tedder) Allows 1/2 credit of personal economics or financial literacy to satisfy economics credit required for Michigan Merit Curriculum.

**SB ALTERNATIVE TEACHING CERTIFICATION** (Pavlov) Modifies provisions relating to alternative teaching certification.

**SB 510 STUDENT ONLINE PERSONAL PROTECTION ACT** (Pavlov) Creates student online personal protection act.

### **Subscribers Please Note**

The Draft Biden organization circulated a news release Tuesday with the wrong Michigan legislator backing Vice President Joe Biden running for president. Former Rep. Fred Durhal Jr. is supporting Mr. Biden, not his son, Rep. Fred Durhal III. The release the Draft Biden organization circulated listed Fred Durhal Jr., but described him as a current, first-term member of the House who is an assistant minority leader (which Mr. Durhal III is). However, it is his father, Mr. Durhal Jr., who is backing Mr. Biden.

A campaign note in the Tuesday Michigan Report incorrectly claimed that the Great Lakes Education Project endorsed Mary Whiteford in the 80<sup>th</sup> House District in the 2014 Republican primary. While GLEP is endorsing Ms. Whiteford in the upcoming special election, it made no endorsement in the 2014 Republican primary.


A story in the Tuesday Michigan Report incorrectly described the penalties for coercing a woman into having an abortion under HB 4787 and HB 4830. The level of the crime would be tied to the actions constituting the coercion.

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## Michigan Report for Wednesday, October 21, 2015

House Republicans Go It Alone, Pass Road Funding Plan

Business Groups Divided On Road Funding Plan

Snyder Names Flint Water Task Force

Snyder: Plan Could Mean More Students In Detroit Schools

Meekhof: Problems With DPS Plan; Wyant Should Not Be Fired

Large School Bond Proposals, Road Millages Highlight November Ballot

Lower Fuel Prices Should Permit Savings On Winter Bills, State Says

Johnson: County Treasurer's Office Needs Relationship With Legislature, Governor

Pavlov Announces Hearings On Academically Failing Schools

Large-Scale Dog Breeder Regulations Clear Committee

Committee Ties Homestead Credit To Inflation

Bill Would Allow More Residential Maintenance Work Without License

Court To Coast Guard: Issue Bridge Permit Or Explain Why Not

Senate OKs Blue Alert System

MIOSHA Violations Cited in Ypsilanti, Holland

Michigan In Top 15 For Energy Efficiency

Committee Roundup

Campaign Notes



Capital Notebook

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Day Planner

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Volume #54, Report #209 -- Wednesday, October 21, 2015

### House Republicans Go It Alone, Pass Road Funding Plan

House Republicans on Wednesday found the votes, mostly within their own caucus, to pass a \$1.2 billion road funding plan with no guarantees of support from Senate { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1) } or { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) }.

The plan involved \$600 million in new revenue through a gas tax increase and registration fee increases and \$600 million from existing sources. An income tax rollback and an expansion of the Homestead Property Tax credit are also included.

Business groups were also split in their reception of the plan with some seeing it as a breakthrough and others as fiscally irresponsible (see separate story).

"I think that this is a very good plan," House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1) } (R-Mount Pleasant) said after the bills passed. "We are going to be working with our partners. This is a huge step forward. I think this is a good grand compromise plan."

But House Democrats tore the plan apart as irresponsible and said the only reason the House Republicans wanted to vote on a plan this week is because Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) "challenged" Mr. Cotter to take a vote on a plan the quadrant leaders had been discussing.

"Let's just set the record straight here for everyone," said { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269101&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269101&locid=1) } (D-Fraser), the minority vice chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. "This is a knee-jerk reaction plan simply to match egos with our counterparts in the Senate."

Those talks fell apart last week, with House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1) } (D-Auburn Hills) concerned about an income tax rollback.

Mr. Meekhof called for Mr. Cotter to hold a vote on the plan anyway. Mr. Cotter refused. At that point, as Gongwer News Service first reported Tuesday, Mr. Cotter began attempting to put together support for a 600/600 plan that could pass with Republican support only.

And about 9 p.m. Wednesday, he did.

It was seen as a retort both to Mr. Meekhof and Mr. Greimel.

"This plan is an embarrassment to the Legislature and it has managed to combine most of the worst aspects of the terrible plans we have seen over the course of the last year," Mr. Greimel said.

The plan would include a 3.3-cent increase effective in 2018 in the overall fuel tax, as well as an additional 4 cents for diesel to bring it up to the gas tax level effective in 2017.

The plan would increase registration fees by \$400 million total, averaging \$55 additional per vehicle for both passenger and commercial vehicles (\$40 for passenger vehicles).

To offset the tax increases, the plan would increase the amount of homestead property tax credit available by both increasing the amount of income affected, to 3.5 percent from 3.4 percent, and increasing the income cap to \$60,000, with the phase-out of the credit starting at \$51,000. That is a \$10,000 increase from the current caps.

The phase-in of the plan would provide \$400 million for fiscal year 2016-17 and increase to \$1.2 billion by FY 2020-21. Part of the increase is General Fund, which would increase from \$150 million in FY 2018-19 to \$600 million the final year.


The tax credit offset would start with \$40 million in FY 2017-18 and increase to \$200 million in FY 2020-21.




The plan also includes a proposed income tax roll-back beginning in 2019 if general fund revenue outpaces inflation.

Democrats criticized the income tax rollback for not having a floor and said it could severely strain the General Fund.

"It's a fiscal time bomb," said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701&locid=1" } (D-Royal Oak). "And I don't know if anybody on this floor knows just how explosive it could be."

But Mr. Cotter said the income tax rollback was a crucial feature of the final plan in terms of getting votes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB41401" }, the income tax rollback bill, is not tie-barred to the other bills in the package.

The bills passed with varying support, with 54 votes needed for passage, some bills passed narrowly: The gasoline tax increase passed 56-50 ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB461401" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB461601" }) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB473801" }.

☐); { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB473601" }

☐ boosting vehicle registration fees passed 55-51; The competitive bidding bills ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB461001" }

☐ and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB461101" }

☐) and the expansion of the Homestead Property Tax Credit ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB437001" }

☐) passed 62-44; the income tax rollback passed 61-45 and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB473701" }

☐ concerning warranties passed 101-5.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=263501&locid=1"

} (D-Detroit) was the only Democrat to vote for many of the bills other than the legislation regarding warranties.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1"

} (R-Utica) said the plan would "literally" pave our roads.

"Today we vote for investing in our future," he said. "We vote for tax relief for seniors, and families. ... We are choosing to govern. Today the residents of Michigan have a good roads solution."

Now the question is what the Senate and Mr. Snyder will do. The speculation was rife Wednesday night that Mr. Snyder could relent on his concerns about the impact to the General Fund.

"Forward progress is a good thing, though (the) governor does have some concerns," Snyder press secretary Sara Wurfel said, saying any solution must be "fiscally responsible."

Said Mr. Meekhof in a statement: "I am happy the House sent over an idea for the Senate to consider. I look forward to talking with the governor and legislative leaders about the proposal. I have not had an opportunity to review the legislation, yet. The next step is for my fellow caucus members and I to review the details."

### Business Groups Divided On Road Funding Plan

Business Leaders for Michigan came out strongly against the plan, saying it relies too heavily on the General Fund.

"We believe this is unsustainable and fiscally irresponsible," the group said in a statement. "The state General Fund has not grown in real terms since 1999. Redirecting \$600 million from the General Fund to roads means fewer dollars would be available to make college more affordable, train Michigan workers and incent job creation. All are important to our state's future. We should not have to choose between them. The plan adopted by the House would fix one problem but create another."

The group called for the Senate to pass a plan that fixes roads without putting other important priorities at risk.

Also voicing concern, prior to the vote, was the Detroit Regional Chamber, at least on the idea of going beyond \$400 million from the General Fund for roads. While the chamber urged the Legislature to act, it warned, "further dedication of the General Fund beyond the \$400 million ... would be short-sighted and run counter to Michigan's best interests."

But the Michigan Chamber of Commerce hailed the House vote.

"We commend Speaker Cotter and the House GOP for taking action this evening to pass a comprehensive plan to fix Michigan's roads," said Michigan Chamber President and CEO Rich Studley in a statement. "Breaking the impasse on this key issue is an important and positive step forward."

And the National Federation of Independent Business-Michigan praised the lower reliance on higher taxes and fees than other plans.

"Speaker Cotter and House Republicans deserve credit for listening to what the voters said with the Proposal 1 defeat - more prioritization of spending and less reliance on funding roads with across the board tax hikes," said NFIB State Director Charlie Owens in a statement. "The House plan attempts to look at existing resources and balance any tax increases with cuts in other taxes."

#### Snyder Names Flint Water Task Force

With controversy growing over how the state handled the water crisis in Flint, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) } on Wednesday named a five-member independent advisory task force to investigate actions by the state involving water use and testing in the city.

As Mr. Snyder made the announcement, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1) } (D-Flint) and Senate { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1) } (D-Flint) called for the federal Environmental Protection Agency to investigate the controversy and its handling by the Department of Environmental Quality.

Mr. Snyder's announcement and the separate calls by Mr. Kildee and Mr. Ananich come as revelations of some internal emails from the DEQ brought into question how seriously some officials viewed the problem.

When the state announced earlier this month it would push for Flint to be reconnected to the Detroit Water and Sewerage System - the city's emergency manager decided in 2014 to draw water from the Flint River while the city prepared to join a pipeline drawing water from Lake

Huron after no agreement could be reached on a short-term contract with the Detroit system - Mr. Snyder said he would create the independent body.

Along with looking into how the state handled the crisis, which after more than a year of complaints about water taste and smell broke wide open this past summer when tests showed elevated levels of lead in the water, the task force is to make recommendations to the state for "future guidelines to protect the health and safety of all state residents."

Co-chairing the task force will be former Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema, now with Public Sector Consultants, and former Democratic Rep. Chris Kolb, now with the Michigan Environmental Council.

Also named to the task force is Matthew Davis of the University of Michigan Health System, Eric Rothstein of the Galardi Rothstein Group and Lawrence Reynolds of Mott Children's Health Center of Flint.

Mr. Snyder said he wanted an "unbiased report" that looked at past actions affecting the Flint water situation and recommendations to help ensure that all state residents have access to safe drinking water. He said administration officials would cooperate fully with the task force.

There was no time frame set on when the task force would issue a report.

Mr. Ananich on Wednesday, meanwhile, released a letter to the U.S. EPA asking for a formal review of the DEQ's handling of the Flint water situation, emphasizing that the public needed to know if "the misapplication of federal water testing rules was intentional or due to negligence.

"Our citizens deserve answers," Mr. Ananich said.

And Mr. Kildee also wrote to the EPA, saying to ensure failures like that with the Flint system does not occur again, an investigation into how the crisis occurred is necessary.

"Unfortunately, the citizens of Flint are the victims in this situation. They deserve a thorough investigation and answers to these questions," Mr. Kildee said in his letter.

Snyder: Plan Could Mean More Students In Detroit Schools

One of the structural issues facing Detroit Public Schools is loss of students, but { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) } said his plan to restructure the district could reverse that.

The plan Mr. Snyder outlined this week (See { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542070101"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542070101) }) would, among other things, split the district, with educational functions moving to a new entity (new co) and historical debt remaining with the current district (old co).

"By leaving the debt with old co, you can see improved performance and hopefully that will lead parents to say they want to see their children go to DPS," Mr. Snyder said Wednesday on Detroit Public Television's MiWeek.

Mr. Snyder said his plan is also designed to balance the needs of the district with the desire of those outside Detroit to have control of the funds funneled there.

Under the plan, the old district would remain under the current elected board, but the new entity would be headed by a board appointed in part by the governor and in part by the mayor. That board would, over six years, move to an elected body.

Mr. Snyder said he had comments from Detroit residents and officials that they would like to see the district remain under elected control, or at least move back to that more quickly.

"I tried to propose a balance because I got comments from the rest of the state that if the state's making a huge investment, they should have some control," he said.

As to the state funds headed to Detroit under Mr. Snyder's plan, he said it was not substantially different from what the state has done on school pensions since he took office.

"The \$70 million compared to what we've been helping districts with MPSERS is actually a smaller obligation," he said of the state funds that have gone directly to the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System.

And he said not assisting the district could mean more dire consequences.

"If it's not done in this fashion, it's ultimately going to end up in court, not necessarily in bankruptcy, but in court," he said.

Action also needs to come soon, he said. His proposal would have the changes in place before schools start their new fiscal year in July.

"The longer we wait, the better chance we have of having an uncontrolled financial default," he said.

Meekhof: Problems With DPS Plan; Wyant Should Not Be Fired

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1>" } said Wednesday his caucus has a number of concerns with a plan floated by { [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } earlier this week to reform Detroit Public Schools which includes providing \$715 million over 10 years to get the district out of debt out of debt.

"There's some things in there to like and a lot of things we have concern over. My concern, and my caucus' concern, has been getting an educational experience in front of these kids that gives

them the best opportunity to be successful," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) told reporters after session. "We have all these great, new, innovative and cool jobs coming to Detroit, and it would be a shame if we couldn't put an educational experience in front of these kids that gives them the ability to be eligible for those jobs."

He said he hasn't even talked about the money aspect of the proposal with his caucus given how new it is, but there are general concerns there too.

"We want to do the best by all taxpayers, but again, the effort is to try to get performance improvement for those kids so they can get those great jobs in Detroit," he said.

Asked whether he thought the proposal and the money associated with it would be a tough sell to his caucus, Mr. Meekhof said "almost everything" is a tough sell at this point.

"We've done some very innovative and creative things over the last four or five years, very successful, and now we're at some really tough stuff that we have to solve, but that's why people sent us here. And we're going to do it," he said.

**FLINT WATER:** Mr. Meekhof said he hasn't talked with Senate { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1) } (D-Flint) on whether a legislative hearing could be had to review the actions taken - or not - by varying authorities when it comes to the Flint water crisis, but Mr. Meekhof did not believe Department of Environmental Quality { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1) } need be fired over it.

"I support Dan. I think he's done a terrific job on a lot of other issues. This one is difficult for a host of reasons because a couple of local governments couldn't get their act together for some period of time," Mr. Meekhof said. "Decisions were made because they thought they needed to make those decisions separately, and the results weren't very good. There's a whole lot of blame to go around, but at this point we've fixed the problem."

Indeed, as Mr. Ananich has previously pointed out, the decision to switch the city's water source and then later deny a request to return to water from the Detroit system had gone through three state-appointed emergency managers. But Mr. Meekhof skirted on whether those people ought to be held responsible either.

"I don't know that the state knew that," he said to a question about the state needing to react if it in fact knew a public health crisis was growing. "If I'm understanding what's happening, they tested at the source, when they bring it in, and that was their only requirement. So after that, I'm not sure what their culpability would be."

Asked if the Legislature had the ability to hold emergency managers responsible for their actions while serving, Mr. Meekhof said he thought that to be the case but would also be interested in seeing "alternate opinions on that."



"I think Director Wyant and folks are doing an after-action and are concerned, and I want to see what their after-action reports are," he said.

### Large School Bond Proposals, Road Millages Highlight November Ballot

Thirty-seven proposals for school bonds and nine proposals for new or increased local millages to fund road maintenance are among the many measures voters will see on their local ballots November 3.

Two cities - Keego Harbor in Oakland County and Portage in Kalamazoo County - will vote on whether to decriminalize possession of up to one ounce of marijuana on private property for those 21 and older.

Two other communities - Lathrup Village in Oakland County and Mount Pleasant - will decide on term limits for local elected officials.

Twenty-four school districts will vote on whether to renew their 18-mill property tax on all commercial and non-principal residences. Seven school districts will decide on passing sinking fund property taxes for infrastructure needs, and nine municipalities will vote on tax increases to fund public safety.

Several cities also will elect local elected officials. Among those generating interest at the Capitol are those for the Lansing and East Lansing city councils, as well as the Flint mayor's race, where Mayor Dayne Walling is trying to win re-election amid that city's water crisis.

A Gongwer News Service analysis of ballots in the communities that will hold elections showed 169 separate ballot proposals in school districts, municipalities and other voting jurisdictions.

The largest bond initiatives in school districts for infrastructure improvements:

- \$185 million for Rochester schools
- \$175 million for the Grand Rapids schools
- \$128 million for the Portage schools and a separate bond for \$16 million
- \$67.5 million for the Saline schools
- \$64.86 million for Kentwood schools
- \$57.4 million for Woodhaven-Brownstown schools
- \$55.24 million for the Kenowa Hills schools

- \$49.55 million for the Owosso schools
- \$44.6 million for the Hastings schools
- \$32.6 million for the Grand Blanc schools
- \$27 million and \$10.2 million for the Dowagiac schools

Voting on new or increased road millages: Allen Park, Boston Township in Ionia County, Charleston Township in Kalamazoo County, Crystal Lake Township in Benzie County, Clare, Harbor Springs, Lapeer, Meade Township in Huron County and Pipestone Township in Berrien County. Grosse Ile Township in Wayne County also has an \$18.8 million bond proposal to fund road and water needs.

Another six municipalities have road millage renewal questions in front of voters.

A complete chart of { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/Nov2015elections.xlsx"](http://www.gongwer.com/public/Nov2015elections.xlsx) } is available via the Gongwer website. Subscribers can sort the chart by voting jurisdiction, county and type of proposal.

#### Lower Fuel Prices Should Permit Savings On Winter Bills, State Says

The Michigan Agency for Energy released its energy { [HYPERLINK "http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/mpsc/reports/energy/15winter/index.htm"](http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/mpsc/reports/energy/15winter/index.htm) } for the upcoming winter on Wednesday, expecting residents to save big on their heating bills "thanks to lower fuel prices and predicted warmer-than-normal temperatures," the agency said.

Michigan's energy market is also expected to have adequate reserves and lower prices, the agency said in a statement. With the expectation of a return to normal winter weather, consumption of home heating fuels such as natural gas, propane and distillate will fall, it said, while demand for motor fuels such as gasoline and diesel will rise.

The National Weather Service projects Michigan to have a 40-to-60 percent chance of a warmer than normal winter, as well as a 40 percent chance of a drier than normal winter.

Michigan's total electricity sales in 2015 are expected to decrease by 0.2 percent from 2014 sales, assuming normal weather for the rest of the year, the agency determined. The projected decrease is driven by the industrial sector, whose usage is expected to fall by 4.4 percent, while residential demand is projected to decrease by 0.5 percent. The commercial sector expected to increase by 3.6 percent, it said.

Total natural gas sales are projected to increase by 2.1 percent in 2015 to 859.5 billion cubic feet assuming normal winter weather for the remainder of the year, the agency found. The increase is primarily due to consumption in the electric generation sector, it said.

"In recent years, the electric power industry has begun a shift toward natural gas generation, in part to reduce air pollutants and in part to take advantage of lower fuel costs," the agency said. "With an expected return to normal winter weather, natural gas consumption for the residential and commercial sectors should fall below 2014 levels."

The average residential winter natural gas bill for the four largest utilities in Michigan is expected to average \$512, an 18 percent reduction from last year.

Michigan propane usage is projected to decrease by 5.8 percent in 2015 assuming normal winter weather for the remainder of the year. Colder than normal temperatures and a concerted effort to promote early fills caused propane use to increase 15 percent in 2014. Propane prices this winter should be the lowest Michigan has seen in many years, the agency said.

U.S. crude oil production averaged 8.7 million barrels per day in 2014, the highest production levels seen in decades. Continued growth is expected through the 2015 calendar year, reaching 9.2 million barrels per day in 2015, but is expected to retreat in 2016 as new investments are reduced in light of current crude oil prices.

Finally, gas sales in Michigan are projected to increase by 2.1 percent in 2015, marking the third-straight year of increased demand. Consumption increases in 2015 are likely due to significant decreases in the retail cost of gasoline that resulted from lower crude oil prices.

In fact, the AAA Fuel Report determined the average price of unleaded gasoline in Michigan was \$2.48 on October 1, 2015, down 26 percent from the same time last year when it averaged \$3.36.

Johnson: County Treasurer's Office Needs Relationship With Legislature, Governor

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161801&locid=1) } is one of several candidates who have recently thrown their hat in the ring to be the next Wayne County Treasurer, and he said Wednesday his qualifications and relationships in the legislative and executive branch could make him a good candidate.

The Detroit Free Press { [HYPERLINK](http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/10/16/eight-apply-become-wayne-countys-next-treasurer/74071732/)

["http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/10/16/eight-apply-become-wayne-countys-next-treasurer/74071732/"](http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/wayne/2015/10/16/eight-apply-become-wayne-countys-next-treasurer/74071732/) } that eight applications had been received for the position in the wake of the decision by current County Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz to retire. Mr. Johnson (D-Highland Park) is said to be up against former Rep. Phil Cavanagh, a Democrat from Redford Township, as well as Etta Wilcoxon, who had previously run for Detroit city clerk and mayor; David Szymanski, who retired in September as former chief deputy county treasurer; Richard Hathaway, chief assistant to Prosecutor Kym Worthy; Beverly Kindle-Walker, who has run for county treasurer numerous times; James Williams IV, a former Wayne County Commission candidate; and George "Jerry" Paffendorf, who heads Detroit data firm Loveland Technologies.

"Michigan probably needs to undertake a very comprehensive rewrite of our property tax rules and our codes. It's how we fund our cities, how we fund our schools. I think it's a broken

system," Mr. Johnson told Gongwer News Service Wednesday. "I think a lot of that begins with stabilization of what it means to be the Wayne County Treasurer's Office and the property tax ordinances down there that govern the area. Wayne County is centrally important to not just Southeast Michigan but Michigan as a whole because when Wayne County is broken, the entire state does not work."

Mr. Johnson said the county is losing so much money in property as vacant or abandoned lots continue to go up for auction, and he's interested in changing that.

"I actually think, from the perspective that Wayne County has been a leader over the years in county government, that that office is as important as the work the Wayne County Executive has to do, if it can ever get right," he said. "I think part of getting right is having a legislative relationship here with both the legislative and the executive. I think then Michigan becomes a better place for people to live, work, play and pray."

The Free Press said a three-person committee made up of Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett, Chief Probate Judge Freddie Burton Jr. and Ms. Worthy are expected to meet at 2 p.m. Thursday in room 700A of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center to discuss applicants - a meeting that is open to the public.

Mr. Johnson said interviews are currently slated for early November, though it remains unclear if every candidate will be interviewed or just a select few the committee determines are the best fit.

#### Pavlov Announces Hearings On Academically Failing Schools

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1) } on Wednesday announced his Senate Education Committee will conduct a series of hearings, beginning November 4, on Michigan's academically failing schools.

The hearings will involve the committee and State { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393401&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393401&locid=1) }, Department of Education staff, Richard McLellan and former Oakland Schools Superintendent Vickie Markavitch. Invited guests also include State School Reform Officer Natasha Baker and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) }'s Senior Advisor for Education, Karen McPhee.

The hearings are slated to begin at 8:30 a.m., a statement from Mr. Pavlov's (R-St. Clair) office indicated, and official public notices will still be posted for each hearing as the meetings approach.

The purpose, Mr. Pavlov's office indicated, is to continue the conversation on the fiscal health of the state's public schools, especially in light of Mr. Snyder's recent proposal for Detroit Public Schools (See { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542070101"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542070101) }) and work the Legislature completed earlier this year on an "early warning system" for financially distressed schools.

"The academic health of our schools is equally important, and given the Legislature's purview over elementary and secondary education provided for in the Michigan Constitution, it is appropriate that the Senate Education Committee should lead this discussion," the statement said.

### Large-Scale Dog Breeder Regulations Clear Committee

A bill regulating large-scale dog breeding kennels with 15 intact female dogs used for breeding in the state would be required to pay a \$500 fee under the H-3 version reported from the House Appropriations Committee Wednesday.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB489801" }  
☐, under its original version, would have required a \$25 fee to be paid by the kennels.

The bill was sent to the full House 24-2, with { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401&locid=1" } (R-Saginaw Township) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=274601&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) voting no. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=207001&locid=1" } (D-Saint Clair Shores) abstained.

Under the bill, the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development would receive \$10,000 to implement the requirements.

However, the department would not perform regular inspections of the kennels and would largely rely on complaints and local animal control for kennel inspections.

The department would be required, 18 months after the bill is enacted and annually for four years after, to submit a report on:

- the number of registrations,
- the approximate number of animals housed at each registered location,
- the number of inspections performed,
- the number of complaints received,
- the number of penalties arising from complaints, and
- recommendations regarding staffing levels and best practices for working with partners.

Kennels found in violation of the regulations would be subject to a \$5,000 fine.

Ms. Roberts offered two amendments on the bill but neither was adopted. The first would require the department to do unannounced inspections of at least 50 percent of the kennels.

"I feel the intent of the bill is good, and looking at some of these regulations they're a step in the direction. I just feel that there need to be inspections," she said.

The second amendment would have codified the amount of space that is in a dog enclosure.

In a statement from { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1>" } (R-Stevensville), the chair of the committee, it said other Midwest states have regulations in place to prevent the establishment of "puppy mills."

"I'm proud to vote on behalf of these animals," he said. "It's not often that this committee is in a position to take a first step on a moral or ethical issue. I'm thankful to Rep. McCready and the other advocates who brought the issue before us."

The bill establishes requirements for importation and sale of or resale of a dog, as well as vaccination and health certification requirements.

#### Committee Ties Homestead Credit To Inflation

Seniors and low-income residents would see more money back each year from the Homestead Property Tax Credit under legislation approved Wednesday by the House Tax Policy Committee.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billldetail.cfm&billid=2015HB487101](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billldetail.cfm&billid=2015HB487101)" }  
☒) would index the credit to inflation. The caps on property value and income would also increase with inflation under the plan.

The program provides a credit for property taxes exceeding 3.5 percent of household income, with seniors able to claim all of that and low-income families 60 percent. But current law caps the credit at \$1,200, the property taxable value at \$135,000 and income at \$50,000 (those with incomes more than \$40,000 lose 10 percent of the credit for each additional \$1,000).

As reported from committee, the changes would begin with the 2016 tax year. The bill also makes clear that the Consumer Price Index would apply to total household resources.

Though the committee did not take testimony on the issue Wednesday, the Michigan Catholic Conference praised movement on the bill.

"This is good tax policy that addresses the economic reality for Michigan's low-income families and senior citizens," Michigan Catholic Conference Vice President for Public Policy and Advocacy Tom Hickson said in a statement. "Each year people see their day to day costs rise due to inflation; this policy addresses those increases and provides relief for those who experience

daily the hardships of a strained family budget. House Bill 4871 is a welcome step toward recognizing the dignity of lower-income residents and seniors."

The committee also reported { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB34901" }<sup>[3]</sup>, moving up the date on which county treasurers can send delinquency notices; and {

HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB36901" }<sup>[3]</sup>

and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB37001" }<sup>[3]</sup>,

which exempt equipment used in producing alcoholic from sales and use taxes as industrial processing equipment.

### Bill Would Allow More Residential Maintenance Work Without License

The House Regulatory Reform Committee on Wednesday took up a bill that would increase the current threshold for when licensure is required for performance of residential improvement work from \$600 to \$4,000.

Currently, a license is not needed by a person working on one project by one or more contracts if the aggregate contract price for labor, material and any other item is less than \$600. {

HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB428201" }

<sup>[3]</sup> increases that to \$4,000.

And { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB428101" }

<sup>[3]</sup> would modify how the funds in the Builders Enforcement Fund could be used. Under the bill, not more than 30 percent could be used for enforcement purposes and not more than 70 percent to issue grants to a statewide residential building and trade association for workforce development and outreach programs related to the residential building industry.

"This allows for those who do handyman work to not go through the entire licensing process for basically a handyman businesses," said { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219701&locid=1" } (R-Onekama), the chair of the committee and sponsor of the bills.

Mr. Franz said the bill originally increased the dollar amount to \$10,000, but after negotiations with the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs agreed on \$4,000.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=269101&locid=1"

} (D-Fraser) said she would be more comfortable with a figure around \$1,500. She said for \$4,000, a significant amount of work can be done to a home. And without the license, the department would not be held accountable if something went wrong.

"It really takes away consumer protections," she said.

She also said she was concerned about the amount of funding the department would lose with the reduction of licensing fees.

Lee Schwartz, with the Home Builders Association of Michigan, spoke in support of the bill. He said when the legislation was introduced in previous sessions, the group was not in support, but the \$600 threshold does not have many real-world applications.

**ANIMAL SHELTERS:** The committee also took up { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB491501) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB491501" } which would establish holding periods of animals for shelters in the state before other actions could be taken.

Rep. Mike McCready (R-Bloomfield Hills) said the intent of the bill was to allow local shelters to keep animals for longer than the holding period in the bill indicates. But the bill analysis said the holding period is a mandate and pre-empts local ordinances.

Mr. McCready said he would work with { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322001&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322001&locid=1" } (D-Lansing), who asking about the holding period, to correct any issues.

Under the bill, for a dog that does not have current, traceable evidence of ownership and is not a candidate for adoption or a sterilization release program, the holding period would be four days. For dogs with traceable evidence of ownership, the period would be seven days.

For cats without current, traceable evidence of ownership, an animal control shelter or an animal protection shelter may observe a zero-day holding period for that cat if it is a candidate for adoption or a sterilization release program.

Amy Trotter with the Michigan United Conservation Clubs advocated for some changes to the bill. Ms. Trotter said the group would like to see the countdown of the holding period begin on the following business day from whenever an animal - particularly dog for her members - was found.

Ms. Trotter said when hunting with dogs, for example, sometimes the owner is not familiar with the area and doesn't immediately know what shelters to contact.

She also noted the group has seen those who oppose hunting with dogs take a collar off of a hunting dog before taking them to a shelter, which, under the bill, would reduce the holding period because the dog would not have traceable evidence of ownership.

Court To Coast Guard: Issue Bridge Permit Or Explain Why Not

The District of Columbia U.S. Court of Appeals has told the U.S. Coast Guard to either issue a navigation permit allowing construction of a second Ambassador Bridge span or explain why.



The order, issued Monday as part of a federal lawsuit the Detroit International Bridge Company has against Canada, requires the Coast Guard to issue a permit by January 4, 2016, or it and the litigants in the case shall explain why a permit has not been issued.

The order is the latest incident in the ongoing battle over new bridges between Detroit and Windsor. While the focus has been on getting final approvals and construction plans for development of the Gordie Howe International Bridge - promoted by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, most Detroit-area business and the Canadian government - the owners and operators of the Ambassador Bridge have not given up efforts to build a second span to the 86-year old bridge.

This specific issue - various aspects of the controversy have been litigated - has to do with a navigation permit from the U.S. Coast Guard. Such a permit is needed before a bridge could be built.

In 2009, the Coast Guard issued a draft finding that construction of a second span would have no significant adverse environmental effects.

But it held off on issuing a navigation permit for regulatory reasons. A U.S. District Court found the Coast Guard was justified in delaying the permit.

Mickey Blashfield, spokesperson for the Detroit International Bridge Company, said in response to the order, "The 'delay game' has gone on long enough. We look forward to the Coast Guard's response to the court."

The permit would be an important step in gaining final approval for a new bridge, though a question of whether the Canadian government would permit the second span to proceed remains.

#### Senate OKs Blue Alert System

A "blue alert" system to broadcast information on attacks on police is heading to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } for final approval after getting final approval from the Senate Wednesday.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB33601" }<sup>[9]</sup> saw unanimous approval to concur in a House substitute to the bill that includes a definition of "law enforcement officer" and includes language that a law enforcement agency investigating the incident had information identifying an individual as a suspect connected to the incident.

Under the bill, the Department of State Police would have to establish and maintain a Blue Alert Plan to disseminate information to radio and television stations when a law enforcement officer was killed or seriously injured by an offender who had presumably not yet been apprehended.

A House Fiscal Agency analysis of the bill determined the bill would have a "significant" fiscal impact on the department to the extent the State Police would encounter costs to develop and

maintain such a system, estimated to include \$10,000 to develop information technology systems, \$10,000 for server storage and \$300 a month to operate a plan in partnership with the Michigan Association of Broadcasters.

Various police organizations have spoken in support of the bill.

**FAILURE TO YIELD:** The chamber also passed by a margin of 36-2 legislation to prescribe a misdemeanor penalty for failure to yield to an approaching emergency vehicle (currently a civil infraction), as well as prescribe felony penalties for failure to yield to an emergency vehicle causing injury or death to emergency personnel ( { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB42101"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB42101) }<sup>[a]</sup> ).

The misdemeanor would be punishable by a maximum fine of \$500 and/or up to 90 days' imprisonment, while the felony for injury could be punishable by a maximum fine of \$1,000 and/or up to two years' imprisonment and the felony for death could be punishable by a maximum fine of \$7,500 and/or up to 15 years' imprisonment.

Its companion bill, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB42201"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB42201) }<sup>[a]</sup>, amends the Code of Criminal Procedure to add the felonies to sentencing guidelines.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1) } (R-Clarklake) and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1) } (R-Canton Township) voted in opposition to the bills.

## MIOSHA Violations Cited in Ypsilanti, Holland

The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration has issued citations for alleged violations of worker health provisions in two separate cases involving companies in Ypsilanti and Holland.

DMC Consultants, Inc., in Ypsilanti, is facing \$265,200 in penalties after a health inspection at two duplexes in the city between July 8, 2015 and August 14, 2015 was conducted and found 14 alleged violations. Citations were issued for a total of seven willful/serious violations related to asbestos at 955 Madison Street, and another five for the same issue at 113 Bell Street.

The company has 15 working days from receipt of the citations to comply or contest the violations and penalties, MIOSHA, part of the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, said in a statement.

In Holland, Gates Electric, Inc. and Electrical Inspection Service, LLC face \$357,000 in penalties. MIOSHA's Construction Safety and Health Division conducted a fatality inspection of the two companies at a Brink Warehouse between June 16, 2015 and August 19, 2015, during which time six alleged violations were identified.

Gates Electric was issued four willful and serious citations related to electrical installations while one willful citation was issued to Electric Inspection Service related to the General Duty Clause about following the National Electric Code and power being energized to work operation prior to the completion of installation.

Both companies also have 15 working days from receipt of the citations to respond.

### Michigan In Top 15 For Energy Efficiency

Michigan is the 14<sup>th</sup> most energy efficient state in the nation, the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy said in its annual scorecard released Wednesday.

Michigan received 23.5 points out of a possible 50 points in the { HYPERLINK "http://aceee.org/state-policy/scorecard" \t "blank" }.

Among the highlights the group noted were the loan programs for small businesses for pollution prevention and energy efficiency. It also lauded the state for having energy efficiency standards for state buildings.

The group also praised the state for the energy efficiency measures included in { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2007SB21301" }, which is currently under discussion for revision.

Among the areas where the state lagged was not having an energy efficiency standard for state fleets and adopting federal efficiency standards for both commercial and residential buildings.

But environmental interests raised issue with the rating though, noting that Michigan's ranking slipped from 12<sup>th</sup> place.

"Michigan's energy efficiency standard has saved families in Detroit and across the state billions of dollars on their energy bills and we must build upon this progress, not turn back the clock," said Guy Williams, president and CEO of Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice, in a statement. "Michigan families face the highest electricity costs in the Midwest and we must protect and expand our energy efficiency standard to rein in rising costs."

### Committee Roundup

**SENATE FAMILIES, SENIORS AND HUMAN SERVICES:** The committee reported a package of bills ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB51701" }<sup>[9]</sup>, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB51801" }<sup>[8]</sup>, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB51901" }<sup>[2]</sup> and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB52001" }<sup>[9]</sup>)

that would amend various statutes related to child support, specifically that a Michigan tribunal issuing a spousal-support order consistent with state law have continuing, exclusive jurisdiction to modify that order throughout the existence of the support obligation. Similarly, a tribunal could not modify a spousal-support order issued by a tribunal of another state or foreign county having continuing, exclusive jurisdiction over that order.

The bills are to ensure the state is in compliance with current federal law on such matters or else risk losing about \$175 million in child support funding for the current fiscal year. There is also a larger potential fiscal risk in that if the bills are not passed, the state may not be in compliance with policies governing the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant, risking another \$775 million in federal funding, a Senate Fiscal Agency analysis of the bills determined.

The bills were reported with unanimous approval and no amendments.

#### Campaign Notes

**ROAD ASSOCIATION PAC ENDORSES HOWELL, STOREY:** The County Road Association of Michigan RUSH-PAC announced its endorsements of candidates in the special election primary on Wednesday, choosing Republican Gary Howell of North Branch in the 82<sup>nd</sup> House District and Jim Storey of Holland in the 80<sup>th</sup> House District.

Mr. Howell is running to fill the vacancy caused by former Rep. Todd Courser's resignation and Mr. Storey is running to fill the vacancy caused by Rep. Cindy Gamrat's expulsion. The PAC also endorsed Democrat David LaGrand of Grand Rapids in the 75<sup>th</sup> House District.

Mr. LaGrand is running to fill the vacancy caused by former Rep. Brandon Dillon becoming chair of the Michigan Democratic Party.

"With legislators still unable to pass the type of road funding package needed in 2015, now more than ever RUSH-PAC recognizes the importance of supporting candidates who understand how important Michigan's local road system is to our economy and quality of life," said Denise Donohue, RUSH-PAC treasurer and director of the County Road Association of Michigan.

**LASINSKI OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCES CAMPAIGN FOR 52<sup>ND</sup>:** Democrat Donna Lasinski of Scio Township officially announced her campaign to run for the 52<sup>nd</sup> House District on Wednesday. { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318101&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318101&locid=1) } (D-Saline) currently holds the seat but is forgoing re-election to run for the 7th U.S. House District.

Ms. Lasinski currently serves as the Ann Arbor School Board treasurer and has a long career of education advocacy and volunteer service around Washtenaw County.

"I'm very excited to be running to serve you in Lansing. With a record of making positive change, I will bring a strong voice for our communities to Lansing," she said in a statement. "Together we can secure our kids' future and make sure everyone has access to the quality education they deserve."

## Capital Notebook

**PORTAGE BUSINESS EXPANSION:** The Michigan Strategic Fund approved an \$875,000 grant for Pro Services Inc., which provides skilled trades and maintenance technicians to a range of industries, as the company plans to construct a new Center of Excellence and corporate headquarters in Portage.

The project expects to generate a total capital investment of \$3.9 million and create 175 jobs, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation said in a statement about the expansion.

**MORENCI, ALLOUEZ TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY GRANTS:** The Michigan Strategic Fund approved a \$250,000 community development block grant fund for job training needed for a KAMCO Industries, Inc. expansion project that includes the acquisition of a building in Morenci. The project expects to generate \$22.7 million in private investment and create 60 jobs. Michigan was chosen over other locations in the Midwest, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation noted.

And Keweenaw County was awarded a \$20,000 community development block grant fund for the Keweenaw County Mountain Lodge Study Project located in Allouez Township. The project is a best-use study to consider possible change in ownership or operations, expecting to result in future job creation, the MEDC said.

**MEDICAID IN THE CLOUD:** The state has moved its Medicaid Management Information System to cloud-based servers, which officials said would both improve service delivery and cut costs.

"It's important for Michigan to look for more and better ways to take advantage of technology to improve services for our residents," { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } said in a statement. "This is an innovative approach, allowing us to more efficiently share information and resources in real-time, helping residents get the health care they need."

The system allows real-time access to data and allows Michigan and Illinois, one of the partners in the project, to share information.

**FLU SEASON:** The state has confirmed the first three cases of influenza for the season, Department of Health and Human Services officials said in a release Wednesday calling for residents to be vaccinated.

Officials said there was one case of influenza A (H1N1) and three cases of influenza A (H3N2) found October 4-10. The release did not say where the cases were but said all were adults.

## Subscribers Please Note

The first name of Oakland Circuit Judge Jeffrey Mattis was misspelled in Tuesday's report.

The initial version of Wednesday's House Activity Report incorrectly said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB426801" } had been enrolled. The enrolled bill was actually { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB428601" }  
[5]. The final version of the House Activity Report has been corrected.

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## Michigan Report for Wednesday, October 14, 2015

Tentative Deals Reached On State Employees Contracts

Meekhof Slams Schuette On Presumptive Parole; Snyder Also Jumps In

On Roads, Meekhof, Greimel Trade Barbs As Meeting Canceled

House Approves Nearly \$10M For Flint Water

Third Grade Reading Bill Delayed In House With Votes Short

Kosowski Proposes Sports Gambling For Road Funding

Michigan Chamber, Which Backed Peabody In 2014, Endorses Howell In 82nd

Revenue From Increased Hunting, Licensing Fees Less Than Expected

Civil Rights Could Again Select Former Commissioner

House Panel Considering Regulation Of Charity Bins

Senate Ends Deadline To Petition For DNA Test, Trial

State Unemployment Rate Falls Below National Rate For First Time Since 2000

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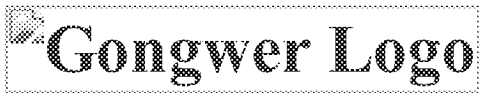
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Volume #54, Report #204 — Wednesday, October 14, 2015

## Tentative Deals Reached On State Employees Contracts

The state has reached tentative agreements with its bargaining units on new contracts for state employees.

Two unions - the Michigan Corrections Organization and the Michigan State Employees Association - confirmed Wednesday the major aspects of the tentative deals between the state and their unions: a one-year contract for wages and health care starting October 1, 2016, that provides a 1 percent base wage increase, and 1.5 percent lump sum payment for employees in October 2016.

Sources told Gongwer News Service the same provisions apply to tentative agreements between the state and other unions representing state employees.

The Service Employees International Union 517M also announced a tentative agreement but did not publicly offer details.

Officials with the United Auto Workers Local 6000, the state's largest employee union, did not return calls for comment.

"While this agreement isn't perfect, it maintains key pieces of our contract that members said were very important to them, such as their health care costs," MCO President Tom Tylutki said in a statement. "Our negotiations centered on the issues members told us were important. Health care is their number one concern."

The agreements are merely tentative and still require ratification from union members as well as approval from the Civil Service Commission.

But presuming union members ratify them, it will set one key piece of the upcoming 2016-17 fiscal year budget.

Other portions of the contracts would last the traditional three years. However, the Office of State Employer pushed for a one-year deal on the wages and health care components out of concern about what will happen with the federal excise tax on premium health care plans, MCO said in a bulletin to its members.

That is the so-called Cadillac tax in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Under that law, starting with the 2018 tax year, if the aggregate cost of the health care coverage an employer provides exceeds a statutory dollar limit, then the excess is subject to a 40 percent excise tax.

The idea behind the tax was to reduce health care spending. But it is providing a rare point of agreement between Democratic supporters of the law and Republicans who have long called for the Affordable Care Act's repeal. Unions and Democrats have said the tax should be repealed, as have Republicans and business groups, but it is unclear what will happen.

A spokesperson for the Office of the State Employer declined to comment.

## Meekhof Slams Schuette On Presumptive Parole; Snyder Also Jumps In

Attorney General Bill Schuette faced heat from Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof Wednesday regarding legislation pending in the Senate on presumptive parole, and Governor Rick Snyder also defended the legislation.

In the past week, Mr. Schuette has launched a campaign-style assault on the legislation, referring to it as "early" release, "catch and release" and "autopilot parole." Supporters of the bill have said he is just totally wrong in his characterization of the bills.

"He's been out there on a limb on this, throwing out a direct line and saying stuff like it's anti-cop, which was over the top, and he and I had that discussion yesterday," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) said of Mr. Schuette. "He's certainly within his right to comment on public policy. (But) he doesn't make public policy, he just follows what we do."

Still, Mr. Schuette's fusillade against the legislation may be having an impact. Mr. Meekhof said his caucus is voicing considerable concern about it.

Mr. Schuette has been relentless on the issue. Last week, on WKAR's "Off the Record," he said HB 4138 was "elitist" because those who live in nicer areas would have fewer worries about criminals being released back into society (See Gongwer Michigan Report, October 9, 2015). And his Twitter account gives updates seemingly every hour or two about "autopilot parole" and examples of parolees re-offending once released.

"Public safety is the first responsibility of government. Autopilot release of violent offenders is bad for our neighborhoods, cities and small towns," he said Tuesday in a joint statement with Genesee County Prosecutor David Leyton, his Democratic opponent in 2010 for attorney general. "We cannot build a better, stronger, safer Michigan if our public safety is threatened."

Mr. Schuette and Mr. Meekhof are also potential rivals for the Republican gubernatorial nomination in 2018 when Mr. Snyder cannot seek re-election.

Asked if he told Mr. Schuette to keep his nose out of the matter, Mr. Meekhof responded, "I said it was probably not a wise idea to talk the way he talked about the caucus on the other side. He said he'd take that under advisement."

Mr. Meekhof said he was unsure whether Mr. Schuette had apologized to the House members who drafted and supported HB 4138, which passed the House earlier this month 67-39 and currently sits in the Senate Government Operations Committee chaired by Mr. Meekhof.

"But he probably ought to think about how he treats everybody in general, and if he really wants to get public policy done, the best effort would be to work with people," Mr. Meekhof said.

Schuette spokesperson Andrea Bitely declined to comment on Mr. Meekhof's comments.

In addition to comments by Mr. Meekhof, Governor Rick Snyder expressed support of the measure in prepared remarks. This came a day after House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) also felt compelled to defend the legislation against Mr. Schuette's criticism.

"Michigan needs a smarter criminal justice system that doesn't simply punish people who commit crimes, but

frees up resources that can instead be used on effective efforts to reduce criminal activity and make our communities safer," Mr. Snyder said. "House Bill 4138 creates consistency in parole decisions for low-risk offenders by ensuring that they are all subject to the same standards when being considered for parole."

Mr. Snyder also noted the long-term impact of the change could be housing about 3,600 fewer low-risk felons in state prisons a decade from now, freeing up some \$80 million "that can be reinvested in preventing crime rather than continuing to keep low-risk offenders behind bars after they have served their minimum sentence."

HB 4138 currently awaits action in the Senate Government Operations Committee, chaired by Mr. Meekhof, who said he had a "healthy discussion" with his caucus on the matter on Wednesday.

"We're looking at this presumptive parole along with some other corrections reform. Senator Proos has some great ideas that we're probably going to combine with it and come up with a better package," he said.

But Mr. Meekhof also admitted that there was "a lot of concern" among his caucus members, especially since the issue has always started in the House, even last term.

"They needed a lot of information to even understand the terms that were being talked about because we really haven't studied this at all in our caucus," he said.

Given the expectation that Sen. John Proos (R-St. Joseph) would lead on another package of corrections reform, Mr. Meekhof said it would be "a little while" before there would be any action on the issue in the Senate, though specifics beyond that were not discussed.

#### On Roads, Meekhof, Greimel Trade Barbs As Meeting Canceled

Wednesday was meant to be a cooling off day following Tuesday's impasse on talks to generate \$1.2 billion in new funds for roads, but instead the disputes continued.

Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) said he was surprised at remarks by House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) on road funding talks and how a proposal that the Legislative Quadrant may have on the table is insufficient.

The problem continues to be whether and how to provide income tax relief as a sweetener to an expected gasoline tax increase (See Gongwer Michigan Report, October 13, 2015).

"He sat in the same room, saw the same spreadsheets I did and understood that the way we're doing it by the redirection of revenue going a little bit at a time and tax rollback only when there is over-the-top revenue," Mr. Meekhof said midday Wednesday. "He saw that it worked, so I'm not quite sure where he's coming up with his assertion that it's cutting anything."

The quadrant meeting scheduled for noon was canceled. Snyder press secretary Sara Wurfel said it was too soon on the heels of Tuesday's meeting, after which Mr. Snyder declared the talks at an impasse. But Ms. Wurfel said Mr. Snyder would continue talking to leaders on the issue.

Mr. Meekhof said the rollback has been on the table the whole time, "and now at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour (Mr. Greimel) wants it removed," Mr. Meekhof said. "I'm not going to remove it."

The income tax rollback passed by the Senate helped to garner some Republican votes for the meat of the legislation that seeks, in part, a gas tax hike. The Senate plan is complicated, only allowing a reduction in the tax if revenues grow and putting no bottom on how far the income tax rate could fall.

"The only dispute is, is it the rate of inflation or a little bit more than the rate of inflation?" Mr. Meekhof said of the rollback likely to be included in a final deal on road funding. "But it's the same mechanics."

Asked if he felt as though Mr. Greimel's concerns were "coming out of nowhere," Mr. Meekhof said the first he had heard of such a concern came Tuesday. But he said the Senate stands ready and willing to work on a plan.

"We sent over a plan with an income tax rollback, specifically protecting the things we think are important, and dedicating money towards roads. I think that was a good plan," he said.

Mr. Meekhof said Mr. Greimel ought to "find a way to compromise with Speaker Cotter and get it done."

But Mr. Meekhof wouldn't go so far as to say that if a roads solution doesn't get done soon that it would be solely Mr. Greimel's fault. Pointing fingers, he said, doesn't solve the problem.

"We're trying to solve the problem, and throwing mud around isn't going to make it better or give us a better opportunity to do it," he said.

Greimel spokesperson Katie Carey said Mr. Greimel was disappointed when the governor canceled the quadrant meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday.

On Mr. Meekhof's comments, Ms. Carey said: "We respectfully disagree with the Senate majority leader. We were always concerned with the hit to the General Fund."

Ms. Carey noted public schools, safety and other Democratic priorities are funded through the General Fund.

She also said an income tax cut is going to help the wealthier residents of the state.

"It is not going to help low-income Michiganders," she said.

She also said the Democrats are trying to find a roads solution that focuses mostly on roads.

"We want something that is more concrete that will be a long-term financially sustainable solution to fix the roads," she said.

Cotter spokesperson Gideon D'Assandro said Mr. Cotter and Mr. Snyder met Wednesday and discussed goals on the issue moving forward. Mr. Cotter remains hopeful talks will resume, Mr. D'Assandro said.

#### House Approves Nearly \$10M For Flint Water

The House unanimously voted Wednesday evening to approve \$9.35 million to return Flint to the Detroit water system and pay for additional state staff in the city's schools to gauge exposure to lead, handle evaluation and protocols on drinking water and to assist with plumbing engineers.

HB 4102 passed the House 105-0.

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said in a statement he attended House session Wednesday and told them the importance of passing the legislation.

"The people of Flint have the same right to clean, safe drinking water as residents in every district," he said. "I appreciate my colleagues on both sides of the aisle recognizing this and moving swiftly to secure resources. This is an important step necessary to fix the current crisis, and once this is complete, it's important that our next priority is getting to the bottom of how this happened. We need to make sure this never happens again."

Governor Rick Snyder last week called for state funds to be used return to drawing water from the Detroit system and ending a disastrous move to pull water for the city from the Flint River and to pay for additional state staffers from the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs working in the city.

The supplemental appropriations allocates \$6 million to get the city back on Detroit's water system; \$300,000 for DEQ's drinking water and environmental health services; \$1 million for DEQ's laboratory services; \$1 million for DHHS emergency services to purchase and distribute water to Flint residents; \$850,000 for follow up services for children, including testing lead levels and care for those with abnormal levels; and \$200,000 for plumbing inspections.

Of the \$9.35 million allocated, \$7.15 million is from the General Fund.

Rep. Al Pscholka, chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said he was pleased to see a unanimous vote for the bill.

"There is a time in this Legislature that we have to have statesmanship and stateswomanship and this was one of those times. This is a public health emergency in Flint," he said.

Mr. Pscholka said some members speculated whether the funds should come from the Budget Stabilization Fund, but said that was not necessary.

"We are in a fiscal position in order to handle something like this," he said.

Insufficient corrosion controls for water drawn from the river, which is inherently more corrosive than water drawn from Lake Huron, where the Detroit system draws its water, caused lead from the city's old service lines to leach into the water, leading to lead levels in the water exceeding the federal standard to trigger remediation and to elevated lead levels in the blood of some Flint children.

The \$6 million will go toward a contract between the city and the Detroit system to pay for water service until next summer when a new regional pipeline to Lake Huron is expected to be completed. The Mott Foundation is putting up \$4 million and the city of Flint the remaining \$2 million.

**PRESCRIPTION DRUGS:** The House unanimously passed HB 4843 Wednesday, which would protect minors seeking medical treatment, or helping a minor seek medical treatment, for an overdose or other drug-related illness or injury from possession charges.

Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville) introduced the bill in response to the loss of Mason Mizwicki, a Watervliet teenager whose mother, Lori Mizwicki, has been an advocate for greater awareness of the prescription drug problem.

"Even taking up the legislation has helped to start much-needed conversations about the problem," he said in a statement. "It's not isolated to one town or one portion of the state. This can happen to any teen, anywhere. We have to keep a spotlight on the issue."

The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration.

### Third Grade Reading Bill Delayed In House With Votes Short

The House spent nearly 7 hours Wednesday attempting to gather enough votes to pass a bill designed to get third grade students reading proficiently, but eventually called it quits with a positive outlook on the bill's chances Thursday.

"Very definitely," said Rep. Amanda Price (R-Park Township), sponsor of HB 4822 when asked if she thought the bill would pass Thursday.

"We're working really hard and a lot of our members had questions today, so we are in the process of answering a lot of those tomorrow," she told reporters after the long session.

Indeed, Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant), had earlier told reporters the questions coming from members were overwhelming and needed more time to be properly answered.

Both Democratic and Republican House members were in and out of the chamber on Wednesday, clearly attempting to come to some kind of agreement on the bill.

At about 7:30 p.m. the Democrats went into caucus, when they returned to session the House voted on the Flint water fix and then adjourned shortly after.

Ms. Price said it is hard to say what kind of changes might be made to the bill before final passage.

She said members didn't understand how much interaction there would be with the child once they have been identified as having a reading deficiency.

Ms. Price also said some members were concerned because students who were making progress in reading should be promoted from third grade.

"But if you are in third grade and you're still reading at first grade level and you've made progress since the beginning of first grade, is that enough progress?" She said. "You still need to, when you get into fourth grade, be able to read to learn. And if you're not there yet, it's going to be more difficult."

Katie Carey, spokesperson for House Democrats, agreed that there are a lot of questions and concerns from members. She said she is hopeful the chamber can come up with the votes to pass the bill Thursday.

Ms. Carey said Democratic members are looking for some changes in the retention piece of the bill and parental involvement.

"In the end we all have the same goal for this legislation. It's just a matter of how do you get there and what those look like," she said.

The bill, as reported from committee, would retain some third-graders who are reading more than a grade level behind, but it also provides for many intervention services before the third grade assessment and outlines "good cause" exemptions.

Similar legislation was controversial last term and was never able to be voted on by the full House.

#### Kosowski Proposes Sports Gambling For Road Funding

Rep. Robert Kosowski on Wednesday told the House Regulatory Reform Committee one way to get more funding for the state's roads and bridges is to legalize sports gambling and simulcasting horse races at casinos in the state.

HB 4469 and HB 4470 would allow casinos to accept wagers on sporting events, remove the current prohibition on televising simulcast horse races at casinos and allow for wagers on the races as well.

Mr. Kosowski (D-Westland) said he would be open to expanding the bill to horse racing tracks in the state.

To actually become law, the bills have several obstacles to overcome. First, a two-thirds majority is needed from both chambers and would need voter approval during the general election. Additionally, a federal court found that New Jersey's efforts to legalize sports betting violated federal law.

But Mr. Kosowski said the court is going to re-hear the case and there is a chance the original decision would be overturned.

"There are bookies everywhere. We all know this. Why not regulate it?" Mr. Kosowski said.

Originally, Mr. Kosowski intended to use the legislation to get more road funding. But he said as he has done more research, he would like some of the revenue generated to go to the race tracks in the state, and some funds to go to gambling addiction treatment and prevention.

Rep. Ray Franz (R-Onekama), chair of the committee, asked Mr. Kosowski what kind of support he had for the bill, noting that he didn't have any co-sponsors. Mr. Kosowski said he doesn't ask for co-sponsors and he believes the support is there.

Joe Asher, CEO of William Hill U.S., a bookmaking company, told the committee regulating the business is best.

Mr. Asher said suspicious activity can be reported and investigated in real time. And, he said, since it is the company's money being used there is incentive to call and report such activity.

"Oversight and protection do not occur in Michigan, however, because the illegal operators ...exist, and are not regulated," he said.

Mr. Asher said if casinos outsource the bookmaking there is little risk to them because companies such as his often front the cost.

He also said there may be losing days or weeks in the business, but there are very few losing months.

George Kutlenios, president of the Michigan Horseman's Benevolent and Protective Association, told the committee in June 2014 that Michigan thoroughbred horses returned to the Hazel Park raceway and saw 10,000

fans. He said attendance on regular days has consistently averaged 6,000 people.

Mr. Kutlenios said he appreciates the bill but would like to see a provision creating a relationship between any venue wishing to simulcast thoroughbred racing and a licensed state track to "ensure sustainability and quality of Michigan thoroughbred racing, and the resulting support to the state's agricultural industry can continue."

**MMA AND BOXING REGULATIONS:** The committee did report [SB 152](#) and [SB 154](#) regulating professional boxing, professional or amateur mixed martial arts or similar "unarmed combat."

The responsibilities of the Michigan Unarmed Combat Commission are outlined in SB 152, and that commission, alongside the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, would have jurisdiction over all boxing or MMA contests. The legislation also revises and establishes new regulations concerning the conduct of the events, as well as revises fee amounts for licenses to have such events.

Among the regulations are ensuring a contestant has been drug tested and having an on-site inspector. Women would also be required to submit a negative pregnancy test before competitions.

Michigan Chamber, Which Backed Peabody In 2014, Endorses Howell In 82nd

The Michigan Chamber announced on Wednesday its endorsement of Republicans Mary Whiteford in the 80<sup>th</sup> House District and Gary Howell in the 82<sup>nd</sup> House District, where former Reps. Cindy Gamrat and Todd Courser are running for re-election, respectively.

Mary Whiteford of Casco Township lost to Ms. Gamrat (R-Plainwell) in the 2014 Republican primary for the seat. Ms. Gamrat was expelled from the House last month but has said the voters deserve a voice in the process and is attempting to win her job back.

"Mary Whiteford will be a strong supporter of job creation and economic growth and we are pleased to endorse her in this special election," said Michigan Chamber President and CEO Rich Studley, in a statement. "The residents of Allegan County deserve better representation. We believe Whiteford possesses the experience and strength of character necessary to serve the 80th House District well."

Ms. Whiteford also has the endorsement of the Great Lakes Education Project and the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce political action committee.

Mr. Howell of North Branch is the Lapeer County Intermediate School District president and is taking on 11 other candidates in the 82<sup>nd</sup> District primary, including Mr. Courser (R-Lapeer), who resigned before he was able to be expelled from the House.

"Gary Howell understands the importance of pursuing policies based on individual freedom, incentive and opportunity to keep Michigan moving forward," said Jim Holcomb, senior vice president and general counsel for the Michigan Chamber, in a statement. "If elected, Howell will provide the residents of Lapeer County with the effective representation they deserve."

Endorsements in the 82<sup>nd</sup> District are split up more than in the 80<sup>th</sup> District. Former Rep. Kevin Daley has endorsed Chris Tuski of Lapeer, who is a farmer and volunteer firefighter. And GLEP has endorsed Jan Peabody of Lapeer, who lost in the 2014 primary to Mr. Courser.



In the 2014 Republican primary, the state Chamber endorsed Ms. Peabody. It did not endorse in the 80<sup>th</sup>.

The November 3 special election primary comes as Ms. Gamrat and Mr. Courser were participating in an extramarital affair together while serving in the House. An internal House Business Office investigation then found the two were misusing state resources to attempt personal and political gains.

#### Revenue From Increased Hunting, Licensing Fees Less Than Expected

Revenue generated from the increase in hunting and fishing license fees is about \$5 million less than expected, Department of Natural Resources Director Keith Creagh told the House Appropriations Committee on Wednesday.

Mr. Creagh said the department expected \$18 million from the change in fees in the 2014-15 fiscal year, but only saw \$13 million. And in the 2013-14 fiscal year, which included seven months of the new fee structure, the department expected \$11.8 million in new revenue, but only received \$7.8 million.

Austin Scott, the House Fiscal Agency analyst for the DNR, said he expects to receive more revenue numbers for the fiscal year that ended two weeks ago.

Mr. Creagh said the changes in fees also changed buying patterns, as the licenses are shorter term rather than annual. He also said the increase in the out-of-state licenses has affected those hunters coming into the state.

A non-resident hunter must purchase a \$150 base license and then purchase additional licenses for the species they wish to hunt, which range from \$8 to \$25. Out-of-state fishing licenses also increased from \$42 to \$67.

But, Mr. Creagh told the committee, the state is not out of line in its fees compared to neighboring states, and the fees are a bargain compared to states out west.

Rep. Michael McCready (R-Bloomfield Hills) said many groups encouraged the increase in fees when the Legislature began considering them and noted it may simply take time for the increases to set in.

**LANDFILL ODOR VIOLATIONS:** The committee reported HB 4783, which would increase penalties under Michigan's waste management laws for first and second violations of the law from \$10,000 and \$25,000 each day, to \$25,000 and \$75,000, respectively.

The bill cleared the committee 25-0, with Rep. Sam Singh (D-East Lansing) and Rep. Henry Yanez (D-Sterling Heights) abstaining.

Mr. Yanez said he abstained from voting because the Department of Environmental Quality is working on updating the waste management laws and an additional series of bills could come up.

And Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), chair of the committee, said he looks forward to working with Mr. Yanez on the issue, because he does not believe the bill increasing the fees will be the last piece of legislation on the issue.

The Michigan Waste and Recycling Association was opposed to the bill, saying it would increase the fines for all firms and all violations, including compost facilities and municipal properties.

Mr. Pscholka, however, said the fines have not been increased since 1987.

"This is not out of the ordinary," he said. "This is something we should have been doing all along."

Mr. Pscholka introduced the bill in response to ongoing odor issues and a citation by the DEQ for inadequate daily cover by the Orchard Hill Landfill in Southwest Michigan.

"Let's go have a barbeque in one of these neighborhoods," he said in a statement. "You have to have a real sense of what it is like to have this in your backyard, for years. If you're not willing to put a little more pressure on these bad actors, you're saying you'd be willing to put a down payment on a house here."

### Civil Rights Could Again Select Former Commissioner

The Department of Civil Rights could potentially have three of its four most recent directors also be members of the commission that heads it.

Among the three candidates to be interviewed to succeed retiring Director Matt Wesaw is Agustin Arbulu, who succeeded Mr. Wesaw on the commission in January 2013. He left the commission earlier this month and has yet to be replaced.

Mr. Arbulu is president of Metro Care Services, which provides health care and legal consulting in the Detroit area.

The other Michigan candidate is Portia Roberson, who is group executive for ethics and civil rights for the city of Detroit. Ms. Roberson was among those interviewed when Mr. Wesaw was hired and was discussed as a Democratic candidate for attorney general for the 2014 election.

And Akia Haynes is deputy director and general counsel for the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, where she has served since January 2013. She has also served as a deputy attorney general for the state, as well as a private practice attorney.

Mr. Wesaw had been a member of the commission, and so had been Kelvin Scott, who served as director from February 2009 to February 2010 when he died. Both had served as chair of the commission.

### House Panel Considering Regulation Of Charity Bins

What Rep. Lee Chatfield, chair of the House Local Government Committee, had thought would be a brief discussion turned contentious as local government groups raised concerns over his legislation to regulate charity donation bins.

All agreed the 6<sup>th</sup> U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals was clear that the bins could not be prohibited (the court found they were charity speech and so protected under the First Amendment), but locals wanted to retain the right to oversee their location and maintenance.

Mr. Chatfield (R-Levering) said the goal of his bills (HB 4862 and HB 4863) is to unify regulation of the bins, which allow people to leave clothing, books and other materials for the charity listed on the side.

Local governments had tried to ban the bins, arguing, as some still did Wednesday, that they attract not only

legitimate donations but also trash dumping.

Suzanne Schultz, managing director of design, development and community engagement for the city of Grand Rapids, brought pictures of bins overflowing with various materials.

Ms. Schultz said allowing cities to control the locations through zoning would help, but she said communities needed to be able to issue civil infractions for bins that become a nuisance.

"Courts are not going to take this up if it's misdemeanors," she said, echoing others who had argued the penalties as laid out in the legislation would be too costly to enforce.

But Judy Allen with the Michigan Townships Association said limiting the location regulation to zoning would limit townships' ability to regulate the locations because of their lesser planning powers, and it could potentially leave some bins unregulated.

"Everyone who has a bin, they would be grandfathered in and be a nonconforming use," she said.

She also joined others in urging against a cap on the annual licensing fee. The bill provides for no more than \$75, but since local governments cannot charge more than their costs anyway, she said taxpayers would have to subsidize the system if costs rise above that cap.

Mr. Chatfield said his goal with the bill was to create a system and uniformity across the state. But he also said the bills would allow communities to do some of the things their representatives had asked.

"If the bill doesn't prohibit it, there will be more things locals will be able to do," he said.

Officials with Planet Aid, which had been the defendant in the federal lawsuit, said the bill would allow their operations but would help to weed out those not caring for their bins.

Kai Nelson said his group checks its bins once a week and has systems in place to allow response within 24 hours if there is a problem reported.

But he said local government groups' call for agreements between the charity and the property owner are not necessarily workable. He said in many cases the properties where the group places collection boxes have absentee or corporate owners and a local property manager is the right person to make the agreement.

Mr. Nelson said the company would be open to provisions that would require even its existing boxes to be licensed and, if they do not meet siting requirements, moved. He said the company has already done that in some locales that have adopted regulatory ordinances.

Mr. Chatfield said he would continue to work with all of the parties to meet their concerns in the legislation.

**TAX CAPTURE:** In what was intended to be the primary focus of the meeting, libraries said any changes to tax increment financing authority laws have to allow them more say in captured taxes.

And Eric Lupher with the Citizens Research Council said the state needs to place more limits on the authorities.

"Libraries are having to return for more millages in the future when their revenues are being captured by tax increment finance authorities," Lance Werner with the Kent District Library, speaking for the Michigan Library

Association, said. "We're living within our means but our means are being siphoned away."

He noted, for instance, that the Litchfield library loses 47 percent of its funds to tax capture.

Mr. Werner said the libraries did not object to all tax capture authorities, but they should be given more power to choose which ones are appropriate to get library revenue. Current law, he said, allows them to accept all or reject all.

"We want to work with the tax captures ... so we can explain to our investors where our money is going," he said.

He said libraries should also be permitted to opt-in for all authorities. He said some provide for library revenue to automatically be captured and require the libraries to opt out.

Mr. Lupher said future authorities need to be given a limited time to operate. While courts have ruled that tax capture for economic development is constitutional, he said TIFAs have morphed into something that might not be.

"They're being used for police and fire; they're being used for street fairs," he said.

And he said they are being routinely renewed instead of expiring when an intended project is completed.

"There should be some finality to this," he said, adding that in many cases there is also less accountability for the funds.

"Those revenues have just been pushed off budget and you don't hear about it," he said.

Mr. Lupher, pointing to issues raised with recent millages to support the Detroit Zoo and Detroit Institute of Arts, said existing authorities also should be limited to capturing the taxes that are in existence when the authority is created. To capture any new taxes should require creation of a new authority, he said.

**REWARDS:** The committee also began discussions on [HB 4292](#), which would allow county commissions to approve up to \$20,000 for rewards leading to arrests for certain crimes.

[Rep. Tom Cochran](#) (R-Mason), sponsor of the bill, said in a recent incident where an Ingham County sheriff deputy was killed during a chase, the county was limited to offering \$2,000 for information on the suspect, who had fled.

He said that limit was set in 1948.

"This money falls more in line with what the value of money is today," Mr. Cochran said of the bill. "This is a little more enticing to have people come forward."

Mr. Chatfield questioned whether the bill, which addresses only counties, should be expanded to cover other local governments under the same theory.

Senate Ends Deadline To Petition For DNA Test, Trial

The Senate voted unanimously Wednesday to eliminate the deadline in the law for a defendant convicted of a

felony at trial, serving prison for that felony, to petition the court for DNA testing of biological material identified during an investigation that led to his or her conviction.

Those convicted of felonies may also request a new trial based on the results of that testing under [SB 151](#). Currently, such a petition must be filed by January 1, 2016.

Only Michigan and Louisiana currently have sunsets on such provisions.

**FIREFIGHTER CERTIFICATION:** The Senate also approved [SB 372](#), which provides firefighter certification reciprocity with states that have the same certification as Michigan. The bill requires the state fire marshal to extend reciprocity certification to a firefighter from another state who seeks to work as a firefighter in Michigan as long as the individual was certified in another state after completing a program that meets or exceeds Michigan's standards.

"I have heard from many fire chiefs and local officials about how difficult and expensive it is to recruit and retain firemen in our local fire departments," [Sen. Dale Zorn](#) (R-Ida), sponsor of the bill, said in a statement. "Part of the problem is that Michigan currently does not recognize out-of-state firefighter certification. This legislation will improve our local fire departments ability to protect families and staff their departments at appropriate levels."

#### State Unemployment Rate Falls Below National Rate For First Time Since 2000

News that Michigan's unemployment rate fell to 5 percent in September, putting it below the national unemployment rate for the first time in 15 years, brought plenty of cheers Wednesday.

The national unemployment rate in September was 5.1 percent.

"We need to stay focused on our goal, but it also is important to look back to see how far we've come. Michigan's unemployment rate was once the worst in the United States," [Governor Rick Snyder](#) said in a statement. "Today we are below the national average for the first time since August 2000. This means more people in Michigan are able to use their skills and are finding fulfilling jobs to support themselves and their families, making our cities and our communities stronger in a variety of ways."

Mr. Snyder posted a photo of him from 2000 on his Twitter feed with much less gray hair and a beard to commemorate the occasion.

Employment rose for the month by 10,000, and the labor force was up, too, by 3,000.

In the past year, the unemployment rate has fallen from 6.7 percent, and employment is up by 68,000.

"Since early 2015, several key labor market indicators have shown improvement in Michigan and in the nation," Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, said in a statement. "Monthly unemployment rates in the state and nation have been comparable, as have over-the-year payroll job growth rates."

#### Bridge Authority Has 6 Potential Bidders

The Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority announced Wednesday that six companies had responded to its request for qualifications to build the Gordie Howe International Bridge.

The authority is now submitting the qualifications to a review panel of authority members and experts to determine the three most qualified potential bidders.

"The private sector has shown a vibrant interest in working on the Gordie Howe International Bridge project, between this RFP, the responses we received to our recent RFP for early works, as well as the recently-held Industry Days," Mark McQueen, chair of the authority's board of directors, said in a statement. "Although site preparation has already begun for the eventual construction of the new Canadian Customs plaza, businesses and travelers on both sides of the border understand that the completion of the new bridge is dependent upon the successful conclusion of the pending RFP process."

#### Committee Roundup

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS:** The Senate Appropriations Committee on Wednesday began taking testimony on reviewing boilerplate language that requires reports of agencies that spend more than \$500,000 in new or expanded programs.

The first programs up for review were making Michigan a no-wait state for senior home-delivered meals and in-home services; child welfare performance-based funding; and the Ok2Say school safety hotline.

"This is harder work than passing budgets, is going back and checking and seeing if we're delivering on our promises," Sen. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake), whose idea it was to conduct such reviews, said in committee. "The intent of this is not necessarily to review why we did something. The intent is to review whether what we said we were going to accomplish is actually occurring."

By and large, Mr. Shirkey and other members of the committee requested more specific and detailed metrics, especially identifiable metrics like number comparisons, of all of the programs reviewed Wednesday. The committee expects to review another three programs next week, and chair Sen. Dave Hildenbrand (R-Lowell) recommended that members consider the practice for their own subcommittees when and where possible.

#### Capital Notebook

**DEADLINE THURSDAY FOR LOCALS TO APPLY FOR GRANTS PROGRAM:** Municipalities have until 11:59 p.m. Thursday to apply for the Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Townships grant program. Any city, village or township experiencing one or more conditions of "probable financial distress," under PA 436 of 2012, the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act, is eligible to apply.

**STATE CHRISTMAS TREE HAILS FROM WAKEFIELD:** A 66-foot spruce from Wakefield in the Upper Peninsula will serve as the state's Christmas tree this year.

Florence Daniels is donating the tree to the state in memory of her husband, Jim Daniels, a former teacher and youth sports coach.

The tree will arrive October 31, and as per longtime tradition, be illuminated at the annual Silver Bells in the City celebration that Lansing holds to kick off the holiday season Friday, November 20.

**MACMHB ANNOUNCES CEO:** The executive board of the Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards has announced Robert Sheehan will lead the organization as chief executive officer effective immediately. Prior to his new role, he served for 18 years at the CEO of the Community Mental Health Authority

of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties.

Mr. Sheehan replaces Michael Vizena as CEO of MACMHB. Mr. Vizena is retiring.

"Behavioral health issues and intellectual/developmental disabilities affect so many of Michigan's residents, and are central to overall health, yet are often overlooked or stigmatized in the public eye," Mr. Sheehan said in a statement. "I look forward to the opportunity to work alongside the Association's members - hundreds of innovative provider and healthcare management organizations across the state - as they serve those in our communities with behavioral health issues and intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families."

**LAND LEASES:** The Department of Transportation will be leasing 17 parcels of land around the state for agricultural use only.

The lease sale is scheduled for November 4 at 10 a.m. (doors open at 9 a.m.) at the Office of Aeronautics Auditorium at Capital City Airport, 2700 Port Lansing Road in Lansing.

Those interested in bidding must attend and provide a sealed bid for each parcel.

**CASINO REVENUE:** Two of the three Detroit casinos saw revenue increase both for the month of September and for the third quarter, the Gaming Control Board announced Wednesday.

MotorCity Casino saw the most growth, with the \$35.7 million it collected in September representing a 7.5 percent increase over the same month in 2014. For third quarter, its revenue was up 3.6 percent over the same period in 2014.

MGM Grand Detroit was up 4.6 percent in September to \$45.2 million and up 0.5 percent for the quarter.

Greektown Casino saw revenue decline 0.1 percent for the month to \$26.6 million and 2.4 percent for the quarter.

Appointments By The Governor

**BOARD OF MECHANICAL RULES:** Robert Fosburg of Caledonia, Christopher Freeman of South Lyon, Catherine Gay of Troy, Daniel Grafmiller of Fenton, Kenneth Misiewicz of Lake Odessa and Mark Riley of Berkley are reappointed for terms expiring October 1, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY:** Jill Marlan of DeWitt succeeds Vijay Kumar, who resigned, to represent professionals for a term expiring December 31, 2016. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**IRON INDUSTRY MUSEUM ADVISORY BOARD:** Charles Swanson of Marquette and Bob Niemela of Ontonagon are reappointed for terms expiring October 4, 2019. The appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Elaine Didier of Plymouth succeeds Tara Fulton to represent librarians from a special library, and Judith Houser of Waterford is reappointed, both for terms expiring October 1, 2018. The appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**MICHIGAN INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES:** Sen. Phil Pavlov of St. Clair is appointed to represent the Legislature, filling a vacancy, and Deana Strudwick of White Pigeon succeeds Sondra Stegenga, who resigned, to represent public or private providers of early intervention services. The appointments are for the remainder of terms expiring October 31, 2016. Barbara Corbin of Jenison, Judy Goth-Owens of East Lansing, Lauren Heilman of Cadillac and Prachi Shah of Ann Arbor are reappointed for terms expiring October 31, 2019. The appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**MICHIGAN PHARMACY AND THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE:** James "Jim" Matthews of Grand Haven succeeds Eleonora Huskey to represent pharmacists, and Margo Farber of Grosse Pointe Park, Steven Hadesman of Bingham Farms, Anthony Ognjan of Shelby Township and Victoria Tutag Lehr of Birmingham are reappointed. The appointments are for terms expiring October 1, 2017, and are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**SKI AREA SAFETY BOARD:** James Grundstrom of Negaunee succeeds Jim VanderSpoel to represent public members from the Upper Peninsula, and Steve Robinson of Birmingham succeeds Ron Edwards to represent engineers with ski experience. Mr. Grundstrom's appointment is for a term expiring June 8, 2018. Mr. Robinson's appointment is for a term expiring June 8, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Appointments By The Supreme Court

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:** Robert Gardella is reappointed commissioner-at-large for a three-year term beginning upon adjournment of the 2015 annual meeting of the outgoing board. Brian Shekell and Krista Haroutunian are appointed commissioners-at-large for three-year terms beginning upon adjournment of the 2015 annual meeting of the outgoing board.

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

**Thursday, October 15**

~~Canceled: Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee, (Chr. Robertson, 373-1721), Room 210, Farnum Building, 9 a.m.~~

**HB 4904 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY (McBroom)** Provides for the presidential primary election as a regular election date and clarifies filing deadlines for candidates for local office and for all local ballot question.

**SB 189 AVIATION FEES (Casperson)** Removes certain restrictions on recovery of costs and fees in an action involving this state.

**SB 190 PREVAILING PARTY FEES (Robertson)** Removes certain restrictions on the award of costs and fees to prevailing party in a case involving this state.




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Volume #54, Report #188 — Tuesday, September 22, 2015

## Medical Marijuana Bills Make Their Way To House Floor

After months of negotiations, the House Judiciary Committee on Tuesday reported a package of bills creating a regulatory structure for medical marijuana provisioning centers and permitting the use of non-smokeable forms of the drug.

[HB 4209](#) and [HB 4210](#) were introduced in February, and similar bills were overwhelmingly approved by the House last term, though they died in the Senate during lame-duck.

During the first nine months of this term, stakeholders attempted to hash out their differences in a way they didn't last year. [Rep. Mike Calton](#) (R-Nashville), sponsor of HB 4209, said this time around he wanted to be sure to include law enforcement.

"This is something I've been working on longer than my bachelor's degree," he told the committee. "It's been essentially over four years, and it's been an education. Now it's better than it's ever been."

HB 4209 creates the regulatory structure for medical marijuana provisioning centers. The bill allows for local governments to decide if they are appropriate for their community. The bill includes an 8 percent excise tax and the 6 percent sales tax to be charged on marijuana.

The bill also requires the use of a secure transport service to transport the marijuana.

It cleared the committee 8-2 with [Rep. Rose Mary Robinson](#) (D-Detroit) and [Rep. Jeff Irwin](#) (D-Ann Arbor) voting no.

Mr. Irwin expressed concerns about the taxes charged on the drug. He said there is a philosophical difference on whether a person believes higher taxes and more regulations will lead to more or less black market activity.

"When we add all these layers of regulations, we are increasing the cost in the legal market, thereby giving a huge advantage to the illegal market," he said. "If we grab too tightly, this may squeeze through our fingers, and we end up with less control rather than more control."

The bill also creates five license types: growers, processors, testing labs, secure transporters and dispensaries. A five-member board is also created under the bill to handle the licensing.

The revenue collected through the taxes would be split up, with 27.5 percent going to local governments with provisioning centers; 27.5 percent to counties with provisioning centers; 5 percent to sheriffs in the counties with provisioning centers; and 40 percent to the state.

The legislation would also use a seed-to-sale tracking system to help ensure medical marijuana does not make its way to the black market. [HB 4827](#), which also cleared the committee, creates the program.

HB 4210 allows the use of topical and edible forms of the drug. The bill cleared committee 10-1 with Rep. Triston Cole (R-Mancelona) voting no.

Patient advocates were not pleased with the proposal taxing the drug.

"No medicine should be taxed," said Matthew Abel with Cannabis Counsel.

He also said the bill creates a new bureaucracy, as more state workers will need to be hired: 113 licensing enforcement personnel; 34 state police personnel and four lawyers at the Department of the Attorney General.

"The latest versions of HB 4209 and HB 4827 have not been well thought-out," Mr. Abel said. "They clearly will cause numerous unintended consequences, while failing at their intended purpose, to move toward a regulated system and away from the illegal market."

### Sharp Disagreement As Committee Discusses Bill To Criminalize Abortion Coercion

Coercing a woman into having an abortion would become a crime under legislation discussed Tuesday in the House Criminal Justice Committee.

The bills (HB 4787 and HB 4830) generated several strong disagreements between those who oppose abortion and those who support the legal right to an abortion. No vote was taken, and Rep. Kurt Heise (R-Plymouth), the committee chair, said the committee would return to the legislation at an upcoming meeting.

The committee's three Democrats - Rep. Vanessa Guerra of Bridgeport, Rep. Marcia Hovey-Wright of Muskegon and Rep. Stephanie Chang of Detroit - each took turns peppering the bill sponsors and activists supporting the bills about why the legislation is necessary.

Supporters of the bills said they had considerable anecdotal reports of women coerced into an abortion - by their parents, husband or boyfriend, and others - and the state should make such actions illegal.

"It is an all-too-common experience," said Genevieve Marnon of Right to Life of Michigan.

But the Democratic lawmakers questioned why the bills do not criminalize the coercing of a woman into keeping her baby.

"The real problem is what those of us here are questioning which is people being coerced into carrying a pregnancy," Ms. Hovey-Wright said.

Ms. Marnon said any form of coercion is wrong, but the issue raised by Ms. Hovey-Wright belongs in a different statute and thus not in the bills before the committee. Rep. Martin Howrylak (R-Troy) mocked the Democratic criticism, asking sarcastically whether he should oppose the bill because it fails to criminalize every illegal act.

But Democrats and an official with the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan questioned why the bill was even necessary, saying that the state's informed consent law already requires a woman's consent to an abortion without coercion and that other statutes would make coercion into having an abortion illegal.

"These kinds of laws are part of a political campaign that women who seek abortions do so because they are confused and coerced," said Shelli Weisberg of the ACLU of Michigan.

But Ms. Marnon said a specific statute will help prevent the coercing of women into an abortion.

"Women will know it's a crime and can tell whoever is coercing her to stop because it's illegal," she said.

#### Courser, Gamrat, Dillon Replaced On House Committees

House Speaker Kevin Cotter announced new committee assignments to replace the recently departed former representatives Cindy Gamrat, who was expelled, and Todd Courser and Brandon Dillon, who both resigned.

Mr. Courser (R-Silverwood) resigned before he could be expelled like Ms. Gamrat (R-Plainwell). Mr. Dillon (D-Grand Rapids) resigned to take the post as chair of the Michigan Democratic Party.

With Mr. Dillon's departure, Rep. Pam Faris (D-Clio) returned to the House Appropriations Committee. The term started with drama surrounding Ms. Faris' appointment as minority vice chair, and she was later removed from the committee.

Rep. Daniela Garcia (R-Holland) will take Ms. Gamrat's former spot on Appropriations.

"Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat have done enough damage to the House and to the legislative process," Mr. Cotter said in a statement. "We cannot allow their absence to get in the way of the important work these committees are doing to reform state government and improve the lives of Michigan's residents. Each of these representatives has agreed to take on the extra work necessary to make sure we can all move forward and continue Michigan's comeback."

Ms. Faris will also join the Joint Capital Outlay Subcommittee and the Transportation Subcommittee.

Mr. Cotter also created a new House Appropriations Subcommittee to reflect the merged community health and human services departments as the Health and Human Services Subcommittee.

The 15-member committee is essentially a merger of the two separate subcommittees. Rep. Harvey Santana (D-Detroit) was named as minority vice chair instead of Rep. Brian Banks (D-Detroit), who served as the MVC of the separate Human Service Subcommittee.

Mr. Dillon was minority vice chair of the Community Health Subcommittee.

Katie Carey, spokesperson for House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills), said it was disappointing Mr. Cotter did not consult with Mr. Greimel before choosing the minority vice chair of the new committee.

However, she said, they are pleased with the other Democratic appointments.

The chair of the new committee is Rep. Robert VerHeulen (R-Walker) and Rep. Earl Poleski (R-Jackson) is vice chair.

The other members are: Rep. Chris Afendoulis (R-Grand Rapids Township); Rep. Joe Bizon (R-Battle Creek); Rep. Jon Bunstead (R-Newaygo); Rep. Edward Canfield (R-Sebewaing); Rep. Laura Cox (R-Livonia); Rep. Larry Inman (R-Williamsburg); Rep. Tim Kelly (R-Saginaw Township); Rep. Mike McCready (R-Bloomfield Hills); Rep. Pam Faris (D-Clio); Rep. Kristy Pagan (D-Canton); and Rep. Henry Yanez (D-Sterling Heights).

On Mr. Courser's former committees, Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons (R-Alto) will return to the Education

Committee as his replacement. Ms. Lyons chaired the committee during the last two terms.

Rep. Holly Hughes (R-Montague) will sit on the Agriculture Committee; Mr. Afendoulis on the Criminal Justice Committee; Rep. Ben Glardon (R-Owosso) on the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee; and Rep. Jim Tedder (R-Clarkston) on the Regulatory Reform Committee.

Rep. Wendell Byrd (D-Detroit) will replace Ms. Faris on the Financial Liability Reform Committee and Rep. Robert Kosowski (D-Westland) will replace her on Military and Veterans Affairs.

On Appropriations subcommittees, Rep. Aaron Miller (R-Sturgis) will now sit on Education; Mr. Poleski will take over as chair of Judiciary (replacing Mr. VerHeulen); Ms. Cox will sit on Licensing and Regulatory Reform; Mr. Canfield on the Military and Veterans Affairs subcommittee; and Mr. Poleski on Natural Resources.

### Judiciary Clears Way For Wrongful Imprisonment Compensation

The state would compensate those who had been wrongfully imprisoned for a crime they did not commit under legislation reported by the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday.

Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren) first raised the idea of SB 291, with support from committee chair Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge), back in May. Michigan is one of a minority of states that does not compensate nor offer exit services for persons who have been wrongfully imprisoned.

"Exonerees face tremendous difficulties re-integrating into society," Mr. Bieda said, noting that 30 other states and the federal government offer compensation for those who can prove they were wrongfully imprisoned. "It is our intent to help these individuals re-establish their lives."

The bills would be limited in scope to a person who could prove he or she was convicted and served time in a Michigan prison, and that all the convictions resulting in imprisonment were overturned because of new evidence of actual innocence.

After the convictions are overturned, the charges were dismissed, or an individual is acquitted at retrial and the individual proves in the Court of Claims complete innocence of all of the offenses that landed them in prison, they too could be eligible for compensation.

And a court that determined a plaintiff had been wrongfully convicted and imprisoned must expunge those records from a person's criminal history.

Compensation would be \$60,000 per year for the period of incarceration; economic damages, including lost wages and other expenses; reasonable attorney fees; and reimbursement of any amount collected from the plaintiff by the state under the State Correctional Facility Reimbursement Act. If a person chooses to collect this money, it would bar them from any further action against the state based on the same matter. Such settlements would be paid from the General Fund.

The Senate Fiscal Agency estimated the cost to the state to be significant but indeterminate. The National Registry of Exonerations maintained by the University of Michigan Law School indicates that 60 exonerations have occurred in Michigan to date. At a minimum, assuming all 60 individuals met the eligibility criteria and receive only the yearly compensation amount, the first year of payments would total \$3.6 million. The average number of years of wrongful imprisonment per exoneration is 8.05, the analysis said.

If all payment were made under the conditions in the NRE's database, the total minimum costs would be about \$29 million General Fund, the SFA determined, based on fixed amounts taken from the bill. But there are other variables that could increase the figure on a per-case basis.

"Although I'm not in jail anymore, the effects of my wrongful conviction continue to ruin my life," said Julie Baumer, who was wrongfully convicted a decade ago of Shaken Baby Syndrome. She spent four-and-a-half years in jail.

A similar bill, [HB 4536](#), was reported from the House Criminal Justice Committee in mid-June but has not seen action on the floor yet. [Rep. Stephanie Chang](#) (D-Detroit), sponsor of that bill, spoke in support of Mr. Bieda's bill at the committee.

"There are significant costs that come with adjusting back into society. Exonerees are given no services to help with this," she said. "I believe when an individual is proven innocent ... the least they should expect is a state that wants to help make it right."

The bill was reported with unanimous approval.

**UPDATING OLD STATUTES:** The committee also reported a slew of House bills updating outdated language in statute despite some concern by [Sen. Patrick Colbeck](#) (R-Canton Township) about what repealing at least some of those statutes said about our citizens morally.

Among them was [HB 4248](#), which repeals provisions of law related to playing of the National Anthem, use of indecent language in front of women and children, and improper disposal of refrigerators. It was reported unanimously.

Also reported unanimously was [HB 4250](#), which repeals prohibitions against certain endurance contests, as well as [HB 4501](#), which revises sentencing guidelines to reflect certain repealed crimes.

The committee also voted to eliminate references to "human monstrosity" in law via [HB 4709](#), as well as [HB 4710](#) and [HB 4711](#) related to modifying the penalty for violators related to camping on state-owned lands. Currently, it is a misdemeanor to do so, but the bills would change it to a civil infraction. HB 4711 also repeals laws dealing with sentencing a person to solitary confinement and/or hard labor; assembling or rebuilding a battery from used battery parts, for sale, without labeling it as rebuilt; and keeping a person sentenced to hard labor constantly employed.

All were reported with unanimous approval and no changes.

#### Jones Takes Another Shot At Regulating Nudity At Bars

A bill prohibiting nudity at bars saw more testimony in the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday as it was reported from the committee for a second time since May.

"This will keep status quo in Michigan," said [Sen. Rick Jones](#) (R-Grand Ledge), chair of the committee and sponsor of [SB 302](#), in defending his bill for a second time in his committee.

Mr. Jones' bill was introduced in late April, saw a committee hearing and S-1 substitute adopted about two weeks later when the bill was reported from his own committee, making this the second time the bill has come up



for a hearing in Judiciary.

The last time the bill was up in committee, Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) raised a concern about a potential loophole that would seem to allow nudity in certain establishments if it was considered a form of art, and Sen. Steve Bieda (D-Warren) was concerned about an amendment that seemed to put the bill above potential court challenges.

And Mr. Bieda's concern was precisely the reason for a second hearing. Officials with Attorney General Bill Schuette's office gave a presentation about why that section was necessary and appropriate.

"One of the things we were concerned with (in dealing with a case on nudity in a bar) ... was that the Sixth Circuit found we didn't have any rationale or reasons to back up rules that prohibit full nudity," said Don McGehee, division chief of the Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement division. He said the court insisted, in Hamilton's Bogarts v. State of Michigan, that the state must have evidence of secondary effects such as crime, plight, drug trafficking, and so forth, and that full nudity and sex acts are "expressive conduct" protected by the First Amendment.

But there are many cases that have found that negative secondary effects exist in or near adult-oriented entertainment venues.

"This bill does not try to ban all nudity," Mr. McGehee said, noting that certain venues can have topless entertainers if they have a special permit. "This bill would be to ban, by state law, full nudity in any entertainment establishment or any (liquor) licensed premises on the premises."

He provided to the committee studies and cases that prove negative secondary effects and thus legitimize the section Mr. Bieda had previously raised concerns about.

But Mr. Bieda's concerns were not entirely alleviated. He noted how the language included a "broad range of things that could be a secondary problem with a regular bar or night club, and I just wonder if this couldn't be cut down a little bit," he said.

One example Mr. Bieda pointed to was that litter was considered to be a negative secondary effect, and while Mr. McGehee agreed that he probably wouldn't consider such a thing a "material" negative secondary effect, some believe it ought to be, Mr. McGehee said. But Mr. Bieda expressed concerns that such language could have an effect on something as innocent as a restaurant.

"I think that language could be a lot tighter," Mr. Bieda said.

Nonetheless, the committee gave unanimous support to send SB 302 back to the full Senate, but Mr. Bieda hoped to continue work with Mr. Jones on that language.

House Panel Considers Updates To 'Kevin's Law'

Lt. Governor Brian Calley and Rep. Tom Leonard III want to update "Kevin's Law," passed in 2004 to reduce the incarceration rates of those with mental illnesses, as it has been found to be ineffective.

Mr. Calley spoke to the House Health Policy Committee on Tuesday and said under current law, a crisis needed to occur before intervention could happen. He said communities around the state were confused by the

complexity of "Kevin's Law" and it hasn't been utilized much.

The law outlines the assisted outpatient treatment program in the state.

Under [HB 4674](#), sponsored by Mr. Leonard (R-DeWitt Township), a family member or friend would be allowed to petition the court and allow judges to order outpatient treatment for those who have had their mental illness confirmed by a physician, all without a crime being committed.

"When something bad happens, either to a person with a mental health issue or when something happens tragically perpetrated by a person with a mental health issue, usually there is a long trail of evidence that preceded that action, warning signs that could have been picked up on," Mr. Calley said.

He said those warning signs often are noticed, but without the ability to intervene sooner, there aren't a lot of options.

By contrast, Mr. Calley said HB 4674 would allow earlier intervention and help create a more successful release from hospitalization. He also noted due process rights are not affected by the bill.

And Mr. Leonard said the things that were supposed to happen under "Kevin's Law" simply have not happened.

"We are trying to revamp 'Kevin's Law,' we are trying to fill those gaps that are in the law and get people the treatment they need before they hurt themselves or hurt somebody else," Mr. Leonard said.

He also said the bill will provide long-term savings within the Department of Corrections.

Former Judge Milton Mack, who is now serving as the state court administrator, told the committee families have been seeking help for their loved ones with mental health issues for a long time but are not always able to get it.

"This bill will finally unlock the promise of 'Kevin's Law' and make timely assisted outpatient treatment readily available to many," he said. "Our mental health system fails many in a crucial point of time in their lives where timely intervention can mean the difference between recovery and maintaining self-determination or spinning downward into the cycle of poverty, homelessness and incarceration."

Mark Reinstein with the Mental Health Association of Michigan also said the current law is utilized little in the state.

He said the five most significant changes under the proposed bill are

- Setting a timeframe for when hearings must be held;
- Setting a clear two-exam requirement, with at least one from a psychiatrist;
- Removing that a person must be non-compliant with recommended mental health treatment from the list of eligibility criteria;
- Inserting the same prosecutorial responsibility for assisted outpatient treatment as other court-ordered mental health treatments (currently the local prosecutor does not need to be involved); and
- Simplifying the process of petitioning and certifying that someone may require court-ordered care.

The committee did not act on the bill.

## Hunter Response Could Determine CWD Control

States' abilities to control chronic wasting disease have depended largely on aggressive efforts to reduce deer populations in affected areas, and it was unclear yet how open hunters will be able to aid in those efforts, Department of Natural Resources wildlife veterinary specialist Dan O'Brien told the House Natural Resources Committee on Tuesday.

"I've been amazed at the cooperation we've gotten over the summer," Mr. O'Brien said of land owners in the current affected area. "People have concerns, but by and large they were very supportive."

He said U.S. Department of Agriculture sharpshooters have taken some deer from local public lands, and a number of private land owners in the area have allowed USDA on their lands or have taken out disease control permits to take deer themselves.

"Now we're transitioning into hunting season and we'll have to see how the hunters accept things," he said.

The fear, particularly in the long term, is that hunters will stay home, Mr. O'Brien said.

The prion-based disease destroys brain tissue in deer, elk and moose, over time slowing their behavior and eventually killing them.

In as little as 20 years, the disease can spread through the deer herd.

"When that happens, hunters are going to stop hunting because they don't want to harvest sick deer," he said. "The entire economy and tradition of hunting is also lost."

The DNR would also lose one of its key methods for controlling the deer population, he said.

Mr. O'Brien said New York had been able to eradicate the disease by aggressively removing deer from areas where the infection was found. Wyoming, in contrast, had little resources for the control effort and so has seen its deer populations plummet.

Wyoming is also, though, seeing a shift to deer that can withstand the disease longer and so are able to reproduce before succumbing.

Mr. O'Brien said there is no evidence so far that the disease can be spread to non-cervids. Officials in Colorado and Wyoming, where the disease first appeared, tested spread from deer to cattle with captive infected herds and found no transmission.

Scientists have been testing for the past 10 years and have also found no evidence that the disease can be transmitted to humans, he said.

As part of the effort to track the disease, the DNR is requiring hunters in the area surrounding the three positive deer finds in Meridian Township (Ingham County) to bring their deer to DNR check stations where, in most cases, officials will take the head for testing. Mr. O'Brien said hunters would know within three days if their deer is negative for the disease and within a week if an initial positive test is confirmed.

The key struggle the department faces is the incubation time for the disease: between one year and five years before deer show symptoms.

"That means you have infected animals on the landscape that are infecting others but aren't showing symptoms, so we don't know how many there are or where they are," Mr. O'Brien said.

There are not confirmed tests for CWD, but he said scabies, a related disease in sheep, has been proven to remain viable in soil for more than 16 years.

The first positive deer, found in May, had likely been infected in 2013, he said. The other two deer had not yet been showing symptoms, so it was unclear when they were infected, he said. He said it was likely that a person brought the disease into the area but there was likely no way to confirm who or when.

The state has only found the three deer from the 677 deer tested so far, but Mr. O'Brien said the state would have to test thousands of deer before it will know the extent of the infection.

A key source of test animals has been road kill, and he said the DNR has extra staff dedicated to collecting the carcasses for testing.

While new tests are being developed, Mr. O'Brien said there are currently no approved tests for identifying the disease from tissue of living animals, though he said tests for tonsil and rectal biopsies are close. He said the tests are not currently sensitive enough to find the prions in bodily fluids.

In answer to questions from committee members, he said, for instance, it was possible that the doe urine used as an attractant for bucks could potentially be infected. But he also said the facilities that raise the deer to collect that product are well regulated by the USDA to ensure the deer there are not infected.

Mr. O'Brien said the department so far has been funding the testing and response with existing funds moved from other programs, but DNR legislative Liaison Trevor VanDyke said officials were currently considering whether to ask for additional funds in the 2016-17 budget.

"We're in the process of developing next fiscal year's budget and this is one of the things that will be considered," he said. "We'll look within first before we ask for any kind of General Fund or supplemental."

**POACHING PENALTIES:** The committee also reported a package of bills ([SB 244](#), [SB 245](#) and [SB 246](#)) that create substantial increases in penalties for illegal taking or possession of elk, moose, bear, eagles and waterfowl. Using artificial light in taking that game would mean an extended period of license loss.

As reported, the bills would also create a misdemeanor penalty for using an illegal snare or cable restraint for trapping game.

[Rep. Ed McBroom](#) (R-Vulcan) abstained on reporting SB 244, which creates the new penalties, and voted against the other two bills over objections to both about the amount of the penalties and including an illegal equipment provision in what is otherwise a poaching bill.

"I think that the fines are excessive and punitive and out of line," he said.

He said he would not object to the bills if the committee adopted his amendment that would make the illegal

snared a crime only if they caught or killed a dog, which he said was the impetus behind the language.

The committee rejected his amendment.

### Tours Of Capitol Dome Interior Banned For Safety Reasons

As exterior renovation of the Capitol nears completion, including a stunning restoration of the dome's exterior, the state's Capitol Commission on Tuesday adopted a policy that bans tours of the dome's interior.

The commission policy does allow for exceptions but acted on the advice of architects and out of fear that with the exterior restoration complete, requests for tours inside the narrow chambers between the skin of the dome and the rotunda would increase. The area is so narrow and packed with lighting and other fixtures that the Lansing Fire Department has actually developed a technical rescue protocol should anyone become ill or injured in the dome compartment.

The policy was one of many decisions the commission made, which included a new procedures manual for using public spaces and which calls for groups using the interior to, in some cases, pay a damage deposit or provide an insurance rider.

Commission chair and House Clerk Gary Randall said he was concerned that requests for tours of the interior of the dome would become more numerous.

But the interior is extremely narrow, and to go up through the interior requires going through a sliding door known as the guillotine and up a small ship's ladder. If someone were to have a heart-attack or get injured, it would be extremely difficult to get them out, he said.

But the commission did not approve, on a 4-1 vote, a total ban of access to the dome interior. Under the proposal passed, workers conducting maintenance would be allowed in the area and the commission could make exceptions for some situations to allow others into the dome's interior.

Senate Secretary Jeff Cobb, who said some legislators had expressed an interest in going into the dome's interior with visitors, voted against the proposal.

The commission also decided that Capitol employees who work on weekends will be paid time and one-half instead of accumulating compensatory time.

With the exterior renovations nearing completion, the continuing work on the Capitol will switch to the interior with a series of projects. The first will be completion of a project the state had to rush into action when it discovered during the summer the ceiling on the first floor corridor of the Senate's section was sagging and in danger of collapse.

Following that work, the state will focus on repairing and renovating the ceiling on the ground floor.

The state has some \$500,000 worth of decorative painting to complete, but it is also having difficulty finding a decorative painter to hire. The craft is so specialized it is hard to lure experienced painters away from the companies they now work for, the commission said.

Commission members were also excited that next year, replicas of two large gas lamps that greeted the public

from 1879 until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century will be returned to their place at the entrance of the walkway to the Capitol at the intersection of Michigan and Capitol Avenues.

In June 2016, the commission is planning to hold an event, open to the public, honoring the workers who handled the renovation, and showing off the lamps and redone garden beds.

**MODILLIONS FOR SALE:** As part of the exterior renovation more than 200 sandstone modillions from under the cornice surrounding the roofline of the Capitol were removed and replaced with new, hand-cut sandstone modillions, each weighing 47 pounds.

And as a result, the Capitol Commission decided to offer at least 100 of the old modillions, which were in place since the Capitol was completed in 1879, to the public. The rest were considered too badly deteriorated for public sale.



These old modillions from the Capitol will be among those sold to the public.

Modillions are decorative brackets used under a cornice, especially in buildings with Corinthian or Ionic architectural features. Modillions are seen in castles, cathedrals and other larger public buildings.

Commission member and former Capitol Facilities Director Kerry Chartkoff said it may be surprising

how popular the modillions could be. When the initial renovation of the Capitol was completed in 1992, there were some original materials to the Capitol that couldn't be reused. Instead of just sending the goods to a landfill, the state decided to re-enact an auction of the materials that was held in 1879 - when materials not used were sold to the public.

Ms. Chartkoff said she was surprised at the interest and excitement the public had at that auction.

At a little more than 40 pounds, each modillion will probably have a specific decorative purpose for the people buying them.

The commission set a price of \$100 minimum on the pieces. The first 50 will be sold for \$100 each, with the buyers selected through a lottery. Persons interested in the modillions will be able to send a postcard to the Capitol facilities office to participate.

The remaining 50 will be sold through a mail auction, with bidders assigning a price in their letter to the state.

The commission will announce details of the lottery and auction at a later time.

And anyone not lucky enough to buy one of the modillions will get another chance: in 100 years when the new set of modillions will likely be replaced.

#### Committee Ups Penalties For Failing To Yield

Failing to yield to an approaching emergency vehicle, currently a civil infraction, would be increased to a misdemeanor, or a felony in the event that failing to yield caused injury or death to emergency personnel, under legislation reported from the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday.

The bills, [SB 421](#) and [SB 422](#), come in the wake of the death of a Lansing-area firefighter who prosecutors allege was deliberately run down while trying to collect money for charity, as well as another incident in June in Holland in which four people - a patient, paramedic, and two firefighters - were hospitalized after an ambulance was involved in a crash with a pickup truck that failed to yield to the ambulance.

"When there is an emergency, every second counts," said [Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr.](#) (D-East Lansing), sponsor of SB 421, as he rattled off various statistics exemplifying just that.

Mr. Hertel said the bill would bring penalties in line with those associated with violating the state's move-over law. A person who failed to yield to an emergency vehicle and caused injury to a police officer, firefighter or other emergency response personnel in the immediate area of the approaching emergency vehicle would be guilty of a felony punishable by a maximum fine of \$1,000 and/or up to two years' imprisonment.

If an individual failed to yield and caused death to a police officer, firefighter or other emergency response personnel, an individual would be charged with a felony punishable by a maximum fine of \$7,500 and/or up to 15 years' imprisonment.

"We must ensure the punishment fits the crime," Mr. Hertel said.

[Sen. Patrick Colbeck](#) (R-Canton Township) raised an issue with the increased sentences.

"For somebody who was distracted, was thinking about the hectic schedule ahead, and in one case they have an injury and in another somebody dies on it, it's tough for me to put somebody away for that long of time considering the disruption to family (due to imprisonment)," Mr. Colbeck said.

But Mr. Hertel was unimpressed.

"I'm happy to continue conversations, but I think it's no less egregious not to move over than it is to not allow somebody with flashing lights to pass," he said.

And [Sen. Rick Jones](#) (R-Grand Ledge), chair of the committee and sponsor of SB 422, told Mr. Colbeck those are maximum penalties. Rarely, except in the most egregious of cases, does a court incur those penalties upon a violator of the law, he said.

The two bills, reported unanimously, are tie-barred and would take effect 90 days after their enactment.

**GOOD SAMARITAN LAW:** On a related note, the committee also reported [SB 427](#), which would include licensed emergency medical service providers in the Good Samaritan law. The law provides immunity from liability for certain health care professionals who provide care at the scene of an emergency, provide emergency care to someone who requires it as a result of a sports-related injury, or who responds to a life-threatening emergency in a hospital or other medical care facility when the person's actual hospital duty doesn't require a response.

Group: Lobbyists Spent \$21M To Lobby State In First Half Of Year

In the first seven months of the year, lobbying firms spent \$21 million on efforts to lobby legislators, the Michigan Campaign Finance Network said Tuesday.

That figure is up 1.4 percent from the same period in 2014, according to the MCFN.

Leading the way on spending was Governmental Consultant Services, Incorporated, at \$947,832, followed by Karoub Associates, Kelley Cawthorne, RWC Advocacy, the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, Public Affairs Associates, Midwest Strategy Group, Muchmore Harrington Smalley Associates, Kandler Reed Khoury and Muchmore and the Michigan Credit Union League, the MCFN said.

### MSF Approves \$3M For Monroe Port

The Michigan Strategic Fund on Tuesday approved up to \$3 million in repayable funds from its Investment Fund for the city of Monroe to make improvements to the Port of Monroe.

"These improvements will transform the Port of Monroe into a center of economic activity and a premier general cargo handling facility on the Great Lakes," MEDC CEO Steve Arwood said in a statement. "The project will promote further growth and investment in the Port and the region, and will lead to new jobs for Michigan residents."

The project expands trade routes and cargo opportunities, calls for dredging the River Raisin and a range of other improvements to increase accessibility to the port, the MEDC said. The impact is expected to cause fewer cargo delays and accommodate larger vessels with increased shipping capacity. The dramatic improvements in shipping efficiency are expected to generate a major economic impact to the Monroe region, it said.

"This is outstanding news for Monroe and the entire region," Sen. Dale Zorn (R-Ida) said of the approval, in a statement. "The port is the industrial, commercial and recreational gateway to Monroe and is Michigan's only port on Lake Erie, yet its aging infrastructure has limited its accessibility."

The MSF also approved a Brownfield Work Plan worth about \$3.6 million, the tax revenue generated as a result of the work plan to be used to repay the Investment Fund.

"As we consider policies to help promote job creation and economic development, it is important to remember the key role that our infrastructure plays in our economy," Mr. Zorn said. "These improvements will increase the accessibility and efficiency of the Port of Monroe - leading to fewer cargo delays, reduced wear and tear on regional roadways, and a substantial increase in the opportunity for new trade."

Located on the western edge of Lake Erie, the port provides direct access to all five of the Great Lakes and serves 17 states. The improvements will not only promote new cargo opportunities but will ship and receive materials for the port's existing tenants, including DTE Energy, Michigan Paving & Materials, Gerdau MACSTEEL, Ford Motor Company and Ventower, the MEDC noted.

### Carhartt Expands, Valiant International Locates In Auburn Hills

Garment manufacturer Carhartt, founded in Detroit in 1889, will expand its headquarters in Dearborn to create 215 jobs, and auto systems maker Valiant International will expand its North American presence with the purchase of a facility in Auburn Hills after both received grants from the Michigan Strategic Fund.

Carhartt, best known for work clothes such as jackets, coats, overalls, coveralls, and more, will invest nearly \$18.6 million and create 215 jobs, resulting in a \$1.35 million Business Development Program performance-based grant from the MSF, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation announced Tuesday.



Michigan was chosen over competing sites on the East and West coasts where "top-tier talent related to the garment industry is more readily available," the MEDC noted in a statement.

The Strategic Fund also approved a \$2.3 million grant for the purchase of an 187,000-square foot facility in Auburn Hills for Valiant International Inc. The project is expected to generate a private capital investment of \$32.7 million and create 223 jobs over the next three years, the MEDC said.

"We proudly welcome Valiant to the global automotive capital," said MEDC CEO Steve Arwood, in a statement. "We appreciate their commitment to the Michigan economy, and know they'll find Michigan is the preeminent business environment to grow their endeavors in the automotive, aerospace, defense, and construction industries."

The company is based in Windsor, Ontario.

As part of the move to Auburn Hills, the company will consolidate its Troy-based sales operation and establish a skilled-trade training site for apprentices to learn machine operating, welding, robot programming and other metal-working skills, the MEDC said. It also plans to partner with local government, community stakeholders, colleges, trade schools and private businesses to attract high-wage workers. In fact, the skilled trades positions at the company are expected to pay on average \$47 per hour, the MEDC noted.

**NEAPCO DRIVELINES, LLC:** The auto manufacturer plans to expand its driveline operations in van Buren Township and expand its headquarters in the metro Detroit area, investing \$57.7 million and creating 167 jobs, the MEDC said. As a result, it was awarded a \$1.5 million grant. Michigan was chosen over a competing site in Mexico.

**REVITALIZATION PROGRAMS:** HM Ventures Group 6, LLC, plans to renovate the historic Wurlitzer Building located on Broadway in the heart of downtown Detroit into a mixed-use boutique hotel to include 106 hotel rooms, a street level cafe, restaurant, retail and meeting space, and a rooftop bar. It will generate a total capital investment of nearly \$22.3 million and create 48 permanent, full-time jobs, the MEDC said, resulting in a \$3.5 million Community Revitalization Program loan. The MSF also approved \$1.76 million in local and school tax capture to the Detroit Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to prepare the site for redevelopment.

In Grand Rapids, OHM, LLC plans to renovate the vacant, historic Rowe Building into a mixed-use building to include retail and residential space with sublevel parking. The project is expected to serve as a catalyst in the revitalization of the north side of downtown, the MEDC said, investing nearly \$26.9 million and creating 15 full-time jobs. It earned a \$5.4 million revitalization loan. MSF also approved \$2.58 million in local and school tax capture to the Grand Rapids Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for brownfield alleviation, site preparation and infrastructure improvements for the project.

MSF also approved the following:

- \$2.5 million in funding to continue the Michigan Pre-Seed Fund 2.0 which provides loans or equity to early stage companies;
- Private activity bond authorizing resolution for Lutheran Homes of Michigan, Inc. to acquire and improve a 72-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility known as Lutheran Woods located in Livonia;

- An extension of a business and tourism marketing and advertising services contract with McCann Erickson USA, Inc.; and
- An extension of a business and travel public relations services contract with Weber Shandwick.

### Kildee Calls For Independent Test Of Flint Water

After meeting with state and federal environmental officials Monday, U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee said he is not confident that enough is being done to ensure Flint's water supply is safe and called for independent testing.

The city has been hit by a number of complaints in recent months, including tests showing unsafe levels of some chemicals as well as discoloration.

Mr. Kildee (D-Flint) said officials with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Environmental Quality and the city told him the water is being tested, but he said in a statement he was not convinced the testing was correct or sufficient.

"So far, I have been given no reason to have confidence in the current testing results," he said. "For example, it is unclear if homes sampled also took part in previous tests, which could have shown trends in water quality."

Mr. Kildee called for independent testing of the city's water that would include more homes.

"Flint residents deserve absolute transparency when it comes to the quality of their water," he said. "Additionally the city, DEQ and EPA must work together to ensure the immediate safety of Flint's drinking water, including any temporary relief until a long-term solution can be completed."

The Coalition for Clean Water echoed Mr. Kildee's call for additional testing and for providing residents with other sources of water until the system can be tested and repaired.

The group said its own testing showed corrosion problems in the city's water system.

"The Coalition demands the water source be switched back to Detroit water immediately as it is many times less corrosive than Flint River Water," the group said in a statement. "Even with the belated addition of corrosion control, extensive damage has been done to the pipeline infrastructure, and switching to Detroit water would be the best preparation for the eventual transition to KWA pipeline water while providing the best prospects of controlling lead and iron corrosion."

**RIVER RAISIN:** The DEQ announced Tuesday that the EPA had removed beneficial use impairment designations related to fish and wildlife populations and habitat from the River Raisin.

"Restoration of these beneficial uses means the fish and wildlife habitat in the River Raisin has vastly improved and can support healthy populations," DEQ officials said in a statement.

### Longtime Prison Warden Barred From MDOC Property

The longtime warden of two Muskegon-area prisons has been stop-ordered and barred from entering Department of Corrections property, pending an investigation.

Mary Berghuis, the warden of the Earnest C. Brooks and West Shoreline Correctional facilities, was stop-

ordered pending further investigation, said Corrections spokesperson Holly Kramer.

Ms. Kramer said she could not release any details about why the department stop-ordered Ms. Berghuis, the warden of the Brooks facility for 15 years and a longtime department employee before becoming warden, because the situation remains the subject of an internal investigation.

Shane Jackson, the deputy warden at the Muskegon Correctional Facility, was named acting warden for the two prisons Ms. Berghuis oversees.

Capital Notebook

**DIFS CEASE AND DESIST ORDERS:** The Department of Insurance and Financial Services has issued four new cease and desist orders for four different individuals, whose case can be found by clicking on their name: [Nichole Aloisie](#), [Cynthia Montalvo](#), [Vanessa Munoz](#), and [Edy Garcia Barba](#).

A list of all the Director's Orders can be found on the DIFS [website](#).

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## **Wednesday, September 23**


**Public Service Commission, 7109 West Saginaw, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. ([Agenda](#))**

**124 West Allegan Street, Suite 1200**

**Lansing Michigan 48933**

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**Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.**

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## Michigan Report for Tuesday, October 20, 2015

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Teacher, Administrator Evaluations Head To Snyder

Ananich: 'Troubling' Finds On Flint Water Crisis

Pavlov Taking Time On DPS Plan, Third Grade Reading Bill

'Kevin's Law' Update Clears House

Hertel, Colbeck Debate On Roads Drifts Into Other Issues

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Senate Panel Approves Ban On Marketing To Students

Snyder Signs Civil Asset Forfeiture Bills

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## Volume #54, Report #208 -- Tuesday, October 20, 2015

### Cotter, Meekhof Now Tangling On Roads

Efforts to find a way to generate \$1.2 billion more for the state's roads further devolved Tuesday when Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof and House Speaker Kevin Cotter disagreed, publicly and privately, about the next step to take to break the stalemate on the issue.

Governor Rick Snyder, Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) and Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) met in Mr. Meekhof's office for a little less than an hour Tuesday with staff, other legislators and Lt. Governor Brian Calley. The meeting began about a half-hour after Mr. Meekhof took the unusual step of publicly calling for the House to convene conference committees and put before the House the "deal" for a vote.

That "deal" is the 400-400-400 plan that relies upon \$400 million in new revenue from raising the gasoline tax by 6.5 cents per gallon, \$400 million from fees, largely through ending the depreciation in new vehicle registration fees and \$400 million from the General Fund.

"There's other bells and whistles, but that's the base plan," Mr. Meekhof told reporters after session. "The drafts are completed, so no other work needs to be done. I have the drafts ready. A conference committee could meet. And I'm asking them to call the conference committee, put the last best deal we had on the table up for a vote, and go get the votes."

Mr. Cotter, exiting the leadership meeting later, asked if he could comment on the situation, simply said, "No."

Cotter spokesperson Gideon D'Assandro later dismissed Mr. Meekhof's request.

"Senate Majority Leader Meekhof abruptly left the last quadrant meeting early because Rep. Greimel changed his mind on an income tax cut, so he should know there is no deal," he said. "Speaker Cotter has been working with the governor on the issue since then, and he remains hopeful we can find reliable support for a permanent road funding solution."

Adding to the acrimony, later in the day, WOOD-TV, the NBC affiliate in Grand Rapids, aired a story in which House Minority Leader Tim Greimel (D-Auburn Hills) went further on the manner in which Mr. Meekhof allegedly left the last Legislative Quadrant meeting with the governor.

"I want to continue talking with the other quadrant leaders. I made that very clear last week when Arlan rushed out of the room like a child when he couldn't get his way," Mr. Greimel told WOOD-TV.

Meekhof spokesperson Amber McCann said Mr. Meekhof would not comment "on the actions of his colleagues" in quadrant meetings, saying those meetings are for frank conversations.

As to Mr. Cotter's rejection of Mr. Meekhof's request, she said, "I would find it surprising that the speaker and ... Representative Greimel aren't interested in moving the process forward."

Legislative sources, speaking on condition they not be named, said Mr. Cotter now plans to try to see if the House, using mainly Republican votes, can pass a new plan and essentially dare the Senate and Mr. Snyder to say no. Several sources said, at least initially, Mr. Cotter is considering another try at the 600-600 plan (\$600 million in new revenue and \$600 million dedicated from the General Fund).

The House took a stab at a 600-600 plan in August, but it faltered because House Republicans were short of the votes in their caucus, and Mr. Snyder declared \$600 million from the General Fund was too much without addressing other pressures on it, such as the coming sunset of the Health Insurance Claims Tax, a key source of Medicaid funding.

A week ago, Mr. Snyder and Mr. Cotter declared an "impasse" in negotiations for a bipartisan deal for road funding. The main problem was that Mr. Greimel resisted the size of the income tax cut Republicans were seeking.

The quadrant has not met since that meeting.

"The House has this in their lap and they have the ability to act, and I'm asking them to act," Mr. Meekhof said. "I think to say it this way, the plan we put forward guarantees the road funding and gambles on the fact we'd have revenue for tax relief."

And Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) seemed to agree.

"There's a point in time where we do have to have some action," Mr. Ananich said. "I get the point he's talking about ... the House has kind of Charlie Brown-ed us a number of times on these roads deals."

Mr. Ananich said he has some concerns about the proposal by his Senate Republican colleagues because it does not account for a potential downturn in the economy.

"It's similar to Proposal A in that it only ever goes down, it doesn't go up. If there's a bad year or a series of bad years, that cut would compound the problem, and we've seen it's difficult to raise taxes," Mr. Ananich said. "So I'm hopeful we can have a conversation and figure out a plan that meets the need of tax relief but at the same time doesn't put the budget in a long-term sustainability issue."

Mr. Snyder, leaving the leadership meeting, said he appreciates where Mr. Meekhof is coming from with a call for the House to vote, but did not make the same request.

"There's an issue for the House and the Senate to have dialogue and discussion because it's a conference committee issue, but ... that last plan was a pretty reasonable compromise," he said.

Business Leaders for Michigan and the Michigan Municipal League issued a joint statement supporting Mr. Meekhof's call for the House to bring the 400-400-400 plan to a vote and also warning against any plan using more than \$400 million from the General Fund for roads, saying it would jeopardize other key services.

Teacher, Administrator Evaluations Head To Snyder

Only two senators opposed supporting a revamped proposal that provides a framework for educator evaluations on Tuesday, sending the bill that had just been passed by the House last week to Governor Rick Snyder for his approval.

Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor) and Sen. Coleman Young II (D-Detroit) voted in opposition to SB 103, and Sen. Mike Green (R-Mayville) was absent from session.

The bill has seen something of a wild ride in the Legislature, as it first passed the Senate back in May, but with much more dissent (See Gongwer Michigan Report, May 20, 2015). Among those who had first opposed to the bill's passage was Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) who, when she served in the state House last term, worked alongside Rep. Adam Zemke (D-Ann Arbor) to craft a bill.

Ms. O'Brien supported the bill that passed the Senate 35-2 on Tuesday, saying she felt many stakeholders had been included in the process and were actually heard this time.

"It's focused on good, sound, education policy," Ms. O'Brien said of the final version Tuesday.

The House began taking up SB 103 in June, but before long it became clear there was too much distance between what the House Education Committee chair, Rep. Amanda Price (R-Park Township), envisioned for the bill and what Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-St. Clair), chair of the Senate Education Committee, had in mind. Making matters worse is that an adviser for Governor Rick Snyder in June told the House committee that Mr. Snyder did not support the bill in its current form (See Gongwer Michigan Report, June 18, 2015).

"I think the districts started realizing that if we don't make this happen now, they'll be under current law, and current law just wasn't going to be acceptable," Mr. Pavlov told reporters of what finally broke the log-jam on the matter. "So we wanted to make sure going into this school year that teachers, administrators and boards knew there was going to be a new policy in evaluating teachers that was better than current law, and I think that's what really started moving the discussion."

The bill heading to Mr. Snyder now establishes both training requirements and options for school districts and public school academies to develop their own teacher evaluation tool or make modifications to an existing tool. It also the funding for training must come from the Educator Evaluation Reserve Fund.



The Department of Education would also have to establish and maintain a list of teacher and administrator evaluation tools, and the list would have to, at the very least, include the tools recommended by the Michigan Council on Educator Effectiveness in 2013. Districts do not have to use the same tool for teachers and administrators.

For teachers, beginning in the 2018-19 school year, 40 percent of the year-end evaluation would be based on student growth, with half coming from the state assessment and half coming from a local assessment.

For administrators, beginning immediately, 25 percent of the annual evaluation would be based on student growth and assessment data. The data is an aggregate of student growth data used in teacher evaluations in the district where the administrator works.

Sen. David Knezek (D-Dearborn Heights) praised the bill on Tuesday as providing "clearly defined evaluation expectations to help create a system of effective teacher evaluation accountability," as well as allows for more local decision-making.

"This bill as amended will help us hold our educators accountable and ensure our students are receiving a quality education in the state of Michigan," Mr. Knezek said.

SB 103 also provides \$14.8 million for districts to train administrators and teachers on the use of new evaluation tools.

The bill was well-received by various education interests, especially those had been pushing for such reforms since the first report from the Michigan Council on Educator Effectiveness years ago.

"Although the legislation passed by the House and Senate does not contain all of the council's recommendations, it does change the focus of evaluations," Michigan Education Association President Steven Cook said in a statement. "Instead of punishment, the goal of evaluations is now aimed at improving classroom instruction. In creating the Ball Commission and using its report as a guide, the Legislature acknowledged that experts in the field are invaluable in guiding education reform forward. That too is a change for the better."

Others were pleased to see the bill's final passage but looked to the Department of Education for leadership going forward.

"Michigan has not invested in nor developed new systems to better train and support Michigan's existing teachers. "We've done even less for school leaders," said Amber Arellano, executive director of The Education Trust-Midwest, in a statement. "Now the Department of Education can change that. It will need to play an unprecedented leadership role in systems change, oversight and ensuring the new system is providing sophisticated feedback to teachers, improving instruction across all districts and dramatically raising student achievement. Combined with the state's new college- and career-ready standards for teaching and learning, this is a huge opportunity for Michigan students."

The Tri-County Alliance for Public Education, which includes superintendents from Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties, also applauded the vote by the Senate.

"Effective teachers and administrators can make all the difference in the world when it comes to educating our kids, and constructive evaluation will strengthen teaching in our classrooms," said Russel Pickell, superintendent of Riverview Community Schools.

"We commend Senator Pavlov and the Michigan Legislature for working in good faith with educators on this legislation," said Mark Burton, executive director of the Alliance. "His leadership on this issue should be held up as an example of how legislators can learn from those on the frontlines of education to achieve our common goals and ensure our kids are prepared for college and a career."

And officials with the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals said passing the bill in its H-8 form was "an important milestone" for the state's principals, but more work still needs to be done.

"Educators finally have a clear target: implementing improvement-focused evaluations and growing the quality of all educators. Today's vote validates the work of the schools that have already begun the hard job of implementing quality evaluation systems and will support those districts that still need to make the transition," the group said in a statement. "Regardless, there is still plenty of difficult work ahead to implement this new law, improve our collective performance and ensure that every student benefits from the expertise of skillful educators. The Department of Education also has a significant role to play moving forward in providing guidance for schools and allocating the funding appropriated to support these systems."

#### Ananich: 'Troubling' Finds On Flint Water Crisis

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich said Tuesday it is "really troubling" that individuals within the Drinking Water Division of the Department of Environmental Quality spent more time protecting their reputation than they did protecting citizens, but he wouldn't go so far as to call for DEQ Director Dan Wyant to resign or be fired.

"I think we need to have a thorough investigation before we make any decisions about who should be fired or anything like that. I think it's clear he sees the gravity of the problem in his department, and I think he's learning that every day," Mr. Ananich told reporters after session. "But we have to get the bottom of how folks in the Drinking Water Division could so blatantly do everything they can in their power to hide the truth from the public, and that's pretty clearly what they did. "

The Flint Journal recently reported that emails exchanged among several DEQ and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials show flags had been raised about lead possibly leaching into Flint's water system some seven months ago.

Mr. Ananich said he's had some preliminary conversations with Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) about next steps the Legislature could take to ensure accountability and

help the citizens of his hometown regain trust in their water, their elected officials and their government. But Mr. Ananich said the two need to have more formal discussion about a course of action.

Mr. Ananich said he was also in the process of sending a request to the state's auditor general, who happens to be auditing the drinking water division, to add a few questions about the process and procedures in place in the event that a situation like has happened in Flint were to break out.

"When you get an email from somebody on your personal account, four or five people, and none of them have the self-respect for my community to say, 'hmm, maybe I shouldn't do this, maybe I should take this to the next level,' that's a problem," Mr. Ananich said. "That's a cultural problem that people would be more concerned about hiding something than telling the public the truth, and it's really troubling."

He said he felt there ought to be an investigation, though he wasn't immediately sure the form that could take. He hoped it would be independent, he said, and that "if things come out that people were negligent or purposeful in their actions, I think there needs to be some very serious consequences."

He also suggested a possible avenue is through the recently-created Senate Oversight Committee, especially because the House has a committee of the same name too.

"But I think with a department that's got such a heavy responsibility and one division in particular has shown that for the last 18 months they've failed, that warrants our involvement," Mr. Ananich said. "We have to get to the bottom of it. Every day more and more information comes out and it just gets worse."

### Pavlov Taking Time On DPS Plan, Third Grade Reading Bill

Sen. Phil Pavlov may have cleared one major hurdle on Tuesday when the Senate passed a bill outlining a framework for the evaluation of teachers and administrators, but more work is still in front of him when it comes to potentially leading in the Senate on Governor Rick Snyder's recently announced plan for Detroit Public Schools, as well as a bill on third-grade reading proficiency that passed the House last week.

Mr. Pavlov (R-St. Clair), chair of the Senate Education Committee, said he is reviewing the proposal by Governor Rick Snyder on how to revamp Detroit Public Schools and pay down its debts without harming education for the students enrolled in the district (See Gongwer Michigan Report, October 19, 2015).

"We've been meeting with the leaders and the coalition over the last several months. I think it's got a long way to go, but I think again, there's a need there," he told reporters after session. "There's a crisis looming. So we'll work through that just like we have with any other issue."

Mr. Pavlov said one of his preliminary concerns about the plan is school of choice, and the ability of parents and students to have "unfettered choice to educational opportunities" without be penalized, he said.

But he's also concerned about the amount of funding that Mr. Snyder is requesting for the Legislature, "because you're taking that from all other students in the state of Michigan," Mr. Pavlov said.

Although some believe the plan could start over in the Senate, Mr. Pavlov said he was not immediately sure himself, but the Senate GOP caucus has a great deal of interest in the proposal.

As to whether he could personally support something like what Mr. Snyder is asking, especially given how much money and effort has already been given to Detroit, Mr. Pavlov said, "I'm not convinced anybody is willing to go and reward bad behavior, but we do have a problem and that is that these kids need to be educated. So there's got to be a balance there."

He said he thought it to be "a big ask" to try to get the deal on DPS done by the end of the year, seeming a little more open to a timeframe that is before the beginning of the next school year.

"I think some of these issues are going to work themselves out over time, and to put a timeframe and predict when that would happen is going to be very difficult from where we are today," Mr. Pavlov said.

**READING PROFICIENCY:** Mr. Pavlov's committee was also assigned the task Tuesday of reviewing [HB 4822](#), a bill designed to get elementary students reading proficiently before entering fourth grade. The bill cleared the House last week with only three Democratic lawmakers in support - although it had cleared committee with support from the Democrats (See [Gongwer Michigan Report, October 15, 2015](#)).

Mr. Pavlov said he has no specific timeframe on the bill, admitting he hadn't really followed the issue very closely in the House until this point.

"I think we've clearly identified there's a problem here in this state. There's a number of issues I'm concerned about," he said. "We've made the largest investment in the country on early childhood education. We're asking the questions - when are those results going to start showing up? Why are kids still getting into third grade with all this additional support and still not having the highest proficiencies in reading. We're not just looking at third grade reading, we need to look at the Great Start program all the way through third grade."

'Kevin's Law' Update Clears House

Family and friends would be permitted to get mental health treatment for a person close to them before an unfortunate incident under legislation passed by the House Tuesday.

In 2004, former Governor Jennifer Granholm signed "Kevin's Law" in honor of Kevin Heisinger, who was beaten to death in a Kalamazoo bus/train station by a man with schizophrenia who stopped taking his medication.

Current law allows judges to order involuntary assisted outpatient treatment, but only after a major incident occurs.

Under [HB 4674](#), which passed 103-2, sponsored by [Rep. Tom Leonard III \(R-DeWitt Township\)](#), a family member or friend would be allowed to petition the court and allow judges to order outpatient treatment for those who have had their mental illness confirmed by a physician, all without a crime being committed.

"This reform is sorely needed because current law makes it very difficult for people who might not recognize the severity of their situation to obtain the treatment they need," Mr. Leonard said in a statement. "In the same vein, we must guarantee individuals' due process rights are protected by providing legal counsel to guide them through the court process if they believe AOT is not necessary. This protects both the public safety and the privileges of the individual."

Supporters have said under current law (passed about a decade ago), a crisis needed to occur before intervention could happen, and communities have been confused by the complexity of "Kevin's Law" and it hasn't been used much.

"We must make public safety - including the well-being of the individual in need of care - a priority in this type of situation, but also ensure that their rights remain protected. This legislation strikes that delicate balance." Mr. Leonard said. "I want to thank Lt. Gov. Calley for bringing this issue to my attention, and for the strong leadership he has shown working to protect our state's most vulnerable citizens."

HB 4674 does the following:

- Offers early intervention, since current law requires a serious incident that might endanger public safety to occur before AOT may be requested;
- Simplifies the process of seeking court-appointed treatment; and
- Allows a judge to order AOT before an incident has occurred that could cause injury to the prospective patient or a member of the public.

Hertel, Colbeck Debate On Roads Drifts Into Other Issues

A debate between two sitting senators that was supposed to be on the fundamental question over whether a tax increase is a necessary component of a final road funding solution went a bit off topic Tuesday as other issues such as the cost of health care, maintaining prevailing wage and fewer taxes on the middle class found their way into the hour-long back-and-forth.

Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton Township) was pleased last week when Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. (D-East Lansing) took him up on a challenge Mr. Colbeck had earlier raised to his colleagues about having a public debate on the necessity of a tax increase as a component for a road funding solution. But what began as a fairly civil disagreement on whether the objective was to raise \$1.2 billion or to fix the roads in a manner that made them more sustainable eventually turned into a debate about the philosophical differences between Democrats and Republicans.

Mr. Colbeck began the discussion, saying he hoped to obtain an agreement that he and Mr. Hertel were trying to solve the same problem - a search that would come back perhaps in a manner he hadn't expected to, which is, not at all. Mr. Colbeck said beyond that key point, he wanted to debate his proposal, which in brief was to reprioritize existing funds, reduce expenses on fixing roads, leverage existing resources, and, if none of those were amicable, talk a tax increase.

Mr. Hertel took his opening statement in a completely different direction, saying that while he agreed funding Michigan's roads is the single-most important issue facing the state today, "I think people are frustrated because under this governor and this Legislature, they're paying more in taxes and they're not getting much out of it," he said. "I think people are frustrated with the massive tax cuts that have gone to corporations and have not gone to helping people in their everyday lives."

And he called Mr. Colbeck's proposal "a math problem" that focused more on logistics than it did on creating a long-term, sustainable funding solution for the state's roads and bridges.

"You believe the objective is to find \$1.2 billion. I believe the objective is to find a way to fix roads faster than they degrade," Mr. Colbeck shot back.

Mr. Hertel returned, "\$1.2 billion is the number the experts have come up with, not me. That's to maintain our current road system. I think we should invest more money into research and development to build longer lasting roads, but that's not been talked about in the Legislature."

The disagreement on the \$1.2 billion number would continue, as Mr. Colbeck argued the problem could be smaller at about \$700 million if the state would invest more into roads materials that were more sustainable, such as those being developed at the University of Michigan. Mr. Colbeck would raise other examples, but Mr. Hertel said his research into such materials and their companies is that they hadn't been tested in a practical manner, such as serving as a highway instead of a driveway, yet.

"I believe it's fiscally irresponsible," Mr. Hertel said of Mr. Colbeck's proposal, which, after some time, had finally revealed itself to involve a look at, and use of, restricted funds (which Mr. Hertel said was unconstitutional), as well as possibly using money associated with the Michigan Strategic Fund and the Budget Stabilization Fund.

Mr. Colbeck said fixing the roads ought to be considered economic development, and so the use of MSF funds would be warranted. And there is an excess of money in the BSF, so at least some of that could be directed toward roads, he said.

But Mr. Hertel ripped both as one-time solutions (though Mr. Colbeck later argued that funds from the BSF could be made into ongoing funds). He also pointed to some of the details in Mr. Colbeck's proposal, which Mr. Hertel alleged included taking money away from sexual assault prevention funds for university campuses and newborn screenings.

"I just don't understand. You can't play a legislative shell game. People pay these fees because they expect a service," Mr. Hertel said of Mr. Colbeck's proposal.

"All I'm saying is let's look into and make sure the actual funds are meeting the needs," Mr. Colbeck shot back.

Before long, the debate slid into an argument over whether to keep the state's prevailing wage and what the cost of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act has to the state, though it would eventually return to point when questions from the audience were asked, the first of which questioned whether the Department of Transportation ought to be investing more into research and development projects on roads.

"They have (the) equivalent of sand box. The problem is, we never seem to convert those projects, those sandbox items into changes of how we fix those roads. I think we need to do a better job," Mr. Colbeck said of MDOT. "We're not getting the bang for our buck we deserve."

Mr. Hertel defended MDOT, saying like other parts of the state budget, theirs has been cut "to the bone."

"I'm all for doing more for less but you can't expect that to routinely work forever," Mr. Hertel said. "If you had a plan that was sustainable, don't you think Rick Snyder would jump on it?"

Both had different takeaways from the defeat of Proposal 1, but both also had concerns about an income tax rollback.

"I'm always for a tax rollback, but I'm cautioned by the fact that one of the first things we did when I came into the Legislature was to stop a rollback," Mr. Colbeck said. "I'm not convinced it would go all the way down, because people are still fixated on raising taxes."

"It's fiscally irresponsible," Mr. Hertel said of the rollback. "It scares me to roll it down in good times but have no time to go up in bad."

### Bills Would Increase Motorcycle Safety Course Fee

The maximum fee for a motorcycle safety course would increase from \$25 to \$50 under legislation discussed in the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on Tuesday.

[HB 4853](#) and [HB 4854](#), introduced by Rep. Jim Tedder (R-Clarkston), would increase the fee and require the Department of State to waive the written knowledge test, road signal test and driving skills test for an applicant who had successfully passed a private or public motorcycle safety course.

Under the first bill, government agencies offering the motorcycle safety courses would be allowed to charge up to \$50, but could charge less if they chose.

Mr. Tedder said the fee not been increased since 1982. He said \$25 does not come close to covering the cost of the class. He also said the fee is so low, some sign up for the class but then do not show up.

Under the current program, the public entities providing the classes submit a grant request to the department for reimbursement. Mr. Tedder said because the fee is low and the Motorcycle Safety Fund has shrunk, they are not always reimbursed for the full amount spent.

"Several institutions have voiced concerns over their ability to maintain hosting the class because they are quite frankly losing money," Mr. Tedder said. "This is an opportunity to make these whole so they can continue hosting these classes."

Mr. Tedder said he took one of the courses a couple months ago, and took a class from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m.

He said at the class booklets were provided, and six hours were spent out on the course and a motorcycle was provided during the class at no additional costs.

"For \$25 I received nearly nine hours of quality instruction and at the end of that experience successfully completed a secretary of state approved test," he said.

Rep. Jeff Farrington (R-Utica) questioned why the increase was so large. "I am thrown back a little bit by a 100 percent increase in fees," he said.

Mr. Tedder said the fees were artificially maintained at a low level.

And Rep. David Rutledge (D-Ypsilanti) said he thought the fee should be \$100. "The fee has been \$25 for 30 years," he said.

American Bikers Aiming Toward Education also supports the legislation. The committee did not act on the bills.

**MDOT PRESENTATION:** Department of Transportation Director Kirk Steudle also spoke to the committee Tuesday on various efficiencies within the department and projects it's working on this year.

Mr. Steudle said the department has reduced staff by 15 percent during the last three years and combined with other efficiencies has saved \$316 million during that time.

In 2015, he said, the department has saved \$13.5 million by partnering with private entities to provide more street lights in Detroit, and saved \$22 million through bond refinancing.



Mr. Steudle said during the next five years, the department will invest \$503 million annually to repair and rebuild roads.

He said \$168 million will be invested annually to repair bridges.

The committee ran out of time and Mr. Steudle was only able to take a couple questions from committee members but will return at the request of Rep. Peter Pettalia (R-Presque Isle), the committee chair.

### Senate Panel Approves Ban On Marketing To Students

Companies that provide electronic services to schools would be prohibited from targeted marketing to students under legislation reported Tuesday from the Senate Education Committee.

The bill (SB 510), as reported, would ban advertising to students based on information the company collected on them as well as prohibit sale of any of that information.

The student or his or her parents would be permitted to request disclosure of any of the collected data, but the company would also be required to delete any or all of that data if the school district requests that.

The bill was reported unanimously with an S-2 substitute.

**SHARED TIME:** The committee also began discussions on bills (HB 4594 and HB 4790) that would allow kindergarten students to be eligible for shared time.

Current law allows students in first grade and above who are home schooled or attend a private school to take some classes at their local public school, with the school being reimbursed based on the amount of time the student spends at the public school.

Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan), sponsor of the bill, said the current law was written when kindergarten was generally part-time and so did not lend itself to shared time programs.

"Half-day kindergarten is pretty much not the rule anymore," he said. "This allows both home schoolers and private schools to work together with the public schools."

Mr. McBroom said there would need to be conflict substitutes approved when the committee moves the bills, which appeared to have general support from Republicans, to accommodate recent School Aid Act changes.

### Snyder Signs Civil Asset Forfeiture Bills

Legislation putting new limits on civil asset forfeiture, one of the few major issues in recent years that largely united both conservative and liberal legislators, was signed into law Tuesday by Governor Rick Snyder.

The package of bills sets new reporting requirements for governments and police agencies on property seized, as well as setting new stricter standards governments must follow before seizing property.

"These new reporting requirements will raise the bar so that a fair balance is struck between private property rights and law enforcement's effective ability to do their job in pursuing criminal activity," Mr. Snyder said in a statement about the seven-bill package.

The main measure, [HB 4504](#) (PA 148) requires all government entities to report any and all property seizures and forfeitures to the State Police. The State Police will then compile a report on those seizures which will be given to the Legislature and posted on the department's website.

[HB 4499](#) (PA 153) raises the threshold to "clear and convincing evidence" to seize property in nuisance abatements. And [HB 4505](#) (PA 154) the plaintiff in a controlled substance case has to show the seizing property was a violation again by the clear and convincing standard.

Also signed were [HB 4500](#) (PA 149) [HB 4503](#) (PA 150), [HB 4506](#) (PA 151) and [HB 4507](#) (PA 152) which amend different statutes to comport with the new standards.

Mr. Snyder also signed a package of Senate-House bills to help ensure individuals who rely on service animals have greater access to public facilities. The bills were created after a number of incidents where individuals were prevented entrance to some public places because they had a service animal, most commonly a dog, with them.

[SB 298](#) (PA 144) makes it a crime to deny access to someone with a service animal, or to attack a service animal. [SB 299](#) (PA 145) exempts service animals from licensing fees if they are assisting a person with a disability or a veteran with a service-related disability.

[HB 4521](#) (PA 146) requires the Department of Civil Rights to offer voluntary identification for service animals, and [HB 4527](#) (PA 147) makes it a misdemeanor to falsely identify a service animal.

Other bills signed by Mr. Snyder were:

[SB 64](#) [PATIENT CARE POLICIES \(Hansen\)](#) Requires establishment of patient care policies, PA 155 and compliance procedures based on nationally recognized guidelines or best-practice resources, and provides other general amendments.

Signed: October 19, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

[SB 65](#), [HEALTH PROFESSIONALS \(Hansen\)](#) Allows employment of or contracting with PA 156 health professional to provide medical treatment to nursing home patients regardless of business entity status of nursing home.

Signed: October 20, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

SB 66, **LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES (Hansen)** Clarifies application of definition of  
PA 157 learned profession to certain health professionals.

Signed: October 19, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

SB 67, **BUSINESS CORPORATIONS (Hansen)** Clarifies application of definition of  
PA 158 learned profession to certain health professionals.

Signed: October 19, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

SB 358, **TEACHER CERTIFICATES (Hansen)** Revises requirements for professional  
PA 159 teaching certificate and requirements for alternative teaching certificate process.

Signed: October 20, 2015; Effective: January 18, 2016

Snyder Names Two To Oakland Circuit Court

Governor Rick Snyder on Tuesday named two people to the Oakland Circuit Court, one of which was Hala Jarbou to succeed new Court of Appeals Judge Colleen O'Brien.

Also named was Jerry Matis to succeed Judge Rudy Nichols (who served in the House for two years and then was elected to the Senate in 1984 succeeding the recalled Sen. Phil Mastin. He was elected to the court in 1990).

Ms. Jarbou is currently with the U.S. Department of Justice as an assistance U.S. attorney in the Drug Task Force. She must run for full term as judge in 2016.

Mr. Matis is in private practice and is also the vice chair of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. He previously had been on the Rochester City Council. He must run in 2016 to complete the term which will end in 2020.

Committee Roundup

**HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES:** The committee began discussions Tuesday on legislation (HB 4908) to remove the sunset date on authority for the Natural Resources Commission to set regulations for recreational feeding of deer and elk.

Supporters said it was important for the commission to retain that authority as part of the effort to combat chronic wasting disease and other communicable diseases.

But Rep. Ken Goike (R-Ray Township) and Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan) argued for extending the sunset three years.

Mr. Goike said he was happy with the commission's work now, but said that could change. "Why give it away and then have to do legislation to get the power back," he said of legislative control over the commission's actions.

Rep. John Kivela (D-Marquette), sponsor of the legislation, said the legislative process takes too long. "Three years from now, chronic wasting disease is going to be more of a threat, not less," he said.

Amy Trotter with the Michigan United Conservation Clubs said it would be a waste of time to keep a sunset on the authority given the small likelihood any of the parties would reverse their support for the commission's work.

Mr. McBroom noted there was nothing that would prevent the governor from taking the authority from the commission and giving it to the director, as former Governor Jennifer Granholm had done with oversight of invasive species.

#### Campaign Notes

**GILBERT ENDORSEMENT:** The United Food and Commercial Workers Local 951 has endorsed Democrat Melissa Gilbert in her run for the 8<sup>th</sup> U.S. House District.

"Melissa has a proven track record of protecting workers' rights and supporting unions, which strengthen the voices of American workers," John Cakmakci, president of the local, said in a statement. "I am confident that she will fight for Michigan's working families in Congress."

#### Capital Notebook

**SIMON TO CHAIR AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES:** Michigan State University President Lou Anna Simon will serve as chair of the Association of American Universities for the next year. Ms. Simon was elected to the post by the association's board on Tuesday.

The association includes 62 of the top research universities in the United States and Canada, and both promotes university research and the relationship between the United States government and university research.

As chair, Ms. Simon will act as the spokesperson for the association, especially on issue that directly concern research universities.

**GORZ JOINS MAC:** Elizabeth Gorz has joined the Michigan Association of Counties as the organization's governmental affairs associate. Before joining the counties organization, she was a lobbyist at Capitol Affairs, and had been a staffer for former Senate Majority Leader and now U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop (R-Rochester), and an aide to former Sen., now U.S. Rep. John Moolenaar (R-Midland) and to Sen. Tory Rocca (R-Sterling Heights).

#### Supplemental Agency Calendar

## **Wednesday, October 21**

**Board of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 9 a.m. (Agenda; Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately following (Agenda))**

## **Wednesday, November 4**

**Criminal Justice Policy Commission, Senate Appropriations Room, Third Floor, Capitol, Lansing, 9 a.m.**

**Supplemental Event Planner**

## **Wednesday, October 28**

Rep. Julie Plawecki (D) Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 4:30 p.m.

## **Thursday, October 29**

Rep. George Darany (D) Fundraiser, LaPita Banquet Hall, 22681 Newman, Dearborn, 5 p.m.

## **Thursday, November 5**

Rep. Robert Wittenberg (D) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.

## **Thursday, November 12**

Rep. LaTanya Garrett (D) Fundraiser, 208 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, 10:30 a.m.

## **Friday, November 13**

**Rep. Sheldon Neely (D) Fundraiser, Signature Chop House, 1537 Pierson Road, Flushing, 7 p.m.**

## **Sunday, November 15**

Rep. Erika Geiss (D) Fundraiser, 24645 Muirfield Drive, Taylor, 4 p.m.

## **Sunday, November 22**

Rep. Jon Hoadley (D) Fundraiser, 277 South Rose Street, Suite 5000, Kalamazoo, 11:15 a.m.

**Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees**

## Wednesday, October 21

House Appropriations (Committee Record), (Chr. Pscholka, 373-5795), House Appropriations Room, Capitol, 9 a.m.

HB 4898 ANIMALS (McCready) Modifies pet shop, dog pound and animal shelters act to include large-scale commercial dog breeders and to make other general revisions.

House Tourism and Outdoor Recreation (Committee Record), (Chr. Rendon, 373-8474), Room 326, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

- **Presentation on Pure Michigan by David Lorenz, vice president of Travel Michigan.**

HB 4983 NATURAL RESOURCES (Rendon) Provides for prohibition on enforcement of recreational passport on free fishing weekends.

Senate Families, Seniors and Human Services (Committee Record), (Chr. Emmons, 373-5323), Room 210, Farnum Building, 3 p.m.

SB 517 UNIFORM INTERSTATE FAMILY SUPPORT ACT (MacGregor) Repeals and recreates uniform interstate family support act (UIFSA).

SB 518 FRIEND OF THE COURT (MacGregor) Updates friend of the court reference to the uniform interstate family support act.

SB 519 CHILD SUPPORT (Emmons) Updates child support reference to the uniform interstate family support act.

SB 520 PARENTING TIME (Emmons) Updates parenting time reference to the uniform interstate family support act.

## Tuesday, October 27

Senate Finance (Committee Record), (Chr. Brandenburg, 373-5312), Room 210, Farnum Building, 2:30 p.m.

HB 4461 REFUND INTEREST (McCready) modifies timeline for interest claims on refunds.

HB 4462 REFUND INTEREST (Clemente) Aligns interest claims on city income tax with Revenue Act.


HB 4685 SALES TAX ON GASOLINE (Poleski) Revises provisions for prepaid sales tax on gasoline and diesel fuel.

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## Michigan Report for Tuesday, October 13, 2015

Road Funding Talks Falter – Again

Bill Allowing Concealed Guns, Ending Open Carry In Gun-Free Zones Clears Senate Panel

House Panel Considers Banning Certain Kinds Of Abortions

Court Hears Arguments On Whether MCCA Is Public Body

Education Board Pushes Professional Development Attached To Evaluations

Education Board Objects To Mandatory Third Grade Retention

Senate Panel Debates Mandatory Expulsion

Education Board Urges No Guns In Schools

Education Board Calls For Blood Lead Testing For Flint Children

Cotter Rebuts Presumptive Parole Criticism

State Names Companies For New Medicaid Care Contract

Dems Call For Snyder To Fire DPS EM Earley Over Flint Water Crisis

Powdered Alcohol Ban Heading To Governor's Desk

Committee Roundup

Capital Notebook

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

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Senate

## **Calendars**

Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #203 -- Tuesday, October 13, 2015

### Road Funding Talks Falter - Again

Call it an impasse, a stall, hiccup or some other term, but weeks of discussions between { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) } and legislative leaders clearly suffered a setback Tuesday.

For weeks, Mr. Snyder and the Legislative Quadrant - House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1) } (R-Mount Pleasant), Senate { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1) } (R-West Olive), Senate { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1) } (D-Flint) and House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1) } (D-Auburn Hills) - have sounded upbeat about progress toward an eventual deal to raise \$1.2 billion in funds for roads.

And while not revealing details, there was a general sense that they had agreed on the road funding package but were still working out the complementary legislation needed to sell it to the rank-and-file members of each of the four legislative caucuses. So when Mr. Snyder declared after Tuesday's meeting they had hit an impasse, it was surprising, if not shocking, considering the long, difficult path efforts to win new funding for roads has taken.

"We had made a lot of progress in prior meetings. We're at an impasse now," Mr. Snyder said.

But that was not a universally accepted characterization of the situation. Mr. Meekhof described the situation as a "stall," and Mr. Greimel said he hoped the various parties had not reached an impasse.

And while Mr. Snyder gravely warned he would not continue to meet with the Legislative Quadrant on the issue absent resumption of progress, suggesting he might cancel Wednesday's meeting, by late Tuesday night, that meeting had yet to be officially scrubbed.

The problem appears to center on an income tax cut as part of the overall package. Democrats are resisting, concerned it would strain the General Fund and damage the programs that rely on it for their funds. Republicans want the income tax cut to soften the blow for their members of voting to raise taxes.

While never officially announced, the road funding package is expected to involve \$400 million from a gasoline tax hike, \$400 million from other new revenues - mainly from ending the

depreciation on vehicle registration fees in the first years of owning the vehicle - and \$400 million dedicated from the General Fund.

Mr. Snyder declined to discuss details of the meeting but said it was "fair to say people have different perspectives as to what tax relief might look like."

And Mr. Greimel said, "We would prefer tax relief that benefits fairly broad groups of incomes as opposed to the Senate Republican income tax cut that disproportionately benefits the wealthy and the well-connected."

The Senate-passed plan called for reducing the income tax rate based on a complicated formula involving how much state revenue had grown.

Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for Mr. Cotter, said House Republicans will continue to negotiate and work on a solution that fixes the roads and protects Michigan taxpayers.

"Including tax relief in the deal has been part of the negotiations from day one, and it remains a Republican priority," he said. "We put together a responsible, balanced budget this year that included \$400 million for road repairs, and we can do it again in a way that protects Michigan's hard-working taxpayers."

Mr. Snyder made it clear he saw diminishing returns to continuing to hold meetings absent more progress.

"Unless I see progress, I'm not going to schedule more," he said.

Mr. Snyder said he hoped legislative leaders would take time to reflect and understand a compromise would be needed.

Mr. Greimel called for meetings to continue.

"I am committed to continuing to meet and see if we can talk through the disagreements and reach an agreement on a road plan that is fiscally responsible and sustainable," he said. "I have also made it very clear that I am not willing to agree to any proposal that jeopardizes funding for public safety, education and health care."

Mr. Meekhof, in a statement, emphasized that the Senate had passed a road funding plan that called for an \$800 million gasoline tax hike and dedicating \$700 million from the General Fund to roads.

"Since passage of the Senate plan, I have been realistic in my expectations that ultimately a road funding plan would include compromise in order for all parties to agree," he said. "For me, taxpayers deserve long-term tax relief, especially when we are seeking additional resources to fund our roads. I am disappointed that months of discussion and progress at the leadership level have stalled, but a standstill at the leadership level is not an indication of unwillingness on the part of the Senate."

Meekhof spokesperson Amber McCann said the use of the word "stalled" instead of impasse was deliberate.

"Impasse implies a much more negative state than we're in at this point," she said. "The majority leader is still optimistic that a road funding solution is possible."

Mr. Meekhof also is willing to meet if others want to do so, Ms. McCann said.

Lance Binoniemi of the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association said he long ago had learned not to get too excited about the good developments on roads and not too upset at the bad ones.

"We've had a lot of these types of days where talks seem to break down," he said.

He also put the best face on the use of the term impasse, which he said surprised him.

"They've never had a deal in place so there's always been an impasse," he said, chuckling.

More seriously, Mr. Binoniemi said the intensity shown Tuesday was a sign that Mr. Snyder and legislative leaders are getting to the real issues of a deal.

"I haven't heard from one person out of the quadrant yet that talks are done, they've failed and they're not coming back," he said. "I remain optimistic. We've had days like this before and we've survived to the next day. Until someone throws up their hands and says it's done, we're not going to do this, I don't get too nervous."

#### Bill Allowing Concealed Guns, Ending Open Carry In Gun-Free Zones Clears Senate Panel

The Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday reported a bill that would prohibit open carry in gun-free zones such as schools, churches and hospitals, and instead allow those with concealed pistol licenses to carry a concealed firearm in those facilities.

Backers say the bill would address the problem of people openly carrying guns on or near school property, which in an age where mass shootings at schools are sickeningly common has prompted school officials to put their building in lockdown while police determine the situation. In some instances, the person openly carrying is doing so to make the point they legally have the right to do so.

But the legislation also would wipe out one of the key pieces of the 2000 overhaul of the concealed pistol license law by effectively wiping out gun-free zones. To convince then-Governor John Engler to sign a bill taking away the power of local gun boards to decide who could get a CPL and instead making licenses automatic to law-abiding applicants with no record of involuntary commitment for mental illness, the gun-free zones were established.

The committee reported two bills - one by { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" } (R-Mayville) in

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB44201" }<sup>[a]</sup>,

and the other by Senate { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive) in { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB56101" }<sup>[a]</sup>, which was just introduced and sent to the committee on Tuesday.

An amendment was adopted to Mr. Green's bill to tie-bar it to Mr. Meekhof's bill (and vice versa), as Mr. Green's bill makes the concealed carry change in the state's handgun licensure law while Mr. Meekhof's makes the concealed carry change in the penal code.

"Permit holders have lower rates for arrests and convictions than police officers," said John Lott, a pro-gun researcher and economist. "Since 1950, with just two exceptions, every mass shooting has taken place where guns are banned."

As the state's law is currently written, a person cannot possess a firearm on the premises of a financial institution, a church or other house of religious worship, a court, bar, theatre, sports arena or stadium, day care center and hospital.

Although the Senate hearing room was packed full of various opposing interests, and especially parents of school children who derided Mr. Green's legislation as unnecessary and problematic, the committee voted 4-1 to report the bills as substituted and with amendments to the full Senate floor for consideration. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601&locid=1" } (D-Warren) opposed the bill.

Testimony in opposition to SB 442 began with several church officials and then led into school officials, including the superintendent of Ann Arbor Public Schools and the Michigan Association of School Boards, among others. Several other education officials who were also CPL holders testified in opposition, followed by gun control advocates and then gun rights backers.

"We are not coming here as an association that's anti-gun, but one concerned about the safety of our students," said Don Wotruba, executive director of MASB. "(Open-carry) has become disruptive. Moving to a concealed carry system only hides the danger; it doesn't get rid of it."

Mr. Wotruba also argued that allowing concealed carry in gun-free zones such as schools could make the ability of police officers to respond to mass shooting situations more difficult in that they will first have to identify who is or is not carrying before trying to figure out which direction a shooter went or who it could be. All of that takes time away from their ability to act quickly in such a situation, he said.

But Mr. Green, speaking to reporters after the vote, said some of the people testifying against the bill, and especially the school groups, "weren't testifying on the bill."

"Every one of their statements was 'we don't want guns in schools.' It wasn't a matter of 'we've got guns in schools, let's change the law,' which is what I'm trying to do. Their whole testimony didn't really discuss what the bill was doing," he said. "I think the message that was sent today was 'we don't want guns in school,' and we understand that. We're trying to fix a fix, trying to do them a favor.

"We, as gun owners, have every right in the world to carry in most of the gun-free zones. Are we going to give that up? We're taking a step back and saying we'll cover them up if you guys are willing to do it. They don't even want that," Mr. Green said.

And he said some of the testimony spoke only to hypotheticals.

"I've always said to the stadium folks that wanted to be left in the gun-free zones, you don't even know if there's any bad guns there. You only want to disallow good guns," he said. "The debate is going back and forth about what's a gun zone, and the fact is most people could carry there today because the penalties are so light."

All told, the committee permitted slightly more than hour of testimony after Mr. Green and Mr. Lott spoke on the merits of the bill for more than 30 minutes at the start of the committee. { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1) } (R-Grand Ledge) said he sought to report the bill despite that many more people wished to testify on their position on the bill given some committee members had other meetings they had to get to. Mr. Jones said he would, however, stay to listen to anyone else who wished to speak on the matter.

After the vote, Mr. Bieda said he thought it "insulting" to the people who traveled to testify, as well as insulting to the institution. His remark was met with applause from many in the audience, which Mr. Jones immediately gavelled down.

Mr. Green was not immediately sure how soon the bill could be taken up by the full Senate.

Mr. Meekhof has said he supports the legislation, but { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) } has been opposed to essentially ending gun-free zones.

## House Panel Considers Banning Certain Kinds Of Abortions

The House Criminal Justice Committee discussed banning dilation and evacuation abortions on Tuesday, with the Republican sponsor of the bill calling the procedure "barbaric," but Democrats charged the procedure is used in 95 percent of second trimester abortions and would limit women's access to care.

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"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB483401](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB483401)" }  
banning the procedure, which in the bill is called a "dismemberment abortion," and would charge anyone who performed the procedure - except to save the mother's life - with a felony punishable by two years in prison and/or a \$50,000 fine.

Ms. Cox called the procedure cruel and said during it, "tiny, unborn humans are literally torn apart."

"It seems unconscionable to me that this type of abortion exists and it is time that this practice ended," she said.

In 2014 there were 26,321 reported abortions in the state, with 2,264 being dilation and evacuation procedures, according to the Department of Health and Human Services.

The bill defines "dismemberment" abortion as "an abortion in which the physician, an individual acting under the delegatory authority of the physician, or any other individual performing the abortion deliberately and intentionally uses any instrument, device, or object to dismember a living fetus by disarticulating limbs or decapitating the head from the fetal torso and removing the dismembered fetal body parts from the uterus regardless of whether the fetal body parts are removed by the same instrument, device, or object or by suction or other means."

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(D-Muskegon) said according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention the procedure is the safest method for women 14 weeks pregnant and later.

Ms. Cox said there are other abortion procedures available and the dilation and evacuation procedure is not necessary.

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(D-Detroit) said similar laws have been challenged in Oklahoma and Kansas and asked Ms. Cox how the state would pay for a court challenge.

"I am actually ready for the fight," Ms. Cox said. She also said the state would determine how to fund such a fight during the appropriations process.

Matt Allswede, a gynecologist and the vice chair of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Michigan chapter, said the group is alarmed at the attempt to ban physicians from providing safe and evidence-based health care.

He said according to the CDC, pregnancy complications were the sixth-leading cause of death for women between 20 and 34 years old.

"The bills create a dangerous environment for women by preventing doctors from having every option available when providing care," he said. Mr. Allswede said science, not political beliefs, should be the basis of medical decisions.

Mr. Allswede, who said he had performed the procedure last week, said it is a very intense experience.

"It is something that is very emotional for us as people as well as physicians," he said. "And yet we do it because we do believe in those circumstances it is in the best interest of the woman. Our choice to proceed with something that we may have our own emotional feelings to contend with, it's superseded by our professional commitment to do what's best for our patients."

Mr. Allswede said the reason the procedure is safer for second-term abortions is a medical abortion that creates a "mini-labor" experience. He said the medication used are sometime problematic for patients and the pro-longed process makes patients more susceptible to infections, which is the biggest threat to future fertility.

Ed Rivet, with Right to Life of Michigan, spoke in support of the bill, said the dilation and evacuation procedure facilitates the harvesting of fetal organs.

Mr. Rivet then took out a pair of forceps and brought out a plastic fetus to "demonstrate" the procedure. Mr. Rivet later told the committee he had never performed an abortion, had never seen one in person, but had seen the procedure done on a video on the internet.

"Initially I was going to apologize for the gruesomeness. You can see my hands shaking," he said after his demonstration. "But this is just the reality of it, folks. It's just the truth about how a child is torn apart, piece by piece."

Daniel Wechter, a gynecologist who is anti-abortion, said he has only had to use the procedure to save the life of a mother six times in his 41-year career. Mr. Wechter said he works with high-risk pregnancies.

He said he disagrees that the procedure is safer than others when it comes to second trimester abortions. He said of the physicians with whom he spoke who support the right to a legal abortion, they told him there is a degree of cervical trauma from the procedure.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan also spoke in opposition to the bill. In written testimony, the group said the bills are unnecessary, unconstitutional and unsafe.

The committee did not act on the bill Tuesday, but { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001&locid=1) } (R-Plymouth), chair of the committee, indicated the bill would come up in the committee again.

### Court Hears Arguments On Whether MCCA Is Public Body

If the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association is a public body, then the Legislature violated the Constitution by not making it subject to the state's Freedom of Information Act, the Supreme Court was told Tuesday. If it is not a public body, then the issue is moot.



And the MCCA in its response argued that in fact it was not a public body, that it was created as a private, non-profit agency answerable to insurance companies and not the public. While its decision on the insurance surcharge individuals have to pay on their auto no-fault insurance does have an impact on the public, the public is not actually required to pay it as the insurance companies could cover the cost, the Supreme Court was told.

The arguments before the court, in *Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault v. MCCA* (SC docket No. 150001), were to determine if the court will actually hear full arguments on the issue, or decide the case on the arguments presented.

The case drew lots of attention, as the Supreme Court chambers were crowded with people, many who were injured in auto accidents. At one point MCCA attorney Lori McAllister said the public had a lot of interest in the case, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=75601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=75601&locid=1) } joked that he thought they were all there to see the newest justice, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=394301&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=394301&locid=1) }.

Opponents of change to the no-fault system have argued for some years that the MCCA needs to open itself to public scrutiny so it can be determined how much in assets it has and the real impact it has on insurance rates.

The matter is on appeal from the Court of Appeals which held the MCCA is not a public body. The trial court had said it was a public body.

Joanne Swanson, arguing for CPAN and the Brain Injury Association of Michigan, said the issue is simply that the MCCA is a public body and that in enacting the MCCA the Legislature unconstitutionally exempted it from the FOIA and failed to amend and republish the FOIA as is required by the Constitution.

The state's no-fault law was enacted in 1972. The FOIA was enacted in 1976. Then in 1978, the Supreme Court upheld the no-fault law in the *Shaver's* decision but said the Legislature had to enact further protections to ensure insurance was affordable and that motorists had access to information about how their rates were derived. In meeting the requirement of the Supreme Court, the Legislature adopted changes to the no-fault act, and among those was adopting the MCCA.

The overall structure of the MCCA and its impact on the public makes it a public body, subject to the FOIA, Ms. Swanson said.

And the overall intent of the FOIA shows that if the Legislature intended it to not be subject to the FOIA then it had to specify which documents would not be subject to the law, she said. But the Legislature described no documents that would be exempt and, in fact, did not describe documents at all.

There are exceptions for public bodies from the FOIA, Ms. Swanson said, but the MCCA does not rise to those exceptions.

But Mr. Young asked if the issue did not hinge on a "threshold question" of whether the agency was a public body.

And Ms. Swanson acknowledged that if the MCCA was not a public body, then it was not subject to the FOIA.

Ms. McAllister agreed that was the essential issue and said the MCCA was not intended to be a public body.

"The Legislature can decide what is a public body," Ms. McAllister said, and it did not decide that the MCCA is a public body. The statute creating it clearly says the agency is a non-profit corporation that has no ability to interact with policymakers or to set policy. It has no state revenues and its benefits go to insurance companies.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=11701&locid=1" } asked if it has no impact on the public, and Ms. McAllister said that it did - through its annual assessment on auto insurance -- but the same could be said of any corporation.

And even then, Ms. McAllister said, the statute allows the insurance companies to absorb the assessment by themselves and not pass it on to the motorists.

#### Education Board Pushes Professional Development Attached To Evaluations

As the Legislature completes work on educator evaluation changes, the new law should provide opportunities for teachers to improve based on their evaluation, the State Board of Education said in approving recommendations at its meeting Tuesday.

The board unanimously recommended the Legislature approve an evaluation system designed to improve teacher performance and student learning and that provided teachers an appeal from poor evaluations.

The board did not take a specific position on { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10301" }<sup>[4]</sup>, but it urged the Legislature to retain in it all of the recommendations of the Council for Educator Effectiveness.

"The purpose of educator evaluation has never been to fire people. That is not the best practice," Deputy Superintendent Venessa Keesler said.

Rather, she said, the evaluations should show most teachers where they need to improve. "Teaching students is not a thing that's easy to do and it's not something that's static," she said. "It's about improving the effectiveness of our professionals, not about firing our way to proficiency."

Ms. Keesler acknowledged that evaluations would show some teachers that they should re-evaluate their professional choices, but she said those would be few.

But she said that those ranked ineffective remained less than 1 percent of teachers is not surprising

"I don't think that we would expect to see a significant number of our teachers who are ineffective," she said. "Most of our teachers are good teachers who can be better."

Ms. Keesler said it would be unfair at this point to draw any conclusions about the state's teacher evaluation system based on the proportions of teachers ranked highly effective, effective, minimally effective or ineffective.

"It's also important not to judge our system until we have a system," she said. "We want them to have a statewide system so that they're comparable."

The department is not urging the Legislature to adopt a single evaluation system, but is pushing to narrow down the number of tools, maybe to the four that were recommended by the Council on Educator Effectiveness that developed some of the guidance for educator evaluation systems.

Ms. Keesler noted that some 44 percent of districts are using their own evaluation system. While it is usually a modified version of one of the recommended tools, she said that still leaves teachers without comparable evaluations across districts.

Student growth should be part of the evaluation system, but Ms. Keesler said it had to be measured correctly. She said the department is urging districts to use measures beyond the state assessments.

"They may not be proficient, but that doesn't mean they haven't made growth," she said.

Board member Richard Zeile (R-Dearborn) said there are a variety of situations where a teacher's ability might not coincide with student improvement.

"Some of our lowest performing districts had the highest percentage of highly effective teachers," he said. "That might well be true."

One element of new student growth measures could be Student Learning Objectives, Norma Jean Sass, deputy superintendent for education services said in a separate presentation.

The goal of the program, which the department is currently developing, is to set goals for individual students and to measure them based on those goals.

"It's another way for the teacher to become very invested in this," Ms. Sass said.

"This is kind of an answer for those untested subjects and grades as well," Linda Forward, director of the Office of Educational Improvement and Innovation, said.

Board member Michelle Fecteau (D-Detroit) said the final system also needed to have an appeal process. She said the current plan, to allow teachers to appeal to their superintendent, was not sufficient.

She said teachers could be given poor evaluations because of their advocacy efforts rather than their actual teaching ability, and then fired based on those evaluations. "They become a target," she said. "Who's to stop that if the superintendent is complicit?"

Ms. Keesler said the department is also supporting an appeal process, but she said getting the evaluation system right could lessen the need for appeals because teachers would feel the evaluations are fair.

The board's resolution called for an appeal to an independent third party.

Districts are also at various stages in implementing evaluation systems, Ms. Keesler said. "Some well down the road," she said. "Others have been waiting for the state to provide more guidance."

She said many districts have not adopted one of the four recommended tools in part because they fear the state will mandate they use one of the others, she said.

The \$12 million the department has for training on teacher evaluation will flow through intermediate school districts and will likely be concentrated on the four recommended tools, Ms. Keesler said.

She said the funds are targeted for ISDs so the training can be more targeted to the needs of the districts. Those that already have systems well underway would not need basic implementation training, she said.

The department is holding some of the funds aside for research work, Ms. Keesler said.

"There are some things we don't know about evaluation that would help us be smarter about educator evaluation," she said. "Administrator evaluation is an area that is far less well defined in the research; that was far less well defined in the Ball report."

Deborah Ball was chair of the educator effectiveness commission.

**TEACHER TRAINING:** Michigan might not have any additional colleges to train teachers under a moratorium extended Tuesday by the board.

Department officials requested that the moratorium, which technically expired in August, be renewed until they can develop a strategy for approving new institutions.

Ms. Keesler said officials are developing a plan that would allow approval of new institutions with programs in areas where the state has teacher shortages. The new moratorium is for three

years, but Ms. Keesler said the department could come back to the board in as little as six months with a plan.

She said there had been some inquiries about creating new institutions by some out-of-state schools, but no official applications.

#### Education Board Objects To Mandatory Third Grade Retention

The state should not be requiring school districts to retain students who cannot read at third grade level, but it should require districts to have a plan to address those students, the State Board of Education said in a resolution regarding { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482201](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482201)" }

□.

Board members said retention needed to be an option, but that there was little data on the long-term effects of holding students back.

Board member Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor) suggested the idea that districts be required to create a retention policy that has to be approved by the Department of Education.

"In my eyes, retention has to remain on the table because this state has fallen behind year after year after year," Ms. Weiser said.

She said having the department approve the policy would ensure students would receive the assistance the need to get to grade level once they are retained, and hopefully before retention is needed.

Ms. Weiser had recommended the board call for mandatory retention where a district does not provide an approvable plan. "If that's not in there or there's a loophole, then we're right where we're at," she said.

But other board members recommended instead that the legislation include an "enforceable" mandate for the district plan.

"There's a lot of ways that could be accomplished," Board President John Austin (D-Ann Arbor) said.

The board, in its resolution, praised the other strategies in the bill designed to improve reading proficiency.

**SUBJECT MATTER STANDARDS:** Mr. Whiston said new science standards would likely be ready for adoption at the next board meeting, but that social studies standards would likely wait until January.

He said there had been substantial changes to the draft standards based on public input, so the department was planning to put the revised draft out again for public comment.

Officials did recommend that the board adopt, at its next meeting, new standards for preparation of teachers of world languages. The new standards are based on American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages, but with Michigan-specific elements.

### Senate Panel Debates Mandatory Expulsion

After a teacher's life was threatened by a student in Grand Rapids with no apparent recourse for the school district without the threat of being sued, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1) } developed the framework for legislation that would require a school board to expel a pupil in grade six or above who threatened to kill a school employee, volunteer or contractor.

But the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan told the Senate Education Committee on Tuesday that it is concerned such a mandatory requirement as is outlined in { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB20801"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB20801) }<sup>2</sup>, without giving discretion on a case-by-case basis, could result in poorer student outcomes and potentially more people in jail.

In addition to mandatory expulsion for threatening someone's life, a school district would not have to spend more money to provide instructional services to a permanently expelled student than the amount of per-pupil payment the school district receives, SB 208 stipulates. And school boards would be required to report all such threats to law enforcement officials and prosecutors.

The now-retired teacher that prompted the legislation, Diane Jelke, said she and other teachers and counselors did as much as they could to give the superintendent of the district reason to expel the student in question given the situation, but the district's attorney feared a lawsuit such that the verbal threat that was made - despite the attempted physical assault - was not enough to expel the student.

While sympathetic to her story, some senators were concerned about the grander implications such a law could have on students and the way schools operate. And { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101&locid=1) } (R-Evart) said that he was concerned the bill did not also include community colleges, especially given recent events elsewhere.

"The evidence shows these types of one-size fits all policies do more to harm student outcomes," said Rodd Monts, field director for the ACLU of Michigan. "When these serious incidents occur, school districts should have the tools of whether some other exclusion ... is necessary. We ask you include discretion in this legislation, that each case be reviewed against a set of exceptions."

He said that while he and the ACLU can appreciate that there will be cases where the removal of the student is best for all involved, his organization asks that such an option not be mandatory. He said what is threatening to one person may not be to another, or in some cases, the students can be taught to be better as individuals and members of society.

"There are a number of advocacy organizations that provide students and parents the help they need in these cases where (schools) don't know what to do," he said. "You can't simply suspend and expel your way out of problems."

**ECONOMICS CREDIT:** The committee did report { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB439001"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB439001) } with unanimous approval. The bill would allow one-half credit of personal economics or financial literacy to satisfy the Michigan Merit Curriculum for economics.

**ONLINE PROTECTION:** With another week of no testimony on { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB51001"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB51001) }, which would create the Student Online Personal Protection Act to essentially protect certain student information from being amassed by the operator of the system or sold, committee chair { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1) } (R-St. Clair) said he would allow the bill one more week in committee before voting it out.

### Education Board Urges No Guns In Schools

Legislation to allow only those with concealed pistol licenses to have firearms in schools, provided they remain hidden, still goes too far, the State Board of Education said Tuesday in a rare split vote.

The board, in a 7-1 vote, supported { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB426101"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB426101) } to prohibit openly carrying firearms in schools and opposed { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB44201"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB44201) } that would end open carry in but allow those permits to concealed carry in schools and a variety of other venues currently considered gun-free.

"This is something I have to spend way too much time thinking about: what happens when someone comes on campus with a gun," said board Vice President Casandra Ulbrich (D-Rochester Hills), who develops emergency management plans for Macomb Community College.

Ms. Ulbrich heads the board's legislative committee and wrote the resolution.

"There is no place for guns in schools," Board President John Austin (D-Ann Arbor) said. "If guns are around, they are going to be used, even if by accident."

Board member Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor) said she had a "unique perspective" on the issue given that her child had armed guards at school while her husband served as an ambassador.

"I will be voting for this, but the clash between personal rights and children's rights is there," Ms. Weiser said.

Board member Richard Zeile (R-Dearborn) said the proposal infringes on the right to bear arms and urged leaving the decision to the local districts.

"I'm just not sure that we can speak across the board for every school culture," he said.

And he indicated allowing weapons into the buildings could have stopped some of the recent shootings.

"It's no accident that many of these shootings have taken place in in areas where guns are outlawed and only the outlaws have guns," he said.

Michael Shibler, superintendent of Rockford Public Schools, said during public comment that he would not want anyone other than police and security staff to try to decide whether a person is dangerous.

"You cannot expect an employee of our building ... to be able to assess a person coming into our building, that person's mental state," he said.

The district instead built security vestibules in all of its buildings and visitors must be allowed past those. "Something like that is going to protect as best we can," he said.

#### Education Board Calls For Blood Lead Testing For Flint Children

All school children in Flint should have their blood tested for lead given the recent water issues there, the State Board of Education said in a resolution Tuesday.

The board called for the state to provide the blood tests in the schools or other locations convenient to parents, and to not charge the parents for it.

"These parents need to know what they dealing with at this point," board Vice President Casandra Ulbrich said in moving a resolution calling for legislation. The final resolution simply called for action.

The resolution was the result of a statement issued Tuesday by board member Pamela Pugh (D-Saginaw) calling on the Department of Education to work with the Department of Health and Human Services and others to be sure the blood tests are offered.

Ms. Pugh also called on the board and { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393401&locid=1>" } to work with the School Reform/Redesign Office, now in the Department of Technology, Management and Budget, to prevent any future state takeovers of school districts.

"Unless we interject, areas in Michigan will continue to live under the threat of becoming U.S. sacrifice zones, where costs are cut, budgets are balanced, and profits are made at the expense of the health and wellbeing of our children, especially our most burdened children living in low-income families," Ms. Pugh said in her statement.



Deputy Superintendent Kyle Guerrant said the department only had authority over such issues where it provides grants funding, but he said later in the meeting that efforts were under way to provide the testing free to Flint residents.

### Cotter Rebuts Presumptive Parole Criticism

House { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1>" } already led his chamber in support of presumptive parole measures in { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413801](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413801)" }

, but with { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1>" } expressing his opposition loudly during the past week, Mr. Cotter released a statement of support Tuesday.

"Presumptive parole is a responsible way to reform our broken prison system and protect the rights and safety of Michigan residents. Contrary to many reports, the proposed bill simply requires parole boards to give a compelling reason to deny parole when prisoners with a high probability of success have completed their minimum sentence," Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) said.

The House passed HB 4138 earlier this month despite Mr. Schuette's objections. Mr. Schuette said on Michigan Public Television's "Off the Record" last week that the bill would allow for violent criminals to be released from prison early. Mr. Schuette has also said the release of prisoners outlined in the bill is automatic and the parole board is not able to determine risks and dangers of each prisoner.

But the House Fiscal Agency analysis says the measures in the bill would not be automatic. Under the bill, compelling reasons against presumptive parole include: objective and verifiable evidence that a victim would be caused harm by release; the prisoner has a pending felony charge; and there is evidence the prisoner would be a danger to society if released, among other reasons.

"The process is even simplified for parole boards by filtering out prisoners who don't have a high enough probability of success, including repeat offenders and prisoners who face additional charges," Mr. Cotter said. "Any parole board willing to deny a man his freedom and keep him locked up beyond the court-ordered sentence ought to at least have a reason for doing so."

### State Names Companies For New Medicaid Care Contract

The 11 managed care companies which will be able to provide Medicaid coverage to an estimated 1.7 million people in the state beginning in January have been named by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The companies will handle recipients in 10 different regions across the state, called by the department "Prosperity Regions," and the most populous areas will see more companies competing for Medicaid recipients.

Region 1, which is the Upper Peninsula, will have just one company open to handle recipients: the Upper Peninsula Health Plan.

Four companies - McLaren Health Plan, Meridian Health Plan of Michigan, Molina Healthcare of Michigan and United Healthcare Community Plan - will compete in all the remaining regions.

The other companies open to Medicaid recipients are Blue Cross Complete of Michigan, Priority Health Choice, HAP Midwest Health Plan, Aetna Better of Michigan, Harbor Health Plan and Total Healthcare.

#### Dems Call For Snyder To Fire DPS EM Earley Over Flint Water Crisis

Michigan Democratic Party Chair Brandon Dillon on Tuesday said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } should remove Darnell Earley as the emergency manager for Detroit Public Schools because of his decision as emergency manager in Flint to move the city temporarily to the Flint River as the city's source of drinking water.

That water received insufficient treatment to prevent corrosion, causing lead to leach into the water. Now the city will switch back to the Detroit water system until the water pipeline to Lake Huron through a new local authority is complete.

"This catastrophe began with the governor's appointed emergency manager, and as much as Governor Snyder would like to pretend, this is not a matter of negotiating at the boardroom table. This is a situation where you pay for your mistakes and put those responsible on the chopping block," Mr. Dillon said in a statement.

Mr. Snyder, asked whether Mr. Earley should be replaced at DPS, said that he was no longer the emergency manager in Flint and that local Flint officials had decided long before Mr. Snyder put the city under an emergency manager to switch water sources as well as designated the Flint River as its backup source.

#### Powdered Alcohol Ban Heading To Governor's Desk

The House on Tuesday passed a bill banning powdered alcohol in the state, readying it for the Senate to present to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB24001" } cleared the House 102-3 with no changes from the Senate version.

The bill would prohibit the sale, distribution and possession of powdered alcohol. Other states have already banned the product, and other states - including New York and Ohio - are considering bans.

## Committee Roundup

**PETTALIA EYEING SPEED LIMIT VOTE BEFORE THANKSGIVING:** The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee could vote on legislation to raise speed limits on some highways and freeways before the recess for Thanksgiving and the start of firearm deer hunting season.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=228001&locid=1" } (R-Presque Isle), the committee chair, said he has been surprised at the level of interest from the committee in pursuing the legislation. He anticipated changes to the legislation, but that it possible it would move on an amended version.

## Capital Notebook

**IPPSR NAMES NEW DIRECTOR:** Former Treasurer Doug Roberts Sr. is retiring from his post as director of the Michigan State University Institute for Public Policy and Social Research and MSU associate professor Matt Grossmann has been named as the new director.

**CIVIL RIGHTS DIRECTOR:** After Monday evening's meeting, the Civil Rights Commission still had three candidates to succeed retiring { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=350501&locid=1" }. The commission reviewed three candidates who were inadvertently not in an initial list of resumes, but did not consider any of them worthy of an interview.

Names of the candidates to be interviewed are to be released later this week.

## Supplemental Agency Calendar

### Thursday, October 15


**Fire Safety Board, Suite H, 3101 Technology Boulevard, Lansing, 1 p.m.** ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/SFSB%20Agenda%2010%2015%2015.pdf" \t "\_blank" })

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## Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees


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**To:** Baker, Kay (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Tuesday, December 29, 2015  
**Attachments:** Dec29.htm; 151229dayplan.htm



## Michigan Report for Tuesday, December 29, 2015

Snyder Apologizes As Task Force Blames DEQ For Flint Water Crisis

DEQ's Mishandling Of Flint Water Claims Wyant

Singh: Many Compromises Made On Bills Before Floor Action

Fair Michigan Petitions To Circulate Next Month

State Local Jobless Rates Fall In November

State, Local Governments, Schools Sought Nearly \$9 Billion In Bonding

29 Workers Killed On Job In 2015

## Calendars

Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #253 -- Tuesday, December 29, 2015

### Snyder Apologizes As Task Force Blames DEQ For Flint Water Crisis

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) } apologized to Flint residents for the failures of state agencies and called on the departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services to reach out to experts on drinking water quality in light of additional preliminary findings of the Flint Water Advisory Task Force that put the primary responsibility for the lead contamination in Flint water with the DEQ.

Among the initial fallout of that report was the resignation of DEQ { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1) } (see related story).

"I want the Flint community to know how very sorry I am that this has happened. And I want all Michigan citizens to know that we will learn from this experience, because Flint is not the only city that has an aging infrastructure," Ms. Snyder said in a statement Tuesday responding to the task force's second set of initial findings.

Mr. Snyder said the departments should ensure that the state is using the latest research in setting testing protocols.

"Let's share research on water and blood lead level testing so we can arrive at accurate and mutually supported conclusions," he said. "Together, we should work to affirm that we're using the very best testing protocols to ensure Flint residents have safe drinking water and that we're taking steps to protect their health over the short and long term."

Those involved with getting the water crisis resolved welcomed the changes announced Tuesday.

"Governor Snyder's apology over the Flint water crisis is appropriate, as are personnel changes announced today at the Department of Environmental Quality," { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1) } (D-Flint) said. "Through this ongoing crisis, the people of Flint did nothing wrong - they are victims of this failure of government."

Mr. Kildee called for a state fund to cover ongoing costs for Flint children exposed to lead through the water change.

"We're pleased that he is focused on trying to repair the situation," Kary Moss, director of the American Civil Liberties Union Michigan, said of Mr. Snyder's commitments to future action. "There is going to be far more remediation needed than has happened so far."

Ms. Moss also urged that any new panel of scientific experts have autonomy in making recommendations.

Chris Kolb, co-chair of the task force and president of the Michigan Environmental Council, said the DEQ did not put enough emphasis on lead contamination of drinking water.

"Prior to this, they did not see it as a major avenue or vector for lead poisoning," Mr. Kolb said.

But he said there is a growing body of research on the issue.

"We have been encouraging the administration to look to these outside experts as resources and to take advantage of what work is being done on this issue," he said.

The task force did not specifically call for a panel of scientists. It did fault the DEQ for not only its decisions, but for the philosophy behind those decisions and for its attitude toward those questioning them.

"We believe that in the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance (ODWMA) at MDEQ, a culture exists in which 'technical compliance' is considered sufficient to ensure safe drinking water in Michigan," the task force said in its letter.

And DEQ officials were hostile toward those who tried to point out problems with the water change, the task force said.

"Throughout 2015, as the public raised concerns and as independent studies and testing were conducted and brought to the attention of MDEQ, the agency's response was often one of aggressive dismissal, belittlement, and attempts to discredit these efforts and the individuals involved," the letter said. "We find both the tone and substance of many MDEQ public statements to be completely unacceptable."

Brad Wurfel, the DEQ communications director who made those public statements, also resigned Tuesday although he made no mention of the Flint water crisis in a statement he circulated to reporters.

The task force said, in addition to new information, the DEQ needed a new attitude toward its job.

"A culture change must occur within ODWMA," the letter said. "It must be driven by a mission that is aspirational regarding the role of the MDEQ in ensuring the safety and the quality of Michigan's drinking water. We believe, and have expressed to MDEQ { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1) }, that as a Great Lakes State, Michigan should aspire to have the safest drinking water in the nation, rather than merely aiming for technical compliance with regulatory requirements."



The task force also faulted DEQ for not properly interpreting and administering federal regulations on the issue. The Lead and Copper Rule, the panel said, calls for corrosion controls, but the DEQ did not require the city to implement them until tests showed they were needed.

The letter said the DEQ has wavered on whether it complied with the rule, most recently citing a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency memorandum that DEQ officials said backed their actions.

"We are not convinced," the task force said in the memo. "Even the MDEQ's latest interpretation of the US EPA's November memorandum is overly legalistic and misunderstands the intent of the LCR, which is to minimize risks of lead and copper exposure for human health."

The task force chided Mr. Wyant for his "weak defense" of the department's decision on corrosion controls, in which he cited the EPA memo.

"The decision not to require (corrosion control treatment), made at the direction of the MDEQ, led directly to the contamination of the Flint water system," the report said.

#### DEQ's Mishandling Of Flint Water Claims Wyant

Department of Environmental Quality { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1>" } resigned

Tuesday in the wake of interim findings from the task force { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } commissioned to investigate why Flint's drinking water became contaminated with lead that pointed the finger squarely at the DEQ.

Mr. Snyder, who is out of state this week on vacation with his family, announced Mr. Wyant's resignation in a prepared statement issued by his press office. The governor said Mr. Wyant offered to resign, and he "determined that it's appropriate to accept it."

Snyder press secretary Dave Murray, asked why Mr. Snyder made that determination, pointed to the letter with interim findings the task force sent Tuesday to Mr. Snyder.

That letter, clearly and devastatingly, blames the DEQ for Flint drinking water becoming contaminated with lead in some locations and children suffering lead poisoning (see separate story).

"The task force has done an exceptional job, reviewing stacks of documents and interviewing scores of Flint, Genesee County, state and federal officials," Mr. Snyder said in the statement. "Although the task force's final report is not yet completed, members have made me aware of some interim findings and corrective steps that I have decided to take immediately in order to restore trust in how the state keeps its citizens safe and informed."

Asked if Mr. Wyant offered to resign on his own or if Mr. Snyder asked for his resignation, Mr. Murray said, "Director Wyant offered his resignation." Asked again if Mr. Snyder requested Mr.

Wyant's resignation, Mr. Murray said only, "As the governor's statement says, Director Wyant offered his resignation."

It is quite a change from two months ago, when in an { HYPERLINK "http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/19/snyder-defends-environmental-quality-director-flint-crisis/74229710/" \t "blank" }, Mr. Snyder, asked why Mr. Wyant still had a job, said Mr. Wyant had taken action on his staff, reassigning a key employee. Mr. Snyder also said the first people being addressed were those who had the knowledge and expertise on the issues.

"Dan Wyant's done a great job in responding to all of that. So I appreciate all of Dan's hard work," Mr. Snyder said then.

Chris Kolb, co-chair of the task force, said he had expected Mr. Wyant's resignation in light of the report and a recent review by Auditor General Doug Ringler.

"The timing of Director Wyant's resignation came earlier than we thought," Mr. Kolb said. "But I wasn't surprised that it happened."

He said he had expected Mr. Wyant's resignation to come after the task force's recommendations became public, not at the same time.

Mr. Snyder will name an interim director, though who that will be has not yet been determined. Mr. Snyder also vowed other staff changes at the DEQ to address problems the task force found.

One such change followed just hours after Mr. Wyant resigned. DEQ spokesperson Brad Wurfel also announced his resignation.

It was Mr. Wurfel's strident defenses of the DEQ that caused the department an enormous credibility problem once it became clear that outside researchers were right and DEQ staff was wrong. In July, he dismissed to Michigan Radio the importance of a leaked U.S. Environmental Protection Agency memo raising worries about lead in the water, telling Michigan Radio, "Anyone who is concerned about lead in the drinking water in Flint can relax". He called the findings of Doctor Mona Hanna-Attisha, the Hurley Medical Center physician in Flint who discovered elevated levels of lead in children's blood, "unfortunate."

The physician's findings would soon be vindicated.

Mr. Wurfel, in a statement announcing his resignation, made no mention of the Flint water crisis.

"I have been particularly satisfied with work I have done to train department staff to better communicate with the public and the press, and other departments," he said. "I have greatly appreciated my time as communications director at the DEQ, but I am looking forward to pursuing new opportunities in the new year."

Mr. Wyant not only was DEQ director, he also was a group executive overseeing the departments of Natural Resources and Agriculture and Rural Development. Mr. Snyder has not yet named new group executive, Mr. Murray said.

Overall, Tuesday's developments appeared designed to begin the process of restoring trust. Mr. Snyder used that word - "trust" - in his statement, saying the actions he announced Tuesday are designed to restore a culture of openness and trust.

The phone rang busy at Mr. Wyant's home Tuesday.

Legislators who represent Flint said Mr. Wyant's departure hopefully will mean change.

"If these personnel moves and change in tone lead to a more aggressive response and resources to improve public health, then we are finally making progress," Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said in a statement. "I still believe that legislative hearings will be required to get all the answers and help shape the necessary policy changes, and ensure this never happens again."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said Mr. Wyant's resignation was long overdue, but good news.

"It was disappointing that the governor didn't step up early on to demand his resignation," he said.

Mr. Neeley said his chief concern with Mr. Wyant was how he responded after outside experts began raising concerns about Flint water. The DEQ took a defensive posture instead of taking outside studies seriously, a move that would have meant efforts to remediate the situation much sooner.

"The early denials of the DEQ show they had very little concern about the residents of Flint," he said.

For Mr. Snyder to regain trust, Mr. Neeley said, he will have to "own this in total" and take major actions.

Singh: Many Compromises Made On Bills Before Floor Action

House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322301&locid=1" } said although majority Republicans have used their power to bend the rules, in many other cases this year the two parties were able to work together to find compromises before bills saw action on the floor.

Still, Mr. Singh (D-East Lansing) told Gongwer News Service in an interview last week that the first year of the 2015-16 term was partisan, with a Republican-only road plan passed and ending the year on a divisive note with the passage of the straight-ticket voting elimination.

"I have been pleased with the working relationship that (House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201&locid=1) }) and I have formed over the year. I think we accomplished a lot of things before they even got to the floor," Mr. Singh said. "In instances where ... the majority is using its position of power to bend the rules or to, like in the most recent case (during the final days of session) where they were trying to rig a future election to their benefit, I am going to stand up on the floor. We are going to be critical from both from a procedural standpoint but also speaking in opposition to the actual bills."

In terms of his charge that the majority bent the rules, that focused more on Republicans refusing to recognize Democratic calls for record roll call votes. Mr. Singh has offered some procedural challenges to the majority party this year, one of the more contentious challenges coming when the House was debating { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB1301"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB1301) } (straight ticket voting) the first time around. Democrats called for a record roll call vote on an amendment that would have stripped the bill of its appropriations.

The Democrats' motion was essentially ruled not valid by the Republicans, and arguments over the ruling lasted long after the vote on the bill, and even session.

"When you look at a procedural motion, it doesn't often attract an average voter. But it does, I think, attract those who follow policy, those who are in this arena, those of us who have been around this town long enough to appreciate things used to be done differently. I think they see that and see the value in this," he said.

Mr. Singh said procedural challenges show things have changed during the last 20 years (though in decades past each party would occasionally use its majority to block the minority party's efforts to enact changes to a bill).

"Record roll call votes were very common in the 1990s and early 2000s. That really changed under (former Republican Speaker Craig) DeRoche and then (former Democratic Speaker) Andy Dillon, and that has continued," he said. "But you talk to people who were around here that time, it wasn't just the minority offering record roll votes, it was the majority."

"There are times members of the majority know they have the votes if they cobbled together the Democrats and Republicans, but they are not even able to do that themselves. You're not able to get the full picture of what the bill could be," he said. "Not only are the stifling us, but at times they are stifling some of their own as well."

And Mr. Singh said although compromises were made between the parties throughout the term, it ended on a divisive note. And the road funding package ended up being partisan, though Mr. Singh said he thought negotiations between both parties were headed in the right direction before they fell apart earlier this year.

"You have not heard citizens asking for these types of changes. But really being pushed by the Republican Party," he said. "And the week before we had the final vote the Republican

charwoman herself is contacting these members pleading with them to do the straight ticket elimination. To me that shows the partisanship."

Still, looking ahead to 2016, Mr. Singh said it will be a new year and he hopes the two parties can work together on both the budget and energy policy. He said he hopes to see the House wrap up its energy policy legislation before the end of February.

"Even though it has been a partisan year to some degree and ended on a very negative note, I am going to take a look at January as a new year and new challenges," he said. "And I am committed to working with the Republican colleagues to make that budget the best it can be."

Mr. Singh said it is possible for legislative Democrats and Republicans to successfully work together in 2016. He pointed to successful bipartisan policies passed in the previous term.

"There was a series of, I think, important issues that were resolved that were done a bipartisan basis. I don't think that spirit has changed," he said. "Some of the players might have changed. And perhaps both the House and Senate caucuses are much more conservative than they were."

Mr. Singh also said Democrats will be able to come together on a solution for Detroit Public Schools. He said it is "too important for the state and the future of the state for us not to have action on DPS."

"Our Detroit members have been meeting on this issue for months and months now. They have obviously given us in leadership a series of ideas on how to take a look at this issue from their perspective," he said. "Absolutely I think we will coalesce as a Democratic caucus with our Detroit members taking an active lead on this issue."

**LGBT PROTECTIONS:** Mr. Singh also said providing civil rights protections to people based on sexual orientation and gender identity should be a "no-brainer" for the Legislature. He said a ballot proposal to add the protections could be risky.

"You always get concerned when you put up core civil rights to the vote of the people," he said. "These are things that should be simple. But we have seen at times because the electorate, because they have been given misinformation ... they will actually take away people's rights. We saw that with gay marriage. In 2004 we obviously banned that. And it took a little over 10 years for society to change and for the courts to change that."

However, Mr. Singh also said he understands the frustration coming from advocates on the Legislature not taking up the protections.

"So we will see what happens. But to me this should be something that should be a no-brainer for our Legislature," he said. "It's a no-brainer for the business community in our state, it's a no-brainer for local communities that have passed these protections. ... So again, why does the Legislature have to be living in the past instead of being progressive and looking to the future?"

Fair Michigan Petitions To Circulate Next Month

An exact launch date has not been set, but petitions to add gender, sexual orientation and gender identity protections to the Constitution will begin circulating next month, supporters of the move announced Tuesday after the Board of State Canvassers approved the petition forms.

Fair Michigan, the committee behind the measure, submitted the petition that would add gender, gender identity, sex and sexual orientation to the civil rights protections in the Constitution. The measure would also require that statute outlining civil rights protections be construed to include those protections.

Sara Wurfel, spokesperson for the campaign, said the move did not mean the group would cease efforts to have the Legislature address the issue.

"The end goal is to work with everybody," she said.

To questions whether the issue was dead in the Legislature, she said the time was right to begin circulating petitions.

While polls have shown broad support for changing the state's civil rights laws to include those protections, there have been some concerns over taking the issue to the ballot, particularly in light of the recent loss of such an issue in Houston, Texas.

Ms. Wurfel said the committee would continue to work with all groups to build support for the amendment.

"We feel like the constitutional path is right," she said.

**MARIJUANA:** The board also approved yet another effort to legalize marijuana in the state. Unlike the prior two petitions that would create new statute regulating the drug, the effort by Abrogate Prohibition Michigan would amend the Constitution to make cannabis plants, in any form, legal. The measure would abrogate all current statutes banning the plants and their derivatives.

Timothy Locke, one of the leaders of the effort, said petitions should hit the street in the next couple of weeks.

Board member Norm Shinkle asked if members could vote against the petition form if they felt the language was unconstitutional. Elections Director Christopher Thomas said they could not. Mr. Thomas said the only reason the board, or the bureau, can look at the language of a petition is, as in this case, to be sure it actually lists all current constitutional sections that would be repealed or abrogated.

He said the petition as filed does include all of the current sections that would be affected.

**RECALLS:** The board again rejected a series of recall petitions, finding none were clear or presented factual reasons for the recalls.

A proposed petition against { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201&locid=1" } (R- Traverse City) came the closest to approval so far, with Mr. Shinkle moving to accept it, but failing to garner a second.

Mr. Shinkle asked if the board could, with approval of the petition sponsor, amend the petition language to fix a couple of problems. Mr. Thomas again said no.

The remaining board members joined Mr. Thomas in his analysis that the petition against Mr. Schmidt, and a nearly identical one against Senate { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive), did not say exactly what the legislators had done to deserve recall.

The petition against Mr. Meekhof saw unanimous rejection, as board members concluded Frank Boersma of Holland, who submitted the petition, had misspelled Mr. Meekhof's first name.

William Bailey of Central Lake, who submitted the petition against Mr. Schmidt, his second try, said he would be back with a third.

"I fear there's a little dance going on here that, no matter what language I present, you're going to reject it," he said. "This should be the simple part."

Both recall efforts were spurred by votes on the transportation funding package.

The third official attempt by Angelo Brown to recall { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } was unanimously rejected with little discussion.

**PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY:** As expected, the board approved Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente to the Democratic presidential primary ballot.

State Local Jobless Rates Fall In November

Unemployment rates in most of the 17 Michigan local labor markets fell in November, according to figures released Tuesday by the Department of Technology, Management and Budget, and of those 14 had rates that matched or were lower than the national unemployment rate.

Just the three northern labor markets, the Northeast Lower Michigan, the Northwest Lower Michigan and the Upper Peninsula labor markets, saw increases in their jobless rates from October to November as summer and fall tourist seasons ended.

Mackinac County, which often has the lowest county unemployment rate during the summer months, had the highest jobless rate of any county during November.

The local rates are seasonally unadjusted rates - compared to the seasonally adjusted rates generally reported for the whole state at mid-month - and most had jobless rates in November of

4.8 percent or less. The national unadjusted rate in November was 4.8 percent, and Michigan's unadjusted rate fell to 4.5 percent during November, compared to 5 percent in October.

Michigan's seasonally adjusted rate in November crept up to 5.1 percent compared to 5 percent in October.

The Detroit-Warren-Dearborn market showed the biggest overall drop during the month, falling 1.1 percentage points from October's 6.3 percent to 5.2 percent in November.

It did not have the state's highest jobless rate among the markets, however. That belonged to Northeast Lower Michigan which had a rate of 6.6 percent, followed by 5.5 percent in the Upper Peninsula.

The Ann Arbor market had the state's lowest jobless rate at 2.9 percent, down from 3.4 percent in October.

Washtenaw County tied with Kent and Ottawa counties for the lowest jobless rate among the counties in November at 2.9 percent. A total of 16 counties had November jobless rates of less than 4 percent, and 44 counties matched or were lower than the 4.8 percent national jobless rate.

Mackinac County had the highest jobless rate at 10.5 percent, with Cheboygan County the second highest at 9.1 percent.

Michigan's largest county, Wayne County, had a 6.2 percent November jobless rate.

### State, Local Governments, Schools Sought Nearly \$9 Billion In Bonding

From school districts to state authorities, Michigan governments sought nearly \$9 billion in bonds in 2015.

Governments still have two days left to file with the bond market, but through Tuesday they had filed for \$8.999 billion in bond issues. Most were issued by school districts, and most were refundings of earlier issues.

The largest issue was \$989.3 million sought by the State Building Authority in August.

Governments took out less in bonds during the second half of the year. From July to December, governments at all levels sought \$3.74 billion in bonds. From January through June, they had sought \$5.251 billion in bonds.

### 29 Workers Killed On Job In 2015

2015 appears to be a year in which fewer workers were killed on the job than in 2014, but that still meant that 29 people - with few days left in the year - were killed.



The most recent fatality, which occurred on December 18 in Buckley, involved a 17-year-old girl working as a coop in agriculture. She was found unresponsive an hour after reporting to work in an area where a steam generator was operating and there were high levels of carbon monoxide and hydrogen cyanide.


An even younger worker, a 14-year-old girl, was killed earlier in the year also in a farming-related incident.

In 2014, the state recorded 37 worker deaths on job sites. In 2009, the state had its lowest number of job-site related deaths at 24.

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## Michigan Report for Thursday, September 24, 2015

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Committee Discusses Voting Reforms

House Panel Considers Independent Inspections For Prison Kitchens

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House Oks Bill Exempting Some Food Establishments From Inspections

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Volume #54, Report #190 -- Thursday, September 24, 2015

## Less Controversial Third Grade Reading Bill Hits House Floor

Legislation sent to the full House Thursday and designed to increase reading proficiency in elementary school students is less controversial than version lawmakers considered in 2014, but there's still a lot of work to be done before the chamber will vote on the bill, House Education Committee Chair { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" } said.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482201" }

{ HYPERLINK, which aims to increase reading proficiency in elementary school students before they make it to the fourth grade, was reported 13-3, with { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan), Rep. Tom Hooker (R-Byron Center) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266701&locid=1" } (R-New Boston) voting no. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=365701&locid=1" } (D-Farmington Hills) abstained.

Mr. McBroom said he voted no because the bill is attempting a one size fits all solution for every student in every school with reading problems.

"I just think that that is ridiculous. It doesn't work. And it has never worked well," he said. "We ought to come up with a plan that empowers local school districts and the Department of Education to customize their approach to individual students' needs, use the professionals in the classroom, in the administration, in the department, to help every student that needs help, and not pretend that somehow we can create a bill that is going to fix everything for every student."

But Ms. Price said the bill would not apply across the board to all school districts.

"It's a policy that we hope outlines a plan that gets kids to proficiency across the state," she said. "Some of the schools in my district are very high in proficiency levels. So they are doing a lot of good things. But in some areas of the state we are not there."

But Mr. McBroom disagreed: "Certainly there are elements of you could implement this provision this way in this school, and this way in that school. But it's still the same very specific ... way of doing things," he said.

Changes in the H-4 substitute version include more closely tying the policy bill to the appropriations piece in the budget; encouraging schools to offer summer reading camps for struggling readers before they reach the third grade; expanding distribution of read at home

information to others who spend time with the child; and clarifying children need to be more than a grade level behind in reading for the smart promotion to apply.

The bill discussed last term originally included a provision requiring the retention of every third grader who could not read at grade level. Although that was later changed, the controversy regarding the automatic retention was never overcome and the House was not able to take up the bill.

"There's been so much stakeholder input, so much work with the governor's work group," Ms. Price said. "(This is) much less controversial. There's still a lot of resonance about making those kids stay back. But I always want to point out the emphasis has to be on interventions on K, 1, 2 and 3 and not about retention."

Under the current version, there are a variety of alternatives to retention. First, the bill attempts to provide intervention before the child gets to the third grade. Second, the bill provides a smart promotion where a student can be promoted to the fourth grade if they are proficient in other subjects and only receive reading instruction at the third grade level.

There is also a good cause exemption to retention outlined in the bill. The smart promotion piece of the legislation would not go into effect until the 2017-18 school year. However, some, including { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=329801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=329801&locid=1>" } (D-Grand Rapids), would like to see the implementation delayed until the 2018-19 school year.

But Ms. Price said the longer the implementation is put back, more students will be left behind.

"The results I see on reading, we can't afford any more time pushing it back," she said. "We did push it back one year. I just keep thinking in my mind what kids are we going to lose if we push it back even further."

The reported version of the bill also addresses literacy instruction needs for English language learners; clarifies the type of personnel who may be asked to work with students who are retained; and makes changes to language regarding the good cause exemption for students with disabilities.

There were multiple testifiers last week concerned about the bill as it relates to students with dyslexia.

{ [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301&locid=1) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301&locid=1>" } (D-Ann Arbor) said discussions are ongoing to address the issue more formally outside the third grade reading bill.

"I know we are having discussions with the other side of the aisle too, and potentially the lieutenant governor, to potentially do some more formal work on this process with regards to students with disabilities. We think it is larger than just things that impact literacy," Mr. Zemke said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322001&locid=1" } (D-Lansing) also expressed ongoing concerns about portions of the bill relating to students with individual education plans and special education students. He said he understands it's early in the process and more changes will be made, though.

"I expect a lot more work to be done," Ms. Price said, "because this is not an easy issue for a lot of folks. But at least on the Republican side, this is a caucus priority so I hope that conversations are very fruitful."

#### State Financial Leaders Present For Quadrant Roads Meeting

Although the legislative quadrant still did not have an agreement as of Thursday evening on a plan to fund roads, the presence of some of the state's top financial officials seemed to indicate that { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and legislative leaders may be getting closer.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393601&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358101&locid=1" } and Transportation { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=304101&locid=1" } were seen leaving the meeting together on Thursday.

"They're an important resource and we had good discussions on a number of topics," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } told media after the quadrant meeting, which lasted slightly more than an hour. "You can go through the list of things that people are concerned about roads, and it's good to have experts."

Senate { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) indicated the conversations are becoming more detail-specific, even if those details have yet to be made public.

"I think we're having real conversations about actual real components of the plan and what it may look like," Mr. Ananich said after the meeting. "We haven't settled on anything yet but we're actually talking about things, so that's better than talking esoterically."

Joining the legislative leaders and Mr. Snyder were { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393601&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358101&locid=1" } and Transportation { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=304101&locid=1" }. Those leaders had not been seen at other quadrant meetings.

Mr. Ananich said the leaders were talking about aspects, looking at other states and best practices, and getting numbers on all ideas.

House { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1>" } (R-Mount Pleasant) characterized the meeting as "more progress" and said he felt the leaders were "getting closer all the time."

He said: "On a scale of productivity, it was up there. I think today was at least an eight (out of 10)."

Mr. Cotter said road funding discussions won't hold up other serious matters before the Legislature such as energy reform or repealing the prevailing wage, either. So far, nothing is contingent on roads.

Mr. Snyder seemed to have the same positive attitude, saying he was not ready to "talk about negative actions" such as vetoing bills that come to his desk before an agreement is reached.

"This meeting was constructive today," he said. "We've continued to have constructive meetings. More positive progress is going on, so I want to stay positive about this."

Nofs Continues Discussion On Electric Choice

The Senate Energy and Technology Committee adopted an S-1 substitute to a bill on electric choice that the committee chair said Thursday makes only technical changes and he assured observers the measure will not be the final version of the bill eventually reported to the full Senate.

"I'm a firm believer in the process, and I expect there will be a lot of changes before we arrive at an S-2 substitute," { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=57701&locid=1>" } (R-Battle Creek), the committee chair, told another packed room of attendees to the meeting.

Perhaps the most substantial of language changes in the new substitute is the addition that, "A customer who fails to provide written notice as required under this subsection shall no longer be eligible to receive service from an alternative electric supplier and shall return to standard tariff service with the electric utility upon expiration of the customer's current electricity supply contract with an alternative electric supplier."

The substitute was adopted with unanimous approval. { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1>" } (R-St. Joseph) was absent from committee.

Thursday's committee saw a handful of alternative electric suppliers testify in opposition to the bill at hand, { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701)" }<sup>[9]</sup>.

Many felt the provisions would essentially end electric choice and brought undue burdens on the customers.

Craig Borr, president of the Michigan Electric Cooperative Association, had several concerns about the new Integrated Resource Planning practices for utilities, for example.

"We understand the necessity ... we certainly are not opposed to that process for (utilities) due to the fact they have a profit quota," Mr. Borr said. "However, we do not believe that a new, central generalization planning process is necessary or needed."

His group took issue with the changes to electric choice. Pointing to Wolverine Power Cooperative - one of its members - as an example, Mr. Borr said the company has successfully been working in the choice market and saved about \$100 million since choice started.

"MECA supports several of the changes to electric choice being proposed in SB 437 but also believes there are provisions in the legislation that need to be modified or they will slowly choke competitive retail choice markets in Michigan," Mr. Borr said.

By contrast, Steve Kurmas, president and COO of DTE Energy, said it supported SB 437 and that the IRP process would ensure "a timely review by all stakeholders of new technologies as they evolve. Second, it will ensure a diversified energy portfolio is maintained. Third, it will allow Michigan to adapt to changing federal regulations."

"Finally, it will ensure fair prices for Michigan's families and businesses," Mr. Kurmas said.

On electric choice, Mr. Kurmas urged requiring capacity to be located in the same zone as the load served to ensure reliability.

"Michigan's utilities are responsible to ensure that reliable supply is always there for their customers. Alternative energy suppliers should be held responsible as well," he said. "They have options - build their own generation, enter into bi-lateral agreements with existing generators, or execute an auction for multi-year generation capacity."

Hillsdale College economics professor Gary Wolfram recommended legislative action to incent the state's utilities to do better at controlling costs, improving reliability, reducing pollution and creating better ratepayer outcomes. Mr. Wolfram recently completed a study for the Michigan Conservative Energy Forum, which supports an increase of the 10 percent electric choice cap.

"Michigan has the highest electricity costs in the region and it's the role of the Legislature to pass regulation to protect consumers and improve efficiencies," Mr. Wolfram said in a statement. "On their own, Michigan's monopoly utilities are not incentivized to make choices that are efficient. Through regulation and policy, the Michigan Legislature can make the market more efficient, reduce cost and increase economic activity."

Mr. Wolfram's testimony was criticized by Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future, which supports full regulation and largely represents incumbent utilities.



"Wolfram fails to mention that, on average, deregulated states pay 27 percent higher rates than regulated states," Kelly Rossman-McKinney, the group's spokesperson, said in a statement. "And he disregards the large subsidy that regulated customers in Michigan are forced to pay to cover open-access customers."

She continued: "While deregulation advocates continue to make dubious claims based on free market principles, the truth is they're pushing for what amounts to a backdoor tax increase that falls hardest on low-income residents. Deregulation also makes electric rate more volatile, hurts reliability and gives alternative energy suppliers ample opportunity to cheat the system of massive profits."

It remains unclear how soon the committee may report the bill to the full Senate for consideration.

### Broken Tuition Caps Could Mean Changes For 2016 Budget

There appeared general agreement among members of the House and Senate Appropriations Higher Education subcommittees that change was needed to the tuition cap for universities, but not necessarily agreement on how to go about that.

The two subcommittees heard Thursday from the presidents of Eastern Michigan and Oakland universities, the two that increased tuition more than the cap, on their reasons for those increases.

There was some concern raised about OU's increase given the institution had not first spent into its reserves. But the greater concern was that universities could ignore the current cap at will with apparently little negative effect.

"Tuition restraint as a measurement does not seem to be effective since universities can choose when to conform and then fall back inline," { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277001&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277001&locid=1) } (R-Rockford) said.

Mr. MacGregor said he was inclined to find ways to make the universities stay within the caps.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316901&locid=1) } (R-Bloomfield Hills), chair of the House subcommittee, questioned how the Legislature could better work with the institutions to gauge their needs.

"Most of the testimony I heard was a 4 percent increase was what the universities were looking for in that cap," he said. "How can we as a state work closer to understand these challenges?"

EMU Interim President Kim Schatzel said she did not oppose the tuition cap, but that legislators had to recognize it was a ceiling for periods where the university might, for other reasons, keep tuition and below the cap, but then need to rebuild revenue later.

She said EMU had increased its tuition to rebuild its cash reserves, which had fallen to about a tenth of what some similar institutions had.

And OU President George Hynd said universities are not ignoring the cap.

"We are all very cognizant and cautious of exceeding that tuition cap," he said. "There may be ways of thinking about a tuition cap that may be less punitive and more helpful to the institutions."

He said the current cap penalizes institutions like his that are growing. "We would favor a funding formula that includes a floor and leaves tuition to the institution," he said.

Oakland increased its tuition because needs were simply outpacing revenues, he said. But he said he would prefer to keep adding to cash reserves rather than spending into them given the recent trend of declining high school graduates.

Mr. McCready said the two subcommittees would likely be meeting in the future to discuss the implications of the high school graduation trends.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322301&locid=1>" } (D-East Lansing) said the university's actions were expected. "I've been saying the last three years in this committee that we need to find a new source of revenue for higher ed," he said. "I'm surprised it took this long for you to go over the caps we gave you."

But Mr. Singh and { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1>" } (R-Lawton), chair of the Senate subcommittee, differed on whether the universities had been restored to pre-2011-12 levels when all took a 15 percent hit to balance the budget. Mr. Singh said none had, while Ms. Schuitmaker said the current budget restored 11 of the 15.

Mr. Hynd said his university had not been restored.

### Committee Discusses Voting Reforms

The Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee on Thursday discussed three different approaches to delegating the state's Electoral College votes instead of the current winner take all system in a presidential election, but took no action as the committee chair said there is no real consensus from his caucus on change.

No change to the system Michigan has used since the 1800s is also likely for the 2016 election, said chair { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001&locid=1>" } (R-Grand Blanc).

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1>" } (R-Mayville) presented his proposal in { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billldetail.cfm&billid=2015SB48901](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billldetail.cfm&billid=2015SB48901)" }<sup>[a]</sup> first, which would require one presidential elector be chosen from each congressional district and two be chosen at large based on which political party received the most votes for president. Two other states, Maine and Nebraska, have a system similar to what Mr. Green proposed.

"Something like this will encourage (candidates) to campaign in a state where there's an option of splitting the delegates," Mr. Green told the committee. "Some believe the winner-take-all system makes our state attractive, but I believe it's more important we allow all areas of our state to have a voice."

That argument was harshly criticized by Patrick Rose, an election lawyer with the Michigan Election Coalition. He said adopting a methodology other than one that would enter Michigan into a compact supporting national popular voting would take Michigan, and eventually the rest of the nation, back in time to a point where individual states each had different rules.

"It was chaos," Mr. Rose explained, saying that system was also determined by leaders at the time (the 1800s) to be corrupt.

As to the two other states that have a system similar to what Mr. Green proposed, Mr. Rose said that has so far only changed the outcome of one single electoral vote and that Nebraska, specifically, has been trying to reverse its system virtually since it switched to such a method.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1) } (R-Lowell) presented his proposal next, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billldetail.cfm&billid=2015SB19701"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billldetail.cfm&billid=2015SB19701) }<sup>[a]</sup>, which would allow presidential electors be allocated to a political party based on the percentage of popular votes. If the number of presidential electors for the leading party was not a whole number, then a fractional number of 0.5 or greater would be rounded up the nearest whole number, and a number less than that rounded down.

"I believe the fairest of all is when every vote is counted equally," Mr. Hildenbrand said.

His bill is tie-barred to { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billldetail.cfm&billid=2015SB8801"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billldetail.cfm&billid=2015SB8801) }<sup>[a]</sup>, a bill by { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1) } (D-Ann Arbor) that would enact the Interstate Compact to Elect the President by National Popular Vote and enter Michigan into the compact. The logic there, Mr. Hildenbrand said, is that his proposal would be used while other states join the compact with hopefully enough joining to make the compact binding.


{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1) } (R-Canton Township) expressed reluctance to move into a system as described by Mr. Hildenbrand and later Ms. Warren because, Mr. Colbeck said, it values uniformity more than diversity.

"For me, this gets into this fundamental discussion of the concept of a pure democracy and just our 'add them up and the ones that get the top votes win' versus a constitutional republic," he said.

But proponents of the bipartisan plan say without it, four out of five votes cast in a presidential election are already being ignored. And while the argument of value in diversity seems valid, "When we take the Pledge of Allegiance, it's not one congressional district under God, it's one nation under God," argued Patrick Rosenstiel of the group National Popular Vote.



The committee did not vote on the bills, and, Mr. Robertson said he has no plan to do so in the immediate future.

"We're not going to make any changes for the 2016 election. But ... some of the perception has been, 'Clearly there must be a desire on the part of Republicans to make a change away from winner-take-all,' and others say, 'No, no, that shouldn't,'" Mr. Robertson said. "I can assure you there's no uniformity of opinion on the Republican side."

**OPEN MEETINGS:** The committee did, however, report { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB418201" } , which amends the Open Meetings Act to require the physical presence of each member of an elected public body who was voting on an issue. The committee adopted an S-1 substitute that made exceptions for those who are in the deployed in the military or for certain, specific emergencies.

#### House Panel Considers Independent Inspections For Prison Kitchens

Two bills requiring prison kitchens receive third-party inspections now that the Department of Corrections is receiving food services from a private provider heard testimony in a House committee Thursday, but some members of the House Oversight and Ethics Committee don't appear convinced that's necessary.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan), chair of the committee, and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=328701&locid=1" } (D-Marquette), are the sponsors of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB474901" }  and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB474801" } , respectively. Mr. McBroom said in the 1970s, the state exempted its prison kitchens from the inspection requirement because the state was running the kitchens and already doing those inspections.

Now, the Department of Corrections still oversees inspections of the kitchens, but inspections are also done by the private company contracted with the state to provide the service.

Mr. McBroom said it makes sense to have a third-party, independent inspection done in prison kitchens just like restaurants and other facilities.

"Since the state is no longer providing those food services but is contracting that out, it makes sense that those inspections be brought back," he said. "This is not different than inspections at any other public institution."

Mr. Kivela said there are three prisons in his district, and he said he has been outspoken that he wasn't supportive of privatizing the kitchen services in prisons.

"I want to work toward making them work," he said. "When we look at how can we as a Legislature help improve the situation ... I think at the end of the day what would really assist the department ... is having an independent third party do the inspections like they do for any other food service entity."

Mr. Kivela said the contractor would pick up the fee to pay the local health department. However, Kyle Kaminski, legislative liaison for the Department of Corrections, said the state would likely pick up the costs, at least until the contract is renewed.

Mr. Kaminski also said the department is neutral on the bill.

But Nick Derusha, director of the Luce-Mackinac-Alger-Schoolcraft District Health Department, said they are more than capable of taking on the additional inspections. He said the twice-a-year inspections run anywhere from \$200 to \$600.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=305301&locid=1>" } (R-Linden) said he has heard from inmates and others in prisons that the food is good. He also was skeptical of the accuracy and need of these inspections.

And { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353301&locid=1>" } (R-Brighton) said she was concerned about making this change in the middle of the contract.

Mr. Kivela said the two inspections a year are scheduled in advance and won't take too much additional time from their process.

"I think the idea of having increased safety and transparency is well worth that small amount," he said.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=310601&locid=1>" } (D-Detroit) said she was excited about the bills.

"It shows we have empathy," she said.

The committee did not discuss in-depth the issues of food service in the prisons during the last two years or the scandals related to those services. The department has recently switched from

Aramark to Trinity for its food service after nearly 20 months with Aramark plagued with troubles, lowlighted by repeated concerns about maggots in the food.

Mr. Kaminski said eight contract monitors work for the department and are former food service inspectors. He said they visit facilities two-to-three times a month and conduct monthly inspections.

He said annually, a sanitarian conducts an unannounced inspection of the kitchens as well.

Still, Mr. McBroom said there "is a little bit of concern about what has been going on in midst of safeguards you said are in place."

"Representative Kivela and I have worked hard to make this about going forward and not looking back," he said. "But I don't think that it is entirely fair, then, to not follow some of your statements you just made by just expressing some of the troubling aspects that have recently happened, despite the safeguards you mentioned are in place. ... This is not about drudging that up."

Mr. Kaminski said the department has no position on the bill, and added it is up to the Legislature to decide if the current approach is sufficient.

Ms. Theis also said some of the problems in the kitchens would not have come up without the current inspection process, but Mr. McBroom retorted: "I would contend that it wasn't always the inspection process that brought the issues," to which Ms. Theis agreed.

The committee did not act on the bills. Mr. McBroom said he would like some clarity on who would pick up the costs for the inspections before bringing the bills up for a vote.

### Michigan Joins With Other States in Volkswagen Investigation

The scandal that has engulfed the world's largest automaker has led Michigan and 27 other states attorneys general to launch an investigation into Volkswagen.

Last week, the federal government ordered Volkswagen to recall diesel vehicles sold in the U.S. with doctored pollution controls that would show the vehicles meeting emission standards when they were tested but running at higher emission levels when they were not being tested.

The German-based company announced as many as 11 million vehicles sold all around the world were affected by the same computer-generated device. Already the company's chief executive officer has resigned, and on Thursday, credit rating agencies said Volkswagen had been put on credit watch.

A spokesperson for { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } said the states will subpoena Volkswagen executives.

The states could choose to pursue the investigation through either their consumer protection or environmental protection laws, or both. Schuette spokesperson Andrea Bitely did not say how Michigan would pursue the matter.

Along with Michigan, the attorneys general that have so far announced they would participate in the investigation are from Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

### House Oks Bill Exempting Some Food Establishments From Inspections

The House on Thursday passed an inspection exemption for low-risk foods served at temporary food establishments.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB14401" }<sup>9</sup>  
passed the House 89-16. The House made no changes to the bill, which now heads to {  
HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }.

Under the bill, a local health department, based on a public risk assessment, could simply conduct an in-office consultation with the establishment instead of an on-site inspection.

The bill defines "low-risk foods" as:

- Raw or prepackaged food that is not potentially hazardous food;
- Potentially hazardous food that is prepared in a licensed facility and is not prepared on-site; and
- Commercially processed potentially hazardous food that is fully cooked and heated only for hot holding.

**PHARMACY TECHNICIANS:** The House also sent a bill that makes some changes to a law passed last year regarding the licensure of pharmacy technicians to { HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }.

Under { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB46801" }<sup>9</sup>, which cleared the House 104-1, certain applicants would be excused from the requirement to have graduated from high school or passed the GED test when applying for pharmacy technician licensure.

The bill also would increase the duration of a temporary license from 210 days to one year, and allow a person employed as a pharmacy technician for an employer with multiple locations to work as a limited license pharmacy technician at any of those locations.

## Court Of Claims Rules For E.M. On Modifying Retiree Health Care

The former Allen Park emergency manager's decision to modify retiree health care for former city workers was lawful, the Court of Claims has ruled.

In an opinion issued this week, { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=305801&locid=1>" } granted the state's motion to dismiss the lawsuit brought by retirees of the city government, who challenged changes made to their health care in late 2012 and early 2013.

The challenge was two-pronged. It contested the ability of the emergency manager to modify retiree health care under PA 72 of 1990, the old local financial emergency law, because it contained no provision for what were known as emergency financial managers to modify contracts.

Joyce Parker was still operating under PA 72 of 1990 when she first began moving toward changes in retiree health care, putting retirees under a plan that for the first time would include deductibles and co-pays. By the time the change actually took effect, Ms. Parker was operating under { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB86501](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB86501)" }, which enhanced the powers of local emergency managers.

Mr. Boonstra, in his ruling, said the plaintiffs had no evidence that Ms. Parker actually implemented the new insurance under PA 72 of 1990 and so dismissed that portion of the case.

The plaintiffs also mounted a more wide-ranging attack against { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB86501](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2011SB86501)" }, the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act, claiming it is unconstitutionally vague.

To support their claim, the plaintiffs assert the act vests the entire "sovereign power" of the state in two executive branch employees, the treasurer and the emergency manager; declares city retirees "interested parties," but excludes them from the rest of the act; and gives the treasurer and emergency manager limitless power.

However, Mr. Boonstra said the claim meets none of the tests necessary to support a charge of unconstitutional vagueness and contains little support for the allegations.

## Ananich Urges Action On Flint Water Situation

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1>" } said Thursday he will continue working on raising funds to provide his hometown with clean drinking water after medical data was released showing increased lead levels in children through the city of Flint.



Medical officials at the Hurley Medical Center used data from all blood lead levels at their facility to analyze differences between those collected between January 1, 2013 and September 15, 2013, prior to the city switching the resource for its water, and for the post-switch period of January 1, 2015 through September 15, 2015.

The results for children five years old and younger found that pre-switch, about 2.1 percent of children were found to have noticeable levels of lead in their blood (that is consistent with Department of Health and Human Services data at 2.2 percent, the officials noted). Post-switch, 4 percent of children tested were found to have lead in their blood.

As a point of comparison, the officials also analyzed the same periods for Genesee County children living outside of city of Flint zip codes. Pre-switch, 0.6 percent of children 5 and under were flagged as having lead in their system. That increased to 1 percent during the post-switch timeframe.

"The findings released today are alarming. Our top priority has to be doing everything we can and finding every available resource to ensure access to safe water for Flint residents," Mr. Ananich (D-Flint) said in a statement. "I will be leading an effort to raise state, private and philanthropic resources to deliver filters and clean water into the community as quickly as possible."

Children with high blood lead levels are at an increased likelihood of attention deficit disorders, having delinquent behaviors and arrests, or having hematologic, cardiovascular, immunologic, or endocrine issues, the officials noted in their presentation.

Mr. Ananich said anyone with concerns about their water should visit { HYPERLINK "http://www.flintwaterinfo.com/" \t "blank" } and contact their physician or the Genesee County Health Department immediately.

## Corrections Updates Purchasing Policy In Light Of Complaint

Prison stores will have fewer free samples and Department of Corrections policies make it clear store employees are not entitled to personal use of those, a report received Thursday by the Board of Ethics said.

The report is largely attachments detailing the current contract with Keefe, the vendor for the store goods, and the new employee policies.

The report resulted from a complaint filed against Jim Kolb, a store supervisor the Michigan State Employees Association said was abusing his position in the use and distribution of free samples (See { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\_id=541100105" }).

The department said in the report that it had complied with the board's recommendation, also formally adopted Thursday, that it take no disciplinary action against Mr. Kolb, given the board's

finding that there had been a history of such abuses in the stores that Mr. Kolb was merely continuing.

The department, in the report, revised its policies to make it clear the samples were not for the personal use of the store employees and said it would be contacting all employees annually to reinforce that policy.

The new policy takes effect Saturday under a shortened review process.

It also said it had since changed the contract with Keefe to limit the amount of free samples allowed. Under the new contract, only three samples per store item are allowed, and they are to be delivered only to the Prison Store Contract Committee, which decides what items will be offered in the stores.

**FORESTERS:** The board also formally adopted its June decision that two Department of Natural Resources foresters had not violated State Ethics Act because the department had the authority to allow them to take on supplemental employment and because they never actually took any outside work.

The Michigan Chapter of the Association of Consulting Foresters had argued that allowing Kevin LaBumbard, Ben Travis and Theresa Sol to take on outside work would be a conflict because they would be in a position to recommend themselves should land owners call the department for assistance.

#### Senate Panel Reports Venture Investment Bills

Legislation to ensure the state makes no more tax voucher grants to companies through the Early Stage Venture Investment Corporation were sent to the full Senate Thursday.

The three bills - { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB419501" }

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB419601" }

and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB436501" }

- were reported unanimously by the members of the Economic Development and International Investment Committee.

The committee also reported a bill changing how often the state has to certify what the taxable minimum wage will be under the employment security act. Democrats on the panel voted against that bill because it did not include a tie-bar to legislation to restore some unemployment benefits.

The early stage venture bills were made necessary when it was discovered the grants made after the corporation was set up in 2003 had failed to produce the economic development results hoped for, putting the state in a position of losing some \$600 million. The discovery of that situation created a budgeting worry for the state which the bills are expected to help ease.

Under the legislation, the state could no longer issue any tax vouchers under the program and the total number of certificates available would be reduced to the \$450 million already issued.

The bills also change the expiration date of the fund and the vouchers from 2054 to 2030.

The panel adopted an amendment stipulating that up to \$154 million of any revenue the state recoups go to the General Fund, and that any monies after that go to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jobs Fund. { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1) } (D-Ann Arbor) said the fund has helped finance companies that have grown and added more than 1,000 jobs to the state.

And Under { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB50001](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB50001)" }<sup>[9]</sup>, the state would no longer determine quarterly if the base taxable wage under which unemployment protection tax is paid is \$9,500 or has to be reduced to \$9,000 based on the financial condition of the state's unemployment compensation fund.

The bill would have the state make the declaration once a year, on June 30, if the wage remains at \$9,500 or is reduced to \$9,000.

Ms. Warren proposed tie-barring the bill to { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB465501](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB465501)" }<sup>[9]</sup>, which would restore six weeks of unemployment benefits cut by the state in 2011. Jobless workers have not seen an increase in their benefits in nearly 40 years, and the bill would help provide benefits for those still unable to find work. The amendment failed along party lines.

### Poll Finds Dead Split On Marijuana Legalization

With a good chance Michigan voters will act on at least one marijuana legalization proposal on the 2016 ballot, a poll shows voters are split dead even on the issue.

The poll conducted of Lansing-based Marketing Resource Group found 46 percent said they would support legalization for persons 21 years old and older, while 46 percent were opposed.

But of those most likely to vote, the scale definitely does not favor legal weed: 52 percent said they would oppose legalization to 42 percent backing it.

Groups are out now collecting signatures on proposed bills to legalize recreational use of marijuana for adults. Its medicinal use is already approved for those with certain medical conditions.

Opposition is led by self-identified Republicans, those 65 or older, and so-called "super voters" who vote in every election.

The poll was conducted earlier in September of 600 likely voters, with an error rate of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

The poll also showed Democrats backing the idea with 60 percent support. Independents gave it 50 percent support, while just 29 percent of Republicans supported it.

Younger people also supported the proposal, with 66 percent of those between ages 18 and 29 backing it, while just 33 percent of those aged 65 and older backed it.

Geographically, support was highest in Detroit, where 75 percent backed the proposal, and it had stronger support overall in the Detroit-metro area (though it was too close to call how voting would go). In outstate and rural areas, support fell sharply. In West Michigan, it was opposed by 56 percent of those polled.

### House Panel Approves Presidential Primary As Regular Election Date

Every four years, the state's primary elections and any local elections held in conjunction would move up to the date set for the presidential primary under legislation approved Thursday by the House Elections Committee.

The bill ( [{ HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB490401)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB490401](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB490401)" }, which was reported without objection from committee and has support of the various local government groups, would allow other items than the presidential primary on that ballot and would provide filing deadlines to accommodate that shift.

The bill specifies it is intended to correct a Court of Appeals ruling that the presidential primary was not one of the state's regular election dates and so was not available for other issues.

The committee did strip off an enacting provision that delay it for 90 days out of concern the delay would have it enacted too late to affect the upcoming elections.

### Unemployment Down Across State

All 17 of the state's labor markets saw unemployment fall in August, a report Thursday from the Department of Technology, Management and Budget said.

The report said employment was up across the state, but the decline was in part due to people dropping out of the workforce across the state.

"Jobless rates around the state typically fall in August, and this year was no exception," Jason Palmer, director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, said in a statement. "Employment increased in August in a number of Michigan regions, however, (and) workforce levels fell in all areas from the June and July summer peak."

Employment increased in 12 markets from July and in all 17 from August 2014, but the total workforce fell in all 17 markets from July and in 10 regions from the year prior.

The lowest unemployment was 3.4 percent in Grand Rapids-Wyoming, down from 4.2 percent from July and 4.9 percent from August 2014, also the lowest rates for their respective periods.

Detroit-Warren-Dearborn retained its position as the highest unemployment rate at 6.2 percent, down from 7 percent from July and 8.9 percent from last August, both marking the highest employment for the state.

Among the counties, Mackinac had the lowest unemployment at 2.8 percent, while Schoolcraft had the highest at 9.6 percent.

Wayne County was third highest at 7.5 percent, Oakland County was 39<sup>th</sup> at 5 percent (tied with Van Buren and Saginaw), Macomb was 62<sup>nd</sup> at 6 percent (tied with Kalkaska), and Kent was third at 3.4 percent.

### Pscholka 'Good Samaritan' Prescription Drug Bill To Get Hearing

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" } said Thursday his bill precluding individuals younger than 21 years old from facing prescription drug-related legal charges when reporting a medical emergency will get a committee hearing.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB484301" }  
Mr. Pscholka (R-Stevensville) said, is similar to a recent public act providing immunity for those minors who report an alcohol-related medical emergency.

"We're talking about situations where people sit by and do nothing while lives are on the line," he said in a statement. "Well, guess what? That's the position we're in, too. We can sit by and do nothing, or we can pass this legislation before we lose another young person with a bright future."

The bill will see a hearing in the House Criminal Justice Committee on Tuesday, September 29, at 9 a.m.

### Campaign Notes

**MOOLENAAR BACKS RUBIO:** Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio, a U.S. senator from Florida, secured his highest-profile Michigan backing yet with an endorsement Thursday from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=71001&locid=1" } (R-Midland).

"Marco Rubio is a generational leader who has a bold vision for creating jobs in the 21st Century, and I am proud to endorse him for president," Mr. Moolenaar said in a statement. "Marco's plan for a New American Economy is exactly what Michigan and our country needs and I will do everything I can to help elect him."

**MITCHELL ENDORSES FIORINA:** Republican presidential candidate Carly Fiorina secured a notable Michigan endorsement Thursday when conservative business executive Paul Mitchell, a candidate in the 10<sup>th</sup> U.S. House District, said he is supporting her for president.

"Our next president must possess the experience to effectively lead our country - experience making tough real world decisions, and understand how the world works beyond the fishbowl of politics," Mr. Mitchell said in a statement. "Our next president must be able to communicate clear conservative solutions to the American people and possess the leadership skills needed to enact them into policy. I believe we have just such a leader seeking our nomination, from outside of government, with real world experience that is needed to move America in the right direction. I believe Carly Fiorina is that leader and I am proud to support her candidacy to be the next president of the United States."

**AGEMA, TED NUGENT ENDORSING BILL SAGE IN 80TH:** Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema and musician Ted Nugent are endorsing Bill Sage of Allegan in the 80<sup>th</sup> House District, Mr. Agema said Thursday on his Facebook.

Mr. Sage is one of the eight Republicans running in the 80<sup>th</sup> House District to fill the vacancy created by the expulsion of former Rep. Cindy Gamrat of Plainwell. Ms. Gamrat is also running.

Mr. Sage has said he is a constitutional conservative and wrote the "Constituting Michigan" resolution that was later passed at RNC. Mr. Agema noted that he helped get it passed at the RNC. The resolution requires K-12 education include certain documents, including the Bill of Rights.

Capital Notebook

**MAC BOARD:** Jerry Doucette of Alger County is the new president of the Michigan Association of Counties. Shelley Goodman Taub of Oakland County is now first vice president and Matthew Bierlein of Tuscola County is the new second vice president.

**LOAN SETTLEMENT:** Michigan residents saw \$15.7 million in forgiven loans and \$6.85 million in reduced or modified loans in the final accounting of a settlement with South Dakota-based Western Sky Financial, LLC and California-based CashCall, Incorporated, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1) } and Insurance and Financial Services { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393501&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393501&locid=1) } announced Thursday.

The settlement for issuing loans without a license and for charging excessive interest rates still includes \$2.2 million in refunds to customers who filed legitimate claims. The officials said the settlement administrator is resolving now how to divide those funds.

**CHARITY GAMING:** Ledge Meadows Poker Room in Grand Ledge will close as a charity gaming location on September 29 and 1 Eyed Jack Gaming Supplies will forfeit its license as a

supplier after the Gaming Control Board found the supplier had made supplemental payments to the venue.

Statute requires charities to pay separately for the venue and the equipment and other services. Officials said Ledge Meadows was reportedly donating space for the games.

"Ledge Meadows acted like a casino by accepting gambling profits from the supplier," MGCB Executive Director Richard Kalm said in a statement. "The supplier and location made an illegal deal, allowing the location to skirt state law."

Officials noted 1 Eyed Jack was placed on probation for much of 2014 for paying fees to Ledge Meadows. It was also cited for allowing a dealer with a felony record.

Subscribers Please Note

A story on Michigan Works! successes incorrectly identified Ben Damerow in the story where Jacob Maas, CEO of West Michigan Works! should have been cited. The story has been updated online.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## **Wednesday, September 30**

**Michigan State Housing Development Authority Board, Board Room, Fourth Floor, 735 East Michigan Avenue, Lansing, 1:30 p.m. ( { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/MSHDA\_9-30-15\_Board\_Meeting\_Agenda.docx" \t "\_blank" } )**

## **Thursday, October 8**

**Natural Resources Commission, Clark Township Hall, 207 North Blind Line Road, Cedarville, 2:30 p.m. ( { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-65134\_65145\_65545---,00.html" \t "blank" } )**

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 08, 2015 8:27 PM  
**To:** Baker, Kay (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Thursday, October 8, 2015  
**Attachments:** Oct8House.htm; Oct8.htm; 151008dayplan.htm; Oct8Senate.htm



## Michigan Report for Thursday, October 8, 2015

Legislature To Move Quickly On Funding For Flint Water

Snyder, DEQ Under Heavy Scrutiny For Handling Of Flint Water Crisis

Bills Would Extend Community College Training Programs To ISDs

DIFS Has Some Concerns With Insurance Code Changes

Group Charges A.G.'s Office Pushes Excessive FOIA Fees

In Energy Discussion, Companies Say Cost, Reliability Are Key

Cotter Still Hoping For Road Funding Solution In October

Senate Panel Exploring Billboards In Special Use Zones

Senate Approves Implied Consent For Drug Tests In Crashes

Senate Approves Ban On Breed Prohibitions

Bill Would Require Capitol Drone Flight Permits

Capital Notebook

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

## Activity Reports

House

Senate

## Calendars

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## Volume #54, Report #200 -- Thursday, October 8, 2015

### Legislature To Move Quickly On Funding For Flint Water

FLINT - Top legislative leaders immediately said Thursday they would support state funding to aid Flint's return to drawing water from the Detroit system and ending a disastrous move to pull water for the city from the Flint River.

Insufficient corrosion controls for water drawn from the river, which is inherently more corrosive than water drawn from Lake Huron, where the Detroit system draws its water, caused lead from the city's old service lines to leach into the water, leading to lead levels in the water exceeding the federal standard to trigger remediation and to elevated lead levels in the blood of some Flint children.

In an especially alarming finding, Department of Environmental Quality { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1) } said Thursday that initial water screening at 13 Flint schools showed four of 37 samples exceeding the federal threshold on lead of 15 parts per billion that requires action to be taken. The four samples came from three different schools. One school's level hit as high as 101 parts per billion.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) }, a day after a technical review board recommended the city return to using the Detroit water system, said he backed the city's decision no longer to use the Flint River and declared he would ask the Legislature for \$6 million toward the \$12 million cost to use the Detroit system until next summer. By then, the new pipeline for the regional Karegnondi Water Authority to draw water from Lake Huron should be completed.

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{ HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } listens as a reporter asks him whether the emergency manager he appointed to run Flint made a mistake in switching the city's water source to the Flint River.

fastest way to protect public health and to stabilize Flint's water system," Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said.

Mr. Snyder also is calling for about \$3.5 million to pay for additional state staff in Flint schools (Health and Human Services to gauge exposure to lead, DEQ to handle evaluation and protocols on drinking water, and Licensing and Regulatory Affairs to assist with plumbing engineers). The funding also would support testing and evaluating the water and continuing to supply residents with filters to screen out lead.

Even after the Detroit system begins supplying water, it can take up to six months for the corrosion controls to take full effect, Mr. Wyant said.

House { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1>" } (R-Mount Pleasant) said the situation is a "serious public health crisis," and the state must act.

"It is clear there is going to be a need for some money from the state, and I am supportive of that," he said.

"It will be better for the citizens of Flint in terms of public safety, which is the paramount concern," Mr. Snyder said at a news conference. "This is a comprehensive next step to add to the steps we'd taken last week."

The Mott Foundation will contribute \$4 million, and the city of Flint will contribute the remaining \$2 million.

The calls for the state to cover some or all of the cost of switching water systems stemmed in large part because it was an emergency manager, whom Mr. Snyder appointed to run the city during a financial crisis, who made the decision to leave the Detroit system and use the Flint River as a way of saving almost \$1.5 million a month to aid the city's troubled finances.

Officials said it would take about two weeks to make the change from drawing water from the river to the Detroit system.

"A switch back to Detroit water is the

Mr. Cotter said he did not know how quickly the House would approve funding, but termed the issue urgent.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1" } (R-Stevensville), the House Appropriations Committee chair, said he wants to act next week. There is a vehicle supplemental appropriations bill in the committee that would enable quick legislative passage, he said.

Mr. Pscholka said the move to switch water sources should have come sooner, and he voiced that to state officials. A week ago, Mr. Snyder announced several action steps that included distributing filters to residents, among other measures. He said then that switching to Detroit water was under consideration.

"I was not happy last week. I ran into some folks at the MSU game. Representative Neeley was there and Dan Wyant was there. ... and I voiced my opinion," Mr. Pscholka said, referring to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1" } (D-Flint). "I just felt we needed to get this done and we needed a longer-term solution than what was being proposed last week. And I am glad to see we had some pretty quick response."

Amber McCann, spokesperson for Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive), said the Senate would likely take up the issue next week.

"It is a public health crisis and the Senate will work to help address that issue so there is safe drinking water for Flint," she said. "There's just some disagreement about where that money may come from."

Mr. Snyder said officials held off recommending a return to Detroit water because they wanted to analyze what the best decision would be. In the end, the change is the best move both in terms of water quality and restoring the confidence of Flint residents that their water is safe. Officials also were studying the logistics and cost involved in switching to Detroit water, he said.

"I thought it was best to listen to the scientists, the researchers that are doing this great work, and they confirmed that they believed it was the appropriate answer," he said. "It really was waiting for the data to really say this clearly was the best answer."

Mr. Snyder and Mr. Wyant were asked why the DEQ had not tested the drinking water in the schools. They said the state had followed the federal rule, which does not require it. But now the state will test the water in Flint schools and evaluate whether to make that a permanent endeavor.

Several praised the decision, but given the gravity of the situation, did so coolly and also said much more work remains to address the large number of lead components in the city's water infrastructure.

"I view this not as a victory for our community, but as a fix that is unfortunately necessary," said Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint).

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1" } (D-Flint) called for Flint not to pay anything toward the switch.

"Flint is a financially distressed city, and it should not have to empty out its bank account to pay for the state's failures," he said in a statement. "The decision to switch to the Flint River water source was made while the city was under state emergency management, and now it is incumbent on Governor Snyder and the state to fix - and pay - for the problem they created. Flint paying anything for the problem that the state created in the first place means that other improvements, including to the city's aging water infrastructure system, could be delayed."

The Michigan Environmental Council called for testing all Flint children for lead exposure and for the state to study the feasibility of testing children statewide for lead. It also called for the state to require all local governments to determine which homes in their jurisdictions have lead service lines.

"The plan announced today to switch Flint back to Detroit for its drinking water supply is a positive step," said Andy McGlashen of the MEC in a statement. "But there's a lot more state leaders can do to resolve the crisis and make sure nothing like it ever happens again in Michigan."

Lynna Kaucke, senior organizer for the group Food and Water Watch, said the switch should have come long ago after more than a year's worth of complaints about the water. Prior to the lead crisis, there were complaints of severe discoloration, foul taste and smells, and rashes.

In January, the city declared its treatment for bacteria in the water had led to an excessive level of a cancer-causing chemical in the water.

"Unfortunately the switch may come too late for some Flint children who will suffer a lifetime of consequences from having been poisoned by the high levels of lead in Flint's drinking water," Ms. Kaucke said in a statement. "We can only hope that Governor Snyder and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality learn from this tragedy."

Mr. Walling said the realization of children having elevated blood levels has been devastating to the Flint community.

"I could hardly sleep knowing that our youngest and most vulnerable children could be at greater risk if precautionary steps were not taken," he said.

Snyder, DEQ Under Heavy Scrutiny For Handling Of Flint Water Crisis

FLINT - { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } said Friday he

supports an "after-action report" to review how his administration, and others, responded to concerns about unsafe levels of lead in Flint's drinking water in the wake of heavy criticism that his Department of Environmental Quality downplayed worrisome data and reacted slowly to the situation.

There are several major lines of criticism against Mr. Snyder and his administration on their handling of Flint's water:

- The emergency manager Mr. Snyder appointed to run Flint during its financial emergency put finances before public safety when deciding to switch the city's water source from the Detroit system to the Flint River to save almost \$1.5 million a month while awaiting the construction of a new regional system pipeline to Lake Huron;
- A DEQ spokesperson { [HYPERLINK "http://michiganradio.org/post/leaked-internal-memo-shows-federal-regulator-s-concerns-about-lead-flint-s-water"](http://michiganradio.org/post/leaked-internal-memo-shows-federal-regulator-s-concerns-about-lead-flint-s-water) } told Michigan Radio in July the importance of a leaked U.S. Environmental Protection Agency memo raising worries about lead in the water (Brad Wurfel told Michigan Radio, "anyone who is concerned about lead in the drinking water in Flint can relax");
- A Department of Health and Human Services spokesperson { [HYPERLINK "http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/state\\_says\\_its\\_data\\_shows\\_no\\_c.html"](http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/state_says_its_data_shows_no_c.html) } data produced by Hurley Medical Center in Flint showing elevated levels of lead in children's blood (Angela Minicuci told The Flint Journal the state's data was more comprehensive and "much more accurate" than the Hurley data); and
- The DEQ's testing of water samples was inadequate.

"Right now I want to stay focused in on the solutions and taking actions to solve the problems," Mr. Snyder said when asked about the need to review what went wrong. "And then we'll go back and continue an analysis to say are there recommendations that'd we'd like to work with our federal partners ... to improve processes when you change water sources or are there ongoing things we should be looking at on a more frequent basis or who is being looked at."

Mr. Snyder did suggest many changes could be needed.

"I think it's clear there will be at least several recommendations that will be out there, both at the state level, the local level and the federal level on things that we could have potentially seen opportunities," he said. "I do want to credit people though for trying to work together to promptly resolve this as it was identified."

Both Mr. Snyder and DEQ { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1) } said several times the state performed all the water tests required under the federal lead and copper rule. Both said one apparent hole is that nothing requires testing the water in schools, which Mr. Snyder said "probably should be something that could be corrected in the longer term."

Mr. Snyder also said officials "promptly found the resources" to switch the city back to Detroit water as soon as possible.

He did not answer a question about whether it was a mistake in 2014 for his appointed emergency manager to switch the water source to the Flint River. The state returned control of Flint city government to its elected officials earlier this year.

Mr. Wyant said the DEQ was testing the water in the system every six months for lead as required by federal rule. In December, the test showed 6 parts per billion. The next test showed 11 parts per billion. Under federal rule, having two consecutive tests means the community must be informed and the water system must increase its corrosion controls.

The letter advising Flint residents of the lead situation went out in August, Mr. Wyant said.

Mr. Wyant, in an interview, was asked if the DEQ should have been more circumspect in its public statements about the safety of the water.

"Yes," he said. "Lessons learned."

Of the DEQ's overall performance in the situation, Mr. Wyant said staff followed its consistent protocol and federal rule.

"They responded in a timely fashion," he said. "The real questions that we'll get to on this after-action review is what more should have happened and what more could have been done. We have to be open and honest that some changes will be necessary going forward."

As to why the Department of Health and Human Services initially downplayed the Hurley data, DHHS { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1>" } said initially the citywide data showed seasonal patterns.

"But as we dug into it and did figure out there was a statistical variation, we acted immediately and quickly, and that's why we took the action steps we did last week," he said.

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1>" } (D-Flint) said the DEQ "has a lot of work to do" when asked how it performed.

"I think they're internally looking at the mistakes that were made whether it's in communication or in following the procedures and protocols. They seem dedicated and I'm going to hold them to changing those policies going forward," he said. "There's no question that mistakes were made in the drinking water division of the Department of Environmental Quality and that needs to be looked at."

Mr. Ananich said the change in tone from the state in the past week will help after the initial response seemed combative.



"There's panic, there's anger, there's distrust," he said of the mood in the city. "Folks really want to know answers because they want to protect their family. Those answers are starting to come out now, and I think it's in a much more direct way. The mistakes of the past, where the lack of transparency and the lack of empathy and giving straight answers, that's (ending) now."

Flint City Councilmember Wantwaz Davis said the state's support for moving the city back to Detroit water corrects what had been a horrendous decision by Mr. Snyder's emergency manager to draw water from the Flint River.

He said he would give the state a B+ for its handling of the issue, mainly because of Thursday's decision to switch to Detroit water.

"Now it will give some form of sigh of relief to the kids and also to the elderly people who have compromised immune systems," he said. "Now they've gotten it right."

### Bills Would Extend Community College Training Programs To ISDs

The House Workforce and Development Committee on Thursday discussed legislation allowing an intermediate school district to enter into an agreement with an employer in the state to train workers and recoup the costs in part through a diversion of income tax withholding from the new jobs.

{ HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB475001](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB475001)" }

and { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB475101](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB475101)" }

, introduced by Rep. Phil Potvin (R-Cadillac) would extend the program that is currently seen between community colleges and employers in the state.

Mr. Potvin said there is "quite a gap" in the job market forming as those between 50 and 60 years old are starting to retire.

"We want to open that opportunity up, in particular where I am from in the 102<sup>nd</sup> District ... we have no community college within the area," he said. "When you've got a local industry, in particular in Cadillac we have 4,200 manufacturing jobs. ... What this will allow us to do is continue to create that opportunity."

Steve Locke, with the Mecosta Osceola Intermediate School District, said they often hear from employers that they need workers with a certain skill set.

He said the ISD currently has the facilities to train workers, but under current law they are traveling 50 or 60 miles from the area to the nearest community colleges for training.

"We think this is an awesome opportunity to reduce barriers for partnerships," he said.

Paul Galbenski, dean of the Oakland Schools Technical Campus northeast, said if enacted the bills would help ISDs strengthen relationships with local businesses and meet the needs of the local economy.

"It's an incredible economic development opportunity also for local employers to be able to get their employees trained," he said. "And it does provide multipurposing for our career and technical campus. We have these facilities and this would then help us spread the standing infrastructure cost over more buildings and provide more of those opportunities."

He said in career and technical programs the most costly portion is maintaining the equipment.

Under the bills, an ISD providing such could provide various services, including training or retraining for new jobs; adult basic education and job related instruction; development, readiness, and remedial education; and vocation and skill assessment services and testing.

An agreement between an ISD and an employer must provide for costs that may be paid from a new jobs credit from withholding, new employment resulting from the project or from tuition and fees.

The agreement must also contain an estimate of how many new jobs will be created by the employer; a provision that fixes on a quarterly basis the minimum amount of new jobs credit from withholding to be paid for program costs and if it is insufficient, the employer would agree to provide funds to make up the shortfall; and provide for the payment of an administrative fee in an amount equal to 15 percent of the agreement.

An ISD receiving money from employee withholding would file a quarterly report to the Department of Treasury under the legislation certifying the amount it received from each of its partners.

Annually, the ISD would be required to submit additional information to the department, including names of employers, amount of the withholding and other information.

The committee did not act on the bill.

#### DIFS Has Some Concerns With Insurance Code Changes

The first major update on of the state's health insurance laws in more than 20 years saw its first committee hearing Thursday, and the Department of Insurance and Financial Services has some concerns, but appears willing to work toward an agreement.

Gabe Basso with DIFS told the House Insurance Committee that the department does not yet have an official position on the bill. Mr. Basso then outlined the department's concerns to the committee.

"We have been working with stakeholders throughout this process and will continue to do so," he said.

The department had multiple concerns with the pending legislation, including various changes in the code to reflect federal changes, like a former requirement to have certain notices written in "plain English," but is now referred to as "culturally and linguistically appropriate."

Under the current drafts, a provision requiring the director to approve forms to ensure they are not misleading was changed so that the director would not have to approve the forms unless significantly changed from the previous form.

Mr. Basso said that appears subjective to the department and it would like the original provision to remain.

Teri Morante, with the department, also said it is looking to get 90 days in the bill to do its review of health plans. She said right now the department does it in 120 and has 16 people working overtime to get it done.

She said even 90 days is a stretch to do the review, but under the legislation the department would be required to do it in 60 days and it doesn't seem possible.

Dominick Pallone and Judy Hooyenga with the Michigan Association of Health Plans testified to the House Insurance Committee making its case as to why the package of bills ([http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493301](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493301)), [http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493401](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493401) and [http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493501](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB493501)), designed to improve competition in the insurance industry and increase company flexibility in developing new products for consumers, is needed.

Mr. Pallone said the bills would allow the association to continue working with its partners, including local governments, DIFS and the Department of Health and Human Services on the Medicaid side, in new and innovative ways.

The bills would allow health maintenance organizations to offer administrative services organization plans without a financial risk. While currently many HMOs have separate administrative services organization businesses, they are not within the same network.

Ms. Hooyenga said under the changes in the bills, an HMO will be able to operate an administrative services organization and keep the same network, helping enrollees keep the same doctors.

HB 4934 would adopt National Association of Insurance Commissioners model, which would reduce conflicts when coordinating with national insurers out of state, Ms. Hooyenga said.

Other changes included in the bills are:

- Medicaid HMOs would still have to have a third of its governing board comprised of enrollees or representatives of membership, or they would have to create a consumer advisory board;
- An expedited process for approval of experimental drugs;
- Eliminating minimum dollar coverage for substance disorder services;
- Excluding coverage for illegal activities that include driving with an illegal blood alcohol level or operating a meth lab;
- Allowing delivery of documents electronically under certain conditions; and
- In the Patients Right Independent Review Act, the deadline for filing would change from 60 to 120 days.

### Group Charges A.G.'s Office Pushes Excessive FOIA Fees

An organization that was asked to pay \$52,000 to the Department of Treasury to obtain records its requested under the Freedom of Information Act charged that { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1) } was behind efforts to deny the public access to documents through "exorbitant fees for easily searchable documents."

A spokesperson for Mr. Schuette called the assertion absurd.

However, documents released by the liberal group Progress Michigan had to prove a bit embarrassing to state officials as items the Department of Treasury had intended to be redacted were actually readable. And those sections showed that instead of denying a request from Progress Michigan to obtain documents "per advice from the AG, the response carries a \$52K fee. This may cause them to 'cry wolf.'"

Progress Michigan had requested documents from Treasury and other departments related to Paul Pastorek, education advisor to { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) }. After the group received the bill of \$52,000, it filed an FOIA on how its initial FOIA request was handled.

Lonnie Scott, executive director of Progress Michigan, said documents indicate the Department of Attorney General was trying to price people out of documents that should be public.

The public has already paid for the documents requested, as they are produced by state workers whose salaries are paid for by the taxpayers, Mr. Scott said.

In fact, other departments did respond to the request and did not charge the organization, Mr. Scott said.

Progress Michigan was attempting to get information on why Mr. Snyder's administration moved school reform efforts from the Department of Education to Treasury.

In its initial response to the organization, the department said the request was overbroad. Requesting all documents would mean a minimum of two hours to check the documents of more than 1,200 department employees, Progress Michigan was told.

The request was later modified, but Mr. Scott said it was ridiculous to say every department worker would have to be checked because only a few workers would have had dealings with Mr. Pastorek. And in the end, Mr. Scott said, Treasury essentially asked of all workers that anyone who had documents referring to Mr. Pastorek to supply them.

The issue, Mr. Scott said, was whether Mr. Schuette or his department directed Treasury to call for the \$52,000 fee. Reporters questioned if the documents specifically indicated the attorney general's office directed the decision on the fee.

Andrea Bitely, spokesperson for Mr. Schuette, said Progress Michigan's own documents show the attorney general's office called for the material to be released.

"But the taxpayers expect they won't have to pay for an attack group's fishing expedition, so we follow the law on fees. It's just tiresome games from a political attack group," she said in an email.

However, since the question of large fees being charged for FOIA requests has been raised by a number of organizations (Gongwer News Service has also had to negotiate with the state over fees charged for FOIA requests), Ms. Bitely was asked if the Department of Attorney General had discussed with departments how FOIA fees should be set. By Thursday evening, there had been no reply to that question.

Mr. Scott also said the dispute shows that reforms in how FOIA laws are applied are needed.

#### In Energy Discussion, Companies Say Cost, Reliability Are Key

Having reliable and cost-effective electricity sources are critical to corporate operations, top executives from two of Michigan's largest companies told the Senate Energy and Technology Committee on Thursday, but the first priority is ensuring the state has competitive costs.

Supporters of electric choice cheered comments made by the president of Dow Chemical's North American operations, who said the best way to get the electricity the company needs "is through a competitive bidding process."

Offsetting those remarks, the chief energy executive for Ford Motor Company said his firm supports { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701)" }<sup>[a]</sup>, the controversial measure now before the committee. The bill needs changes, George Andraos said, but will help assure reliability while the state gets to a lower overall cost.

Mr. Andraos, Rich Wells of Dow and Pete Milojevic, president of the Midland Cogeneration Venture, spoke almost equally about cost and reliability, with much of the focus on reliability.

Mr. Wells and Mr. Andraos said any interruption in reliability causes major production headaches and costs for their firms.

While a homeowner seeing a flashing signal - indicating the power was out for a while - might have to deal with the annoyance of resetting their microwave oven, a Dow plant has to shut down for the time the power is off, Mr. Wells said.

"We need reliability for the long-term and the next second," Mr. Wells told the committee.

Mr. Andraos said the power doesn't even have to shut off for it to force a plant to close. If there is a 30 percent reduction in wattage produced, that shuts down a production line. And the time it will take to restart the line could mean millions of dollars lost in production.

In outlining energy costs in states where Ford has production plants, Mr. Andraos acknowledged Michigan had higher costs, although those costs had dropped from 2014 to 2015.

Pressed by { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277701&locid=1>" } (R-Clarklake), a major supporter of expanded electric competition, Mr. Andraos said that Ford was part of a group of companies that had urged utilities to provide more competitive electric costs.

But he also said in those states that had greater electric competition, the source of electricity tended to be more vulnerable.

Mr. Milojevic said if needed, and given a one-day advance notice, MCV can ramp up to provide more electricity that is available regionwide through distribution systems.

He also said MCV is the lowest cost producer, adding, "We've been cost competitive for 25 years."

And he agreed with Mr. Wells that electricity should be available to customers on an open-bidding system that would allow all producers to compete so long as they can meet reliability standards.

Mr. Wells implied cutting electric costs further would go a long way towards making Michigan more competitive. Tax and regulatory changes the state has made in the last five years have made an excellent start to making the state more competitive, "but it can do more," he said.

Steve Transeth, a former member of the Public Service Commission and now an energy consultant, said the state needs to do more to ensure reliability. The bill would require alternative energy suppliers to certify they can meet their customers' demand, but he said that is not enough.

"I would require of anybody in the state that they demonstrate that they have firm capacity to meet their obligations," Mr. Transeth said. He said the bill as structured now would not require the incumbent utilities to prove they can meet projected demand.

**ROBOCALLS: { HYPERLINK**

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901&locid=1>" } (R-Whitmore Lake), a member of the committee, said in a statement Thursday that some organization has been conducting robocalls in his district on the issue.

Mr. Hune said the calls include some misleading information on SB 437 and { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43801](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43801)" } and, while they allow recipients to be transferred to his office, he is not connected to the calls.

**Cotter Still Hoping For Road Funding Solution In October**

Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) told reporters after session that talks continue to go well.

Mr. Cotter did say he opposes outlining where the General Fund portion of a roads deal would come from.

"I don't think we have to specify the cuts ahead of time. I think we pass a balanced budget and make those decisions as part of the appropriations process," he said.

Mr. Cotter was also questioned as to if there is an agreement among the Legislative Quadrant not to talk about specifics from the meetings.

He said because they are negotiating, the details can change from day-to-day.

"It doesn't do anything productive to have the details of the day out there," he said. "Let's wait until we have an agreement around the table. Once we all have signed off on that then we'll take it back, we'll make it public, we'll share it with caucuses. We'll share it with the public at large and see if we can get it passed."

**Mr. Cotter also said he does not wish to debate { HYPERLINK**

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1>" } (R-Canton Township) on whether new revenue is needed for roads.

"It's not that I am not willing to debate. I am going to spend my energy on things that are productive to solving the problem," he said.

**Senate Panel Exploring Billboards In Special Use Zones**

The Senate Transportation Committee began discussions Thursday on legislation that would allow billboards in areas with certain special use permits where zoning would not otherwise allow the signs.

The bill ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43501" } ) was drafted to resolve concerns of a billboard company in the Grand Rapids area that had been ordered to remove a sign in an area zoned for manufactured housing, a residential designation, but with a special use permit to allow some commercial development.

But Department of Transportation officials said the bill as drafted would put the state out of compliance with federal law and could risk loss of federal transportation funds.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=107701&locid=1" } (R-Lowell) said the bill was designed to resolve an issue facing Grand Rapids Outdoor, which had converted an existing billboard to digital, had that sign approved by the township, but then had the Department of Transportation reject the permit because it was not in a commercial or industrial zone.

"Even if you don't like billboards ... this is an appropriate place for a billboard," Mr. Hildenbrand said.

Stephen Disselkoe, vice president of Grand Rapids Outdoor, said the board is next to a commercial storage facility, and he said the size of the facility, under Michigan law, automatically makes the area commercial.

He also said the department had not been involved in the permitting process until the very end.

"The underlying zoning has this name of manufactured housing community," Mr. Disselkoe said. The township is saying nowhere does it say our list of uses is exhaustive."

Matt DeLong, Development Services Division administrator for the department, said federal law does not allow such signs.

"Billboards are not an allowed use per se unless you specifically zone for billboards," Mr. DeLong said. "They are specifically not allowed where you have a special use permit. It goes to the underlying zoning."

Mr. DeLong could not comment specifically on the Grand Rapids Outdoor case because it was still in litigation with a decision from the administrative law judge expected soon.

But he said the bill, in allowing billboards in non-commercial zones, would put the state out of compliance with federal law and so risk up to 10 percent of the state's federal highway funding.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } (R-Escanaba) chastised the department for not taking residents' side on such issues.

"That's where the rub seems to come in is our government doesn't seem to want to help our businesses stay in business," Mr. Casperson said. "I think you guys had ways to try to defend him."



Mr. DeLong said the department does try to work with residents to bring billboards into compliance, so he said challenges to department decisions are rare. "We very rarely lose because we don't arbitrarily (take cases to administrative hearing)," he said. "Most are resolved long before that. ... The last thing we want to be doing is spending our time or the constituent's time in an expensive process."

But he also said the department did not challenge rulings against it.

### Senate Approves Implied Consent For Drug Tests In Crashes

At-fault drivers in a crash that leads to serious injury or death would be considered to have consented to a blood or urine drug test under { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15301) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB15301" }<sup>[9]</sup>, passed Thursday in the Senate.

The bill, which passed 30-5, would allow police to collect blood or urine from the at-fault driver and to use the results of tests of those materials in a criminal prosecution.

"Billy's Law closes a loophole that has delayed or denied justice from crime victims and their families," { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201&locid=1" } (R-Traverse City), the bill sponsor, said in a statement.

The bill was named for Billy Kochis and John Pomeroy, who died from injuries suffered in a traffic crash on U.S. 131 near Grand Rapids in 2013. The at-fault driver in the case would not consent to testing and a magistrate did not issue a search warrant, so police were not able to confirm suspicions that the driver was under the influence of drugs at the time of the crash.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** The Strategic Fund approved grants to five projects around the state Thursday that would reportedly generate \$14 million in private investment and 121 jobs.

Edmore was awarded \$625,875 in Community Development Block Grant funds for the Edmore Marketplace, redevelopment of an historic downtown building for an indoor marketplace and activity center and outdoor farmers market. The development is expected to generate \$870,000 in investment and 66 jobs.

Hillsdale was awarded \$785,500 in CDBG funds for 42 Union Street Redevelopment, retail space and eight apartment units, a projected \$1.5 million investment and three jobs.

Benzie County received \$463,370 in CDBG funds for the Crystal Mountain expansion project in Weldon Township. The \$10 million project is projected to create 48 jobs, and the grant funds will pay for training.


Munising has been awarded \$459,050 in CDBG funds to develop the Pictured Rocks Interpretive Center in a currently vacant and blighted building. Another \$500,000 in private investment is expected for the project.

Port Huron Citadel, LLC was awarded \$200,000 in Michigan Community Revitalization Program grants to revitalize the building of the same name in downtown Port Huron into a mixed use space including a theater. The \$1.2 million project is projected to create four jobs.

### Senate Approves Ban On Breed Prohibitions

Local governments would not be able to adopt breed-specific dog control ordinances, and those already in place would be overturned, under legislation that passed the Senate on Thursday.

The bill ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB23901" }  
(), passed on a bipartisan 25-11 vote, would not prohibit general restrictions on dogs or dog owners.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) said the bill was another infringement on local control.

"I firmly believe our community leaders must retain the authority to address these matters at the local level," Ms. Warren said, noting that 27 communities already have some form of breed-specific ordinance.

But only { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=36301&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) and

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161201&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) from the Democratic caucus joined Ms. Warren in opposition. Republicans {

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201&locid=1" } of Ida also opposed the bill.

### Bill Would Require Capitol Drone Flight Permits

Those wanting to film the Capitol from the air would need a permit under legislation introduced Thursday by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=82701&locid=1" }.

The bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54901" }) would give the Capitol Commission authority over drone flights on, or above, the grounds. Anyone wanting to use a drone would have to apply to that body for a permit.

The commission has already banned drone flights from the grounds.

"If the Capitol Commission wants to allow trained photographers to use drones for a special event or a wedding, that would be appropriate," Mr. Jones said in a statement announcing the legislation. "However, allowing anyone to buy a drone and then take it down to the Capitol to buzz the building is not fun and games. It's inappropriate and puts the visiting public at unnecessary risk."

The bill would make it a 93-day, \$500 misdemeanor to fly a drone around the Capitol without a permit.

#### Capital Notebook

**CIVIL RIGHTS DIRECTOR:** The Civil Rights Commission announced Thursday a special meeting to discuss three more candidates to succeed retiring { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=350501&locid=1" }.

Officials said technical problems with the job posting caused the candidates to be overlooked during initial resume reviews.

The meeting is scheduled for Monday at 3:30 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room, International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit, 111 East Kirby Street, Detroit.

**PIPELINE LAWSUIT:** The National Wildlife Federation announced Thursday that it was suing the U.S. Department of Transportation for failure to prevent oil pipeline ruptures and resultant spills.

The group is arguing that all pipelines nationwide that touch a water body are being operated illegally because there are not sufficient safeguards in place to prevent spills.

"We hope today's action will be a catalyst for long-overdue protections that benefit people, communities, and wildlife," Mike Shriberg, regional executive director of the National Wildlife Federation's Great Lakes Regional Center, said in a statement. "The federal government needs to enforce the law to prevent oil pipeline disasters from fouling our water and threatening our communities and iconic places."

The { HYPERLINK "http://blog.nwf.org/wp-content/blogs.dir/11/files/2015/10/2015-10-08-Complaint-NWF-v-DOT-FILED.pdf" \t "blank" } was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## **Monday, October 12**

**Civil Rights Commission, Second Floor Conference Room, International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit, 111 East Kirby Street, Detroit, 3:30 p.m. (Special meeting to discuss candidates overlooked because of problems with job posting system)**

## **Tuesday, October 13**

**Canceled: ~~Controlled Substances Advisory Commission, 10 a.m.~~**

## **Friday, October 16**

**Canceled: ~~Board of Acupuncture, Conference Room 4, Upper Parking Level, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 10 a.m.~~**

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

## **Tuesday, October 13**

{ HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88301&locid=1" }  
{ HYPERLINK "http://www.senate.michigan.gov/committee/education.html" \t "blank"  
}, (Chr. { HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" }, 373-5314),  
Room 110, Farnum Building, 12 p.m.

{ ECONOMICS CREDIT ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353601" }) Allows 1/2  
RLIN credit of personal economics or financial literacy to satisfy economics credit required for  
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**ERLI** mandatory expulsion for students who threaten the life of a school employee or school  
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(Chr. { **HYPERLINK**  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" }, 373-5312),  
Room 210, Farnum Building, 2:30 p.m.

{ **HIRING VETERANS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
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**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301" }) Exempts  
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**ERLI** individual income tax checkoff for fostering futures scholarship trust fund.

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**Wednesday, October 14**

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}}, (Chr. { **HYPERLINK**  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" }, 373-5323),  
Room 210, Farnum Building, 1 p.m.

{ **OCCUPATIONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201" }) Authorizes  
**RLIN** certain military experience as the basis for licensure for a boiler installer, boiler repairer  
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**ERLI** forms of payment for used tires, wheels and rims at used motor vehicle parts dealers.  
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**Thursday, October 15**

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=88201&locid=1" }

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(Chr. { **HYPERLINK**

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301&locid=1" }, 373-5312), Room 210, Farnum Building, 1:30 p.m.

{ **PROMISE ZONES** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501" }) Allows **RLINK** additional promise zones and modifies their administration.

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{ **COMMERCIAL REHABILITATION** ({ **HYPERLINK** **HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301" }) Repeals sunset **RLINK** on Commercial Rehabilitation Act.

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www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB55601" }



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**Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.**

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 15, 2015 7:54 PM  
**To:** Baker, Kay (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Thursday, October 15, 2015  
**Attachments:** Oct15Senate.htm; Oct15.htm; Oct15House.htm



## **Michigan Report for Thursday, October 15, 2015**

Most Dems Drop Support As Third Grade Reading Bill Passes

Educator Evaluations Appear Finally Set As House OKs Bill

Ananich On Flint Water Funds: 'This Is By No Means Over'

Driskell Leads Walberg In Third Quarter Fundraising, Gilbert Tops \$200,000

Pavlov Introduces Bills To Prohibit Sale Of Fetal Tissue, Parts

Domestic Violence Package Clears House

EAA Official Pleads To Tax Evasion In Corruption Probe

Dems Plan Legislation With Minimum Nurse Staffing Standards

Revenues Mostly Steady In September

Committee Roundup

Capital Notebook: Former President Clinton To Speak At MSU

Supplemental Event Planner

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## **Activity Reports**

House

Senate

## **Calendars**

Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #205 -- Thursday, October 15, 2015

### Most Dems Drop Support As Third Grade Reading Bill Passes

While Democrats were hopeful after a late session Wednesday they would be able to support a bill designed to get elementary students reading proficiently before entering fourth grade, in the end, House Republicans passed the bill Thursday with only three Democratic lawmakers in support.

The bill, { HYPERLINK

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) and House { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1" } (D-Auburn Hills) requested they be removed as co-sponsors.

Under the bill, students could be retained in the third grade if they do not test proficiently in reading. The bill does outline multiple reading intervention programs in an effort to get students reading at grade level before retention is necessary. There are also "good cause exemptions" outlined in the legislation.

Additionally, in a change adopted Thursday, the retention portion of the bill would not go into effect until the 2019-20 school year, a two year delay from what was in the reported version of the bill.

Democrats speaking on the House floor said they were concerned about the lack of parental involvement in the retention process, the negative impacts of retention and the possibility that the funding in the current year budget for literacy programs would not actually cover the costs to schools.

Mr. Zemke, who had been working with fellow Democrats and the bill's sponsor, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" } (R-Park Township), on an agreement, said in his opposition speech he still considered Ms. Price a friend, though she might not feel the same.

Mr. Zemke said he was voting no because an amendment he offered, which would allow a student who has been working on an individualized reading plan since the end of second grade, but was still not proficient in reading by the end of third grade, to move on to the next grade level while still working the individualized plan, was not adopted.

"I am not going to remove the hope of a 9-year-old. Period," he said on the House floor. "You want to see what's going to happen when you paint that picture. ... They're working hard, they're

playing by the rules, they're doing everything right. ... And then you take it away. What do you think they're going to do for the rest of their educational career? They're not going to try. Because they played by the rules and they got screwed anyway."

Ms. Price said she was disappointed to lose Mr. Zemke's support, but said his proposed amendment watered down the retention provisions in the bill to a point where she was no longer comfortable.

"I understand what he was saying," she said. "But right from the get-go, the line in the sand has been for people to say, 'No, you need to read.' And we can't keep promoting kids because we're not getting them where they need to be."

Ms. Price said the reason the House worked so hard to get the bill passed this week rather than working longer behind the scenes is she wanted to get it done before the Legislature finds itself in an election year and before other education policy debates, like Detroit Public Schools, come up.

According to the House Fiscal Agency analysis, in the 2013-14 school year as many as 39 percent or 42,500 third grade students did not test proficiently in reading under the Michigan Educational Assessment Program.

With the "more rigorous" National Assessment of Educational Progress test, in 2013, 69 percent of fourth-graders did not reach proficient reading levels.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1) } (R-Alto) said the bill is not a reactive, retention-focused measure. She said it includes many intervention programs that work to help students improve their reading.

"It is not acceptable to allow our kids to not be able to read and yet send them along their way," she said.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=263501&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=263501&locid=1) } (D-Detroit), one of the three Democrats who voted for the bill, said there is a 47 percent illiteracy rate in Detroit. He said current policies tell children in Detroit, "It's okay to be a failure."

He criticized comments from other members saying retention would emotionally impact children.

"How emotionally affected is that third-grader going to be when they grow up to be an adult with kids of their own who they cannot take care of because the system failed them?" he said.

The Great Lakes Education Project praised the passage of the bill, saying it was "a great day for school children in Michigan."

"We extend our deep appreciation to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1" }, the chair of the House Education Committee and the bill's primary sponsor, as well as to House leadership and those 57 members who voted to help kids today," GLEP Executive Director Gary Naeyaert said in a statement. "As the leading advocacy organization supporting this bill, we are confident Senator Phil Pavlov and the Senate Education Committee will schedule hearings soon so this common sense policy can be evaluated and passed in the Senate and then sent to the governor for his signature."

The bill outlines intervention programs for children before they go into the third grade. Students are allowed to be taught other subjects that they are proficient in - like reading and math - in a fourth grade setting, while still receiving reading interventions at the third grade level. There are also good-cause exemptions to retention outlined in the bill.

The Department of Education would be required to approve at least three reliable reading assessment systems and recommend or create a reading/literacy coach model. The reading/literacy coach would be required to undertake 11 tasks, including working with teachers to diagnose and address reading deficiency.

The bill would increase the costs for the department, but the 2015-16 fiscal year budget included \$900,000 to implement the early literacy initiatives. The school aid budget also included additional funding for a portion of the implementation costs for schools.

Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, school boards and charter school boards of directors would be required to select one of the reading assessments from the MDE and provide any student with a reading deficiency at any time with a reading improvement plan and provide notice to parents about the student's reading deficiency.

Reading intervention programs for those students showing a deficiency would need to include a screening of progress at least three times per year; provide a highly effective core reading instruction; and take place during regular school hours. Parents would also receive a "read at home" plan.

### Educator Evaluations Appear Finally Set As House OKs Bill

The House on Thursday passed a bill outlining teacher and administrator evaluations in the state, and the bill appears to have an easy path through the Senate and onto { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s desk.

The bill, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10301" }, passed 97-8 after four months of debate in the House and many changes - following a tough debate during the 2013-14 term. The bill was initially controversial, as { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair), chair of Senate Education Committee, took a different approach from the House versions of the legislation drafted during the last term.



Mr. Pavlov, after the bill passed Thursday, said he was comfortable where the House went with the legislation.

"They're protecting my key tenants, and that is that, one, any money that goes to the department is dedicated toward actual training," he said. "The second thing I wanted to make sure happened was it didn't water down the historic reforms we got on tenure. Thirdly, the important concept was locals would have the ability to form and choose a model that best fits their situation."

The House-passed version of the bill establishes both training requirements and options for school districts and public school academies to develop their own teacher evaluation tool or make modifications to an existing tool. Changes added Thursday stipulated the funding for training must come from the Educator Evaluation Reserve Fund

Since the bill originated in the Senate, the chamber has to concur in the House changes to send it to { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" }'s desk.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371701&locid=1>" } (R-Holland), the vice chair of the House Education Committee, said the bill avoids a "one-size-fits-all" evaluation system.

"Under this legislation, school districts will have the flexibility to decide on their own evaluation standards to meet that goal," she said in a statement. "The House has included additional language that will make certain teachers, principals and superintendents are all familiar with and trained in their district's evaluation methods."

Under the bill, the Department of Education would have to establish and maintain a list of teacher and administrator evaluation tools, and the list would have to, at the very least, include the tools recommended by the Michigan Council on Educator Effectiveness in 2013. Districts do not have to use the same tool for teachers and administrators.

For teachers, beginning in the 2018-19 school year, 40 percent of the year-end evaluation would be based on student growth, with half coming from the state assessment and half coming from a local assessment.

For administrators, beginning immediately, 25 percent of the annual evaluation would be based on student growth and assessment data. The data is an aggregate of student growth data used in teacher evaluations in the district where the administrator works.

Training for teachers and administrators on evaluation tools is also required. School districts and PSAs could create a consortium to conduct the trainings. All evaluators and observers would also be required to receive training from a person who has expertise in the training tool.

A school district or public school academy could also develop its own tool, and the department would promulgate rules for how a district would submit its tool for placement on the list. Also

required under the bill is for the district or PSA to publish on its website a variety of information about the evaluation tool and the evaluation process beginning in the 2016-17 school year.

Ananich On Flint Water Funds: 'This Is By No Means Over'

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)


"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1>" } was both heartened and relieved Thursday to have a supplemental appropriations bill unanimously approved in the Senate to provide \$9.35 million to help his city of Flint get better water faster, but it was a cautious optimism as there is much left to do, he said.

Of the money, \$6 million will go toward switching from the Flint River as the city's source for drinking water back to the Detroit system. Insufficient corrosion control for the river water caused lead in the service lines and pipes to leach into the water, leading to lead levels above federal standards for remediation and rising levels of lead in Flint children's blood.

"As soon as we switch over to Detroit, we're not going to automatically have clean, drinkable water. We're still going to have to use the filters, still going to have to make sure they take precautions, because it takes a while to rebuild the corrosion controls against the pipes," Mr. Ananich (D-Flint) told the press after session. "I'm not an expert by any means, but it could be a few months.

"The one benefit I do think we have going forward is Flint will probably be the most tested water anywhere in the world over the next six months, as it should be, to make sure we rebuild that trust," he said.

The Senate decided quickly to take up { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201)" } , as the House sent it over Wednesday evening after a unanimous vote among representatives as well.

And within hours, { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } signed the bill into law, becoming { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201)" } with immediate effect.

"This funding is a coordinated response to a serious problem and I'm pleased so many parties came together to help deliver safe drinking water to the city of Flint," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "Reconnecting to the Great Lakes Water Authority is only the first step, as the state will continue testing and inspections to ensure Flint families and children have clean water in their homes and schools."

A week ago, Mr. Snyder called on the Legislature to provide funding to the city to help it in its efforts to switch back to the Detroit water system and have staff from both the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Health and Human Services. During that time, and

even before, there had been a lot of finger-pointing about who ought to ultimately be responsible for the crisis that has caused Flint to go on high alert due to elevated levels of lead in its water.

And many of those questions of accountability remain, Mr. Ananich said.

"(The switch) was during the period of an emergency manager, and there wasn't many decisions allowed to be made by local elected officials. I can't speak about whether they were part of the conversations or not," he said. "It was the decision of the emergency manager to switch over, a decision by a different emergency manager to stay on it, and a third emergency manager denied the request to go back.

"It definitely needs to be looked at, the emergency manager laws, make sure there's some accountability on the back-end before they leave. They shouldn't be leaving cities with such crises when they leave," Mr. Ananich said.

But the other question is who should look at what and how. Mr. Ananich said he wasn't sure yet whether the state should investigate itself (effectively), a commission should review the situation, the Legislature should make changes to existing laws or create new ones, or more.

"All those questions need to be looked at," he said. "I'm not 100 percent sure exactly what method it should be, but I think it's warranted to have a further look at what happened, what mistakes were made, and how to make sure it doesn't ever happen again in cities like Flint but also across the state.

"This isn't a victory for my community. This is a fix to a problem that never should've happened," he said.

The supplemental appropriations allocates \$6 million to get the city back on Detroit's water system; \$300,000 for DEQ's drinking water and environmental health services; \$1 million for DEQ's laboratory services; \$1 million for DHHS emergency services to purchase and distribute water to Flint residents; \$850,000 for follow up services for children, including testing lead levels and care for those with abnormal levels; and \$200,000 for plumbing inspections.

Of the \$9.35 million allocated, \$7.15 million is from the General Fund.

Driskell Leads Walberg In Third Quarter Fundraising, Gilbert Tops \$200,000

The highly touted challengers to { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=17501&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=17501&locid=1" } and { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=87801&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=87801&locid=1" } posted strong fundraising totals in the third quarter, based on campaign finance reports filed Thursday.

The reports showed their Democratic challengers, { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318101&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318101&locid=1" } (D-Saline) and former "Little House on the Prairie" star Melissa Gilbert, with strong hauls.

But the reports also showed a number of candidates with steep hills to climb in their efforts to either be their party's nominee or to unseat the incumbent.

In what could be the closest funding race based on reports available at press time, Ms. Driskell, the latest Democrat to face off against Mr. Walberg (R-Tipton), raised \$203,698 for the third quarter and \$523,610 for the cycle, leaving \$435,004 cash on hand.

"Working families, students, and seniors across the 7th District are standing behind our campaign, and we are really proud to be building grassroots momentum from a network of neighbors," Ms. Driskell said in a statement announcing her fundraising. "It's because of their enthusiasm and support that we'll continue to attract the resources necessary to win."

Mr. Walberg raised only \$133,160 for the quarter. But he had raised \$753,284 so far for the election cycle and had \$922,034 in cash on hand.

In the 8<sup>th</sup> U.S. House District, Ms. Gilbert raised \$200,372, all in the third quarter. She had \$183,317 left in cash on hand. It was her first report since declaring her candidacy.

Mr. Bishop (R-Rochester) had not filed his reports as of press time. The deadline was 11:59 p.m. Thursday

In the 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. House District, Jerry Cannon, the Democratic nominee in 2014, appeared to have donors staying away in droves. His first report for his new committee showed he raised only \$3,640 and spent nothing. Mr. Cannon created a new campaign committee for his second run and did not show the transfer of any funds from those coffers, having spent the full \$1 million he raised.

Former Michigan Democratic Party Chair Lon Johnson, expected to be the frontrunner for the Democratic nomination, reported \$350,977, all raised in the latest quarter. Of that, he had \$293,265 left in cash.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=246701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=246701&locid=1) } (R-Crystal Falls) is not seeking re-election and so far no Republicans have stepped up to replace him.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1) } (R-Escanaba), one of those named as a possible candidate, has retained an active campaign account from his prior run for the seat and reported raising a net \$180 so far for the election cycle (he returned \$2,700 in contributions). He showed \$12,759 in cash on hand, but \$22,570 in debt.

Paul Clements, so far the sole Democrat challenging { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=2401&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=2401&locid=1) } (R-St. Joseph), had \$135,374 in cash after raising \$154,808 so far toward the election, \$151,126 last quarter. He has spent \$29,100 toward his second effort to unseat Mr. Upton.

Mr. Upton had not yet filed his reports, but historically has raised substantially more than Mr. Clements is reporting.

In the race to succeed { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=3701&locid=1" } (R-Harrison Township), former Sen. Alan Sanborn reported raising just \$4,070 for the third quarter and \$46,337 overall. That left him \$25,851 cash on hand.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-Saint Clair), in contrast, raised \$57,349 for the quarter and \$164,729 total for the cycle toward his effort to succeed Ms. Miller. He reported \$126,153 cash on hand.

Detroit City Clerk Janice Winfrey, who is challenging { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=5601&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), now the longest-serving member in the U.S. House, brought in \$18,840, all in the third quarter. She had \$7,900 cash on hand. Ms. Winfrey formed her committee late in the quarter, on September 21, so had little time to raise money before the close of books on September 30.

Mr. Conyers did not report much of a war chest either, but it was still substantially larger at \$40,588. He raised \$42,997 for the third quarter and \$193,322 for the cycle.

#### Pavlov Introduces Bills To Prohibit Sale Of Fetal Tissue, Parts

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } is leading the charge in the Senate to prohibit compensation for the distribution or transfer of any portion of an embryo, fetus or neonate obtained as the result of an elective abortion, introducing two bills on the matter on Thursday that were sent to the newly created Senate Oversight Committee.

The bills come amid a controversy over Planned Parenthood charging for the costs of acquiring such tissue.

"The key is we need to protect the unborn in the state of Michigan, and these bills do that," Mr. Pavlov (R-St. Clair) said of { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB56401" }<sup>2</sup> and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB56501" }<sup>3</sup>.

The first bill states "a person shall not knowingly financially benefit from or receive any type of compensation for the distribution or transfer of any portion of an embryo, fetus, or neonate including any organs, tissues, or cells that were obtained as the result of an elective abortion."

Senate { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive), who is one of the 17 Republican co-sponsors to SB 564 and SB 565, the latter of which enacts sentencing guidelines for a violation of the prohibitions in SB 564, deferred questions on

the bills to Mr. Pavlov, noting that he has been in numerous conversations with various members of the caucus on the matter.

Asked about that level of prioritization in the Senate Republican caucus, Mr. Pavlov said, "The leader saw it fit to create a special committee to examine the issues of the unborn and protecting the unborn in Michigan. This is all about taking away any financial motivation to sell or traffic these elective abortion procedures."

Planned Parenthood has said repeatedly it does not sell fetal tissue, but only seeks to compensation for the costs of obtaining the tissue, storing it and transporting it.

Indeed, the Senate Oversight Committee where the bills were sent, was created in mid-September, with { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277001&locid=1" } (R-Rockford) as chair and Senate { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801&locid=1" } (R-White Lake Township) as majority vice chair (See { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\_id=541830108" }).

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1" } (R-Lawton) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301&locid=1" } (R-Midland) are also on the committee, as well as named co-sponsors to the bills. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1" } (D-Southfield) was designated as the lone Democratic member of the committee.

Mr. Pavlov said he could not speak to specific instances of such things happening in Michigan, but pointed to the national controversy related to Planned Parenthood that he said prompted the desire to draft some kind of legislation.

The controversy, of course, happened over the summer when The Center for Medical Progress, an anti-abortion organization, secretly recorded and edited a video of Planned Parenthood's senior director of medical research, Deborah Nucatola, talking about procedural techniques to preserve certain organs that can later be donated for research purposes, which is legal. It would be illegal to sell any tissue.

She also says in the video Planned Parenthood is sensitive about being seen as gaining a profit from these donations, and will charge for shipping and other costs the clinic takes on in the course of making donations.

Planned Parenthood has denied selling organs and charged that the video was heavily edited to give a false impression.

Additionally, earlier this week, Planned Parenthood announced it would no longer accept any reimbursement as part of its fetal tissue donation program, Lori Carpentier, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood for mid and south Michigan, said Thursday.

"So it doesn't change anything that will happen for us," Ms. Carpentier said. "In order to take this off the table as a sticking point for our opponents, we're not going to take reimbursement. And to the extent we have any, we'll find ways to cover those costs ourselves."

More important to her and her organization at this point, she said, is the hope that Mr. Pavlov's legislation doesn't have any effects on the "important medical research that comes as a result of fetal tissue donation."

"I think my concern about this is the Legislature may be dinking around in areas where they are unfamiliar with," she said. "As is commonly the case, legislators put these things together ... don't create specifics and often create limbo positions."

But Mr. Pavlov said he is not sold on someone's word.

"When someone tells you you're not doing something, you require them to prove a negative," he said. "Partial birth abortion has been banned, but we just saw through a series of videos that it's still taking place. We're going to make sure we put an end to it and protect the unborn child."

Asked how the language might affect stem cell research or in vitro fertilization procedures, Mr. Pavlov said he did not think it would affect either.

"I think it's pretty clear. Part of the strength of the bill is its simplicity," he said. How it is proven that a person "knowingly" did so is not defined in the bill, however.

Mr. MacGregor did not immediately return a request for comment on when his committee might take up Mr. Pavlov's legislation, but Mr. Pavlov said he just had a conversation with Mr. MacGregor about the matter on Wednesday when the bill was still on Mr. Pavlov's desk.

## Domestic Violence Package Clears House

A father who was found by "clear and convincing" evidence to have raped the mother would be denied visitation or custody under bills passed Thursday by the House that create "sensible" protections for the victims of domestic violence.

The lead bill, { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB448101](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB448101)" }  
{ [G](#) }, passed 101-4, would allow a court, after a fact-finding hearing where evidence presented was deemed clear and convincing, to deny custody and visitation with the child to the father.

"Michigan needs to send a message that we stand with the victims and survivors of domestic violence and rape," { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1>" } (R-Alto), sponsor of the bill, said in a statement. "Too often in cases of sexual assault and domestic violence, a rapist will use the threat of seeking custody of the child to intimidate pregnant victims into not pressing criminal charges of the attack. It is unthinkable that we would allow

this to occur when we have the ability to provide victims with the protection and peace of mind they need in order to heal."

The other bills in the package passed Thursday were { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB447601" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB447701" }, which passed 104-1 and would revise the service of process in actions appealed to the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals if a court order has been issued to prohibit release of the address of the party being served and make changes to the mediation process if domestic violence was involved, respectively.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB447801" } passed 96-9 and would allow a personal protection order to include a pet. And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB447901" } passed 103-2 and would treat an assault against a pregnant woman the same as domestic violence in terms of repeated offenses.

#### EAA Official Pleads To Tax Evasion In Corruption Probe

The Education Achievement Authority has been added to the list of Detroit institutions subject to a Federal Bureau of Investigation corruption inquiry with the guilty plea Thursday of former Mumford High School Principal Kenyetta Wilbourn-Snapp.

The Detroit News reported Thursday that investigators had been looking into the relationship between Ms. Wilbourn-Snapp and at least one of the district's contractors.

The district, designed as part of the Snyder administration's efforts to improve school performance, has been the subject of criticism both for its efforts in that direction and for its administrative operations.

The Detroit Free Press reported Thursday afternoon that Ms. Wilbourn-Snapp had accepted a plea in relation to an investigation into kick-backs she received. The paper said documents showed a possible relationship with Allstate Sales and For-Most Educational Consulting and Training Group.

Sara Wurfel, spokesperson for the Snyder administration, declined to comment on the investigation beyond noting, as did a statement from the EAA, that it was an internal review that uncovered financial discrepancies that pointed to the alleged corruption. State and EAA officials had forwarded that information to federal law enforcement.

"Our office was in full coordination in reporting and bringing to light with appropriate state and federal law enforcement agencies," Ms. Wurfel said in an email response.



The district, created through an interlocal agreement between Detroit Public Schools and Eastern Michigan University, was intended to receive struggling schools from around the state but so far has only 15 Detroit schools.

Former Superintendent of Public Instruction Mike Flanagan had canceled the contract with the EAA to be the sole recipient for any schools taken over by the state for poor performance, in part over concerns raised that the tactics the EAA was employing were not actually improving student achievement.

The district was also slammed for spending on furnishings and travel under its initial chancellor, John Covington.

EAA supporters have been working since early in the last legislative session to codify the EAA to be clear that it had the authority to oversee schools other than in Detroit, but so far have come up short in that effort.

#### Dems Plan Legislation With Minimum Nurse Staffing Standards

The Michigan Nurses Association on Thursday said a poll commissioned by the group shows 80 percent of voters support having minimum staffing standards for nurses working in the state.

Currently there is no law, but { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=383401&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=383401&locid=1>" } (D-Kalamazoo) and { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1>" } (D-Ann Arbor) are planning to introduce legislation in their respective chambers.

"Michigan residents are saying loud and clear that our registered nurses are being forced to care for too many patients at once," Mr. Hoadley said. "Chronic nurse understaffing jeopardizes the care and safety of people in our hospitals every day. The only real solution is to pass a law that gives nurses enough time to spend with each patient and provide individualized care."

The Safe Patient Care Act the lawmakers plan to introduce includes implementing a staffing plan specific to each unit that adheres to minimum nurse-to-patient ratios based on research and national professional standards; limiting mandatory registered nurse overtime to instances of genuine emergencies; disclosing actual registered nurse staffing levels; and informing patients how to report potential violations of the law.

{ [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=356701&locid=1) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=356701&locid=1>" } (R-Williamsburg) said it is time for a public policy conversation on staffing levels for nurses in the state.

"It's just plain wrong that when you go into the hospital, your nurse could have far too many patients to be safe," he said. "A nurse's workload can literally be a matter of life or death for you or your loved one. This is a case where the government needs to enact reasonable standards to protect all its citizens, and I'm glad to see bipartisan movement toward achieving that."

The poll commissioned by the group also showed 77 percent of voters agree that "the quality of patient care in MI hospitals is suffering because registered nurses are being assigned too many patients per shift." And 44 percent of households with an overnight hospital stay in the past two years believe the quality of care suffered due to nurses having too many patients at one time.

The statewide survey of 600 Michigan voters was commissioned by the Michigan Nurses Association and conducted by telephone (landlines and cell phones) September 8-14 and had a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points, a statement said.

Anderson Robbins Research, a Boston firm, conducted the survey and was chosen because it has worked with both nursing and hospital organizations and Democratic and Republican clients, the group said.

#### Revenues Mostly Steady In September

State revenues were \$30.8 million better than expected in September, but entirely because of a \$42.6 million reimbursement the state received from the federal government in home heating credit refunds, a Senate Fiscal Agency report released Thursday showed.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.senate.michigan.gov/sfa/Publications/MonthRev/MRR\_MostRecent.pdf" \t "blank"  
} to the School Aid Fund were \$38.3 million more than forecast in May, while revenues to the General Fund were \$8 million less than expected.

Through September, revenues to the General Fund are \$25.9 million below the May Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference forecast and revenues to the School Aid Fund are \$66.9 million below expectations.

September was the first month since January that sales tax revenues exceeded the year-over-year figure for the month from the previous year.

Net income tax revenues were up 11.6 percent from September 2014. Also up from the previous year was the sales tax (3.3 percent), the state education property tax (13 percent) and the Real Estate Transfer Tax (3.1 percent).

Declining from year-ago levels were the Corporate Income Tax (-14.7 percent), the insurance tax (-95.4 percent) and the oil and gas severance tax (-48.5 percent).

#### Committee Roundup

**PROMISE ZONES:** The maximum number of eligible entities that may be certified by the Department of Treasury to establish educational promise zones assisting in affording a postsecondary education would increase from 10 to 15 under legislation reported by the Senate Economic Development and International Investment Committee Thursday.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB53901" }<sup>[a]</sup>

and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54001" }<sup>[a]</sup>

would also require a promise zone development plan to include provisions regarding the assessment and reporting of student performance, as well as allow Treasury to adjust the calculation of captured State Education Tax revenue if the boundaries of a promise zone were changed by a merger or other circumstance.

The bill also requires the property and assets of a dissolved promise zone authority to be used solely for the purposes of promoting access to postsecondary education, but the committee adopted an S-2 substitute to SB 539 that includes "trigger language" regarding such dissolutions, one legislative aide told the committee. In it, a Promise Zone Development Plan must be submitted to Treasury within five years of a municipality deciding to have such a zone, and once that zone is granted by the state, the municipality must begin awarding scholarships within two years.

Language was also added to ensure Promise Zones include in their development plans how they'll track data on students.

The bills were unanimously reported to the full Senate for consideration.

#### Capital Notebook: Former President Clinton To Speak At MSU

Former President Bill Clinton is the first recipient of the Spartan Statesmanship Award for Distinguished Public Service and will be the keynote speaker at the Governor Jim Blanchard Public Service Forum on November 18 at Michigan State University.

Mr. Blanchard and his wife, Janet, donated \$1 million for the program.

"The goal of this lecture series is to provide generations of students, faculty and people in the MSU community with the opportunity to hear and learn from national and international political leaders and others," Mr. Blanchard said in a statement. "(Mr. Clinton's) public service in politics, followed by his excellent work through the Clinton Foundation, is exactly the type of dedication and inspiring story we hoped to bring through the Blanchard Forum."

Mr. Blanchard was one of Mr. Clinton's most enthusiastic supporters when the then-Arkansas governor ran for president in 1992. After Mr. Clinton won, he named Mr. Blanchard the U.S. ambassador to Canada.

The Department of Political Science in MSU's College of Social Science administers the Blanchard Forum and statesmanship award.

The event will be held at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center and will serve as a fundraiser for the program, MSU said in a statement, with proceeds paying for student attendance at this event and future ones.

**DEBANO DEPARTS RESTAURANTS ASSOCIATION:** Brian DeBano, the president and CEO of the Michigan Restaurants Association, is leaving the organization after four years. A statement from the association said he was leaving to pursue future ventures but did not specify what those would be. Justin Winslow, the association's vice president of government affairs, will serve as interim president and CEO.

"Brian has left the MRA in great shape and for that we sincerely thank him," MRA Board of Directors Chairman Ken Miller said in a statement. "Under his leadership, the association is financially and operationally sound and our strong reputation remains intact. I have no doubt he will be successful in his future ventures."

**TALBOT GETS FULL TERM AS CHIEF APPELLATE JUDGE:** Court of Appeals { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=76201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=76201&locid=1) } will keep the chief judge title through 2016, under a Supreme Court order released this week. The court named Mr. Talbot to the post in January to fill the remaining year of the term begun by then-Chief { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152801&locid=1) }.

**GROUP SUPPORTING ENERGY LEGISLATION STARTS COUNTDOWN CLOCK:** Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future, a group that supports energy legislation backed by the chairs of the House and Senate energy committees, has started a "{ [HYPERLINK "http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/51503/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action\\_KEY=16114"](http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/51503/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=16114) } \t "blank" }" to mark when some coal-fired plants will be shuttered next year. The site also is designed to let visitors urge legislators to support { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701) } and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43801"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43801) } as well as { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB429701"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB429701) } and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB429801"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB429801) }.

"To account for growing capacity concerns, Michigan must responsibly replace the power we will lose due to these plant closures," said Kelly Rossman-McKinney, spokeswoman for Citizens for Michigan's Energy Future.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY DIRECTOR LEAVING:** Michigan Workforce Development Agency Director Christine Quinn is resigning from her position to become regional administrator of the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training, the state's Talent Investment Agency announced Thursday.

She will be headquartered at the federal department's regional office in Chicago and assumes her new duties on November 30.

Ms. Quinn will manage a team that oversees a 10-state region including Michigan. The regional office ensures that employment and training programs at the state level reflect the political and socio-economic conditions that impact state and local economies.

"Michigan has been fortunate to have someone of Christine's caliber spearheading these critical workforce development initiatives," said TIA Director Stephanie Comai, in a statement. "She has a genuine passion for helping workers to succeed in this changing economy and for helping employers to meet their talent needs. On behalf of our entire agency, I wish her all the best."

Stephanie Beckhorn, who currently serves as director of programs for the Workforce Development Agency, was named acting director.

**COLBECK, HERTEL TO DEBATE ROAD FUNDING:** After issuing a challenge to his fellow legislators in either chamber to debate him on why a tax increase is necessary to help pay for the state's ailing infrastructure, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) has found acceptance to such an invitation from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing).

The debate is to take place on Tuesday, October 20, between 1:45 and 2:45 p.m., the location to be determined but for sure in Lansing, according to a statement from Mr. Colbeck's office.

Doors are to open at 1:30 p.m., Mr. Colbeck's office said.

Supplemental Event Planner

### **Wednesday, November 4**

**Michigan Pancreatic Cancer briefing (Hosted by the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and sponsored by Celgene Corporation), Mackinac Room, Anderson House Office Building, Lansing, 8 a.m.**

### **Wednesday, December 9**

**Michigan Railroads Association winter board meeting, Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, 8:30 a.m.**

Supplemental Agency Calendar

### **Tuesday, October 20**

**Drug Treatment Court Advisory Committee, Legislative Council Conference Room, Third Floor, Boji Tower, 124 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 10 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/SDTCAC\_October%2020%202015.pdf" \t "\_blank" })**

**Thursday, October 22**

**Waterways Commission, Council Chambers, Rogers City Hall, 193 East Michigan Avenue,  
Rogers City, 9 a.m. (8 a.m. Work Session)**

**124 West Allegan Street, Suite 1200  
Lansing Michigan 48933**

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**To:** Baker, Kay (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Thursday, October 1, 2015  
**Attachments:** 151001dayplan.htm; Oct1Senate.htm; Oct1.htm; Oct1House.htm



## Michigan Report for Thursday, October 1, 2015

Pressure Mounts On Flint Water; Snyder Prepares Actions

Cotter Monitoring Tinsley-Talabi Situation

Educator Evaluations Clear Latest Hurdle, Head To House Floor

Presumptive Parole Clears House With Schuette Still In Opposition

Engler Goes To Bat For Storey In 80th House

Cotter On Prevailing Wage: If Votes Are There, We'll Take It

Controversy Develops In Senate On Taxable Wage Base Bill

Senate Energy Expects One More Week Of Testimony On Bill

PSC Reports \$4.2B In Savings From Efficiency Programs

Calley Heads To India For Trade Mission

Capital Notebook

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Senate

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Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #195 -- Thursday, October 1, 2015

### Pressure Mounts On Flint Water; Snyder Prepares Actions

A coalition of Flint and state organizations asked the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on Thursday to order a switchover of the Flint water system with the Detroit Water and Sewerage system, in what is one of the most striking actions in the controversy. The demand came as state officials plan to announce a series of actions on Flint on Friday dealing with the water problems in the city.

One legislator - who also complained he had been denied documents from the state dealing with the switch from the Detroit system to using water from the Flint River (a state official said the wrong documents had been requested) - said there had been a general discussion, but no specifics about what Mr. Snyder might announce. { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=349901&locid=1>" } (D-Flushing) said he expected the state would provide more filters to residents to help curb lead in the water. Filters will be helpful, Mr. Phelps said, but not enough.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } will not be at the event, to be held at Kettering University, but Flint Mayor Dayne Walling, along with Environmental Quality { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1>" }, Health and Human Services { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1>" }, Urban Initiatives Director Harvey Hollins and the state's chief medical officer, Eden Wells, will speak on the initiatives being pursued.

The presentation will be at 1:30 p.m. at the university's Innovation Center, 1300 Bluff Street.

The controversy over the water in Flint has grown exponentially since indications that lead levels, caused mainly by antique pipes and their connections, were elevated in children who were tested. Researchers said they could not absolutely say the elevated levels were from the water, but the measures showed the increase since the city made the switch. Also on Thursday, it was announced that the city had received donations to provide some 5,000 water filters to help contain the lead.

Prior to the discovery about elevated lead levels, the controversy over the system dealt largely with the smell and taste of the water. Flint switched from using Detroit water to drawing water from the Flint River in 2014 as the city prepared to build its own system that would draw water from Lake Huron. The switch was made largely because Flint and Detroit could not agree on a short-term contract to use the water, and the city, under a state-appointed emergency manager because of financial problems, did not want to pay the cost of Detroit water.

In a press conference on Wednesday, Mr. Snyder acknowledged that in making the switch, not all factors were probably considered.

The request for the EPA to order both the city and state to make the switch to Detroit water came with a variety of city and state groups, including the Concerned Pastors for Social Action, the Flint Water Study Team, the Michigan Nurses Association, the NAACP-Michigan State Conference, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Michigan branch of the American Civil Liberties Union, getting involved.

The request charged that neither the state nor Flint were doing enough to fix the problem and urged that both be ordered to immediately have Flint's water system reconnected with the Detroit system, and that city residents be provided with a free source of water that meets EPA standards.

Mr. Phelps, meanwhile, complained that the Department of Environmental Quality denied and the Department of Treasury ignored a Freedom of Information Act request for documents related to the city's switch from Detroit water to river water. Anytime there is a change in water systems of the course of water, the community has to apply to the state for that authority.

But Brad Wurfel, with the DEQ, said Flint did not have to file that application because the city had always listed the Flint River as its back-up should it need it for a water supply.

However, there are other documents that are available - to Mr. Phelps or anyone - dealing with the process the city and state took preparing for the switch, Mr. Wurfel said.

Mr. Phelps said a DEQ official contacted him and said there were documents available and that they would be sent to him. The official asked that he drop his FOIA request, Mr. Phelps said.

On the advice of his lawyers, Mr. Phelps said he did not drop the request. But he had also asked the department for any documents that might have to do with the switch. After his request was denied, he received several documents dealing with the system, but the documents were from 2007 and did not have to do with the switch.

Mr. Phelps was surprised by the refusal and was planning what steps to next take.

In terms of what the state should do to help in the situation, Senate { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1) } (D-Flint) told reporters after session on Thursday that he thought the state should first help with distributing filters to residents, especially those who may be most vulnerable, listing pregnant women, children, women that are nursing, those with immune system issues and the elderly among them.

"That should be done immediately," Mr. Ananich said. "I think we need to have corrosion control put in place as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, I think we need some independent, outside testers to come in and develop the confidence level that's just not there with traditional people in place. And I think we need to have a serious look at reconnecting with Detroit. I think the state needs to help us find a new source of water."

He said he would reserve judgment about how well the state has responded to the situation until after the administration makes its recommendations and remains unsure about any estimates on how much it might cost for Flint to reconnect to Detroit water.

"There's been some negotiations going on at the local level, but I think it's important to get the real cost because it's a public health issue. And I'm hopeful we'll find that. I would hope that all folks, with an issue of this magnitude, would not try to gouge a community that's been suffering the way they are," Mr. Ananich said. "I think we need to all, at the state level, make sure people are negotiating in good faith."

And Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1>" } (R-West Olive) said he is unsure what the state's role should be in terms of helping Flint. The Senate did, on Thursday, include a \$100 placeholder to deal with Flint's water crisis in an appropriations supplemental it passed, but that was to keep the conversation going, Mr. Ananich said (see separate story).

"I don't know that we really have a solution there yet," Mr. Meekhof said after session. "We could use revolving funds maybe. I don't think the city of Flint is in as bad of financial trouble as the city of Detroit, so if they need to bond for something, they would have assets with which to bond and maybe fix the problem. There's lots of options that are out there."

#### Cotter Monitoring Tinsley-Talabi Situation

House { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1>" } said Thursday he is watching for further developments involving the allegations against { [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=259701&locid=1>" } that she solicited and accepted bribes while a member of a city of Detroit pension management board, but at this point has no plans of the House pursuing action against her.

The difference between Ms. Tinsley-Talabi (D-Detroit) and former Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat, who were put through expulsion proceedings (Mr. Courser resigning and Ms. Gamrat getting expelled), is that the investigation into the conduct in question started with an outside agency, Mr. Cotter said.

"I have been aware of this for some period of time ... just monitoring," Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) told reporters. "I know this is being investigated at the federal level. If we are called on at any point in time to assist or just called for information or things of that nature, we would certainly cooperate."

Sentencing memoranda filed in the past week by the U.S. attorney in Detroit involving two defendants in a wide-ranging probe of corruption in Detroit government suddenly brought new life to the allegations against Ms. Tinsley-Talabi that first surfaced two and a half years ago.

According to the memos filed by federal prosecutors in the cases against Roy Dixon and George Stanton, Ms. Tinsley-Talabi's chief of staff when she served on the Detroit City Council, Ms. Tinsley-Talabi allegedly helped orchestrate a bribery scheme to ensure an investor with a proposal before the Detroit Police and Fire Retirement System Board of Trustees won approval for his proposed investment. Through that scheme, the investor contributed \$3,000 to Ms. Tinsley-Talabi's city council campaign via Mr. Stanton.

Additionally, the memos accuse her nonprofit of receiving a \$1,000 bribe from Mr. Dixon.

Ms. Tinsley-Talabi has not returned calls for comment. She would only answer "nothing" Thursday to an MLive reporter who approached her on the House floor.

Calls to the spokesperson for U.S. Attorney Barbara McQuade about whether the federal government continues to investigate Ms. Tinsley-Talabi have not been returned the last two days. The Detroit News, without citing sources, reported that she does remain under investigation.

Ms. Tinsley-Talabi might have a legitimate beef with the U.S. attorney accusing her of soliciting and accepting bribes in a sentencing memorandum, but not actually charging her, at least not yet, said Peter Henning, a Wayne State University law professor and former federal prosecutor.

"This can be problematic because it's accusing her of a crime without going through all of the usual requirements, presenting evidence to a grand jury, having a determination," he said.

"Certainly, Tinsley-Talabi has a fair claim that, 'If you think I did something wrong, accuse me of it.'"

While the sentencing memorandum presents the bribery allegations as fact, all it really constitutes "is a statement by a witness as to what that person claims happened," Mr. Henning said.

The other major question is one of statute of limitations, Mr. Henning said. In general, federal crimes have a five-year statute of limitations. The alleged wrongdoing occurred in 2006 and 2007. Ms. Tinsley-Talabi left the council in January 2010 after losing her 2009 re-election bid.

Perhaps a charge under the federal RICO statute, which has flexibility on statute of limitations, is a possibility, Mr. Henning said. It's also possible the government long ago charged her and did not unseal the indictment or a defendant might agree to a tolling agreement where the statute of limitations is lifted, he said.

The government also might lack sufficient evidence to pursue charges or might have obtained the evidence too late for the statute of limitations and decided to at least air publicly what it had, Mr. Henning said.

"It may be that the government's memorandum is trying to send a message - not that it's going to charge in the crime, but to the citizens and perhaps even to the state House," he said. "I would think if we were going to see a charge against Tinsley-Talabi, we would have seen it already."

## Educator Evaluations Clear Latest Hurdle, Head To House Floor

The House Education Committee on Thursday reported its second piece of major legislation in two weeks in sending teacher and administrator evaluations to the House floor after four months and four previous committee hearings with no action.

The legislation crafted by { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair)

has been slightly controversial in the House after { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) and now-Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) spent much of last term creating statewide evaluation standards and training requirements that saw support some education interests. And when the bill cleared the Senate earlier this year, Mr. Zemke and Ms. O'Brien both expressed disappointment in the changes that had been made (Ms. O'Brien voted against it on the floor).

But on Thursday, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10301" }<sup>9</sup>

cleared the committee 14-2 with { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266701&locid=1" } (R-New

Boston) abstaining. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=280701&locid=1" } (R-Byron Center) voted no. The bill includes both training requirements and options for school districts and public school academies to develop their own evaluation tool or make modifications to an existing tool.

Mr. Pavlov has emphasized the importance of local control in the evaluation process, but those in opposition to his original bill asserted it did not do enough.

Under the H-7 version of SB 103, the Department of Education would have to establish and maintain a list of teacher and administrator evaluation tools, and the list would have to, at the very least, include the tools recommended by the Michigan Council on Educator Effectiveness in 2013. The tool utilized by districts does not have to be the same for teachers and administrators.

For teachers, beginning in the 2018-19 school year, 40 percent of the year-end evaluation shall be based on student growth, with half coming from the state assessment and half coming from a local assessment.

Ms. Price also said new members of the House are not familiar with the issue, so there's still a fair amount of work to be done before a vote can be taken with the full chamber.

For administrators, beginning immediately, 25 percent of the annual evaluation shall be based on student growth and assessment data. The data is an aggregate of student growth data used in teacher evaluations in the district where the administrator works.

Training for teachers and administrators on evaluation tools is also required. School districts and PSAs could create a consortium of two or more to conduct the trainings. All evaluators and observers would also be required to receive training from a person who has expertise in the training tool.

A school district or public school academy could also develop its own tool, and the department would promulgate rules for how a district would submit its own tool for placement on the list. Also required under the bill is for the district or PSA to publish on its website a variety of information about the evaluation tool and the evaluation process beginning in the 2016-17 school year.

Of that information, a district or PSA would have to outline why its local evaluation tool or modification is appropriate, as well as the qualifications of the author of the tool or modification.

Mr. Zemke said the version of the bill reported from the committee gets the legislation closer to what he and Ms. O'Brien introduced last term. He would not comment on if he hopes to see additional changes made to the bill, only saying he was happy enough with the bill that he voted for it in committee.

Administrator evaluations would be conducted by the superintendent or chief administrator of a PSA, or their appointed designees. The board or board of directors would evaluate the superintendent or chief administrator.

If an administrator received an ineffective or highly ineffective rating, they would be required to create an improvement plan. For both teachers and administrators, if they received three consecutive ineffective or highly ineffective ratings, they would be let go.

For both teachers and administrators rated highly effective or effective for three consecutive years, their evaluations could move to biennially. The evaluations would move back to annually if the teacher or administrator received a lesser rating.

Beginning in the 2018-19 school year, districts would be required to either not allow a teacher with three consecutive minimally effective or ineffective ratings to teach the same subject area to the same pupil for two consecutive years or tell the parent why it cannot comply.

Also for teachers, at least two classroom observations are required each year, with one unscheduled, unless the teacher has been rated effective or highly effective for two consecutive years. Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, the administrators responsible for the evaluation must conduct at least one observation.

Finally, beginning July 1, 2018, the superintendent of public instruction shall not issue an initial professional teaching certificate unless the person has taught for at least three years and has received three effective or highly effective ratings either consecutively or nonconsecutively.

Ms. Price said there weren't many conversations with Mr. Pavlov in regards to the latest version of the bill, but she said she believes he will be able to accept it.

Mr. Pavlov's chief of staff, Brenda Resch, said Mr. Pavlov is pleased to see the bill move.

"Schools need to have certainty on this issue - the ones we've been hearing from have been preparing for current law," she said. "This has statewide impact on every teacher in every district, so it's important to get it right. He looks forward to the House completing this quickly so schools can move forward with setting policies that ensure quality for kids and fairness for educators."

### Presumptive Parole Clears House With Schuette Still In Opposition

More prisoners would be presumed, absent compelling reasons, to not be a menace to society after serving minimum sentences and be released from prison under a bill that cleared the House on Thursday despite continued opposition from { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" }.

Mr. Schuette has long opposed presumptive parole and says the legislation will jeopardize the safety of Michigan residents.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413801" }

☐ cleared the chamber 67-39, with 21 Republicans and 18 Democrats voting no on the bill.

Thirty-nine Republicans and 28 Democrats voted in support.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001&locid=1" } (R-Plymouth), the bill's sponsor, said there are safeguards in place to ensure a person is not released from prison that would still be a danger to society.

"The parole guidelines are not being changed here at all. All we are saying is if you meet the thresholds for release, you are going to be released," he said on the House floor. "And even then, the Michigan Department of Corrections can still say 'nope.' There are safeguards in place. This is not on autopilot. That's a great bumper sticker, folks: 'this is not on autopilot.' This is a very well thought out process that we have put into place."

Mr. Schuette, however, continued to say in a statement that the presumptive parole measure allows the "the automatic and early release of violent criminals without the parole board determining the risk and safety dangers of violent criminals."

But the House Fiscal Agency analysis states plainly, "this would not be automatic." Under the bill, compelling reasons against presumptive parole include: objective and verifiable evidence that a victim would be caused hard by release; the prisoner has a pending felony charge; and the there is evidence the prisoner would be a danger to society if released, among other reasons.

The bill will now go to the Senate for consideration. Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive) said there are pieces of the bill he does like.

"But also, when we convict people here in Michigan of felonies, only about 20 percent of them go to prison," he said. "So that means people that are in prison are bad people. We have people which we're scared of and people we're mad at, and maybe we can do some different things with people with which we're mad at. Maybe we can have their debt to society paid in a different way."

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=352601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=352601&locid=1) } (D-Roseville) and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=367901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=367901&locid=1) } (D-Bridgeport) spoke in opposition to the bill. Mr. Chirkun described an offender in his district that was found guilty of armed robbery and is a dangerous offender but would still qualify for release under the bill.

While he was speaking, House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1) } (R-Mount Pleasant) was visibly shaking his head no to signal that the person would not qualify.

Mr. Meekhof said he doesn't think there is intent in the legislation to let violent criminals out of prison.

He said the state "can do a better job of making sure that when they come out, they have a place to go, they have jobs of which they can go to and maybe turning away from a life of crime is a better option for them. That would be what we'd like."

Mr. Heise said in the 1980s and 1990s, to be "tough on crime," the state began putting more people in prison and toughening sentences.

"Did that work? Instead we've got thousands of people in prison right now who really don't need to be there," he said.

Mr. Cotter said he is happy with the reforms put in place and noted the bill is not retroactive.

"This is something that will be well-known at the time that sentencings are set. As I have been saying throughout this process, a minimum sentence has got to mean something," he said. "Why are we giving a minimum, why are we giving a range if that is not serving as a minimum for those who are model prisoners?"

Mr. Cotter did not say if Mr. Schuette called him about the bill, saying only they talk often. He also said he believes any concerns on legislation are often justified.

"It is something he obviously has strong opinions on. And we do too. So it's just a difference of opinion," Mr. Cotter said.

Chris Gautz, spokesperson for the Department of Corrections, said the department's projections show the bill in 10 years could lead to a decline of 3,000 prisoners. That would lead to savings of about \$80 million annually after year 10, he said.



{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan), the only Upper Peninsula representative to vote yes on the bill, called the tactics against it, "fear-mongering." He said the stories of tragedy told have happened under the current system.

"To use the current system's tragedy as an argument against trying to fix the system ... is kind of a nonsensical argument," he said.

**ROLL CALL:** Republicans voting no: { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201&locid=1" } of Potterville;

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355401&locid=1" }

} of Battle Creek; { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1" } of Levering; {

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of Mancelona; { HYPERLINK

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of Onkama; { HYPERLINK

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=273401&locid=1" } of Grand Blanc; and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=248901&locid=1" } of Sterling Heights.

**POLL:** Hours before the House action Thursday, the Citizens Alliance on Prisons and Public Spending released a poll that showed not only support for the changes in HB 4138, but a reversal in public attitudes toward crime and corrections.

"There's a complete 180 degree turnaround by voters," Ed Sarpolus, executive director of Target Insyght, which conducted the poll. "The priorities have switched."


The poll showed 64 percent support presumptive parole for eligible inmates. And incarceration ranked last among the options for reducing crime, with 34 percent saying long-term incarceration works. Mental illness treatment topped the list, with 82 percent saying it would reduce crime, followed by early childhood education at 80 percent.

Those polled also saw crime as a low priority for the state, with only 7 percent ranking it as their top concern. Road and bridge repair was the top priority for 25 percent, followed by the economy and jobs as top for 18 percent.

Some 70 percent said the state should be spending less on corrections.


The poll also saw 83 percent support for ending the mandatory two-year incarceration for felony firearm and giving discretion to the sentencing judge.

The poll, conducted September 15-17 of 800 likely voters, had a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

**PROBATION:** Another criminal justice reform bill ( { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413701" } ) , approved by the House 101-5, would make various changes to probation policies, including creating swift and sure probation programs, which target high-risk felony offenders who have a history of probation violations or failures. Those offenders would receive intense supervision under the program.


Under the bill, a judge would be charged with carrying out the requirements of the program.

**PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY:** The House also approved a bill allowing any local elections held in conjunction with the presidential primary to move up to the date set for the primary.


The bill ( { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB490401" } ) , cleared the chamber 105-1 and would allow other items than the presidential primary on that ballot and would provide filing deadlines to accommodate that shift.

It specifies it is intended to correct a Court of Appeals ruling that the presidential primary was not one of the state's regular election dates and so was not available for other issues.

**ABLE ACT:** Legislation that would allow individuals to open a savings account to pay qualified disability expenses of a designated beneficiary without having that money used against them for disability benefits also passed the House unanimously Thursday.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB454201" } , the primary bill in a three-bill package, would require an individual or designated representative to enter into an agreement with the Michigan Achieving a Better Life Experience Program when opening an account, and then allow contribution to an account up to limits imposed by the Internal Revenue code and rules promulgated by the state treasurer (the idea for an ABLE savings account began in Washington, D.C., last December).

The bill limits an account balance to the amount allowed for an Education Savings Program account and allows income tax exemptions for contributions to an ABLE savings account as well as qualified withdrawals from an account provided in the Income Tax Act, addressed in { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB454301" } .

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB454401" }

☐ requires the state to disregard money in a designated ABLE account when determining a person's financial ability to qualify for other benefits.

### Engler Goes To Bat For Storey In 80th House

Republican Jim Storey of Holland picked up a big-name endorsement Thursday in his special election bid for the 80<sup>th</sup> House District when former Governor John Engler urged voters to support him.

Mr. Storey, an Allegan County commissioner, is one of eight Republicans vying for the GOP nomination in the race to fill the vacancy left by the House's expulsion of former Rep. Cindy Gamrat. And besides Ms. Gamrat, he is one of two Republicans (the other being Mary Whiteford of Casco Township) with early traction.

Mr. Storey held several posts during Mr. Engler's time as governor, most notably as an appointee to the Liquor Control Commission, but he also headed up efforts to aid the surrounding communities when the U.S. Department of Defense shuttered the Wurtsmith and K.I. Sawyer Air Force bases and served as president of the Michigan Strategic Fund.

"Jim Storey provided outstanding results in every assignment to which I appointed him during my administration," Mr. Engler said in a statement. "I know him well, I trust him and so can the voters of Allegan County. My association with Jim dates to my own time in the Michigan Senate when he headed the House Republican press office. He was knowledgeable, hardworking, and highly effective. It is that combination of experience and conservative values, in my view, that Michigan sorely needs in the era of term limits, especially given the events of the last few weeks."

Mr. Storey said he got to know Mr. Engler in 1979. Then-House Minority Leader Bill Bryant had named Mr. Storey as House Republican press secretary, and Mr. Engler had just won election to the Senate after eight years in the House. Mr. Engler frequently stopped by the House Republican leadership office, and the two both worked on Peter Secchia's bid for Republican National committeeman.

Sources in Capitol community said Mr. Engler has been asking some members of his former administration to help Mr. Storey, and Mr. Storey said he has seen signs of it.

"I'm very grateful - very grateful - to the governor for giving me the visibility in Lansing that I may not have had because I haven't been in Lansing for the past few years," he said.

Mr. Storey said having the endorsements of the district's two representatives prior to Ms. Gamrat (former Reps. Bob Genetski II and Fulton Sheen), plus former Sen. Wayne Kuipers (who represented adjacent Ottawa County) and Mr. Engler should send a message to voters.

"All three say that I can be effective in delivering results for Allegan County and its communities," he said.

Cotter On Prevailing Wage: If Votes Are There, We'll Take It

House { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1>" } said Thursday to the call from prevailing wage supporters to allow the issue to go the 2016 ballot that the Legislature has the right to act on the initiative.

"I think there is broad support within our caucus to make the change. And if the votes are there, I plan on taking the vote," he said to reporters after House session.

The comments are similar to those Mr. Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) made to Gongwer News Service two weeks ago.

Mr. Cotter also said he hopes to hold a vote on roads sometime this month.

"We are at a period now of weeks. We are not talking months. I have been saying for some time now I want to get this on the floor in October, and I think we are on pretty good pace for that," he said.

Mr. Cotter also again addressed whether he supports \$800 million new revenue, \$400 million General Fund framework for roads. Several sources have indicated he is embracing the outline.

"For me it's not just about the proportion, how much is new revenue, how much is General Fund, but all the other details that make up a package," he said. "Where is it coming from and at what degree? And also what other pieces of the package exist."

Mr. Cotter, when asked if a Health Insurance Claims Assessment fix is still on the table as part of an agreement, said he would like to keep the package focused on roads as much as possible.

"Obviously HICA is an ongoing issue whether it is part of a roads plan or not. I am hesitant to complicate one priority with another," he said.

One source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said this week as far as what Democrats are negotiating for as part of a road funding deal, there are two camps: one looking for assurances prevailing wage won't be repealed and another looking for tax relief for middle class families.

**LEGISLATIVE FOIA:** On some legislative Democrats calling for the Legislature to be subjected to the Freedom of Information Act, Mr. Cotter said the House has posted a variety of financial and salary information on its website.

He said House members deal with a lot of personal constituent information and he worries about that being made public. He noted the House Business Office report into former Rep. Cindy

Gamrat and former Rep. Todd Courser accidentally published two former staffers' social security numbers.

## Controversy Develops In Senate On Taxable Wage Base Bill

A bill that would require an annual, rather than quarterly, determination of the balance of the Unemployment Compensation Fund to set the taxable wage limit prompted a debate among Senate Republicans and Democrats about how much the state pays out in benefits and for how long.

{ HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB50001](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB50001)" }<sup>[9]</sup> would also provide for the determination to be based on the fund's balance as of the previous June 30, and require the taxable wage limit to be reduced from \$9,500 to \$9,000 for the calendar year if the balance was \$2.5 billion or higher on that date and projected to remain that level for the next quarter.

The Unemployment Compensation Fund is dedicated to paying unemployment benefits when due and is funded by employer contributions.

Senate { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=36301&locid=1>" } (D-Detroit) offered an amendment to the bill that would have tie-barred the Senate bill to { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB52501](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB52501)" }<sup>[9]</sup>, which raises the maximum unemployment weekly benefit rate and indexes it to inflation. It would also restore the maximum timeframe for benefits from 20 to 26 weeks, Mr. Hood said in a speech on the floor.

"While I believe the goal of adjusting taxable wages based on a healthy trust fund was well-intended, I didn't support it then and I don't support it now," he said. "Considering the fact that it's been 13 years since we last adjusted the maximum weekly benefit and there have been so many other slashes to this program, I think my amendment is more than reasonable."

But his amendment was defeated largely along party lines, as was an amendment proposed by { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1>" } (D-Ann Arbor) that would have tie-barred the bill to { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB465501](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB465501)" }<sup>[9]</sup> that restores the additional six weeks of unemployment cut by the Legislature and signed into law in 2011.

"Our trust fund got into some trouble, we had to borrow money from the federal government ... and the fact that we're standing here with a healthy reserve is a testament to the hard work we've done in policy to make sure the trust fund is sound," Ms. Warren said. "If it is sound, let's ... give them just a little bit more."

SB 500 cleared the Senate on a 26-9 vote along party lines. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601&locid=1" } (D-Warren), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" } (R-Hart) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=41301&locid=1" } (D-Taylor) were absent from session.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INCLUDES PLACEHOLDERS FOR FLINT, U.P.:** A \$100 placeholder for Flint water services and another dedicated to "rent and state office facilities" were included in the final version of { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201" }  
{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB410201" }, a supplemental appropriations bill that passed the Senate on Thursday.

"The rationale is we wanted to make sure we had an accurate number. We didn't want to put too much in or not enough and have to come back," Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said of the placeholder for Flint. "We want to get an accurate understanding of what it's going to cost to get us the help we need. My colleagues have been very good about allowing this first step.

House { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1" } (R-Mount Pleasant) said he is still reviewing the placeholder, though, and is not sure yet if the state has a responsibility.

"Obviously it is critical that we all have access to clean water, but at what point does it become a state responsibility is the question," he said.

The other amendment to HB 4102, offered by { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } (R-Escanaba), is to continue the conversation on costs associated with the closure of the Department of Health and Human Services office in Alger County, Senate Republican spokesperson Amber McCann said.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1" } (R-Lawton), { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901&locid=1" } (R-Whitmore Lake), { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301&locid=1" } (R-Sheridan) voted against the bill, leaving the final tally at 30-5.

The supplemental includes more than \$7 million for the state to settle a lawsuit involving the death of one and severe injuries of two others after a State Police trooper struck their vehicle

while in pursuit of another vehicle. Records going back to the 1985-86 fiscal year show no other single case with a judgment against the state or settlement that high.

**DEED SCAMS:** The Senate also passed a bill, { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB36601) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB36601" }, regulating the solicitation of a fee for providing a public record.

The bill by { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing) arose after a constituent complained to Mr. Hertel, who was at the time Ingham County's Register of Deeds, about paying an exorbitant amount of money for a deed that turned out be a scam. The sender claimed to be a local records office and required the recipient to pay way more than one should for a public record like a deed, or else (See { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541290110) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\_id=541290110" } ).

### Senate Energy Expects One More Week Of Testimony On Bill

After another three-hour committee meeting Thursday, { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=57701&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=57701&locid=1" } told Gongwer News Service he expects to have one more week of testimony on legislation to update the state's energy laws before a substitute can be presented with "four or five issues" that could see some changes.

Mr. Nofs (R-Battle Creek), the committee chair, did not get into too many details about what those items would be, though at least one came up in testimony on Thursday, which is the issue of pre-payment of fees for alternative electric supplier companies. One of those companies, Wolverine Power Marketing Cooperative, said such a provision seemed "punitive," as it was solely focused on alternative electric supplier companies given that "no other utility in Michigan is being obligated to do this," said Kim Molitor, president and CEO of the company.

{ [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB43701" } - the focal point of Thursday's debate - requires an alternative electric supplier to pre-pay its contracts for the required periods if it relied on power purchase contracts for any portion of its demonstration of capacity supply. And if an alternative supplier relies on capacity that was the result of a wholesale market auction for any portion of its demonstration of capacity supply, the purchases cannot exceed 5 percent of the AES's capacity requirements.

Instead, Ms. Molitor recommended the committee consider subjecting AES companies to rules set forth by the Midcontinent Independent Systems Operator, which oversees power supply for Michigan and other Midwest states, as a way to ensure capacity. By MISO's rules, a company can either participate in a capacity auction or submit a fixed resource planning option to demonstrate that they are able to serve their load of customers as well as reserve requirements.

"It's not feasible for any AES company to pay those pre-payment fees," Ms. Molitor said. "The most appropriate method would make the AES utilities follow the same rules as the utilities, and



that is the MISO rules. I think making them live in that world levels the playing field for all electric providers in the state."

Another issue Mr. Nofs was willing to divulge is that of capacity, who should oversee that matter and how much is necessary to keep the grid reliable and affordable for ratepayers.

"You hear that we're putting some costs or concerns on capacity and that's a question that's still open that we're still looking at," he said. "How can we facilitate our concern of capacity for an AES to be able to report, that we feel comfortable, that the Public Service Commission will feel comfortable, and therefore we're not going to be subjected to penalties coming from MISO if they were short?"

Mr. Nofs said he does not plan to introduce a new substitute to either of the bills next week, and when asked if last week would be the last week for testimony, he said, "We're hoping so," but reiterated he will take as much time as is necessary for everyone to have a say.

"The process is important to me, and giving people the opportunity to speak is important to me, so we try to take in all the cards we get that day and try to take care of them," he said. "There are a lot of good recommendations coming from the participants and they're offering the language. I'll go to the very end if someone has got a better idea than what we've thought about here and it will make it that much stronger."

Mr. Nofs said he, the governor and { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201&locid=1" } (R-Lawton), chair of the House Energy Policy Committee, are all hoping to have work completed on this energy package by the end of the year.

### PSC Reports \$4.2B In Savings From Efficiency Programs

Michigan energy customers in 2014 have been able to save \$4.2 billion from the state's energy optimization programs that began in 2009, the Public Service Commission announced Thursday.

The revelation came as the PSC released its { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mpsc/2015\_Energy\_Optimization\_Report\_501548\_7.pdf" \t "blank" } on the state's energy optimization programs and the cost effectiveness of { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2007SB21301" }. The report showed that overall, 2014 energy optimization program savings achieved for electric utilities were 141 percent of the target and 130 percent of the target for natural gas utilities. Those targets were set in the original act.

"The cheapest energy is the energy never used, and this has proven to be the case again with Michigan's energy optimization programs in 2014," PSC Chair John Quackenbush said in a statement. "Because they focus on reducing energy waste, energy efficiency programs benefit all utility customers. For every dollar spent on these programs in 2014, customers can expect to

realize \$4.38 in savings - more than any year since 2010. Customers who take advantage of energy efficiency programs personally benefit even more."

For measures installed in program year 2014, electric savings total more than 1.4 million megawatt-hours, and natural gas savings total over 4.8 million Mcf, the PSC said. And aggregate energy optimization program expenditures of \$257 million in 2014 by all natural gas and electric utilities in the state are estimated to result in lifecycle savings to customers of \$1.12 billion.

The PSC also said the downward pricing trend for renewable energy resources and the continued low cost of energy optimization has resulted in a combined weighted cost of \$37 per megawatt-hour - which is less than any new generation, including new natural gas combined cycle plants, it noted - when compared to the Energy Information Administration levelized plant costs for 2014.

### Calley Heads To India For Trade Mission

In an effort to expand markets for Michigan-made products and encourage more job creation for foreign direct investments in the state, { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1" } will lead a delegation of state and business leaders on a trade mission to India starting on Friday, the governor's office said Thursday.

"We are using this opportunity to build strong partnerships with India, creating trade and business opportunities for Michigan companies," Mr. Calley said in a statement. "We will be delivering the message that Michigan is more business-friendly than ever and the best state in the North American market to compete and grow while creating jobs."

Mr. Calley is set to meet with Devendra Fadnavis, the chief minister of the state of Maharashtra, as well as other government officials, the governor's office indicated. He will also provide remarks at the India-Michigan Global Summit, a new initiative launched by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

The lieutenant governor will also meet with executives from Indian automotive companies, as well as Michigan companies with operations in India. The trip also will include meetings with Indian automotive suppliers and high-ranking government leaders.

The companies participating in the trade mission are Argo BioMedical from Auburn Hills, FutureNet Group from Detroit, Hosco Fittings from Wixom, Managed Programs from Auburn Hills and Orion Test Systems, also from Auburn Hills.

India is the 11<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world with a sizable and rapidly growing domestic market, the governor's office indicated in its statement, as well as growing financial markets. In 2014, Michigan companies exported \$296.7 million in goods and materials to India, which included chemicals, machinery, computer and electronic products, and transportation equipment.

The mission is Mr. Calley's fifth since taking office in 2011. He previously led missions to Chile, Colombia, Brazil, Mexico and the Netherlands.

## Capital Notebook


**PRESIDENTS COUNCIL ADOPTS NEW NAME:** The Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan, is now the Michigan Association of State Universities.

"We have evolved over the decades from a council of university presidents into a full service association, where a wide array of higher education stakeholders come together to share best practices and collaborate in ways that make our universities stronger," Daniel Hurley, the group's CEO, said in a statement. "The association will remain the state's convener for the presidents and chancellors of Michigan's public universities, and many other groups of institutional representatives to collaborate and share expertise."

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**Subject:** Michigan Report, Thursday, November 5, 2015  
**Attachments:** Nov5Senate.htm; 151105dayplan.htm; Nov5.htm; Nov5House.htm



## Michigan Report for Thursday, November 5, 2015

After Week-Long Negotiations, Energy Bills Sent To House Floor

Canvassers Rejects Prevailing Wage Petitions, State Continues Investigation

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## Volume #54, Report #220 -- Thursday, November 5, 2015

### After Week-Long Negotiations, Energy Bills Sent To House Floor

Major energy legislation cleared the House Energy Policy Committee on Thursday with some significant changes, including changes to the proposed renewable energy definitions and a "goal" for utilities to get 30 percent of production from renewables and energy efficiency.

But advocates for expanding choice, or at least keeping it the same as current law, were not successful.

After convening at 8 a.m., recessing until 2:07 p.m. and then going until 7:45 p.m., coming in and out of order on its fourth attempt this week to meet on the issue, the committee reported [HB 4298](#) - the bill involving choice and utility regulations - 18-7. [Rep. Gary Glenn](#) (R-Midland), the vice chair, [Rep. Andrea LaFontaine](#) (R-Columbus), [Rep. Holly Hughes](#) (R-White River Township), [Rep. Tom Barrett](#) (R-Pottersville), [Rep. Peter Lucido](#) (R-Shelby Township), [Rep. Derek Miller](#) (D-Warren) and [Rep. Scott Dianda](#) (D-Calumet) all voted no.

[HB 4297](#), dealing with the environmental aspects of energy, cleared the committee 21-3 with [Rep. Julie Plawecki](#) (D-Dearborn Heights) abstaining and [HB 4575](#) cleared 19-4 with Ms. Plawecki and [Rep. LaTanya Garrett](#) (D-Detroit) abstaining.

[Rep. Aric Nesbitt](#) (R-Lawton), the chair of the committee, said his goal is getting the bills finished before the end of the year.

He said utilities are going to make investments and if the state is going to deal with capacity in the long run, it should deal with it proactively instead of reactively, which he believes the legislation does.

"As you can imagine this has been legislation I have been working on for years now and it's the first down, and I look forward to getting to a touchdown," he told reporters after the vote.

Throughout the meeting, and the week, it was clear Mr. Nesbitt was negotiating with House Democrats to get the votes needed for the legislation to clear the committee. House [Minority Floor Leader Sam Singh](#) (D-East Lansing) attended the majority of the meeting Thursday and House [Minority Leader Tim Greimel](#) (D-Auburn Hills) also attended the meeting briefly and talked to Democrats serving on the panel.

Mr. Glenn has been criticizing the process for much of the week, and continued on Thursday before the vote, saying members likely were not clear on what certain amendments did in the context of a lengthy and complex bill.

But Rep. Bill LaVoy (D-Monroe), the minority vice chair of the committee, said he felt the process was fair and he was grateful the Democrats, despite being in the minority, were included.

Those following the issue said Mr. Nesbitt, if he wanted to get a bill out of the committee, would either need to compromise on choice or on environmental components. For several days, it seemed clear he had opted for the latter option.

Changes to the legislation include not requiring alternative energy suppliers to address local reliability needs unless a projected capacity shortfall was determined. Under the amendment there would be no changes to requirements on the alternative suppliers unless the Public Service Commission made certain determinations involving capacity.

Amendments adopted to HB 4298 would require alternative energy consumers to remain with the utility, if they go back, for 15 years if it doesn't cause an increased cost. For those consumers who would cause an increased cost, they would have to stay with the utility for 20 years.

Michigan Agency for Energy Executive Director Valerie Brader told the committee the changes regarding additional regulations for alternative suppliers would not go into effect unless there were some extreme circumstances.

But Mr. Glenn was unhappy he could not bring up an alternative energy supplier - or advocate - to confirm or deny Ms. Brader's statement. He said he simply doesn't know if the new language effectively kills choice or not.

An approved amendment offered by Mr. LaVoy would set up an energy efficiency program.

Another Democratic amendment would include in the language describing the Integrated Resource Plan that utilities would have a goal of reaching 30 percent of energy production through renewable energy and reduction of energy waste through energy efficiency by 2025.

Rep. Julie Plawecki (D-Dearborn Heights) noted it was a goal and not a mandate on utilities.

Another amendment provided financial incentives for utilities achieving annual incremental energy waste reduction of between 1.5 and 3 percent.

Another approved amendment would add a general taxpayer to the Public Service Commission with the intent of representing the average consumer, said Rep. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan), the sponsor of the amendment. It would also increase the commission from three members to five.

It was not immediately clear if that amendment would remain the final version of the bill. Mr. Nesbitt said he would continue to work with Mr. McBroom.

Changes to HB 4297 include an amendment from Mr. Nesbitt and makes changes to the renewable portfolio standard, removing what the federal government does not consider renewable energy.

Another approved amendment offered by Mr. LaVoy "tightens up" the definition of renewable energy, but still expands the definition from the current law, including biomass and geothermal.

And another amendment, from Ms. Hughes, would ensure pet coke, hazardous waste, coal waste and scrap tires were not included in the renewable energy definition. That addressed a major criticism from Democrats, though some forms of waste to energy could still count.

Mr. Glenn attempted to make a variety of amendments regarding the 10 percent choice market, including ensuring all schools, community colleges and universities would not count against the cap.

Ms. Hughes attempted to pass an amendment, which she said the Michigan Chamber of Commerce supported, that would keep the choice market the same as current law. That amendment failed 10-10 with five members abstaining.

Throughout the committee meeting Thursday, which went at ease several times, comments from members indicated they weren't pleased with the process.

Mr. Glenn, when the committee first began, said he could not vote on Mr. Nesbitt's amendments because they were several pages and he had no time to know what they did.

Later, Mr. Glenn made another comment about the amendments and Mr. Nesbitt quipped: "The reason I did it as an amendment and not an additional sub is because of the criticism I've received," he said.

"Well I had zero time to read the amendments," Mr. Glenn said.

Mr. Glenn said after the meeting that he didn't think the legislation would be well received in the full House, particularly the Republican caucus. He said there would likely be concerns regarding the choice piece of the legislation.

Mr. Nesbitt said a vast majority of committee members supported the bills and he believes he would have the support of a majority of the House Republican caucus.

On the criticism on the process, Mr. Nesbitt said the legislation has been up for almost the entire year and everyone has their own thought on how to improve bills.

"This in terms of the legislative process, this is a part of it, we allowed a lot of amendments to be debated," he said, also adding more than 120 people have testified throughout the year.

But Mr. Glenn said he felt members were being pressured by the time frame, knowing the meeting would end with a vote. He said many of the questions members have will be answered in the coming weeks.

**REACTION:** Statements poured in Thursday evening after the committee reported the bill, with many slamming the choice provisions.



Michigan Freedom Fund President Terri Reid said the bills were reported after a "rushed" and "secretive" process.

"The result is substitute language approved today that hurts Michigan ratepayers, schools and job creators who already face the highest electric costs in the region," Ms. Reid said in a statement. "Electric choice should be expanded, not eliminated. Competition serves as the best method of lowering energy costs for Michigan's hardworking families and keeping the large, monopoly utility providers honest."

Wayne Kuipers, Energy Choice Now executive director, said the bill would kill electric choice, which has saved \$1.1 billion for those "lucky enough" to have it.

"The process of passing this utility-friendly/consumer-hostile legislation out of committee was as flawed and damaging as the bill itself," he said in a statement. "No public testimony was allowed on what was essentially - as verified by the governor's own energy advisor - a brand new bill before the committee. The bottom line is: the members of this committee just passed a bill that will potentially cost 40 percent of Michigan's public schools \$24 million annually and cost Michigan job providers nearly \$100 million each year."

And environmental advocates said the bills do not go far enough.

"The only way to hold utilities accountable for increasing our use of clean, renewable energy is through mandates for renewable energy and energy efficiency," Anne Woiwode, conservation director for Sierra Club, Michigan Chapter, said in a statement. "The Nesbitt bill is a giveaway to utility shareholders and puts polluter profits before Michigan's ratepayers and natural resources."

"The bills passed out of committee tonight are a step in the right direction, but do not go far enough to increase our use of clean, renewable energy, or to ensure we lower energy costs through reducing energy waste," Jack Schmitt, deputy director for the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, said in a statement. "We can and must do better to build upon the success of our clean energy standards. We look forward to working through the legislative process to strengthen this policy and to ensure Michigan continues to increase its use of renewable energy and takes further strides in reducing energy waste."

Finally, MI Air MI Health Coalition Director Rory Neuner said: "The Nesbitt plan ignores the health impacts of our energy choices and that's why health professionals are urging legislators to go back to the drawing board. We urge the legislature to support forward-looking legislation that will reduce dangerous pollution and protect public health."

#### Canvassers Rejects Prevailing Wage Petitions, State Continues Investigation

At a minimum, some of those who circulated petitions for Protecting Michigan Taxpayers in its effort to repeal the prevailing wage could face misdemeanor charges for lying on the circulator certificates on those petitions, a move both sides of the issue welcomed at Thursday's Board of State Canvassers meeting.

But opponents of the petition said the criminal investigation should go higher up the ranks than the circulators, and Elections Director Chris Thomas said his bureau would continue to investigate the petition gathering process to determine if there are additional safeguards needed.

The vote to reject the petitions as insufficient was fairly easy, with both opponents of the drive, Michigan Prevails, and Protecting Michigan Taxpayers supporting the move.

The staff report on the petition, released earlier in the week, found fewer than half of the sample signatures pulled was valid. Of the 503 signatures in the sample, only 301 were valid, with 104 not registered voters and 63 duplicates. At least 315 valid signatures were needed in the sample to make it worth checking more signatures and 348 valid signatures were needed to simply designate the petitions as sufficient.

Mr. Thomas said it was only through the checking opponents to the change made that the duplicates were found. He said the petitions would have been declared sufficient with only the department's check.

In the end, he said the petition had the lowest rate of valid signatures in any petition submitted since the state started using the sampling process.

"The circulating company clearly failed to put circulators in the field who could comply with this law," he said.

Proponents of the plan conceded there were not enough signatures.

"We reviewed the staff report and would urge this board to adopt the findings in the staff report," Eric Doster, attorney for Protecting Michigan Taxpayers, said. "After review of this matter, we have no problem forwarding this matter to the proper law enforcement authorities."

Dave Waymire, spokesperson for Michigan Prevails, argued after the meeting that the criminal investigation should go further than the circulators or even Silver Bullet, the company contracted to hire circulators. He said officials with the campaign knew of the rampant duplicates and other problems with the circulators and did not act.

"The question is, what did they know and when did they know it?" he said.

Mr. Thomas said at a minimum those circulators who signed the petitions themselves multiple times could face charges.

Mr. Doster said the campaign was still considering what, if any, action it would take against Silver Bullet.

The bigger issue, Mr. Thomas said, is preventing a repeat.

"The question going forward is whether this petition will remain an outlier or will it become the way business is done," he said. "Clearly, a close look at this petition is necessary to determine whether additional safeguards are necessary to safeguard the Michigan elections process."

Board members agreed on the need to review the petition process, but members from both parties chided the Legislature for failing to act on recommendations the board has already made.

In particular, board members pointed out that they will be meeting next week to decide whether a recall petition against Governor Rick Snyder includes factual allegations, but the law does not require that the drafter include support for the allegations when filing the petition.

### Meekhof Talks DPS, Post-Roads Agenda

Now that the Legislature has sent a road funding solution to Governor Rick Snyder, Senate Majority Leader Arian Meekhof sees energy policy reform and a solution to the growing problems of academic and financial instability with Detroit Public Schools as two of the major issues next on his chamber's to-do list.

"We don't tackle simple things," he said. "They are major policy issues for the state, and I've had some very, very open and fruitful discussions about how we go about it."

He said he expects to rely "very heavily" on Sen. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek) to lead the discussion on the best energy policy for Michigan as many provisions of the 2008 energy law either expire or need to be updated, and he is working currently on finding sponsors for legislation on DPS from both the Democratic and Republican sides of the aisle.

"I've given no timeline on DPS, but what I have said is it would be very, very important that we put something (together) for these children so they can get a great education and they can get all these really cool, great jobs being created in Detroit," he said.

As to any concerns he might have about the proposal Governor Rick Snyder put forth last month, Mr. Meekhof said all the details are still a work in progress.

"We've been meeting on different occasions with different interest groups and our policy folks, and it's still a work in progress," he said. "It's like every piece of public policy: not everybody is going to agree on it, so we're going to try to find the best possible thing that we can do."

He said his primary focus is on ensuring a quality education for DPS students but did not have any specific details on what that could look like in legislation.

And he said that while it has not currently been in the discussion to leave DPS to the charter school community, it could be a possibility if some agreement couldn't be reached otherwise. But "that would be unfortunate," he said.

Mr. Meekhof said restoration of the school board is a part of the discussion, but again, he was unsure if it will be part of the final solution.

"The folks that are there need to have some accountability and I think they'll want to, because if we're going to help in some way, they're going to want to make sure the process moves forward and we get improvement," he said. "We need different results."

But Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) said that is a very important piece for him and his caucus.

"Whether or not it's required to get votes or not, I haven't spoken to all my colleagues about it, but it's very important to them and to me as well," he said after session.

Mr. Meekhof was uncertain where the financing piece could come from for the DPS fix, but as conversations have been ongoing, he is hoping to have at least some legislation on the situation introduced soon, he said.

### Ananich Calls On Meekhof, Legislature To Hold Hearings On Flint Water

Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich on Thursday called on Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof and his colleagues to put together legislative hearings to determine what went wrong in Flint, who should be held accountable and how it can be prevented.

Mr. Meekhof said he is waiting for other agencies and task forces to do their work force.

"The folks that are being charged with gathering that information, I want to let them do their work, because I don't want to duplicate their work either," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) told reporters after Mr. Ananich's formal floor speech about his proposal.

Mr. Ananich sent a letter to Mr. Meekhof's office and shared it with the chairpersons of the Senate Oversight, Government Operations and Health Policy committees.

In his speech, Mr. Ananich pointed to further reports on Thursday, especially coming from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, warning of additional health risks of lead in the water. He said such reports only highlight that "this is an ongoing problem, and the Legislature has a unique role and responsibility in thoroughly examining what went wrong, what still needs to be fixed, and how to ensure this sort of crisis never happens again."

He said the taxpayers who have essentially footed the bill on a \$9.3 million supplemental appropriation in emergency funds for the city have a right to know how that money is being spent as well.

"The fact that several reviews have been promised by other entities does not remove the need for us to exercise our oversight role. It actually highlights the areas in which our investigation would strengthen the process," he said. "Each of the other reviews are either agencies investigating themselves or experts who do not have the powers or accountability elected officials have."

Mr. Ananich said the benefit of legislative hearings is primarily subpoena power "to make sure everyone who needs to be asked questions are forced to answer them," he said. "We can provide a public, transparent look that none of these approaches (by others) are guaranteed to deliver."

Speaking to reporters after session, Mr. Ananich said, "Folks have shown their willingness to not tell the truth, or be fuzzy with it for sure, but if they're asked a question when someone isn't requiring them to tell the truth, they can continue with that. So I think we can hold them accountable better through the subpoena process."

But Mr. Meekhof did not seem to exercise the same sense of urgency. He said he has been talking with Mr. Ananich about the idea but reiterated he'd like folks in charge of gathering that information currently to do so first.

"We've got a lot of other good stuff in front of us right now, too. We've got energy; we've got Detroit Public Schools. I'm not discounting he says it's important, because he and I have been talking about it," Mr. Meekhof said.

And he said, as he has previously, that he has "very high marks" for Department of Environmental Quality Director Dan Wyant.

"I believe they will be able to find solutions and they will find things that need to be corrected," Mr. Meekhof said.

But Mr. Ananich said an agency investigating itself when it had already potentially skirted doing the right thing is exactly why a different approach needs to be taken, especially by the Legislature.

"We have such troubling individuals in the drinking water division, which is the main division that's supposed to keep us safe, showing time and time again there's some serious problems there," he said. "We need to get to the bottom of how that happened and how we can address it."

He added that there is still a role for the agencies investigating themselves or the various task forces associated with the drinking water problem in Flint, but those reviews could take many more months and the Legislature's public hearings would provide a platform for information to potentially come through faster.

"There's a role for them, but I think a thorough investigative process needs to happen," Mr. Ananich said. "Independently would've been preferable, but if that's not going to happen, I think it's our responsibility to do some check and balance just for that alone, for us to do it."

**HOUSE CALLS FOR FEDERAL INVESTIGATION:** While Mr. Ananich made his request on the Senate floor Thursday, Flint-area state representatives pushed for a federal investigation into the Department of Environmental Quality after a story came out Thursday claiming the department knowingly dropped two lead test samples to avoid exceeding a federal drinking water standard.

Had the tests been counted, action could have been taken earlier on the water crisis, they alleged in a statement late Thursday.

Rep. Sheldon Neely (D-Flint) called for Mr. Wyant to be removed from his post by the governor and sent several letters to the governor and Attorney General Bill Schuette requesting such, a statement indicated.

"It is shameful and appalling to me that the men and women we entrust to keep us safe at the highest levels of state government would purposely put the health of Flint's residents at risk," Mr. Neeley said. "For the past year, the Flint community has been subjected to high levels of lead in their water. Action clearly could have been taken earlier to protect the children who have been the most at risk. This behavior borderlines on criminal activity. The governor should immediately terminate the director of the DEQ and all culpable members of the staff."

Rep. Phil Phelps (D-Flushing) said the DEQ's explanation in the story (by Michigan Radio, the statement indicates) doesn't add up.

"This is just one more instance of the DEQ covering something up, and even more of a reason they fought me when I sent a FOIA requesting information relating to the water crisis in Flint," Mr. Phelps said. "There must be a full federal investigation into the state on how they handled these samples."

#### Report: Construction Could Renew Lead Contamination In Flint Homes

Flint is taking steps to be sure its municipal water is not dissolving lead from the inside of old pipes as it passes to consumers, but construction projects that come in contact with those old pipes could still make them hazardous, a final U.S. Environmental Protection Agency report on the issue said.

Department of Environmental Quality officials noted the report says they are already implementing the recommendations from an earlier draft of the report.

The report, issued Wednesday, said not only are the lead pipes themselves a risk, but any pipes downstream of them in the water system could also pose a risk. The pipes develop scale inside that could contain lead where the pipe itself is lead or where the water coming into the pipe first ran through lead, the report said.

"Consequently, even with corrosion control treatment in place in the future, physical disturbances will be capable of dislodging the high lead-bearing scale and sediment from non-lead pipes as well as lead pipes, as was the case in the earlier EPA study," the report said. It included pictures from studies of another water system that showed where the scale had been dislodged by construction near the water lines.

The report did note that one of the first homes tested based on complaints of water quality problems had a longer than usual lead service line. Flint officials said the home was probably

one of the first on the block and so had a service line that ran to a water main on a major street rather than the newer main that runs down the street on which it is located.

The report recommended that EPA develop a procedure for minimizing effects of construction near or including pipes that might have lead-containing scale in them. It also recommended education efforts for both residents and contractors on the risks of disturbing the pipes.

"Residents should be notified of scheduled work by water and non-water utilities and informed of the potential risk of increased lead levels due to these disturbances," the report said.

The letter attached to the report notes that the state and Flint have already taken steps to correct the issue, including changing back to Detroit's water system.

Even so, Flint-area legislators are calling on their colleagues and the administration to do more to ensure the problem not only does not happen again, but the appropriate agencies or individuals be held accountable (see separate story).

"We appreciate the EPA's acknowledgement that most of the recommendations from the draft version of the report are already being implemented by DEQ," department spokesperson Brad Wurfel said.

But he said the EPA has also taken some of the blame for the situation and issued new copper and lead guidelines designed to clarify some of the confusion that led to the actions in Flint.

"The ambiguity of the lead and copper rule on the issue of corrosion control has been central to the situation in Flint," Mr. Wurfel said. "We appreciate having that acknowledged and clarified. It can only help Michigan and every other state into the future."

#### Senate Passes Alternative Teaching Certificate Bill, Ends Dower Rights

Individuals who are not certified or endorsed to teach certain critical shortage disciplines such as writing, journalism or health sciences might still be able to teach under legislation passed largely along party lines in the Senate on Thursday.

[SB 491](#) has seen numerous changes since first introduced, but in the bill's final form, an individual's service as a full-time instructor in a field of specialization at the college level would be considered occupational experience in that field, which is one of the conditions for teaching as a non-certificated teacher.

Such an individual could teach in a field of specialization if he or she had, in the previous seven years, at least five years of occupational experience (rather than a major or a graduate degree in that field) for certain subjects, or met other requirements if teaching a foreign language, a Senate Fiscal Agency analysis indicated.

"Expanding the number of subjects is a problem. It dilutes the teaching pool by putting more unqualified people in the classroom," Senate [Minority Leader Jim Ananich](#) (D-Flint) said in a

statement through his spokesperson. "Rather than striving for the best, we are setting for the lowest common denominator. Michigan kids deserve better."

The bill also requires an alternative teaching program (for an interim teaching certificate) to include training in classroom management.

Certain career and technical education instructors would be exempt from the requirement to have a bachelor's degree in order to receive an interim teaching certificate, and the Department of Education would determine what specifically those areas would be.

The bill allows an individual seeking an interim teaching certificate to have more than one subject matter endorsement if he or she had more than one graduate degree or had a bachelor's degree with more than one major, as well as meeting other requirements.

Initially, the bill cleared the chamber on a 30-8 vote with all Democrats except Mr. Ananich, Sen. Virgil Smith of Detroit and Sen. Bert Johnson of Highland Park voting in opposition. But a motion to reconsider the vote was later made and the bill passed on a 27-11 with all Democrats except Mr. Smith voting in opposition and Sen. Tory Rocca (R-Sterling Heights) joining them.

**DOWER RIGHTS:** Some controversy was generated over a package of bills (SB 558, SB 559 and SB 560) seeking to repeal certain provisions of law related to dower rights, or a wife's right, upon her husband's death, to a life estate in one-third of the land that he owned.

SB 558 specifies that in most cases a wife's dower right would be abolished and unenforceable either through statute or common law, though that would not apply to a widower's dower elected by a woman whose husband died before the bill's effective date or a widow's right to elect dower under the Estates and Protected Individuals Code if her husband died before the bill's effective date.

Sen. Rebekah Warren (D-Ann Arbor) on the Senate floor expressed some concerns about the bills as it relates to a woman's right to receive the property or assets she is entitled to in cases of domestic violence relationships or other scenarios.

But bill sponsor Sen. Rick Jones (R-Grand Ledge) said dower "is an ancient, archaic law when women were not supposed to own property. It's outdated and unconstitutional," he said, pointing to the legislation having support from the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan and others.

"The titles are a complete mess when this happens, and we have many more modern laws protecting both spouses in the case of divorce," Mr. Jones said.

The package was sent to the House on a 34-4 vote, Ms. Warren joined by Sen. Coleman Young II (D-Detroit), Sen. Margaret O'Brien (R-Portage) and Sen. Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park) in opposition.

Snyder Signs Teacher Evaluation Legislation



Governor Rick Snyder signed into law Thursday legislation setting a portion of a teacher's annual evaluation contingent upon student growth during the academic year and requiring districts to select or develop an evaluation tool.

Mr. Snyder's signing of SB 103 (PA 173, immediate effect) brings to a close an arduous, at times acrimonious, years-long effort to overhaul how districts evaluate teacher performance.

"Michigan has wonderful teachers, dedicated to helping all their students reach their full potential and become lifelong learners," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "This new law helps them grow as educators through improved feedback and evaluations."

Starting in the 2017-18 school year, 25 percent of a teacher's evaluation would be based on student growth. That would rise to 40 percent for the 2018-19 school year.

Growth would be based on two parts. In grades where students take state assessments, the assessments would count for at least 40 percent of the growth measurement. In grades where state assessments are not administered, at least 50 percent of the growth measurement would come from research-based growth measures or alternative assessments.

The portion of teacher evaluation not related to student growth would come from the new evaluation tool each district or charter school chooses.

All teachers will be assigned an effectiveness rating of highly effective, effective, minimally effective or ineffective.

A teacher rating ineffective on three consecutive evaluations must be fired under the new law.

Similar provisions will apply to school administrators.

#### State Must Do Better To Get More People In College, Panel Told

For several years, officials have argued more Michigan residents need to attend college to help the economy, but at a committee hearing on Thursday, education and college officials said more also needs to be done to encourage students to attend college to help prevent the possibility of declining enrollment at universities.

The main message remains the need for higher education to help improve the economy. State Board of Education President John Austin (D-Ann Arbor) said that by 2025, the state will need 490,000 more students than current trends forecast who have at least an associate's degree or workplace certification. The state will also need 231,000 more people with at least a bachelor's degree than trends forecast to keep the economy chugging.

But the state also faces demographic factors that indicate the number of traditional high school students will not increase over the years, members of the House Higher Education and Community Colleges Appropriations Subcommittees were told.

Eric Guthrie, Michigan's demographer, said the state, like the rest of the nation, is getting older.

But Michigan is getting older a little faster than the rest of the U.S. The median age of Michigan's population is now 39.6, while nationally the median age is 37.7, he said.

Mr. Guthrie also said total college enrollment, in both universities and community colleges, tends to increase when the economy is bad. Individuals needing work will often attend college to update and improve their skills.

As the economy has improved, the total enrollment in Michigan's community colleges has declined. In 2010, there were approximately 200,000 community college students, and that number has fallen to about 160,000. But Mike Hansen, president of the Michigan Community College Association, said the current enrollment is still at the level it was in 2008, and enrollment has grown significantly at the state's community colleges over the last 15 years.

Guarding against enrollment decline, Susan Borego, chancellor at the University of Michigan-Flint, said the state must continue to attract international students and students from other states, but it must do a better job of getting more Michigan elementary and secondary students to be ready both academically and emotionally to attend college.

The state must "double down" on those efforts, she said, which means getting students into a mindset of going to college very early, as research shows that as early as the third grade students begin thinking about attending college.

Now, just 18 percent of 9<sup>th</sup> grade students in Michigan anticipate attending college; in Massachusetts - the state with the highest number - it is 30 percent, she said.

While more has to be done to encourage students to attend college, Ms. Borego also said efforts have to continue to have students academically ready for college. Just 1 percent of Flint High School students are ready for college, she said.

Efforts to boost academic preparedness were also discussed by Mr. Austin. Schools have to be able to determine early enough if students will need remediation classes to be college ready, he said.

Mr. Austin also stressed that additional student aid to make college affordable and simplified rules to make it easier for students to get aid is needed.

#### House Panel Urges Reversal At Veterans Homes

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is moving toward having fewer people in each room at its veterans homes, but members of the House Appropriations Military and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee said the move was wrong-headed.

A leader for the union at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans also questioned the motives behind the move.

Jim Dunn, deputy director of the Veterans Affairs Agency, which oversees the homes within the department, said the move from four residents per room to two was an effort to bring the homes up to current standards for veteran care.

Mr. Dunn said the Grand Rapids home would not likely meet that standard. "We'll probably never get to one person rooms because of the layout," he said. But he expected to be able to drop the occupancy to two per room.

And he said plans for the currently vacant fourth floor of the Grand Rapids campus main building was a "neighborhood" design where residents would have access to all their needs, including cooking space, on the floor.

Mr. Dunn said the remodel was expected to cost about \$3 million, but he also expected to be able to continue the practice of getting federal matching funds to cover much of the costs.

He said the program so far is able to live within its budget and would only be coming back to the state for more General Fund if it is not able to keep its occupied bed count at the levels projected when the budget was adopted. Part of the budget is a per diem from the federal government that drops if occupancy drops too far, he said.

But committee members said the program was going in the wrong direction in trying to reduce number of occupants per room.

"My experience in the medical profession, often we isolate people into a room by themselves and that often is not healthy either," Rep. Edward Canfield (R-Sebewaing) said. "I'm not suggesting that you abandon your plan, but I'm suggesting you reevaluate."

While he agreed on the need for some of the improvements Mr. Dunn had discussed - like new boilers to replace those that had failed - he cautioned against renovations that could impinge on the facilities' ability to serve as many veterans as possible.

"The important thing is to take care of people, not have a nice place to take care of people that's state of the art," he said.

Rep. Larry Inman (R-Williamsburg), chair of the subcommittee, said his father had initially been in a private room in his nursing home but was moved to a shared room.

"That ended up being a real blessing for my father because suddenly he had somebody he could talk to," Mr. Inman said. "To sit in a room alone is a lonely experience."

Rep. Philip Potvin was vehemently against the plan.

"You're really self-destructing that facility by going from a four-bed room to a one-bed room," Mr. Potvin said. "Our goal here is to take care of as many vets as possible."

Mr. Potvin also argued that many of the younger veterans coming back from the Middle East are suffering ailments, physical and mental, that would not allow them to care for themselves as the proposed renovations would envision.

He said the facilities could risk losing state support if they move ahead with the plans.

Mr. Inman tried to dial back the discussion near the end of the meeting.

"We have deep feelings on a number of issues," he said. "No one representative can tell a department head what to do. It takes the full body of the Legislature to give the department a directive."

While he directed his comments to the whole subcommittee, Mr. Potvin was the sole member remaining at the time.

Mr. Potvin also agreed with Rep. Henry Yanez (D-Sterling Heights) that the subcommittee needed a separate hearing on a recent audit by the state and inspection by the federal government.

Mr. Yanez particularly chastised the agency for security at the Grand Rapids facility.

"I and Rep. Miller went to visit facility," he said, referring to Rep. Derek Miller (D-Warren). "We went in a side door. We even escorted a vet to his physical therapy appointment. We were never challenged once."

To references of pulling state support for the homes, Mr. Dunn noted that the federal assistance helping to run and repair the facilities flows only to state homes, not to private facilities.

Mark Williams, president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees local that represents practical nurses in the facility (and a former worker laid off when the facility moved to a private contractor for direct care workers), said the proposed renovations are designed in part to reduce the capacity of the home to fall in line with staffing ability while keeping federal funds flowing.

Mr. Dunn said both homes exceeded the care hours required by federal standards. The homes must provide at least 2.5 hours of nursing care daily for each resident, and he said the Grand Rapids home was at 2.9 hours.

Mr. Williams argued that came from counting staff as direct care workers who should not be. He said the facility is also regularly under-staffed, sometimes with more staff absent than present.

"They knew they couldn't staff the home as a 755-bed facility," he said. "We needed to reduce the population of the facility."

He said he would provide documentation on the staffing shortfalls at a future meeting.

#### Poll: Carson Beats Democrats, Democrats Beat Trump

Michigan native Ben Carson, running for the 2016 Republican presidential nominee, would top both the two leading Democrats for president in the state, a poll released Thursday showed.

However, both Democrats - former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont - would beat Donald Trump in Michigan, the same poll showed.

The poll was conducted by Lansing-based EPIC-MRA of 600 likely voters in the state between October 25 and October 31. The poll has an error rate of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

The poll showed slightly more of those asked identified as Democrat than Republican or independent (40 percent compared to 36 percent and 20 percent, respectively). Most of those people (52 percent) believed women should have the right to an abortion, and by one percentage point - 48 percent to 47 percent - approved of President Barack Obama's job performance.

However, the poll also showed 35 percent of respondents considered themselves conservative, 34 percent considered themselves moderate and 21 percent saw themselves as liberal.

Asked to choose between Mr. Carson - a retired neuro-surgeon who has gained notice for his soft-spoken approach and open embrace of religion - or Ms. Clinton or Mr. Sanders, the poll found Michigan voters leaned toward Mr. Carson. He won a plurality of voters against each.

Against Ms. Clinton, Mr. Carson was favored by 46 percent of those asked. Another 40 percent backed Ms. Clinton, while 14 percent were unsure.

Mr. Carson did even better against Mr. Sanders, though his support did not match that against Ms. Clinton. A total of 45 percent backed Mr. Carson to 36 percent support for Mr. Sanders. The remaining 19 percent were unsure.

However, both Democrats were favored over business-executive and promoter Donald Trump. Again, though, they lead Mr. Trump with a plurality, not a majority.

If Mr. Trump were the nominee against Ms. Clinton, she would poll 46 percent to his 38 percent, with 16 percent undecided.

Against Mr. Sanders, the Vermont senator polled 48 percent support to Mr. Trump's 36 percent, with again 16 percent unsure.

#### Sex Offenders Registration Act Revised Per Court Case

After the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan held that several provisions of the Sex Offenders Registration Act were unconstitutional in a case at the end of March, Sen.

Rick Jones drafted legislation to clarify language in the statute that cleared the Senate Judiciary Committee unanimously Thursday.

In short, the plaintiffs in the case were six Michigan residents required by SORA to register as sex offenders and comply with the act for life, but they argued portions of the act violated the Due Process Clause because certain provisions are vague, interfere with the registrants' fundamental right to engage in common occupations of life, and infringe on their right to direct the education and upbringing of children, a Senate Fiscal Agency analysis of SB 581 indicates.

The bill revises the prohibition against a sex offender registrant's loitering near a school to indicate that a parent or guardian would not be loitering if he or she was on school property to transport his or her child to or from school or a school event; attending an event sanctioned by his or her child's school; or meeting with a school employee regarding his or her child enrolled at that school.

The bill also defines loitering to remain for a period of time, whether or not in a vehicle, with the intent to engage or solicit another person to engage in an act prohibited by a listed offense involving a minor for which registration is required under the act.

"School safety zone" is also redefined to mean school property and the area that lies 1,000 feet or less from the property line of school property. And "school property" is redefined as a building, playing field, or other property used for school purposes to impart instruction to children or used for functions and events sponsored by a school that is clearly marked and identified as a school property.

The bill also revises information a registrant is required to provide, including information that must be reported immediately and in person; and it revises information that must be included in the law enforcement database of registrations and the publicly available website maintained by the Department of State Police.

Finally, the bill revises provisions dealing with a waiver of initial and annual registration fees for a registrant who is indigent (in which case the fee must be waived until the first reporting month in which he or she was no longer indigent, under the bill).

"It is important to clarify the law so that we are protecting our children and still meeting the federal guidelines," Mr. Jones (R-Grand Ledge) said of his bill, in a statement.

A substitute was adopted to the bill and sent to the full Senate for consideration.

**MINOR PRESCRIPTION DRUG EXEMPTION:** The committee also reported without substitute HB 4843 exempting a person under 21 years of age from prohibitions against possessing and using certain prescription drugs if he or she sought medical assistance or accompanied another person who sought assistance for a drug overdose or other perceived medical emergency.

The exemption would not, under the bill, prevent investigation and prosecution of a person for any other violation, or be grounds for suppression of evidence in the prosecution of other criminal charges.

And the bill requires a health facility or agency to develop a process for notifying the parent, guardian or custodian of a minor under the age of 18 who sought or was presented for emergency medical treatment for a drug overdose or other perceived medical emergency.

"It is my hope this bill help reduce the number of deaths among young people and encourage youth to do the right thing (as necessary)," Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), sponsor of the bill, told the committee. "We shouldn't be afraid to save a life."

### Snyder Expands Pipeline Board

Governor Rick Snyder issued an executive order Thursday adding a tribal government representative to the Pipeline Safety Advisory Board.

With the new order (EO 2015-14), Mr. Snyder appointed Homer Mandoka, chair of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, to the board.

"Michigan's tribal governments play a vital role in the preservation of our state's world-class resources," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "I am confident Chairman Mandoka's passion and work ethic will be an asset to the board and I thank him for his willingness to help ensure our lakes, streams and rivers are protected for years to come."

Mr. Mandoka, of Bronson, becomes the 16<sup>th</sup> member of the board.

### PSC Eliminates DTE Electric's Renewable Energy Surcharge

As has been the case with numerous other utilities that had imposed a surcharge upon their customers to pay for their renewable energy investments as mandated by the 2008 energy law, the Public Service Commission on Thursday approved a settlement agreement amending DTE Electric Company's renewable energy plan to eliminate the utility's energy surcharge of 43 cents per meter per month, effective January 1, 2016.

"The falling cost of wind-generated energy has prompted DTE to eliminate its renewable energy surcharge," PSC Chair John Quackenbush said in a statement about the settlement (case U-17793). "DTE joins Consumers Energy, which eliminated the renewable energy surcharge last year. More Michigan customers will see the tangible benefits of lower renewable energy costs on their bills."

In a separate case, the PSC approved a settlement agreement reconciling DTE Electric Company's 2014 energy optimization plan expenses, resulting in an increase of 29 cents on the monthly bills of residential customers using 500 kilowatt-hours of electricity a month, effective January 1, 2016 (case U-17832).


**CLOVERLAND ELECTRIC BECOMES MEMBER-REGULATED:** The PSC also directed Cloverland Electric Cooperative to make certain filings and to meet with PSC staff as it transitions to a member-regulated cooperative effective January 19, 2016. It will become the eighth electric cooperative to do so since the new law became effective, the PSC said (case [U-17971](#)).

**INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY DECREASE:** The PSC also approved a settlement agreement reconciling Indiana Michigan Power Company's 2014 energy optimization plan expenses, resulting in a decrease of 21 cents on the monthly bills of residential customers using 500 kilowatt-hours of electricity effective with the next billing cycle (case [U-17833](#)).

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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**From:** Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 04, 2015 12:05 AM  
**To:** Baker, Kay (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Thursday, December 3, 2015  
**Attachments:** Dec3House.htm; Dec3Senate.htm; 151203dayplan.htm; Dec3.htm



## Michigan Report for Thursday, December 3, 2015

Tax Breaks For Switch, Data Centers, Clear Senate Amid Growing Criticism

Bill Would End Most Weekend In-Person Absentee Voting

Deficit Districts Decline; 11 Headed For Preliminary Review

Senate Panel Told Reform Office Has Tools To Pursue School Improvements

Midwives Bill Clears House Despite Physician Opposition

Flint Blood Lead Survey Results Released By State

Senate Passes Aviation Fuel Tax Changes

House Panel Considers Requiring Civics Test For High School Students

Hansen Still Hopeful On DPS Solution

House Republicans Sign Letter Urging Disapproval Of Planned Parenthood Grant

Former Aramark Worker Convicted In Assault For Hire Plot With Inmate

Senate Remembers Rosetta Ferguson

House Committee Votes To Change Electrician-Apprentice Ratio

Regional Unemployment Rates Mostly Unchanged

Canvassers Reject Snyder Recall Petition

Campaign Notes

Capital Notebook

Appointments By The Governor

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Subscribers Please Note

## **Activity Reports**

House

Senate

## **Calendars**

Day Planner

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# House Activity for Thursday, December 3, 2015

CONCURRED IN SENATE SUBSTITUTE/AMENDMENT

{ **PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES** ({ **HYPERLINK** **HYPE** "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219601>" }) Eliminates **RLIN** sunset on the allowance of retired public school employees to be employed at a reporting **K** unit under certain circumstances without forfeiting retirement or health care coverage.

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**PASSED**

{ **SUPPLEMENTAL** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPE** "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601>" }) Provides for **RLIN** supplemental appropriations in for fiscal year 2014-15.

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{ VETERINARIANS ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353001" }) Modifies  
RLIN veterinarian continuing education requirement and includes veterinary technicians.  
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{ MIDWIVES ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001" }) Provides  
RLIN licensing and regulations for midwives.  
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{ **ADVERSE POSSESSION** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219601" }) Prohibits  
**RLIN** adverse possession against local units of government.  
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{ **PHARMACEUTICALS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001" }) Expands  
**RLIN** dispensing prescription drug or device requirements to include all out-of-state veterinary  
**K** prescriber and amends certain veterinary licensing fees.

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ADVANCED TO THIRD READING

{ **DNA EVIDENCE** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=43601" }) Removes filing  
**RLINK** deadline for petition seeking review of DNA evidence.

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{ **HAZARDOUS WASTE** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201" }) Modifies  
**RLINK** liquid industrial waste programs.

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{ **HAZARDOUS WASTE** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301" }) Changes  
**RLINK** references to liquid industrial waste to liquid industrial by-product in hazardous

"http://materials transportation act.

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{ **HAZARDOUS WASTE** ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401" }) Modifies  
RLINKdescription affected document of false statement concerning liquid industrial by-product.  
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{ **RELATIVE GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE ACT** ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301" }) Modifies  
RLINKrelative guardianship assistance act to include a successor guardian provision.  
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{ **FOSTER CARE** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301" }) Modifies  
**RLINK**definition of relative and adds definition of sibling.  
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**RLINK**certain forms of energy improvement financing for cities.  
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**RLINK**certain forms of energy improvement financing for general law villages.  
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{ CONTROLLING INTEREST ({ HYPERLINK

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RLIN of divesting or acquiring controlling interest in an insurer.

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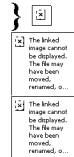
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**{ RISK AND SOLVENCY ASSESSMENT ({ HYPERLINK  
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RLIN procedures for own risk and solvency assessment.**

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**{ TAXABLE WAGES ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301" }) Modifies  
LINK benefits provision related to taxable wage base reduction.**

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**{ SCHOOL COUNSELORS ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=383601" }) Revises  
**LINK** requirements for employment as a middle school and high school counselor.  
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**www.go** Substitute H-3 adopted  
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**LINK** number of apprentice electricians allowed for each journeyman or master electrician on  
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{ **AIRPORT FUND** ( { HYPERLINK  
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## INTRODUCED

{ **ELECTION DATES** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322301" }) Revises election **ERLI** dates for governor, secretary of state, attorney general, and Senate. Amends Constitution **NK** of 1963 by amending Section 2, Article IV and Section 21, Article V.

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{ **CONSERVATION CLUBS** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353601" }) Creates **ERLI** exemption of real property owned by qualified conservation clubs. Amends 1893 PA 206 **NK** by amending section 7o (MCL 211.7o), as amended by 2006 PA 681.

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{ **WATER BILLS** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=104001" }) Clarifies **ERLI** customer responsibility for failure of municipality to bill for water or sewerage services. **NK** Amends 1939 PA 178 by amending section 1 (MCL 123.161), as amended by 1981 PA "http 132 by adding section 1a.

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{ **INCOME TAX DEDUCTIONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=104001" }) Provides for **ERLI** deduction for certain public safety officers who live and work in the same local **NK** government unit. Amends 1967 PA 281 by amending section 30 (MCL 206.30), as "http amended by 2012 PA 597.

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**{ WATER ({ HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=205001" }) Reduces  
**ERLI** frequency of testing lawn sprinkler backflow preventers. Amends 1976 PA 399 by  
**NK** amending section 5 (MCL 325.1005), as amended by 1998 PA 56.

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**{ WATER OR SEWAGE SYSTEM LIEN ({ HYPERLINK**

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**ERLI** enforcing a municipal water or sewage system lien. Amends 1939 PA 178 by amending  
**NK** section 2 (MCL 123.162), as amended by 1981 PA 132.

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{ ELECTIONS AS STATE HOLIDAYS ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301" }) Provides for ERLI designation of regular election days in May, August and November as state holidays.

NK Amends 1865 PA 124 by amending section 1 (MCL 435.101), as amended y 1984 PA 4.

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{ EDUCATION ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301" }) Provides for ERLI standards for providing integrated student support services. Amends 1976 PA 451 (MCL

NK 380.1 to 380.1852) by adding section 1283.

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**{ ALTERNATIVE ENERGY ({ HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=274601" }) Authorizes **ERLI** participation by residential property owners in property assessed clean energy program, **NK** eliminates requirement for consent of mortgagee and authorizes issuance of general "http obligation bonds. Amends 2010 PA 270 by amending sections 3, 9 and 15 (MCL 460.933, ://ww 460.939 and 460.945).

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**{ STATE ELECTIONS ({ HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=322301" }) Modifies the **ERLI** election date for governor, attorney general, secretary of state and state senate. Amends **NK** 1954 PA 116 by amending sections 60, 63, 76, 79, 170 and 173 (MCL 168.60, 168.63, "http 168.76, 168.79, 168.170 and 168.173).

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{ **MENTAL HEALTH** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358201" }) Modifies  
**ERLI** funding for mental health entities. Amends 1974 PA 258 by amending section 308 (MCL  
**NK** 308/1308), as amended by 1995 PA 290.

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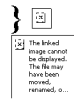
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{ **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901" }) Revises  
**ERLI** reference of family independence agency to Department of Health and Human Services.  
**NK** Amends 1978 PA 389 by amending the title and section 1 (MCL 400.1501), the title as  
"http amended by 2001 PA 192 and section 1 as amended by 2000 PA 84.

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{ **WATER QUALITY** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901" }) Requires  
**ERLI** notification of the public water supply users of noncompliance with certain drinking water  
**NK** standards. Amends 1976 PA 399 by amending section 19 (MCL 325.1019).

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The House adjourned until 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 8, 2015

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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## Volume #54, Report #237 -- Thursday, December 3, 2015

### Tax Breaks For Switch, Data Centers, Clear Senate Amid Growing Criticism

Although the agreement on just how much of a sales/use tax exemption colocation centers such as Switch, a company out of Nevada looking to expand in Michigan, should receive varied from Thursday morning to Thursday afternoon, the Senate ultimately decided to allow such entities to receive the full extent of an exemption on a 21-15 vote.

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on the sales and use tax exemptions saw minimal discussion on the Senate floor, but outside of the Capitol, the debate roared, especially among traditional allies for Republicans.

The House, although it was widely expected to, did not vote on similar legislation in its chamber on Thursday.

Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House Republicans, said members still have a lot of questions on the issue and want to take more time to discuss the legislation before making decisions.

Sources familiar with the situation speaking on background said the caucus is struggling - ideologically - with the concept of providing a tax break for one industry. There are also questions about existing data centers, which have operated in the state without the exemptions being proposed now.

Leading the charge of conservatives against the legislation was the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. Rich Studley, the chamber president and CEO, lambasted the legislation repeatedly on Twitter. And it was the strong opposition from his organization that sources said had slowed efforts to pass the bills in the House.

"We are very disappointed with the Michigan Senate's decision to hastily grant hundreds of millions of dollars in sales and use tax breaks to an out-of-state company without the guarantee of a single job," Mr. Studley said a statement. "It's time for state lawmakers to stop the bait-and-switch approach to tax policy. From failed state battery credits to ineffective Hollywood film subsidies, we've seen this movie before, and it ends badly for Michigan taxpayers."

Besides Mr. Studley, the National Federation of Independent Business-Michigan ripped the bills, hitting them with criticism sure to sting usual legislative Republican allies that the legislation was Granholmian. And then prominent Republican strategist Greg McNeilly called legislation "corporate cronyism" and "sad" on his Twitter feed and made sure to mention the House and

Senate Republican caucus Twitter accounts to be sure they got the message. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1" } (R-Cascade Township) said the legislation would "destroy" jobs.

The bills would provide a 15-year exemption from the sales tax and the use taxes at the full rate of 6 percent - a version that cleared the Senate Michigan Competitiveness Committee earlier in the day permitted only exempted 4 percent - for collocated data centers.

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive) said the change from 4 percent to 6 percent was a result of their belief of what the House would end up doing as well.

The bills go on to specifically define "internet data center," "data center equipment," and a "collocated business." The bills were expected to apply only to collocated data centers, a relatively small number, not captive data centers, of which there are more.

But they do not include another provision the Chamber sought to have included, Tricia Kinley, senior director of tax and regulatory reform for the Chamber, said.

"In their rush to pass this legislation, senators declined to protect businesses already located in Michigan by refusing to adopt a simple amendment to close the door on the Treasury Department's relentless effort to impose the sales tax on cloud computing and data services," she said in a statement.

And Charlie Owens with the National Federation of Independent Businesses-Michigan likened the proposal to Democratic former Governor Jennifer Granholm's "failed economic development policies" that are "still haunting our state with more than \$9 billion in unclaimed credits," he said, likely referring to the now defunct Michigan Economic Growth Authority tax credits.

"While we appreciate attempts to broaden the focus of the bills to include all data center operations, the legislation is still a narrowly targeted proposal," Mr. Owens said. "We offered, in both House and Senate committees, an opportunity to make changes to these bills to broaden their scope by increasing the current small business Personal Property Tax exemption of \$80,000 of True Cash Value to \$160,000. Since more than 90 percent of all businesses in the state are small businesses ... this change would have made the proposed legislation a more broad-based economic development proposal."

But without that change, he said, NFIB Michigan cannot support their passage.

And { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204901&locid=1" } (R-Cascade Township) tweeted that the "corporate welfare deal" would "result in higher taxes on everyone down the road, harm Michigan's economy and destroy jobs." He later sent followers to { HYPERLINK "https://t.co/4kCxToZ3cG" \t "blank" } for a more detailed explanation on why the "targeted tax breaks" were a bad idea.

But contrary to those opinions, the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce said it supports the legislation, recognizing that its views differ from the state chamber.

"(Our members are) excited about the potential of supporting and growing this industry in Michigan," Andy Johnston, vice president of government and corporate affairs, told Gongwer News Service in a phone interview. "Our board has been extremely supportive of the legislative package."

In committee and on the Senate floor, some senators, especially { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=155301&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor), took issue with the potential loss of revenue for schools.

"(The legislation) doesn't bind us to any future payments to these companies, but it shortchanges our School Aid Fund and our General Fund and funds to our local communities that they would otherwise be getting. That's a concern," she said. "We have gone through this process many times where we have considered tax policy that makes carve-outs and special exemptions to a particular industry or a particular industry that has made it very difficult for our budget. And we have found too often in the past that the promises in the press releases don't end up being honored on the ground here."

An amendment by { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1" } (D-Dearborn Heights) was adopted on the Senate floor to SB 616 that assures the appropriation of money from the General Fund to the School Aid Fund if any SAF funds were lost as a result of the legislation.

And Mr. Johnston said the GRCC's members hadn't really raised such a concern on schools.

"The question before policymakers is whether or not we want to have a competitive tax structure in order to grow this industry in Michigan. It's about making sure we do it in a way that's best for Michigan," Mr. Johnston said. "We're happy to see the Senate take action today and move the process forward."

Ms. Warren said she and the rest of her caucus wanted to get to a "yes" vote, but "we need assurances the taxpayers' monies are going to be protected, these jobs are going to be protected, that those investing in our state aren't going to be harmed by a competitor ... that doesn't have to play by the same rules."

She continued, "I can't assure my colleagues we've done our due diligence. I can't assure my constituents we're being good stewards of the taxpayer money, and I can't assure them this company is even going to come, let alone spend a dollar or hire one employee, because we have no assurances of that at this time."

To that end, Mr. Meekhof said such requirements are worth discussing, and they may become part of the final product, but for now, "It's kind of like a poker game - we have to put the ante in to be able to compete, and we put the ante in, so now we're ready to compete."

**PERSONAL PROPERTY EXEMPTION:** The chamber also passed on a 21-15 vote {  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61801" }<sup>[9]</sup>, which provides a 10-year exemption for eligible internet data center property if the local governments approved the exemption no later March 31 of the first year the eligible Internet data center property would be subject to the collection of those taxes, or if the local governments did not reject the exemption via resolution or ordinance by April 1, 2016.

Mr. Knezek and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1" } (D-Detroit) broke with the majority of their party to support the bills while Republicans { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301&locid=1" } of Sheridan, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=52901&locid=1" } of Whitmore Lake, { HYPERLINK

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=251401&locid=1" } (R-Canton Township) were absent.

#### Bill Would End Most Weekend In-Person Absentee Voting

Clerks could no longer be open during most weekends to process or issue absentee voter ballots, nor could they issue absentee ballots from a satellite office under a bill introduced Thursday in the Senate.

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB63901" }<sup>[9]</sup>, sponsored by { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001&locid=1" } (R-Grand Blanc), the chair of the Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee, is sure to create a fury among Democrats as the latest potential salvo from Republicans to skew the electoral playing field to the GOP's advantage, coming as the Legislature also moves on a separate bill to end straight ticket voting and change the schedule for electing the Oakland County executive.

The prohibition on weekend hours to process absentee ballots or issue those ballots would begin 45 days before the election and run through Election Day, although the existing requirement that clerk offices remain open until 2 p.m. the Saturday before the election to receive absentee ballots would remain.

The bill also would prohibit city, township and village clerks from processing or issuing absentee voter ballots at satellite locations and mandate such activities only occur at the clerk's main office.

Mr. Robertson said the bill is about equal protection regarding election laws. The state should not have a patchwork of communities with some clerks opening during the weekends and having satellite offices and some not having those options.

"We want to make certain that the equal protection concerns are addressed," he said. "If you operate a satellite office in one place and not another, aren't you putting your thumb on the scale in favor of one municipality making it different than another."

But Angela Wittrock, spokesperson for the Senate Democratic Caucus, said the state should be making it easier for registered voters to cast their ballots.

"This bill, as written, appears to be nothing but another attempt to limit access to the ballot box. That's not something Senate Democrats will ever support," she said.

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope, past president of the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks and a member of the association's legislative committee, said the bill "would be a catastrophe for voters."

Lansing uses a city building on the city's south side as an additional location for voters to obtain an absentee ballot that Mr. Swope said is more convenient than the clerk's main office at City Hall in downtown Lansing. There is free, close parking, unlike City Hall.

"Taking that away doesn't seem to benefit voters in any way," he said.

The loss of weekend and non-regular hours also would cause problems, Mr. Swope said. Besides the Saturday before the election (required now by law and maintained as an exception in the bill), the Lansing clerk office also opens two Sundays before the election to handle absentee ballots.

If voters work far from their home municipality, getting to the clerk's office during regular 9 to 5 hours will be difficult, Mr. Swope said.

"Eliminating the ability to have extra hours in jurisdictions that need it to accommodate their voters just seems punitive to voters," he said. "I'm kind of flabbergasted."

Mr. Robertson said he expected his committee to take up the bill soon.

### **Straight-Ticket Voting Elimination Stalls In House Committee**

The House Elections Committee on Thursday did not report a bill that would end voters' ability to choose a party's slate of candidates with a single selection on the ballot after listening to nearly 2 hours of testimony, mostly in opposition of the legislation.

The committee met for about an hour and 15 minutes, and then went at recess for House session. At 4:30 p.m., the committee reconvened for another half an hour but did not adopt amendments nor vote to report it.

"We are going to discuss this with the committee members. There were several amendments put before us. I want to take some time to look at several of those," said { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201&locid=1" } (R-Alto), chair of the committee. "And take some time to digest a lot of the information we heard today and do some research on my own and come back next week and see where we go from there."

Ms. Lyons is also pushing for her bill ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB472401" } on "no-reason" absentee voting. Under the bill, a person would have to come show their ID to get their ballot for each election. Many testifying Thursday called for the bills to be formally linked via a tie-bar. Ms. Lyons said that is an option she is considering.

"Secure no-reason is something I am pushing, so we will continue to talk about what the best procedure and the best strategy to move forward on all of our election policy over the next ... week," she said.

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } (R-West Olive) has said he opposes no-reason absentee legislation, but Ms. Lyons said the two are discussing the issue and will continue to do so.

She said next week is the last week bills originating in the House can pass for the first time, so she will be advocating a floor vote on the bill.

Rumors have been swirling that Ms. Lyons will run for Kent County clerk when she is term-limited out of the House next year. She said Thursday she is actually "tempted to go off the grid."

"I've got 13 months left in the House. I don't know where that will take me. It's something I have looked at, but we have an incumbent clerk there who I think has done a good job. ... I've got a lot of options," she said.

The Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks, Michigan Association of County Clerks and the Michigan Townships Association all expressed opposition to the straight-ticket elimination bill, saying it would likely create longer lines, confusion and frustration at the polls.

Sarah Bydalek, the Walker city clerk, told the committee eliminating straight-ticket voting would take the last tool out of the toolbox for clerks to help run election days more smoothly. She did say pairing the bill with HB 4724, no-reason absentee voting, would help.

However, the House bill would require a voter to come into the clerk's office each election to show ID and get their ballot in person, which she said still disenfranchises the voter. Ms. Bydalek said true no-reason absentee voting would be better.

Ms. Bydalek said the average wait time in the state is 22 minutes to vote, and that would likely double under { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB1301" }<sup>[4]</sup>.

"It will be chaos," she said.

Ms. Lyons said anecdotal evidence was presented by both sides of the issue, and she could not say for certain if the "chaos" described is an exaggeration or not.

Both { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=271501&locid=1" } (R-Oxford)

and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=359301&locid=1" } (R-Hillsdale) said they had never seen long lines at the polls.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=274601&locid=1" } (D-Ann Arbor) said if rural communities and more affluent suburbs are not waiting in line at the polls, that means those who do wait are waiting much longer than 22 minutes.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=80001&locid=1" } (R-Troy), sponsor of SB 13, dodged questions on if he would be willing to couple the legislation with other reforms to shorten lines, such as no-reason absentee and online voter registration.

"I am focused on this particular bill," he said to questions from Democrats on the panel.

He said voters would still be able to vote for all Republicans or all Democrats if they chose to, and if voters had to wait longer so they could read all the names, that is a good thing, he said.

While Mr. Knollenberg said the bill makes elections about the actual candidates instead of political parties, Mr. Irwin countered it shouldn't be about the candidates, but the actual voters.

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318101&locid=1" } (D-Saline) said SB 13 "puts the cart before the horse" because other measures, like no-reason absentee voting, that would reduce wait times at the polls, should be implemented as well.

The bill also includes a \$1 million appropriation, which would make it referendum-proof.

Mr. Knollenberg said that could be used to educate elections workers, new voting equipment or other things. He said it was left open for the Department of State and local clerks to decide.

However, the bill stipulates the funding should be used for the following:

- Assess the impact of eliminating straight party ticket voting;
- Assist in ongoing compliance and fraud prevention in elections;
- Conduct thorough post-election audits of selected precincts after each election;
- Provide remedial follow-up with local election officials to correct any election errors and to correct any compliance issues;
- Audit file maintenance by local election officials; and
- Provide equipment to facilitate the integrity of the election process.

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope said the appropriation in the bill would provide no additional funds for clerks to address the additional cost that would come from the legislation.

Tom Frazier, with the Michigan Townships Association, said the group would remove their opposition if no-reason absentee voting was tie-barred to SB 13.

He said the state already has one of the longer ballots in the country and moving people through polling lines quickly is important. He said eliminating the option to vote straight party will make voting take longer.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316701&locid=1>" } (R-Commerce Township) also suggested during the committee that more polling precincts in communities might help move lines along faster.

However, Mr. Frazier said that is not an option because many schools are hesitant to let the general public into their buildings given various shootings that have taken place in recent years.

W. Paul Mayhue, representing the Grand Rapids group Voices Not Heard in Michigan, said the bill had "racist" undertones. And Frank Lynn, a Grand Rapids man advocating for senior citizens and people with disabilities, said the bill would disenfranchise those voters as well.

Ms. Lyons said she will thoughtfully consider those comments going forward.

Eric Doster also testified in support of the bill. Mr. Doster serves as general counsel for the Michigan Republican Party, but said he was representing himself and "democracy."

"By reducing the influence of the candidates' political parties in elections, this legislation represents an important step in helping Michigan turn the page on partisanship," he said.

Ms. Lyons said she does not think eliminating straight-ticket voting would necessarily benefit one party more than the other.



"I am from west Michigan, I have a very high Republican seat, I don't necessarily think that is the case statewide," she said of Republicans having the disadvantage when it comes to straight-ticket voting. "I think straight-ticket voting can cut both ways, which is why I don't want to view this as a party issue."

And the Michigan AFL-CIO wrote a { HYPERLINK "<http://miaflcio.org/2015/12/eliminating-straight-party-voting-could-hurt-republican-reps-like-klint-kesto-holly-hughes/>" \t "blank" } post saying two Republicans, { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219601&locid=1>" } of White River Township and { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316701&locid=1>" } of Commerce Township, benefited from straight-ticket voting.

The post notes Mr. Kesto won his seat in the 39<sup>th</sup> House District with 51.4 percent of his 16,740 total votes from straight-party ballots, and his Democratic opponent, Sandy Colvin, only received 43.3 percent of his 15,300 votes from straight-party tickets.

"Kesto defeated Colvin by a margin of 1,440 votes. His 1,984-vote margin among straight-party ballots was more than enough to put him over the top," the blog said.

Ms. Hughes' close election tells a similar story, the blog said, as she received 47.5 percent of her 12,734 total votes from straight-party ballots, while her opponent - former Rep. Colleen Lamonte (D-Montague) - received 45 percent of her 12,681 total votes from straight-party tickets.

"Hughes defeated Lamonte by a margin of just 53 votes, which made her 343-vote advantage among straight-party tickets decisive," the blog said.

#### Deficit Districts Decline; 11 Headed For Preliminary Review

The number of deficit districts has declined for the first time since 2002-03 and 20 districts emerged from deficit at the end of the most recent school year, { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393401&locid=1>" } reported Thursday, but 11 deficit districts are also now slated for preliminary review by the Department of Treasury under the new early warning system for financially distressed schools.

Only five new deficit districts - the Bay City Academy in the Bay-Arenac ISD, Tahquamenon Area Schools in the Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD, Sarah J. Webber Media Arts Academy in Oakland Schools, Posen Consolidated School District #9 in the Cheboygan-Otsego-Presque Isle ESD, and Gaudior Academy in the Wayne RESA - joined the list in 2014-15, the fewest since 2002-03.

Twenty-one districts were able to reduce their deficits in 2014-15.

All told, the state dropped from 56 deficit districts in the 2013-14 school year to 41 at the end of June. Under the new structure of the early warning system, 24 of those deficit districts will stay

with the Department of Education while the other 17 will be under the oversight of the Department of Treasury.

And 11 of those districts have deficit elimination plans projected to take longer than five years, subjecting themselves to the preliminary review. The highest projected end balance of those schools goes to Hazel Park City School District, part of Oakland Schools, which projects to have a 25.1 percent deficit based on revenue as of June 30, 2016.

Following Hazel Park is Mackinaw City Public Schools (24 percent deficit), Flint Community Schools (14.9 percent), Westwood Community Schools in the Wayne RESA (12.4 percent), Mount Clemens Community School District (10.9 percent), Lincoln Consolidated Schools (3.3 percent), Bridgeport Spaulding Community School District (2.5 percent), Vanderbilt Area Schools (0.2 percent) and Southgate Community School District at 0 percent deficit.

Also on that list of 11 is New Haven Community Schools, which projects to come out of its deficit with a 0.4 percent fund balance at the end of this school year, and Clintondale Community Schools, which projects a 1.1 percent fund balance.

While most of the members of a joint committee of the House and Senate Appropriations School Aid subcommittees were pleased with the progress, some were still cautious.

"It's discouraging to see that schools under our watch are growing deficits," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401&locid=1" } (R-Saginaw Township), chair of the House subcommittee, said.

But Mr. Whiston said he will continue to work with the administration to ensure all districts, especially those in deficit, will not fall by the wayside. One key to that, he said, will be to ensure those schools losing students and thus putting themselves at further risk of financial instability can at least maintain, or even attract, students based on their academic offerings.

"If you're losing kids on a constant basis and you're making cuts, you're losing programs parents want. We have to improve educational offering so more kids come back," Mr. Whiston said. "We have to find that balance between balancing budgets and offering an education program that entices people to stay or come back to that district."

And he said he is working with various school officials on such issues.

But { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-Saint Clair) still had some concerns. He questioned how some schools getting substantially more in a foundation allowance could continue to have performance issues if finances are following quality as Mr. Whiston and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393601&locid=1" } suggested.

"There are additional dollars going into the school buildings that have poor academic performance, yet that performance isn't following the dollars," Mr. Pavlov said.

"In these days with limited resources, we look for ways to provide economies of scale, to provide the services more efficiently," Mr. Khouri said, but that doesn't always work out, Mr. Whiston added.

"And that's okay," Mr. Whiston said, noting that the state will be in a continual process of development with these schools and, consequently, their students.

And { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=207001&locid=1>" } (D-Saint Clair Shores) suggested it might be worth reviewing schools of choice, especially the way in which a charter school, for example, can open a new building whenever it wants for whatever reason, which then draws students out of other buildings and increases the financial distress for districts, she said.

### Senate Panel Told Reform Office Has Tools To Pursue School Improvements

Since being moved to the Executive Office earlier this year from the Department of Education, the state's School Reform Office has the tools it needs to help drive Michigan's worst schools to improve, the Senate Education Committee was told Thursday, as the office can focus now on working with district superintendents and use data to better drive improvements.

Committee members pressed Karen McPhee, { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" }'s education policy director, and Natasha Baker, the state's school reform officer, to say if the strategy the state was pursuing now to deal with Michigan's worst performing schools means the strategies used since 2010 had failed.

"We are refocusing the effort," Ms. McPhee said to chair { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1>" } (R-St. Clair). The state cannot solve the problems of its lowest performing schools without fully understanding what the dynamics are that drive problems, she said, and "it takes tremendous capacity to do that."

And the state was somewhat caught during those previous years trying to improve its poorest schools while also competing with other states for promises of major federal funding for school improvement efforts, she and Ms. Baker said.

The state now has 214 schools designated as priority schools. While the largest number is in southeast Michigan, the schools are spread across the state. Most tend to be in urban districts. A total of 100,000 students attend those schools.

Since the state began identifying in 2010 the lowest performing schools - those in the lowest 5 percent of all schools - there have 331 marked as priority schools. Of those, 73 closed and 44 released after improving.

Earlier in 2015, { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } issued an executive order moving the school reform office out of the Department of Education into the Executive Office. The move was greeted with some controversy, especially as Mr. Snyder has promoted efforts such as the Education Achievement Authority in Detroit that has been under ongoing fire and has been investigated by law enforcement.

But Ms. Baker said since the move, the office has been better able to customize its efforts to work with districts and the individual schools.

One step she has taken is to work with the district superintendents more than the individual school buildings. "We are more triage, more like an emergency room," she said.

While the department can work with the specific building personnel, her office sends the superintendent data on a variety of factors, including attendance, every six to eight weeks.

"We can customize intervention based on data," Ms. Baker said.

She and Ms. McPhee also said that while other states have had greater success in terms of turning schools around, it was important for Michigan to develop its own plan to fix low performing schools.

Even so, one of the primary elements of making that fix will be to focus on actual instruction, they said.

### Midwives Bill Clears House Despite Physician Opposition

A bill establishing licensing criteria for midwives in Michigan passed the House on Thursday despite the two physicians currently serving in the House opposing the legislation.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB459801" }

☐ cleared the House 79-25. Both { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=333201&locid=1" } (R-Sebewaing) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355401&locid=1" } (R-Battle Creek) voted in opposition. { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=205001&locid=1" } (R-Gaines Township) also voted no and was originally a co-sponsor.

During the committee process, Mr. Yonker said he may remove his support on the floor because of concerns about cost.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001&locid=1" } (R-Vulcan), the bill's sponsor, said he would continue to work with stakeholders in the Senate,

including those in the medical profession. He said many stakeholders came to him at the final hour asking him to wait on the bill.

Mr. Canfield said he does not want to limit a person's choice, but he is hesitant to license someone "who has a very limited education."

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs would license a person for midwifery if they paid the posted fees and met the following criteria:

- Received a high school diploma or passed the general educational development diploma test or any other high school graduate equivalency examination approved by the board;
- Completed an educational program or pathway accredited by the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council or a successor organization;
- Holds the credential of certified professional midwife from the North American Registry of Midwives or holds an equivalent credential from another accredited midwifery training program approved by the Michigan Board of Licensed Midwifery created in the bill; and
- Successfully passes an examination approved by LARA in consultation with the board.

The fee for the license under the bill is \$200. There is also a \$450 one-time, start-up fee to get the program going. However, that fee is expected to drop to \$75 after the department covers its costs to start the licensure program.

#### Flint Blood Lead Survey Results Released By State

Since October 1, data indicates that 30 adults and children of 1,361 tested in Flint had elevated blood lead levels, the state said Thursday in releasing its first report as part of the state's efforts to assist in resolving the Flint water crisis.

The state called on helping the city deal with health issues as part of its efforts to restore safer drinking water to the city.

In October, after more than a year of the city getting its drinking water from the Flint River - it ended a contract with the Detroit Water and Sewerage System largely over cost issues and is working on a new water system that will draw from Lake Huron - and after more than a year of complaints on taste, smell and safety of the water, the city switched back to Detroit water when it was discovered lead levels in some children were elevated because of the water system.

In the { HYPERLINK "[http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3313\\_3675\\_73946---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3313_3675_73946---,00.html)" \t "blank" }, the Department of Health and Human Services said 969 children were tested and 21 showed elevated lead levels. Another 392 adults were tested and nine had elevated levels.

The report also showed the number of Flint children with higher lead levels declined during the summer months this year - lead levels tend to be higher in the summer, the report said - to 6.4 percent from 7.5 percent a year ago.

However, in 2013, before the city switched from Detroit water to the Flint River, the percentage stood at 4.1 percent. That was down from percentages as high as 8.3 percent in 2010.

### Senate Passes Aviation Fuel Tax Changes

Airports in the state would receive state funding to help with repair and maintenance costs under legislation approved by the Senate on Thursday.

The bills ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB41801" }<sup>[9]</sup>,  
{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB42501" }<sup>[9]</sup>,  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB42601" }<sup>[9]</sup>,  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61201" }<sup>[9]</sup>,  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61301" }<sup>[9]</sup>  
and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB61401" }<sup>[9]</sup>)  
would dedicate 2 percent of the sales tax on aviation fuel with to aviation purposes and split those funds, as well as the current 3 cents per gallon tax, between the Aeronautics Fund, overseen by the Aeronautics Commission, and the Qualified Airport Fund, which provides for capital projects at certain airports.

"This is a matter of fairness," { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=206201&locid=1" } (R-Traverse City), sponsor of most of the legislation, said in a statement. "The legislation makes sure Michigan's airports - including those in Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula - receive the needed funding for routine maintenance and repairs."

The new fund would appropriate to the state's airports via a formula based on volume of air traffic and resources used.

"As chairman of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, I've fought to secure additional dollars in this year's budget for the airport improvement program to help support projects at our local airports," { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" } (R-Hart), sponsor of SB 613, said. "Passage of this legislation will create a reliable, dedicated funding source for the State Aeronautics Fund that will ensure the continued safety and efficiency of Michigan's aviation system."

## House Panel Considers Requiring Civics Test For High School Students

Students would be required to take a civics test similar to the test taken for immigrants to become citizens under a bill the House Education Committee debated Thursday.

Under { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413601](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413601)" }  
all Michigan students would have to take the test and pass with 60 percent in order to receive their high school diploma. The test must include only identical questions to some or all of the civics portion of the naturalization test.

If a student does not receive 60 percent, they could retake the test as many times as necessary. Local school districts are permitted under the bill to determine when and how to administer the test, and what questions to use.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=351701&locid=1>" } (R-Shelby Township), sponsor of the bill, said students should be required to know the information on the test, as they are "privileged" enough to be born in the United States and will eventually be the ones working in state and federal government.

"We are trying to accomplish the basic elements that a non-citizen has to perform," he said. "If we are going to have a real dear desire and appreciation of American government, we should be able to pass basic questions that an immigrant, who so proudly and privileged wants to be a member of this country, (can pass)."

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371701&locid=1>" } (R-Holland), vice chair of the Education Committee, said social studies standards in the state already include a civics component. She also noted the lack of civics understanding among students is one of many crises in education, including reading proficiency.

She also said there is a fundamental problem about civics understanding and told the committee her own retired government teacher called her "congresswoman" the last time they spoke.

"If we expect our students to know, we first and foremost need our teachers to understand," she said.

Bob Kefgen, with the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals, said the group is opposed to the bill. Mr. Kefgen said the naturalization test does not represent what they want students to know.

He said the questions on the test would mostly involve students memorizing facts, and they would like to see students analyzing and critiquing concepts.

But { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1>" } (R-Levering) countered students cannot analyze and critique what they do not know.

"You can only analyze something that you know. You can only critique something that you know," he said. "Before we teach kids how to read, normally we make them memorize the alphabet. Before kids can analyze their government and how it operates, and critique it ... they have to know it. And the fact is, they don't."

The committee did not act on the bill.

### Hansen Still Hopeful On DPS Solution

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1" } on Thursday said he remained optimistic about introducing legislation to resolve Detroit Public Schools' \$715 million debt problem even as a legislative week passed without the introduction of any such legislation.

"We're hoping to do it before the first of the year. I think we're close on that with some changes that were made, and I think by the first of the year we should be able to put it in," Mr. Hansen (R-Hart) said. "We're waiting for some drafts right now. I want to see how it's written and then shop it with some of my colleagues."

Mr. Hansen said there seems to be consensus on the number at hand - estimated by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } to be \$715 million over 10 years - but there are other "ancillary things" like governance where discussions are still being had.

"Somewhere in there," Mr. Hansen said on the number by Mr. Snyder. "It's like when we got to the point with the road funding that all the sudden \$1.2 billion was the number and ... then we worked on how we get there."

He said he was first able to present some of his ideas to the caucus earlier this week but has otherwise been very tight-lipped with only a handful of relevant players like Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan, legislators, emergency managers, the school board president and various foundations, among others.

Mr. Hansen said there were a lot of questions from his caucus, but "I think people are willing to be part of the solution," he said. "But it has to be the right solution. We have to make sure we have things in place to make sure it doesn't go way back into the same issues."

And ensuring it is the right solution will remain paramount throughout the process, he said.

"We're trying to be very sensitive to my Detroit colleagues, working with them, trying to make sure that this is Detroit's solution," Mr. Hansen said. "It's not Lansing's solution. It has to be Detroit's solution."

### House Republicans Sign Letter Urging Disapproval Of Planned Parenthood Grant



About 30 House Republicans on Thursday signed a letter asking the State Administrative Board not to approve a \$1.2 million grant increase to Planned Parenthood because it goes against the "spirit" of a budget amendment adopted this year.

On December 8, the Finance and Claims Committee of the State Administrative Board will take up a grant increase for Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan. The increase will come from the restricted dollars in the Maternal Children's Health Fund (8 percent); federal funding (35 percent); fees generating through the clinic (49 percent) and local dollars (8 percent).

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306001&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306001&locid=1) } (R-Midland), joined by { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=280701&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=280701&locid=1) } (R-Byron Center), who sponsored the budget amendment saying the state will not allocate funding to Planned Parenthood, { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201&locid=1) } (R-Potterville), { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301&locid=1) } (R-Levering) and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358801&locid=1) } (R-Livonia), among others, are urging the grant to not be increased.

"We believe this is a clear violation of the spirit of the budget amendment that was voted on and passed by the Legislature during the last appropriations process," the letter reads.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=281601&locid=1) } (R-Stevensville), chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said the grant increase does not go against the budget.

When the amendment was adopted, House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1) } (R-Mount Pleasant) said no clinics would lose money because of the amendment. He said during the last two budgets Planned Parenthood had not received any state dollars (See { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=540840103"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=540840103) } ).

The committee is scheduled to meet at 11 a.m. on December 8.

#### Former Aramark Worker Convicted In Assault For Hire Plot With Inmate

An ex-employee of Aramark, the state's former prison food service provider, has been convicted of trying to recruit an inmate to orchestrate the assault of another inmate.

A statement from the Department of Attorney General said Michael Robert Young, 27, of Kincheloe, was convicted in the 91<sup>st</sup> District Court on one felony charge of Solicitation to Commit Assault with Intent to Cause Great Bodily Harm.

Mr. Young was an employee of Aramark at the Kinross Correctional Facility at the time of the crime. The inmate he wanted assaulted was housed in a different prison.

The inmate whom Mr. Young was convicted of trying to have assaulted was in prison for murdering one of Mr. Young's family members. But the inmate Mr. Young asked to arrange the incident instead reported the conversation to prison officials.

"No matter the situation, our system of justice demands that individuals not take the law into their own hands, for revenge or any other reason," { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } said in a statement.

Mr. Young faces up to five years in prison. No sentencing date has been set.

### Senate Remembers Rosetta Ferguson

Days after her funeral, the Senate briefly memorialized former Rep. Rosetta Ferguson, who became known for one of the most controversial incidents in legislative history during her 10 years in the House.

The House is planning to memorialize Ms. Ferguson, who died on November 18 aged 95, at a later time. The Senate acted after { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1" } (D-Southfield) asked to remember her.

Ms. Ferguson was born in Florence, Mississippi, and will be buried there. She attended schools in Mississippi, New Orleans and Detroit, and spent much of her career in business. She was politically active for the Democratic Party before being elected to the House in 1968.

Among the issues Ms. Ferguson was proudest of was legislation requiring that textbooks purchased and used in Michigan schools fairly recognize the history and accomplishments of all ethnic groups.

But she became best known for her ferocious opposition to drugs, especially the legalization of marijuana, and abortion.

Her intensity against the two was so strident, she said in a long speech on the House floor in the 1970s - when the House debated legislation imposing just a civil fine on the use of marijuana - that if she could find a way to let white people have drugs and abortion but save African-Americans from them she would do it.

It was during those debates on marijuana that Ms. Ferguson became known for the "ashtray incident."

The debates took place over an intense series of days. The late former Rep. Perry Bullard of Ann Arbor - who everyone acknowledged was brilliant but extremely short-tempered - was leading

the effort to loosen penalties on marijuana. He was a controversial figure who had taken part in Ann Arbor's notorious hash bashes.

During one of the debates, former Rep. Matthew McNeely, also now gone, gave an impassioned speech against marijuana, focusing on his son who had died following drug addictions. Ms. Ferguson sobbed so loudly during the speech that she was led from the chamber to compose herself.

On one day, the House approved the marijuana measure. On the next, after reconsideration, it defeated the bill.

After the bill failed, a furious Mr. Bullard stormed over to Ms. Ferguson and accused her of lying in one of her speeches on the issue. He turned to leave and Ms. Ferguson - who was a heavy smoker in the days when smoking was allowed on the floor - grabbed her glass ashtray and threw it at Mr. Bullard, hitting him in the head, while she screamed he was a drug user.

Of course, the House exploded in an uproar. Mr. Bullard turned to charge back at her, and Ms. Ferguson was ready for him. Other members intervened, blocking the two. Mr. Bullard regained his composure as he was led away, but other members had to restrain Ms. Ferguson.

A famous photograph of the aftermath shows Mr. Bullard, head slightly bowed, being led away by former Rep. Gil DiNello (who died in the 1990s) while others hold on to Ms. Ferguson who was continuing to shout.

Both lawmakers later apologized to the House. Some months later, the last reconsideration vote on the bill was held - around much joking that the House had ordered all ashtrays glued to the desks - and while the debate was pointed, it never reached the fever pitch it had earlier. The bill failed in that attempt, and until the passage of the state's medical marijuana act in 2008, there were no serious efforts to change marijuana laws following the 1977 debates.

Ms. Ferguson decided not to seek re-election in 1978 but remained active in the anti-abortion movement.

### House Committee Votes To Change Electrician-Apprentice Ratio


The ratio of apprentices to master or journeyman electricians on jobsites would go from one-to-one to three-to-one under a bill reported Thursday by the House Workforce and Talent Development Committee.

As originally introduced, the bill would have gone with a two to one ratio and only allowed three to one if one of the apprentices met certain training thresholds.

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"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB481301](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB481301)" }

☐ cleared the committee on an 8-6 party-line vote.

Also winning approval on a party-line 8-6 vote was { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB455201" } , which would require school counselors to receive at least 25 hours of professional development on college preparation and selection and another 25 hours on career counseling prior to having their credentials renewed since the credential was last authorized.

The professional development courses would have to be approved by the Department of Education.

### Regional Unemployment Rates Mostly Unchanged

October saw little change in regional unemployment rates across the state.

The Detroit-Warren-Livonia region reported the largest unemployment rate increase among the seven regions with increases, going from 5.7 percent to 6.3 percent. The Bay City region reported a decline of 0.1 percentage point. Jobless rates in the remaining nine areas were unchanged.

Ottawa County reported the lowest unemployment at 3 percent, leading 15 counties with rates below 4 percent. Schoolcraft County had the highest unemployment rate at 8.6 percent, followed by Wayne County at 7.7 percent. Oakland's rate was 5.1 percent and Macomb was 6 percent.

### Canvassers Reject Snyder Recall Petition

Detroit Pastor Angelo Scott Brown said he is not yet done trying to oust { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } for his handling of the Flint water crisis, after the Board of State Canvassers issued its second unanimous rejection of a proposed recall petition.

Mr. Brown has officially submitted three recall petitions against the governor, but withdrew the second before the board took it up.

"I've done recall petitions before. I know it's a process," Mr. Brown said after the vote. "I'll refine my words."

But he argued the board, two Republicans and two Democrats, was too easily rejecting his language. "We're getting to the point where we're insulting the intelligence of the people of Michigan," he said.

In his testimony to the board, he said the governor's response to his language amounted to a personal attack.

"He's hinting at my intelligence rather than the content of the petition. ... There's a lot of mean-spirited things," he said of the response. "That's not clarity and the facts of the petition."

Mr. Brown said his petition language was clear and, as required, laid out a factual basis for removing Mr. Snyder from office.

"{ [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } in 2015 the first nine months did not take the right action when it came to the drinking water crisis in the city of Flint in the meantime the people of Flint were put at risk from harmful corrosive water and lead { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } did not protect taxpayers did not ensure the residents basic service of clean water," the hand-written petition said.

"I think the reasoning is clear and it is the fact," Mr. Brown told the board.

John Pirich, attorney for Mr. Snyder, said the petition was largely opinion.

"It's neither factual nor accurate," Mr. Pirich said of Mr. Brown's first assertion that Mr. Snyder did not take proper actions regarding Flint water. "It's an opinion, plain and simple."

The same was true, he said, of the assertion that the governor did not protect taxpayers.

As to leaving Flint residents at risk from corrosive water and lead, "it fails to connect what governor Snyder did or failed to do," he said.

Mr. Pirich also took issue with the assertion that his rebuttals were personal attacks. "It's not based on character assassination," he said. "It's based on what was filed."

The board found that Mr. Brown's petition was not factual and so did not meet the requirements in the statute.

**OUT-OF-STATE CIRCULATORS:** The board continued its discussion Thursday on how to address the new requirement that allows essentially any adult to circulate petitions.

In response to court rulings that overturned the state's requirement that petition circulators be registered to vote in the state, new law requires that the petitions carry a check box to indicate that the circulator is not a Michigan resident.

The board appeared united in the idea that, where a non-resident does not check the box indicating that, the petitions are invalid. But there appeared some split on the notion that petitions would be invalid if a Michigan resident did check the box.

"Check boxes are tricky things," Elections Director Christopher Thomas said. "Sometimes they are missed. Sometimes people check them all to be safe."

Mr. Thomas said the law is clear that non-residents have to check the box, but it does not address what happens if a resident does.

"It just seems harsh," board member Julie Matuzak said. "I hate to discount all of those signatures because someone was trying to do a good job."

But board member Colleen Pero said the petition also makes it a crime to provide false information. "At the end of the day, they are incompatible," she said of being a resident and indicating one is not.

There was some agreement, though, to bold or enlarge the words "If the circulator is not a resident of Michigan" to bring attention both to the box and who should mark it.

In response to questions, Mr. Thomas said the law mandates minimum font sizes and does not speak to bolding.

"I never heard anyone complain about a font being too big," Mr. Thomas said.

The hitch with the new law may come in the requirement that circulators provide a home address.

The first petition filed to carry the new language was the recent prevailing wage repeal attempt. Mr. Thomas said the petitions, which fell to evidence of massive duplication of signatures, showed relatively high compliance with the new residency indication.

But Mr. Pirich, who represented the opposition that helped to uncover the signature duplications, said the circulator addresses were also problematic.

"We were unable to locate over half of the out-of-state circulators," he said, adding that many listed addresses, and sometimes cities, that did not exist.

"Without some enforcement, I'm not sure how we're ever going to know that this is being done correctly," he said.

Mr. Thomas said an improper address for the circulator would be a reason to challenge a petition, but he indicated that, absent a requirement that circulators be registered to vote, it would be difficult for his bureau to check the addresses.

"We all know residency is Jello on the wall sometimes," he said.

Mr. Thomas said campaign finance disclosures would have to provide the mailing addresses of any circulators paid more than \$50, even if they were hired by a signature gathering firm.

"You could certainly be talking about a fraudulent situation if these people put down false names and false addresses," he said.

It would not, though, help in keeping an issue off the ballot because the information would be available too late in the process. To questions from board members, he said the Legislature could require that the filings be made sooner, but he said that requirement might be difficult to meet.

**EXPIRING SIGNATURES:** The board also began discussing concerns over the process for verifying signatures on petitions where signatures begin expiring. The board's current policy requires, in some cases, obtaining an affidavit both from the signer and from the local clerk that the person was registered to vote at the time he or she signed the petition.

Jeffrey Hank, an attorney representing one of the marijuana legalization efforts, urged the board to reconsider that policy, adopted in 1986, and instead use the Qualified Voter File as the check on those registrations.

"Using the QVF is the simplest and makes the most sense," Mr. Hank said. "What we would propose is simply submitting a QVF report and someone signing an affidavit that they prepared the QVF report."

Mr. Thomas said the system would provide the historical information.

But Mr. Pirich said the change would require statute, not merely a policy from the board.

Mr. Thomas said at least some of the change could come through policy. "It's not really self executing. It needs something," he said of the statutory provision.

**NEW PARTY:** The board did approve the form of a petition to add the Working Class Party to the ballot.

#### Campaign Notes

**RUBIO PLANS WEDNESDAY RALLY IN WATERFORD:** U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida brings his presidential campaign back to Michigan next Wednesday and will hold a 4:15 p.m. rally at the Oakland County International Airport in Waterford Township.

#### Capital Notebook

#### **FLAGS LOWERED:** { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } on Thursday ordered state and U.S. flags lowered to half-staff in the Capitol Complex until sunset Monday in memory of those killed and injured in Wednesday's San Bernardino, California, mass shooting in which 14 died and 21 were hurt. Mr. Snyder encouraged all residents and organizations to lower their flags as well.

**ELK POACHING:** The Department of Natural Resources announced Thursday that it is seeking information on the person who killed a large bull elk last month. The carcass was found November 16 near Lewiston.

Anyone with information can call DNR Law Enforcement Division at the Gaylord Customer Service Center at (989) 732-3541, extension 5100, or the Report All Poaching Line at (800) 292-7800.

## Appointments By The Governor

**BOARD OF MEDICINE:** Michael Chrissos of Ann Arbor succeeds Richard Burney, and Mohammed Arsiwala of Novi, Rosalie Tocco-Bradley of Ann Arbor, Louis Prues of Grosse Pointe Park, James Rogers of Williamsburg and Dennis Szymanski of Benton Harbor are reappointed. The appointments are for terms expiring December 31, 2019, and are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION:** Laura Reyes-Kopack of Livonia succeeds Augustin Arbulu, who resigned, to represent Republicans for the remainder of a term expiring December 31, 2016, and Rasha Demaskieh of Fort Gratiot and Deloris Hunt of Farmington Hills are reappointed for terms expiring December 31, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT BOARD:** Yvonne Bradley of Bay City, Elizabeth Pollard Hines of Ann Arbor and Jeffrey Sauter of Grand Ledge are reappointed, all for terms expiring December 4, 2018. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**GAMING CONTROL BOARD:** Patrick McQueen of Bloomfield Hills and Andrew Palms of Chelsea are reappointed for terms expiring December 31, 2019. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT:** Tana Bridges of Canton succeeds Gary Anderson to represent health and mental health professionals; John Hohman Jr. of Saline succeeds Kenneth Tacoma to represent judges and attorneys; and Veda Thompkins of Detroit succeeds Larry Watkins, who resigned, to represent the law enforcement community.

Robinjit Eagleson of East Lansing, Fred Gruber of Riverview and Nick Lyon of Lansing are reappointed. Ms. Thompkins will serve the remainder of a term expiring December 31, 2016. The remaining terms, which are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, expire December 31, 2018.

**MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSION COUNCIL:** Milton Mack of Wayne succeeds John Hohman Jr., who resigned, to represent the State Court Administrative Office for the remainder of a term expiring January 30, 2016. The appointment is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**MICHIGAN VETERANS' FACILITIES BOARD OF MANAGERS:** Paul Potter of Grand Rapids succeeds Ernest Meyers, who resigned, to represent Veterans of Foreign Wars. The appointment is for a term expiring February 28, 2017, and is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

Supplemental Agency Calendar



**Friday, December 4**

Waterways Commission, Morris Learning Center, First Floor, Museum Archives Wing, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/Waterways12-16-2015.docx" \t "\_blank" })

**Monday, December 7**

Utility Consumer Participation Board, Training Room, Fourth Floor, Ottawa Building, 611 West Ottawa Street, Lansing, 12:30 p.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/UCPB\_Agenda\_12-7-15.doc" \t "\_blank" })

**Thursday, December 10**

Certificate of Need Commission, Rooms B/C, First Floor Conference Center, Capitol View Building, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, 9:30 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/Agenda\_-\_TENTATIVE\_12.10\_507480\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }); { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/DRAFT\_CON-213\_CON\_Rev\_Std\_MRI\_for\_Proposed\_Action\_12.10.15\_mtg\_507481\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })

~~Canceled: Complete Streets Advisory Council, Capitol Commons Center, 400 South Pine Street, Lansing, 2 p.m.~~

**Subscribers Please Note**


A story in the Wednesday Michigan Report incorrectly described bills addressing aviation fuel taxes. The bills as reported dedicate 2 percent of the sales and use tax on aviation fuel to the aviation funds.

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**To:** Baker, Kay (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Thursday, December 17, 2015  
**Attachments:** Dec17.htm; Dec17House.htm; 151217dayplan.htm



## Michigan Report for Thursday, December 17, 2015

Feds OK Healthy Michigan Waiver

Snyder Appoints Hollins To Oversee Flint Water Efforts

HICA, DPS, Energy Remain In Senate For '16

Schuetz Bets On Bush; Talks Parole Changes, Statewide School Gun Option

Snyder Says He Will Not Take Cabinet Job Just To Set Up Calley For Governor

Audit Cites DTMB For Lax Server Security

Snyder Signs Epi-Pen Bills

Garcia Bills Aim To Give Schools Autonomy In Calendar Setting

Runestad Wants President To Treat ISIS Attacks As Genocide

Capital Notebook: Smith May Not Go To Trial

Appointments By The Governor

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House

## Calendars

Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #247 -- Thursday, December 17, 2015

### Feds OK Healthy Michigan Waiver

Michigan government got a Christmas present from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on Thursday when the agency approved a waiver that will allow the Healthy Michigan Medicaid expansion program to continue to operate for years to come.

Had the state not gotten the waiver from CMS by December 31, the program that provides health insurance for some 600,000 people in Michigan with incomes between 100 to 133 percent of the federal poverty level would have ended on April 1.

The waiver permits the state on April 1, 2018, to require Healthy Michigan recipients who have been in the program for four years to elect to either get coverage through the federal health care exchange or remain with Healthy Michigan and by following healthy behavior requirements have lower cost sharing. The cost sharing on Healthy Michigan for recipients could be as much as 7 percent of their income, but state officials said Thursday it is unlikely most people would pay more than 5 percent of their income.

Earlier this week officials, including { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } and Health and Human Services { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1" }, said they were confident the state would get the waiver, though as the days wore on state officials were clearly getting a bit antsy for the federal government to issue a statement.

The state received a { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdhhs/Healthy\_Michigan\_Plan\_2nd\_Waiver\_CMS\_Approval\_12\_17\_15\_508661\_7.pdf" \t "blank" } Thursday notifying it that CMS had approved the waiver.

A spokesperson for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services said the federal agency was pleased "we have an agreement with Michigan that will allow nearly 600,000 low-income citizens to continue to have access to quality health services. This agreement is consistent with Michigan's proposal and ensures important beneficiary protections guaranteed" under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

In a statement, Mr. Snyder said Healthy Michigan - which was approved by the Legislature after an extensive political battle in 2013 and which then took effect on April 1, 2014 - had given Michiganders "the opportunity to improve their health and wellness by enrolling in health care coverage."

In passing the legislation in 2013, the Legislature required the state to get two waivers from the federal government, with the second waiver setting up the cost-sharing system in Healthy Michigan.

The 7 percent figure caused some concerns with the federal government and was subject to a number of discussions.

Mr. Lyon, in talking with reporters, said the second option will allow the state to focus more on encouraging healthy behaviors of recipients and following those behaviors will help ensure those recipients pay lower cost sharing rates.

Participating in the healthy behaviors means the cost sharing a client will face will not exceed 5 percent, he said.

And, under the waiver, if a person - unless one is considered medically frail - chose not to participate in the healthy behaviors, they will take part in the health care exchange where their total cost sharing is also to be 5 percent.

It would be very rare, Mr. Lyon said, that a person would pay more than 5 percent.

This will only affect recipients on April 1, 2018, who have been participating in Healthy Michigan for four years.

The news of the waiver resulted in enthusiastic responses from a variety of groups.

Rick Murdock with the Michigan Association of Health Plans called the announcement, "good news" for the state and said it brings the state closer to his group's goal of ensuring all persons have health care coverage.

Brian Peters, CEO of the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, said the Healthy Michigan plan has helped residents who were previously uninsured "to access the care they need in the right place, at the right time and at an affordable price."

And Gilda Jacobs, president of the Michigan League for Public Policy said the group was "thrilled" at the news of the waiver. "This is tremendous news for our entire state," she said.

Snyder Appoints Hollins To Oversee Flint Water Efforts

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" }, in response to preliminary recommendations from the Flint Water Advisory Task Force, appointed Harvey Hollins, the director of his Office of Urban Initiatives, to oversee efforts to resolve the water issues in the city.

But Senate { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1>" } (D-Flint) said the issue needed stronger oversight than Mr. Hollins could provide.

"Harvey is well-versed in the issues and the challenges faced by our cities and will be effective in this role," Mr. Snyder said.

He said his administration would also work on an Internet dashboard to display progress made on the water issue.

The task force is still working on its final recommendations, but members said they issued the preliminary recommendations - in a letter dated December 7 but released Thursday - to get some of the changes in place more quickly.

"We felt it was imperative to make these initial recommendations to help address the water crisis in Flint instead of waiting until our final report is submitted," Task Force Co-Chair Chris Kolb said. "We appreciate the prompt acceptance of our request for action by the governor and see it as a step forward."

Co-Chair Ken Sikkema also said the initial review presented "a distributing situation."

"While the Task Force is far from done with our work, the initial review has presented a very disturbing situation that will require many actions to help those that have suffered," Mr. Sikkema said. "We saw no reason to wait until the final report to make these initial recommendations. We also anticipate that we will made additional recommendations prior to the final report."

Mr. Ananich urged the Department of State Police, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to take charge of water testing, distribution of water filters and other efforts to control lead exposure in the city.

"Political appointees and public relations people are what got us into this mess, and they aren't who we need leading us out of it," Mr. Ananich said. "Anything less than a professional trained in emergency management or public health will not suffice."

In the letter, the task force said the governor's 10-point action plan was being implemented, but without measures to determine success.

"One primary concern we have at this point is that the current efforts appear to be taking place in the absence of a larger project coordination framework that measures results and clearly delineates responsibilities for continuing actions to protect public health," the task force said in the letter.

Task force members said the departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services needed to set goals for the various efforts underway in the city as well as contingency plans if those goals are not being met.

The task force called for a single person or entity to coordinate the efforts.

Mr. Snyder acceded to that request for a coordinator in a letter back to the task force dated December 12. That also was released Thursday.

## HICA, DPS, Energy Remain In Senate For '16

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1>" } said late Wednesday he expects to take up an extension on the Health Insurance Claims Assessment as soon as his caucus comes back in January, but two other huge policy goals will be competing for legislators' time before they dive head-first into the next budget cycle.

The House extended HICA into 2025 via { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB510501](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB510501)" }  
[E], but some senators have "some other ideas" on the tax that helps the state receive federal Medicaid matching funds, "so we weren't in a place where we could vote for it yet," Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) told reporters.

Asked about the urgency given the current HICA tax does not expire until 2017, Mr. Meekhof said, "That's when we have the time. If we can pick those things up now, before DPS and energy debates start, I think that's wise."

But those last two items cannot be left on an island either. House members will be running for re-election next year, so as the year goes on, it will get increasingly harder to pass such major legislation in the Senate and expect to see the same in the House. And Mr. Meekhof conceded as much.

"It being an election year next year, it's probably less than half of the year that we have for things to work on," he said, acknowledging also that the process becomes further complicated by budget discussions beginning around February. "But we do have time in January that we generally don't have a lot on our plate and ... let's try to get the understanding of everybody what the policy issue is and what we could be doing, because most of it has still been in committee up until this point."

**DPS:** The struggle in providing funding for Detroit Public Schools to the tune of \$715 million over 10 years was expected to see some more clarity with bills introduced before the Legislature left for the year, but that too saw too many hiccups to be made possible. { [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1>" } (R-Hart), who is leading that discussion in the Senate (and in the Legislature generally), has been tight-lipped about any kind of details on the policy in an effort to prevent it from falling apart before it starts, and that hasn't seemed to bother most people.

But { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161801&locid=1>" } (D-Highland Park) said that legislation can't fall by the wayside either.

"They're not ready because there's an issue with discerning where you're going to get the money from to pay this \$715 million and a new situation called new public schools Detroit, or whatever it's going to be called," Mr. Johnson told Gongwer News Service in an interview. "That's the big issue."



"What cannot happen is we allow the clock to run out, and people, because of political aspirations in the next year, or just sheer reticence to support Detroit issues say 'well, we're just not going to do anything.' Then it gets to be blamed on Detroit, which is not going to happen, not on my watch," he said.

He said there is not just one version of the bills at this point either.

"We've had a lot of compromise discussions between ourselves and Senator Hansen, the governor's office. Everybody has been committed to trying to drive the same message, but then there's been some hiccups where we've seen some things maybe being done behind the scenes with EAA and DPS perhaps looking to charter a number of schools without us understanding that, and that created a problem for us as well," Mr. Johnson said.

"It's a fluid process, and this is sausage-making, and it's ugly, and it's going to take us some more time," he said. "We'll have some conversations during the break and see if we can come back with a package people can get behind."

**ENERGY:** One area where the House is seemingly slightly ahead of the Senate is in the area of energy policy. As the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency collects plan-of-action reports from the state on its federal Clean Power Plan to reduce emissions, the question is how Michigan will respond.

The House Energy Policy Committee reported its version of how that future will look in November, but was unable to move those bills off the floor this week.

The Senate has been a bit slower to move. Despite advertising boasting a "Nofs-Nesbitt energy plan," { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=57701&locid=1>" } (R-Battle Creek) has been adamant about proposing his own plan separate of what House { [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=282201&locid=1>" } (R-Lawton) is pushing in his chamber, and despite the two do have some similarities in certain sectors of the debate.

Some utilities like Consumers Energy will be shutting down numerous plants in 2016, but even so, the Midcontinent Independent Systems Operator - which oversees the energy market for certain states, including Michigan - insists Michigan should not have to worry about a shortage of energy in 2016 (though there is some question as to how much sooner Michigan should worry after that). And { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1>" } is litigating the pressure from the EPA to conform to its Clean Power Plan.

Even so, both sides of the energy debate say Michigan needs to act sooner rather than later.

And while just about every member of legislative leadership will mark energy as a priority for next year, the question still remains where this major policy initiative will be able to fit legislation, debate and voting on that legislation into the big picture of 2016.

## Schuetzte Bets On Bush; Talks Parole Changes, Statewide School Gun Option

In a wide-ranging discussion, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77201&locid=1" } on Thursday expressed confidence former Florida Governor Jeb Bush would win the 2016 Republican nomination and said he would be willing to look at a system that allows for easier parole so long as persons convicted of major felonies were not included and would back a consistent statewide approach letting people with concealed weapons permits carry in so-called "gun-free zones."

Mr. Schuetzte also said that he would think it reasonable for legislators to insist Detroit schools show academic progress if the state agreed to help fix its debt.

And when asked about what he had learned about the same-sex marriage court fight that led the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold that same-sex marriage is constitutional, Mr. Schuetzte said he was right to fight to protect Michigan's Constitution.

He also was coy when asked about fundraising activities.

Mr. Schuetzte met with reporters on Thursday to review the year and said besides the thousands of cases his office works on, he had been especially touched by an individual effort to help a woman who was victimized by sex trafficking. Mr. Schuetzte has played an active role with the state in changing its human trafficking laws.

He also said his office had helped collect more than \$22 million in unpaid child support payments, bringing the total to more than \$120 million since taking office.

And he and officials from his office also held 1,000 meetings at schools to talk about bullying and threats posed by students against others in the "Okay2Say" program, he said.

Mr. Schuetzte is one of the most prominent supporters of Mr. Bush for the 2016 GOP nomination for president, and despite Mr. Bush polling well below Donald Trump, Texas U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz and Florida U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, Mr. Schuetzte expressed total confidence that Mr. Bush would hang on to win the nomination.

"For Jeb there is only one way, and that is up," he said. "There is no quit" in the Bush family in a campaign.

There is no one more skilled or qualified to be president, Mr. Schuetzte said of Mr. Bush. Mr. Trump is now riding a wave of support because there is genuine fear and worry in the U.S. because of the foreign and economic policies of President Barack Obama, he said.

But Mr. Schuetzte said he is anxious for the presidential primaries to begin to allow for the winnowing out process of Republican candidates. "They can't come soon enough," he said.

**PRESUMPTIVE PAROLE:** Mr. Schuetzte has also led opposition to proposals in the Legislature to allow for a system that would give many prisoners a better opportunity for parole

upon reaching their earliest release date. The proposals are backed by a number of people seeking both to reduce the cost of corrections and help individuals get back into normal life.

Joined by numerous county prosecutors and sheriffs, Mr. Schuette has attacked what he calls "auto-pilot parole" as a threat to public safety.

However, in the round table, Mr. Schuette said he and his allies "would be open to a discussion about excluding violent crimes" from the types of offenses that could be considered for automatic parole. Mr. Schuette did not commit to supporting the proposal, but said he could be open to discussing changes.

**CONCEALED CARRY:** In terms of changing the state's gun laws to allow individuals with concealed weapons permits to go into schools and other areas now off limits, Mr. Schuette said he is an "NRA attorney general. I make no bones about it."

The proposal made by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=25101&locid=1" } (R-Mayville) in { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB44201" } would work best, Mr. Schuette said, because it would provide "a consistent approach across the state" as well as back up the Second Amendment.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } has said he is opposed to the bill, a position he repeated to Gongwer News Service during an interview on Wednesday. Mr. Snyder said there has to be room for each district to make up its own mind on whether to allow for individuals with concealed weapons access to schools.

Mr. Schuette said that sometimes he and the governor have differences, but he still believes a consistent, statewide approach is best on the issue.

**DPS:** With Mr. Snyder hoping the Legislature will act on a proposal to help Detroit schools deal with its debt and restructure itself, Mr. Schuette said the focus should be on a school system that has continually failed its students.

If the Legislature votes to have the state help pay off the Detroit Public Schools debt, then there has to be assurance on what new outcomes will be had for the district, Mr. Schuette said.

**SAME-SEX MARRIAGE:** During 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court, in a 5-4 decision, ruled against arguments Mr. Schuette brought defending the Michigan Constitution's provision banning same-sex marriage and any of its equivalent. The nation's highest court held that same-sex couples had a constitutional right to marry.

Mr. Schuette repeated, as he had throughout the years the issue was litigated, that his duty was to defend the Constitution, all sections of it. Asked if he had learned anything from the decision, Mr. Schuette said what he learned was, "I did the right thing" in fighting for the Michigan ban.

**FURTHER CAMPAIGNS:** Mr. Schuette also was asked about fundraising he had done in Washington D.C. Some of that, he said, was for the Republican Attorney Generals Association, and some was for him.

Mr. Schuette cannot run for re-election but he is seen as a sure candidate to run for governor in 2018. Asked why he would raise money for himself, he said only that "I still got the itch." What he was itching to do politically, he would not say.

In other topics:

- Mr. Schuette said the investigation into former Reps. Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat is ongoing, but that it should be completed relatively soon;
- He stuck to his prediction that the "days are numbered" for Enbridge line 5 under the Mackinac Straits, but he could not say when the pipeline would be closed or what would be a safer option to move oil and natural gas products. He did say there are ongoing discussions on matters such as increasing the insurance on the pipeline; and
- He did not indicate there would be any charges brought against anyone in regards to the Flint water situation, but his office would defend the state against any suits brought against it.

Snyder Says He Will Not Take Cabinet Job Just To Set Up Calley For Governor

If a Republican wins the White House in 2016, { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" } said in an interview this week he would not accept a job in the Cabinet to enhance { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1" }'s chances of winning the governorship in 2018.

Speaking to Michigan Public Television for its annual "Evening with the Governor" program, Mr. Snyder showed little to no interest in joining the Cabinet of a Republican administration, but also made it clear he would never leave as part of a strategic move to let Mr. Calley ascend to the governorship to raise his chances of winning in 2018.

Mr. Calley has not said he is running, but expectations are high that he will.

"I'm not going to simply leave office to help with that issue because it's too important being governor," Mr. Snyder said.

And Mr. Snyder signaled a Cabinet post is not of much interest to him personally, saying he is aware every day that he has one less day in office.

"I have a responsibility to the citizens of Michigan," he said.

First Lady Sue Snyder also shed some light on the circumstances under which Mr. Snyder ruptured his Achilles' tendon in early January and how frightening the ensuing blood clot, which led to the governor spending several days in the hospital, was.

"It was a very scary time for all of us," she said, even saying at one point the possibility of Mr. Snyder dying crossed her mind.

The actual injury occurred after Mr. Snyder had concluded a jog on the beach and was walking. Mr. Snyder said he took too long a stride and heard a pop. Ms. Snyder, who had earlier advised him to ease back on his jogging, which he had just taken up, had been by a pool.

"All of a sudden I see him hobbling back. I said, 'What is going on?'" she said.

Mr. Snyder told her, "'I don't know, I think I ripped something.'" Ms. Snyder said she retorted, "I told you."

In the aftermath of the injury, Mr. Snyder, while at work, told Ms. Snyder his leg was swelling. Ms. Snyder said it became so swollen that his pant leg was taut around his leg.

"He says, 'I think I better go to the hospital, to the emergency room,'" she said.

Mr. Snyder during the interview said, when asked whether term limits should change, that the topic is "fair question." He said term limits could be made more flexible instead of limiting members to six years in the House and eight years in the Senate. For years, there has been discussion about a 14-year limit on total legislative service, but it has gone nowhere.

The governor, however, said the eight year limit on constitutional officers is appropriate.

#### Audit Cites DTMB For Lax Server Security

Auditors have found that most of the state's UNIX servers had not been properly secured, an audit released Thursday said.

The { [HYPERLINK "http://audgen.michigan.gov/finalpdfs/15\\_16/r071056315.pdf"](http://audgen.michigan.gov/finalpdfs/15_16/r071056315.pdf) } of statewide UNIX security controls, for the period October 1, 2012, through August 31, 2015, found that of 63 servers tested, 59 had vulnerable security configurations. And 47 of the servers had not had a vulnerability scan conducted in more than a month.

But auditors found the department was moderately effective at both implementing security and access controls on the servers and establishing governance structures over the servers.

The state operates about 950 UNIX servers, the report said.

The department agreed with the findings and said it had purchased software to automate security settings and regular security scans on the servers. It said it is also developing a process to ensure vulnerability remediation is assigned to the correct division.

Auditors also cited the state for not consistently using supported versions of the operating system and not timely applying patches. The department also gave too much control over the servers to the Agency Services Division, allowing the possibility that security measures could be circumvented, the report said.

On the operating systems, the department said it is implementing policies to require all agencies to upgrade to supported versions as well as automated patch management.

It also said it is working to better segregate duties among the various groups overseeing the servers.

### Snyder Signs Epi-Pen Bills

Anyone operating an activity where anaphylaxis-causing allergens may be present has the ability under a bill signed into law Thursday by { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } to make available auto-injectable epinephrine devices, commonly known as Epi-Pens.

The bill, { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB443801](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB443801)" }

PA 221), specifically mentions recreation camps, youth sports leagues, amusement parks, nonpublic schools, religious institutions or sports arenas, but does not limit the law's applicability just to them. The law, which takes effect March 16, broadens previous law that limited access to school districts.

The bill enables those entities that stock Epi-Pens to have their employees administer the injections, provided they have undergone training, without risk of liability.

"Making Epi-Pens more readily available is a common sense way to protect those who have severe allergies," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "With this new law, parents can be more confident sending their kids to camp or on field trips without constant worry of a severe allergic reaction that could threaten their health."

Activists working to protect children with food allergies praised Mr. Snyder's signature of the bill.

"Kids and adults with life threatening food allergies will soon be a lot safer thanks to Governor Snyder and the state legislature," Lisa Rutter, the mother of a child with food allergies and founder of the Michigan-based No Nuts Moms Group, said in a statement. "Many parents know that their children suffer from food allergies, but for the thousands of parents in Michigan who have no idea their children are at risk, this new law could make all the difference in the world."

Mr. Snyder also signed:

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Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016

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Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016


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Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016


{ HAZARDOUS WASTE ({ HYPERLINK  
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NK references to liquid industrial waste to liquid industrial by-product in hazardous  
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 PA 225


Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016

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Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: March 16, 2016

{ RELATIVE GUARDIANSHIP ASSISTANCE ACT ({ HYPERLINK  
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NK relative guardianship assistance act to include a successor guardian provision.  
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Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: December 17, 2015

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Signed: December 17, 2015; Effective: December 17, 2015

## Garcia Bills Aim To Give Schools Autonomy In Calendar Setting

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371701&locid=1" } on Thursday introduced two bills that would establish criteria for school calendar waivers to be automatically granted and prohibiting calendar items as subjects of collective bargaining.

The bills, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB519301" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB519401" }, were sent to the House Education Committee.

"I've had the opportunity to speak with school superintendents and administrators throughout Michigan who have asked for increased flexibility at the local level," Ms. Garcia (R-Holland) said in a statement. "As the number of days of pupil instruction increases to 180 in the 2016-2017 school year, we must remove barriers for our schools to meet this new threshold."

The first bill would establish criteria for school calendar waivers to be automatically granted and require school districts to hold a public hearing prior to applying for a start date waiver.

"Parents, families and the entire community should be engaged in this conversation," Ms. Garcia said. "The ultimate goal is to ensure that our students are getting a quality education so that they are prepared to be successful and productive members of society."

The second bill includes calendar and scheduling items as prohibited subjects of bargaining and would provide local school districts autonomy in determining the calendar and schedule.

"I have faith in school boards and their superintendents to adopt a calendar and schedule that is in the best interests of students and parents, respects the time and talents of staff and adheres to state law," she said. "This discussion should be centered around our children's education and not be used as a bargaining chip by adults."

## Runestad Wants President To Treat ISIS Attacks As Genocide

State { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353701&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353701&locid=1>" } is asking President Barack Obama to declare ISIS terrorism as an act of genocide against Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East.

Mr. Runestad (R-White Lake) said Thursday the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham's violent terrorist attacks against religious minorities must be considered genocide, which would enable governments and the United Nations to intervene more directly with more resources.

"A resolution was introduced in Congress urging the president to declare the atrocities to be a genocide," he said in a statement. "Southfield resident Bishop Francis Kalabat, head of the Chaldean Catholic Diocese of the United States, testified before a U.S. House Subcommittee on Human Rights, and is working to encourage states to introduce their own resolutions calling for a genocide to be declared. He fully supports my legislative resolution."

Mr. Runestad introduced a similar resolution in the House on Thursday.

"Christians have existed as a cultural group in the Middle East and have lived in peace with their neighbors for 2,000 years until now," he said. "Christians and other religions are being targeted and slaughtered as a cultural minority and we must declare this to be a genocide for the crisis to be stopped."

## Capital Notebook: Smith May Not Go To Trial

Embattled { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=32801&locid=1>" } (D-Detroit) was in court Thursday for a pre-trial hearing on his case involving his alleged assault of his ex-wife and shooting at her Mercedes-Benz in May, and while there was no plea agreement announced, Mr. Smith's attorney told Wayne County Circuit Judge Lawrence Talon it seemed both sides could "work something out."

The Detroit Free Press { [HYPERLINK](http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/12/17/state-senator-virgil-smith-court-hearing/77437336/)

"<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/detroit/2015/12/17/state-senator-virgil-smith-court-hearing/77437336/>" } that Mr. Dillard plans to present a proposal to prosecutors before Christmas Day to see if a resolution can be reached before Mr. Smith's trial begins on March 7, 2016 (it was originally scheduled for December 7).

Mr. Talon, the Free Press said, ordered the parties to return to his courtroom on January 15 at 8:30 a.m. so he can be told if an offer to resolve the case had been made and whether Mr. Smith would accept or reject it.

Mr. Smith faces charges of felonious assault, malicious destruction of personal property of \$20,000 or more, possessing a firearm during the commission of a felony and a misdemeanor for domestic violence.

**RECYCLING CARTS:** The Department of Environmental Quality announced Thursday it is accepting applications for grants for local communities to purchase recycling carts.

Department officials said the carts, as opposed to the bins many communities use, increase recycling rates and so would contribute to { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }'s goal of doubling recycling rates.

The DEQ is offering up to \$450,000 toward cart purchases. Applications for the grants are posted on the DEQ { HYPERLINK

"http://www.michigan.gov/documents/deq/OWMRP\_2016\_Recycling\_Grant\_508557\_7.pdf" \t "blank" } and are due March 31.

**LATE ELK SEASON:** Despite conditions, the late elk season was successful for the vast majority of hunters, the Department of Natural Resources announced Thursday.

The season, which ended Sunday, did not have the usual snow that allows hunters to track and see the elk, but still 46 of the 50 hunters were successful, the department said.

Appointments By The Governor

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PAIN AND SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT:** John Mulder of Spring Lake succeeds Steven Roskos, who resigned, to represent the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine. The appointment is for the remainder of a term expiring July 1, 2017, and is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**ASPARAGUS MARKETING ADVISORY BOARD:** Dwight Fuehring of Mears and Kyle Weber of Watervliet are reappointed for terms expiring November 13, 2018. The appointments are subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**BOARD OF BARBER EXAMINERS:** Kelly Mitchell of Grand Rapids is reappointed for a term expiring September 30, 2019. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**CITY OF PONTIAC RECEIVERSHIP TRANSITION ADVISORY BOARD:** Doug Bernstein of Royal Oak succeeds Lou Schimmel, who resigned, to represent members with relevant professional experience for a term expiring at the pleasure of the governor.

**MICHIGAN BOARD OF OPTOMETRY:** Sarah Kile of Gladwin succeeds Robert Perino to represent the general public for a term expiring June 30, 2019. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.


**MICHIGAN CARROT COMMISSION:** Nathan Karnemaat of Fremont is reappointed for a term expiring October 31, 2018. The appointment is subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

**MICHIGAN STATE CAPITOL COMMISSION:** Travis Weber of Grand Rapids succeeds Sally Durfee to represent the governor. The appointment is for a term expiring at the pleasure of the governor and is not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

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"mailto:demerson@gongwer.com" }, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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# House Activity for Thursday, December 17, 2015

SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

{ **EPI-PENS** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284201" }) Allows **ERLI** prescribers to prescribe and pharmacists to dispense epinephrine to authorized entities **NK** under certain circumstances and limits liability. Amends 1978 PA 368 by amending "http:section 17744a (MCL 333.17744a), as added by 2013 PA 186, and by adding section //ww 17744d.

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{ **SCHOOL AID** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001" }) Expands shared **ERLI** time participation and reimbursement to kindergarten. Amends 1979 PA 94 by amending **NK** sections 166b (MCL 388.1766b), as amended by 2012 PA 130.

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{ SCHOOL AID ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001" }) Expands ERLI counting of nonresident shared time pupils in membership to include kindergarten.

NK Amends 1979 PA 94 by amending section 6 (MCL 388.1606), as amended by 2015 PA "http:85.

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{ LAND USE ({ HYPERLINK

HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001" }) Transfer any LINK remaining funds into the Michigan land bank and repeals the urban land assembly act.

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## INTRODUCED

{ **PROPERTY TAX CREDITS** ( { HYPERLINK  
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277401" }) Eliminates  
ERLI taxable value and income disqualifier for qualifying disabled veterans and property tax  
NK exemption. Amends 1967 PA 281 by amending sections 506 and 520 (MCL 206.506 and  
"http 206.520), section 506 as amended by 1996 PA 484 and section 520 as amended by 2015  
://ww PA 179 and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

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{ **SCHOOL FUNDING** ( { HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701" }) Provides for  
ERLI reimbursement of revenue lost to school aid fund as result of expenditures. Amends 1937  
NK PA 94 by amending section 21 (MCL 205.111), as amended by 2014 PA 80.

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{ DRIVER LICENSE ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=283401" }) Modifies  
ERLI conditions for renewal of driver license for individuals 75 years of age or older. Amends  
NK 1949 PA 300 by amending section 307 (MCL 257.307), as amended by 2015 PA 11.

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{ MINIMUM WAGE ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=370001" }) Eliminates lower  
ERLI minimum wage for certain employees. Amends 2014 PA 138 by repealing section 4b  
NK (MCL 408.414b).

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{ **ABSENT VOTER** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=370001" }) Allows first-  
**ERLI** time voter to utilize absent voter ballot if voter registered by mail and submits  
**NK** identification with his or her ballot. Amends 1954 PA 116 by amending section 509t  
"http (MCL 168.509t), as amended by 2004 PA 92.

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{ **POLLUTION PREVENTION** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=370001" }) Prohibits use  
**ERLI** and sale of coal tar sealant or other high PAH sealant for pavement. Amends 1994 PA 451  
**NK** (MCL 324.101 to 324.90106) by adding part 149.

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{ **LABOR** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=370401" }) Implements  
**ERLI** employee scheduling accommodation act.

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{ **LOCAL GOVERNMENTS** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601" }) Modifies  
**ERLI** distribution of local community stabilization authority act share revenues. Amends 2014

**NK** PA 86 by amending sections 14, 17 and 21 (MCL 123.1354, 123.1357 and 123.1361),

"http sections 14 and 17 amended by 2015 PA 122 and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

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{ WATER ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=333201" }) Requires  
ERLI supplier of water to provide access to water for drinking or household purposes under  
NK certain circumstances. Amends 1976 PA 399 (MCL 325.1001 to 325.1023) by adding  
"http section 18a.

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{ WATER AND SEWER ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=333201" }) Requires  
ERLI continuous water and sewer to customers. Amends 1909 PA 279 by amending section 5e  
NK (MCL 117.5e).

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{ **PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=96801" }) Revises poverty  
**ERLI** exemption. Amends 1893 PA 206 by amending section 7u (MCL 211.7u), as amended by  
**NK** 2012 PA 135.

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{ **HEALTHY FOOD** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=323601" }) Creates healthy  
**ERLI** food assistance act.

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{ PEACE OFFICERS ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=266001" }) Expands arrest  
ERLI authority of certain peace officers to include airport authority police in certain  
NK circumstances. Amends 1927 PA 175 by amending section 2a of chapter IV (MCL  
"http 764.2a), as amended by 2002 PA 483.

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{ DEAF ACT ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=317301" }) Updates certain  
ERLI language in Michigan school for the deaf act. Amends 1893 PA 116 by amending section  
NK 1 (MCL 393.51).

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{ **HARD OF HEARING** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355401" }) Revises  
**ERLI** reference to "hearing impaired" and division on deafness." Amends 1937 PA 72 by  
**NK** amending section 3 (MCL 408.203), as amended by 1988 PA 434.

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**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353701" }) Revises  
**ERLI** reference to "hearing impaired" in division on deafness act to "deaf, deafblind and hard of  
**NK** hearing." Amends 1937 PA 72 by amending section 5 (MCL 408.205), as amended by  
"http 1988 PA 434.

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**{** **HARD OF HEARING** (**{** **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601" **})** Eliminates  
**ERLI** reference to "deaf and dumb" from statute. Amends 1931 PA 328 by amending section  
**NK** 221 (MCL 750.221).

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**{** **HARD OF HEARING** (**{** **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=329801" **})** Revises

**ERLI** reference to "hearing impaired" regarding certain limited teaching certificates to "hard of

**NK** hearing." Amends 1976 PA 451 by amending section 1534 (MCL 380.1534).

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{ PUBLIC OFFICERS ({ HYPERLINK  
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=265001" }) Modifies  
ERLI provision relating to the transfer of books and materials to successors to remove obsolete  
NK language. Amends 1899 PA 44 by amending section 34 (MCL 24.34).

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{ HARD OF HEARING ({ HYPERLINK  
HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=349901" }) Revises  
ERLI reference to "hearing impaired" in division on deafness act to "deaf, deafblind and hard of  
NK hearing." Amends 1937 PA 72 by amending section 4 (MCL 408.204), as amended by  
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{ **FARMLAND** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=324201" }) Provides for **ERLI** value of credits not claimed under the farmland and open space preservation program to be **NK** transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. Amends 1994 PA "http 451 by amending section 36101, 36104, 36109 and 36110 (MCL 324.36101, 324.36104, ://ww 324.36109 and 324.36110),

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{ **FARMLAND** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=383601" }) Provides for **ERLI** earmark for unclaimed farmland credits and filing requirements. Amends 1967 PA 281 by **NK** amending section 51 (MCL 206.51), as amended by 2015 PA 180 and by adding section

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{ FARMLAND ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=324201" }) Provides for

ERLI calculation of interest penalties related to certain credits. Amends 1941 PA 122 by

NK amending section 30 (MCL 205.30), as amended by 2014 PA 424.

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{ ACCOUNTING ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=355701" }) Revises scope of

ERLI practice of public accounting. Amends 1980 PA 299 by amending sections 720 and 728

**NK** (MCL 339.720 and 339.728), section 720 as amended by 2010 PA 215 and section 728 as "http amended by 2014 PA 177.

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{ **SCHOOL CALENDAR WAIVERS** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371701" }) Provides for **ERLI** standards granting certain waivers regarding school calendar. Amends 1976 PA 451 by **NK** amending sections 1284a and 1284b (MCL 380.1284a and 380.1284b), section 1284a as "http added by 2007 PA 101 and section 1284b as amended by 2006 PA 235.

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{ **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371701" }) Makes calendar

**ERLI** and schedule for school year prohibited subjects of bargaining. Amends 1947 PA 336 by **NK** amending section 15 (MCL 423.215), as amended by 2014 PA 414.

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{ **WEAPONS** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701" }) Provides for  
**ERLI** penalties for storing or leaving a firearm where it may be accessed by a minor. Amends  
**NK** 1931 PA 328 by amending section 223 (MCL 750.223), as amended by 2012 PA 242 and  
"http by adding section 223a.

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{ **WEAPONS** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=383401" }) Updates  
**ERLI** sentencing guidelines. Amends 1927 PA 175 by amending section 16m of chapter XVII  
**NK** (MCL 777.16m), as amended by 2014 PA 192.

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{ **STEM CELLS** ({ HYPERLINK

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=267701" }) Requires health  
**ERLI** professionals to inform patients during second trimester options regarding cord blood stem  
**NK** cells. Amends 1978 PA 368 by amending sections 2681 and 2683 (MCL 333.2681 and

"http 333.2683), section 2681 as added by 2006 PA 635 and section 2683 as added by 2006 PA

://ww 638 and by adding section 2684.

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{ **GAS AND OIL** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301" }) Modifies **ERLI** requirements for spill reporting prevention and response plans and penalties. Amends **NK** 1994 PA 451 by amending sections 3101, 3103, 3111b and 3115 (MCL 324.3101, "http 324.3103, 324.3111b and 324.3115), section 3101 as amended by 2006 PA 97, section ://ww 3103 as amended by 2005 PA 33, section 3111b as added by 2004 PA 142 and section w.gon 3115 as amended by 2004 PA 143 and by adding section 3111v, 3111d, 3111e, 3111b and gwer. 3135.

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{ **WEAPONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301" }) Revises **ERLI** prohibitions against carrying certain weapons./ Amends 1931 PA 328 by amending **NK** sections 226, 227 and 231 (MCL 750.226, 750.227 and 750.231), section 226 as amended "http by 2015 PA 26, section 227 as amended by 1986 PA 8 and section 231 as amended by ://ww 2006 PA 401.

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**{ PISTOL-FREE ZONES ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301" }) Eliminates  
**ERLI** pistol-free zones. Amends 1927 PA 372 by amending section 5c (MCL 28.425c), as  
**NK** amended by 2015 PA 3 and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

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**{ SENTENCING GUIDELINES ({ HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=360301" }) Updates

**ERLI** sentencing guidelines. Amends 1927 PA 175 by amending section 11b of chapter XVII

**NK** (MCL 777.11b), as amended by 2015 PA 4.

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**{ YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL ({ HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=317301" }) Creates youth  
**ERLI** advisory council.

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**{ FIREWORKS ({ HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=317301" }) Allows a local  
**ERLI** unit of government to regulate the ignition, discharge and use of consumer fireworks other  
**NK** than the day, preceding day or day after Independence Day, New Year's Day and during  
**"http** certain hours on those dates. Amends 2011 PA 256 by amending section 7 and 12 (MCL  
**://ww** 28.457 and 28.462), as amended by 2013 PA 65.

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{ LIBRARIES ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001" }) Creates fund-  
ERLI raising registration plates for libraries. Amends 1949 PA 300 (MCL 257.1 to 257.923) by  
NK adding section 811nn.

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{ HIGHWAYS ({ HYPERLINK

HYP "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001" }) Designates a  
ERLI portion of U.S. Highway 2 as the "Kenneth J. Mariska Memorial Highway." Amends 2001  
NK PA 142 (MCL 250.1001 to 250.2080) by adding section 6a.

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The House adjourned until 11:45 a.m., Friday, December 18, 2015

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**To:** Baker, Kay (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Monday, October 19, 2015  
**Attachments:** 151019plan.htm; Oct19.htm; 151019dayplan.htm; Oct19Rules.htm



## **Michigan Report for Monday, October 19, 2015**

DPS, Debt Rising, At Risk Of Default Without State Action, Snyder Says

Mistakes In Flint Water Change Mean Leadership Change At DEQ

HFA Report: Medicaid Will Need More GF To Meet Match

Veterans, Businesses Tout Support For Prevailing Wage

Hospital Report Says Improved Practices Netted Savings, Improved Lives

Campaign Notes

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

## **Activity Reports**

Administrative Rules

## **Calendars**

Day Planner

Event Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #207 -- Monday, October 19, 2015

### DPS, Debt Rising, At Risk Of Default Without State Action, Snyder Says

It will take \$715 million from the state over 10 years to extract public education in Detroit from the debt the Detroit Public Schools has piled up, as well as putting together a new governance structure, { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } said Monday.

Mr. Snyder unveiled a slightly revised plan to overhaul K-12 public education in Detroit from the one he announced in April, and as was the case then, the proposal faces major challenges in clearing the Legislature. Mr. Snyder said he wants legislative approval by the end of the year to ensure the new structure is ready to launch with the start of the district's next fiscal year in July. He said he anticipated formal introduction of the legislation in about a week.

There were two big differences in the proposal: a voluntary instead of mandatory common enrollment system for both charter and traditional public schools in the city, and a bigger financial ask of the Legislature.

Pegged at \$483 million in April, DPS debt is now at \$515 million as a result of spending exceeding revenues. Mr. Snyder said the new Detroit district he would recommend to take over running DPS classrooms needs another \$100 million for investments and working capital, and then another \$100 million to cover operating losses once the district's 2016-17 fiscal year begins July 1, 2016, that are the result of declining enrollment and the need to find cost savings.

Under Mr. Snyder's plan, the district's \$715 million in debt would stay with the old district and the 18-mill tax on all property other than principal residences in the district would go toward paying down the debt. The millage raises \$70 million a year, so it would take 10 years to pay off the debt, Mr. Snyder said.

The catch is the 18 mills, like all school districts, goes to the state School Aid Fund, so the state would have to make up those funds.

Without state intervention, DPS could default on its debt as soon as February, Snyder press secretary Sara Wurfel said. Mr. Snyder said the state would have to cover Detroit Public Schools' debt and retiree benefits should the district fall into bankruptcy, and that would cost all school districts much more than \$715 million, describing that burden as "billions."

Mr. Snyder said he hoped the Legislature could come together to support the plan much as it did to bring the city of Detroit's government out of bankruptcy.

"Isn't this important to help the kids of Detroit? We're all Michiganders," he said. "Just like we did with the Grand Bargain, we recognized that there's benefit in helping one another when

someone has issues. Look at the benefit to the city of Detroit today, how it's helping the whole state of Michigan by its comeback in terms of perception and business development."

The major components of the plan are the same as what Mr. Snyder proposed in April.

A Detroit Education Commission, appointed by the governor and Detroit mayor, would be established and in charge of hiring a chief education officer. That official would operate a common enrollment system encompassing DPS schools, charter schools and the Education Achievement Authority schools, but in the biggest change from the April plan, it would be voluntary to participate.

Charter schools had criticized the April plan's lumping them in with DPS.

The chief education officer would have the authority to close any school for low performance.

The current Detroit school board would remain with the old school district that only is in charge of paying down debt. A new school board would be created for the new district, jointly appointed by the governor and the mayor but eventually fully elected by Detroit voters by 2021.

In a new piece from the April plan, the city's Financial Review Commission, created as part of the Grand Bargain to bring the city out of bankruptcy, would oversee the district's finances until the debt is repaid. It would have a slightly different membership that does not include city government-specific appointees.

Despite the loss of \$70 million a year for 10 years for the School Aid Fund, Mr. Snyder said projected growth in School Aid Fund revenues means that helping reconstruct public education in Detroit will not lead to cuts for other school districts' funding. He said he still anticipated increasing funding to all school districts.

"The amount of that could be somewhat less than it would be, but again, there will be no cuts," he said.

The final plan could look much different than what Mr. Snyder has outlined. He, and others, said bill drafting continues, and top Republicans said it would be a big lift. Additionally, Detroit Democrats raised concerns about returning control of the schools to an elected school board.

Detroit Public Schools has been run by a governor-appointed emergency manager since 2009, with its school board reduced to virtually no role.

Several Detroit Democrats, in a joint statement, said there were some positive aspects to the plan, but concerning pieces as well. They focused on the need for academic improvement and local control.

"The Detroit Caucus and I are committed to finding a solution to improve our Detroit Public Schools so that we can find solutions to improve Detroit's schools," said Rep. Brian Banks (D-Detroit), the Detroit Caucus chair. "The state has controlled DPS for many years, and it has been

a failure. We have to find a better way, and we believe that way lies through local control. We look forward to working with all stakeholders to address all of the issues surrounding DPS."

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION:** The legislation is expected to start in the Senate. { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1>" } (R-Hart), the chair of the Senate K-12, School Aid and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, said he will sponsor some components of the package.

Mr. Hansen said he did not want to discuss specifics in the plan because work continues to develop the legislation, even on the question of whether \$715 million is the amount of money the state needs to address. As to Mr. Snyder's goal of passing the legislation before the end of the year, Mr. Hansen hesitated.

"We need to make sure it gets done right," he said. "I'm not going to set an artificial timetable."

But Mr. Hansen also said completing the legislation by the end of the year would be good "because of the complexity of it and the time it would need to get instituted."

Amber McCann, spokesperson for Senate { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1>" } (R-West Olive), said the Senate Republican Caucus is eager to review the details of the plan. The \$70 million a year for 10 years is "going to be quite a lift," Ms. McCann said.

"It's a big commitment. It's a long-term commitment," she said.

As to the end of the year timetable, Ms. McCann said it is ambitious, but not out of the question.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179401&locid=1>" } (R-Saginaw Township), the House Appropriations K-12 School Aid Subcommittee chair who called Mr. Snyder's April plan inadequate, sounded the same message Monday.

"I think this is just something that's going to require a little more imagination and a lot more boldness than this," he said. "I think the whole idea of replacing one command and control edifice for another isn't going to get the job done."

Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1>" } (R-Mount Pleasant), said Mr. Cotter's comments on the April plan still stand.

In those comments, Mr. Cotter called for "no raids" on the School Aid Fund. He said that fund exists to pay for education for all Michigan pupils, not to pay off the legacy debt of one district.

Until bills are introduced, it is not possible to say whether the Legislature could complete action on them this year, Mr. D'Assandro said.

As to how House Republicans would react to the \$715 million figure, Mr. D'Assandro said, "I think everybody knew there was a big problem there and everybody knew it was going to be a pretty substantial fix that was needed."

**TEPID REACTIONS:** Like the first plan, reaction was tepid. The American Federation of Teachers-Michigan, which represents Detroit teachers, said the plan tends toward too much state control.

Charter school groups had a mixed reaction.

"Based on what we've seen, we have concerns with any plan that takes decisions out of the hands of parents and puts them in the hands of a single, politically appointed person," Dan Quisenberry, president of the Michigan Association of Public School Academies, said in a statement. "We need to raise student achievement in Detroit and solve DPS's financial situation, and from what we've seen and heard, this proposal does neither. We look forward to seeing the legislation that comes out of this, and having the charter school community continue being an active part of the discussion."

Jared Burkhart, executive director of the Michigan Council of Charter School Authorizers, said only that the organization was happy to see Mr. Snyder's interest in a system of "robust accountability" in Detroit and looked forward to working with the governor and legislators on the issue.

#### Mistakes In Flint Water Change Mean Leadership Change At DEQ

Department of Environmental Quality officials failed to follow proper treatment and testing protocols when Flint moved from the Detroit water system to drawing from the Flint River and took too long to fix the problem once they discovered their error.

Environmental Quality { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303801&locid=1>" } said his staff in the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance thought they were using the right protocols in testing Flint water, but he removed the head of that office in the wake of { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) } calling for an independent review of the state's actions in the situation.

But legislators from the region, and a water quality expert who has helped to test some of the Flint water, chastised state and federal regulators involved for trying only to preserve their own reputations when trouble with the water system began to emerge.

Mr. Wyant said DEQ staff made honest mistakes in how they handled the water source switch.

"It recently has become clear that our drinking water program staff made a mistake while working with the city of Flint. Simply stated, staff employed a federal protocol they believed was appropriate, and it was not," Mr. Wyant said in a statement announcing he had appointed Jim

Sygo as interim head of the drinking water office. "The water testing steps followed would have been correct for a city less than 50,000 people, but not for a city of nearly 100,000."

Liane Smith, the former head of the drinking water office, has been reassigned within the department.

"It's an issue of leadership going forward given that this is a very difficult issue, and it's an issue of experience with corrosion controls and a recognition that we needed stronger leadership in that role to address both of those," Mr. Wyant told Gongwer News Service.

"Jim has more leadership experience - and this issue is going to require leadership - and we will identify corrosion control expertise that we will bring to the table," he said.

Mr. Wyant said Ms. Smith would remain with the department and be given other duties "as assigned", but also that her long-term duties in the department could depend on the outcome of the third-party after-action review.

Mr. Sygo will lead the office temporarily, with a national search planned to find a new director.

Mr. Wyant said he would also be reviewing his own connections with his management staff.

"I do have to look at my own policies to be sure I've got a mechanism to identify these issues and flag them sooner," he said.

But he said the issue in Flint is being addressed now. "We feel we have an action plan in place that addresses lead exposure both the long term, intermediate and short term," he said.

Mr. Wyant said his staff apparently did not have the experience with corrosion control needed to know how to properly monitor the system, but he also put some of the fault on the federal standards.

"I'm coming to the conclusion there needs to be some changes to the federal rule to allow us to be more protective of public health," he said.

Marc Edwards, a professor at Virginia Tech and an expert in drinking water corrosion controls, said documents he obtained through the Freedom of Information Act showed state officials should have known the city had to implement corrosion controls and instead worked to cover up the issue.

He pointed out several emails from earlier this year where officials said a corrosion study on the system was warranted but should not be started because the city would again change its water source before the study is completed.

"I think it started innocently enough. ... It's possible that they didn't understand the federal rule," Mr. Edwards told Gongwer News Service. "By early 2015, this problem became too big to



ignore. ... Even if they did not understand the rule, they should have taken much more aggressive steps to get this problem fixed."

To Mr. Wyant's offer to work with federal officials to improve the rule, Mr. Edwards said there is room for such improvement, but the current rule should have prevented the issues faced in Flint.

"The rule in fact did require them to have corrosion control," he said. "The rule does require them to take samples and, if they had done that correctly, people would have been told much sooner there was a problem."

Mr. Edwards said he had talked to Mr. Wyant on Monday and had agreed to Mr. Wyant's request for assistance.

"I will do whatever I can to make sure this doesn't happen again," he said.

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1>" } (D-Flint) said recent documents indicate state and federal officials were working more to back up their earlier findings than to ensure the water was safe.

"The latest developments in the Flint water crisis raise more troubling questions. It is clear from several now available documents that certain DEQ and EPA staff chose to put their reputations ahead of the safety and health of Flint citizens," Mr. Ananich said in a statement. "We do not know whether the misapplication of federal rules was intentional or due to negligence. That's why the Legislature needs to have a robust role in any investigation, and in ensuring those responsible for Flint's water crisis are held accountable."

Michigan Democratic Party Chair Brandon Dillon called for Mr. Wyant to be replaced.

"This was not an issue of experience and protocol. It is a question of competency and judgment. DEQ employees were not provided with the leadership and training necessary to do their jobs in this situation, and Mr. Wyant clearly lacks the judgment needed to do his," Mr. Dillon said in a statement. "You don't get to learn on the job when it comes to the well-being of Michigan's children and families. You may be able to fix the problem of Flint's drinking water going forward, but the damage done to the health of thousands of Flint's children is irreversible."

Spokespersons for Mr. Snyder could be reached, but { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2015/10/19/snyder-defends-environmental-quality-director-flint-crisis/74229710/>" \t "blank" } that Mr. Snyder told its newspaper's editorial board that Mr. Wyant is doing a "great job" responding to the situation and that the initial focus is on the staff who personally handled the issue.

James Clift with the Michigan Environmental Council said his group has concerns over how much autonomy cities have in conducting the water testing. "Financially, the city has an

incentive to not find a problem," he said, even though the protocols call for trying to test the likely worst homes.

Mr. Clift said cities also need to be required to let residents know that they could be at risk. "To the extent that people have these lead leads in their homes, do they know it," he said. The records of those connections should be computerized, he said.

#### HFA Report: Medicaid Will Need More GF To Meet Match

When the state has to contribute funds to finance the Healthy Michigan Medicaid Expansion program, it will need to use more General Funds, or find another source of revenues, a report by the House Fiscal Agency said.

But if the Healthy Michigan plan is discontinued, then the Legislature will also have to find more money from GF to cover annual savings Healthy Michigan provides the state now and to cover the loss of funds generate by the Health Insurance Claims Assessment as well as the use tax charged against Medicaid managed care organizations.

In addition, the HFA { [HYPERLINK](http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa/PDF/CommunityHealth/Michigan_Medicaid_Program_Oct2015.pdf)

"[http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa/PDF/CommunityHealth/Michigan\\_Medicaid\\_Program\\_Oct2015.pdf](http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa/PDF/CommunityHealth/Michigan_Medicaid_Program_Oct2015.pdf)" \t "blank" } said, the Legislature will need to make some fixes to the act that created Healthy Michigan because "the current statutory formula doesn't work mathematically."

With the addition of Healthy Michigan, which covers about 600,000 people whose incomes are up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level, Medicaid provides health insurance to nearly 20 percent of the state's residents, the report said.

Approving Healthy Michigan was one of the most contentious issues of 2013, and in approving the program, the Legislature chose not to create a reserve program - that { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } had proposed - that could help the state cover the federal cut in funding beginning in the 2016-17 fiscal year.

In addition, the legislative approval created two conditions under which Healthy Michigan could be ended: if the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid does not approve a new waiver the state has submitted by December 31 and if the costs of meeting the federal match exceed savings for the program.

Under the call for states to expand Medicaid enrollment to low-income individuals and families, in the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the federal government promised to pay 100 percent of the cost of the additional coverage for the first three years. The federal match will then be set at 95 percent in calendar year 2017, and be phased down to 90 percent by 2021-22.

In terms of simple cash payments, the General Fund amount needed to meet the match will start at \$137 million in 2016-17 to \$356 million in 2020-21.

However, including the offset of the some \$235 million in net savings, the state will not actually see an expenditure until the 2018-19 fiscal year, a total of \$55 million, the House Fiscal Agency report said. By 2021-22, the expenditure would be an estimated \$89 million.

That means the Legislature would have to pull more money out of the General Fund to cover the program, unless an alternate revenue source were found.

But there are other technical factors that could affect the overall savings and costs, especially in terms of when the Healthy Michigan costs exceed its savings (the report did not guess at a time when that might happen).

One of the most significant factors is how the level of state retainer savings will be set under the hospital provider assessment the state now charges. The current formula doesn't work mathematically, the HFA said, so the Legislature will need to change that in law, and when it does, it could set those savings at higher levels than currently forecast. The state also had not yet calculated the savings it is seeing by reducing the amount of uncompensated care it was paying for individuals who were uninsured, needed treatment and were unable to pay their expenses, the report said.

#### Veterans, Businesses Tout Support For Prevailing Wage

Two groups on Monday held separate press conferences opposing repeal of the prevailing wage, calling on legislators to support the policy because it's good for veterans and the state's small businesses.

"When I got out of the military, I looked at a lot of different jobs, but going into the trades is what suited me. Veterans will be hurt more than any other group (by a repeal)," said Jesse Stevens, a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and member of the Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers.

Citizens Protecting Michigan Taxpayers, a group seeking to repeal the prevailing wage law, has submitted some 391,000 signatures in support of its efforts. It awaits a recommendation from the Bureau of Elections as to the validity of those petitions.

Presuming the Board of State Canvassers determines sufficient signatures of registered voters, then the Legislature has 40 days to pass the proposal, which would make a repeal law. Or it could take no action and let the proposal go to the November 2016 ballot. The former is widely expected, but backers of prevailing wage are trying to stop that scenario.

Dave Waymire, spokesperson for Michigan Prevails, a group in support of maintaining the prevailing wage law, estimated that of the 568,000 veterans in the state, about 10 percent were working construction and skilled trades.

Repealing prevailing wage could also hurt the sustainability of the skilled trades at a time when {  
HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" }  
is seeking to invest even more in those fields to fill the demand for such jobs, one veteran said.

"Our Local 252 (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers) spends over \$1 million a year to train apprentices," said Matthew Charles, an Army veteran who is currently a first-year electrician in an apprenticeship program. "I appreciate people saying, 'Thank you for your service,' but now we have politicians who say they want to thank me for my service by ending prevailing wage. This will cut opportunity, pay and benefits for construction workers who are veterans in Michigan, and that's not right."

Repealing the prevailing wage is also a slight to local businesses that have weathered the Michigan economic storms, said Jim Judd, owner of Master Craft Carpet Services in Plymouth.

"Michigan is coming back from a decades-long decline and this attempted repeal of the prevailing wage does nothing to help our comeback," he said in a press call separate from the veteran's event, both held on Monday. "(It) rewards out-of-state businesses that often don't provide jobs for our friends, family and neighbors."

Another business owner, Donna Pardonnet from Architectural Contractors Trade Association, said she has had first-hand experience that tells her Michigan contractors would face "unfair" competition from out-of-state corporations "that avoid paying taxes by paying workers under the table."

"They will be forced to compete with operations that promote unsafe worksites and with operations that replace skilled Michigan tradespeople with unskilled workers from out of state," she said.

Mr. Judd and Ms. Pardonnet are among { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/PW-businesses.pdf"](http://www.gongwer.com/public/PW-businesses.pdf) } who signed and sent a { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/PW-letter.docx"](http://www.gongwer.com/public/PW-letter.docx) } to the Legislature urging lawmakers to protect Michigan's prevailing wage laws.

Both groups argued that an earlier suspension of the law in the 1990s did not lead to cost savings, as fewer contractors bid on public projects.

But Chris Fisher, president of Associated Builders and Contractors of Michigan, said prevailing wage is "decidedly anti-taxpayer."

"Most credible studies prove that prevailing wage kills jobs and wastes tax dollars because it isn't hard to figure out that when you let unions rig the bidding process, prices will go up," he said. "Michigan's one of just six states where prevailing wage is based exclusively on union agreements. It's time to put taxpayers in charge instead of giving big labor a blank check with our tax dollars."

### Hospital Report Says Improved Practices Netted Savings, Improved Lives

A report by the Michigan Health and Hospital Association said Monday that ongoing improvements in overall patient care has both saved money and improved overall outcomes for patients, including saving lives.

Significantly, the improvements include a 34 percent cut in deaths from septic shock from 2011 to 2014, the report said.

And in 2014 alone, hospitals saved more than \$100 million in overall costs by reducing the number of readmissions by more than 10,000 cases.

The report said from 2010 to 2014, hospitals were able to reduce early elective births by 60 percent, which meant healthier mothers and babies. Approximately 2,900 births were affected.

And from 2012 to 2014, state hospitals were able to cut the use of catheters by 27 percent, which reduced the risk of overall infection.

### Campaign Notes

**PAC TAUNTS COURSER, GAMRAT WITH BUMPER STICKERS:** The Progress Michigan Action Fund is selling bumper stickers in the 80th and 82nd House Districts where special elections are taking place to replace expelled former Rep. Cindy Gamrat and resigned former Rep. Todd Courser. In Ms. Gamrat's district, the bumper sticker says, "Todd's Girlfriend, Republican for State Representative," and in Mr. Courser's district, the bumper sticker says, "Cindy's Boyfriend, Republican for State Representative."

**SBAM ENDORSES WHITEFORD; SPLITS ON 82ND DISTRICT:** The Small Business Association of Michigan's political action committee has endorsed Republican Mary Whiteford of Casco Township in the special election in the 80th House District where former Rep. Cindy Gamrat was expelled. In the 2014 primary, Ms. Whiteford received the PAC's seal of approval.

In the 82nd District, where former Rep. Todd Courser resigned, the group said it had given stamps of approval to both Republican Jan Peabody of Lapeer and Republican Gary Howell of Lapeer.

**GILBERT DONATIONS:** Republicans used recent campaign finance filings to again hit Melissa Gilbert, candidate for the 8th U.S. House District as well as former television star, with her tax problems.

Ms. Gilbert has said in prior statements that she is working with the Internal Revenue Service and California tax officials to repay tax debts, but Michigan Republican Party Chairman Ronna Romney McDaniel said she should use at least one of her campaign contributions toward that end: the \$5,400 she received from actor husband Timothy Busfield.

### Supplemental Agency Calendar

**Tuesday, October 20**

**Administrative Board, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. (Special Meeting)**

Administrative Board/Transportation and Natural Resources, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.michigan.gov/documents/buymichiganfirst/dnr\_agenda\_222565\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }; { HYPERLINK

"http://www.michigan.gov/documents/buymichiganfirst/tnr\_agenda\_222572\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }}

## Friday, October 23

Civil Rights Commission, Partrich Auditorium, Wayne State University Law School, 471 West Palmer, Detroit, 12 p.m. (Interviews of director candidates)

## Tuesday, October 27

~~Canceled: Administrative Board, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m.~~

## Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

## Tuesday, October 20

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=committee.cfm&committee=89301&locid=1" }

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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=276201&locid=1" }, 373-5323), 100, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

{ **PROPERTY TAX** ( { HYPERLINK

**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=289301" }) Revises **LINK** delinquent tax notice by publication. (Testimony Only)

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{ **COUNTY BOARDS** ( { HYPERLINK

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**RLINK** sunset on the transfer of functions from a county road commission to the county board of

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{ **COUNTIES** ({ **HYPERLINK**

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**RLINK** sunset on powers and duties of county road commissioners to be exercised by the county  
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{ **CARRIER PIGEONS** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=41301" }) Requires  
**ERL** compliance with local ordinances and regulations and prohibits the enactment of local  
**INK** ordinances that prohibit the keeping of carrier pigeons. (Testimony Only)

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{ **RENTAL HOUSING** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001" }) Allows certain  
**RLINK** townships to conduct inspections of rental housing.

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(Chr. { **HYPERLINK**  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=42701&locid=1" }, 373-5312),  
Room 210, Farnum Building, 2:30 p.m.

{ **REFUND INTEREST** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPERL** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=316901" }) modifies  
**INK** timeline for interest claims on refunds.  
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 { **REFUND INTEREST** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=264301" }) Aligns  
**LINK** interest claims on city income tax with Revenue Act.  
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{ **SALES TAX ON GASOLINE** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=277401" }) Revises  
**LINK** provisions for prepaid sales tax on gasoline and diesel fuel.  
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**Wednesday, October 21**

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(Chr. { **HYPERLINK**  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=280701&locid=1" }, 373-  
2115), Room 327, House Office Building, 9 a.m.

{ **CHILD ABUSE** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301" }) Allows reporting  
**ERLI** child abuse or child neglect through an online reporting system and waiving a written  
**NK** report under certain circumstances.

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(Chr. { HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268601&locid=1" }, 373-  
2002), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

{ DELINQUENT TAXES ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=210301" }) Revises  
LINK delinquent taxes notice provision.

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**RLIN** personal property eligible for an industrial processing exemption.

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**{ PROPERTY TAX ({ HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER**"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=317301" }) Provides for  
**LINK** adjusting the caps on taxable value, salary and the amount of the credit for inflation.

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1260), Room 307, House Office Building, 12 p.m.

- Tax Increment Financing presentation


{ REWARDS ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=321001" }) Increases  
RLINK maximum reward authorities of counties can offer for information leading to an arrest  
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{ LABOR ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPER "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358001" }) Prohibits  
LINK certain automatic increases in benefits clause in city bargaining agreements. (Testimony  
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{ **PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPER**"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=219601" }) Allows  
**LINK** assessor to maintain assessment roll electronically. (Testimony only)

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210, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

- **Presentation by Mark Rudnicki of Michigan Technological University (MTU) on REFORGE, an initiative related to the forest products industry in Michigan.**

{ **WATERS AND BOTTOMLANDS** ({ **HYPERLINK**

**HYPE**"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701" }) Waives payment  
**RLIN** for occupying waters or bottomlands in certain circumstances.

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Thursday, October 22

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(Chr. { HYPERLINK  
"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001&locid=1" }, 373-1721),  
Room 210, Farnum Building, 9 a.m.

{ PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ({ HYPERLINK  
HYPE "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=292001" }) Provides for the  
RLIN presidential primary election as a regular election date and clarifies filing deadlines for  
K candidates for local office and for all local ballot question.

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{ AVIATION FEES ({ HYPERLINK  
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RLIN restrictions on recovery of costs and fees in an action involving this state.

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{ **PREVAILING PARTY FEES** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYP** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=54001" }) Removes certain  
**ERLI** restrictions on the award of costs and fees to prevailing party in a case involving this state.  
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"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301&locid=1" }, 373-  
5312), 210, Farnum Building, 1:30 p.m.

{ **COMMERCIAL REHABILITATION** ({ **HYPERLINK**  
**HYPE** "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301" }) Repeals sunset  
**RLINK** on Commercial Rehabilitation Act.

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"mailto:jwlindstrom@gongwer.com" }, Publisher | { HYPERLINK  
"mailto:zgorchow@gongwer.com" }, Editor | { HYPERLINK  
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HYPERLINK "mailto:cklaver@gongwer.com" }, Staff Writers**

**Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.**

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**From:** Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2015 6:56 PM  
**To:** Baker, Kay (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Monday, October 12, 2015  
**Attachments:** Oct12Rules.htm; 151012dayplan.htm; Oct12.htm



## Michigan Report for Monday, October 12, 2015

The EM Law And Flint: A Dispute On Its Role

Moody's Report Raises Concern About School Credit Ratings

HP Returns To State To Aid With BAM Project

Consumers Projects Lower Heating Costs For Winter

Several Cities Still Showing Double-Digit Unemployment

State Provides Water Filters For Flint Child Care Facilities

Capital Notebook

Campaign Notes: Prevailing Wage Challenge Deadline

Supplemental Event Planner

Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees

## Activity Reports

Administrative Rules

## Calendars

Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #202 -- Monday, October 12, 2015

### The EM Law And Flint: A Dispute On Its Role

The Flint water crisis has caused the debate over Michigan's local financial emergency law to roar back to life with considerable fury emanating from Flint that the law's focus on bringing a community's finances back into balance played a major role in the actions that led to using the Flint River as a temporary source of drinking water.

A lack of sufficient corrosion controls in the water pumped from the Flint River allowed lead from service lines to leach into the water, leading to lead levels in some spots well past federal limits and rising levels of lead in children's blood, prompting a frantic effort in the past two weeks to get filters to Flint residents and businesses, and switch back to Detroit water until a new pipeline to Lake Huron serving the city and counties to the east is finished.

When the final decision was made in 2014 to begin drawing water from the Flint River, ending a more than 40-year agreement with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department to pull water from that system, Emergency Manager Darnell Earley was in total control of city operations under the Local Financial Stability and Choice Act.

Predating the city falling under control of an emergency manager in 2011, Flint, along with Genesee, Lapeer and Sanilac counties, had been studying forming a new authority to build their own pipe to Lake Huron, breaking away from the Detroit system. Flint was debating whether to switch to the new authority or draw from the Flint River. At the time, the concern from local officials, according to reports in The Flint Journal, was the cost of upgrading Flint water infrastructure. There was widespread agreement that the quality of water in the river was good.

And eventually those cost concerns ended consideration of using the Flint River as a permanent source of drinking water.

In 2012, with Emergency Manager Michael Brown now running the city, his administration began considering use of the Flint River as a temporary water source until the new Karengondi Water Authority pipeline could be completed.

In 2013, the council voted to drop Detroit water for the new Karengondi system.

Eventually, with a decision needing to be made on where to draw water until that system could be completed, Mr. Earley signed an order to draw the water out of the Flint River, saving more than \$1 million a month. It was a decision lauded by many local officials, with Flint Mayor Dayne Walling pushing the button to shut off water from Detroit. Glasses of treated river water were raised to celebrate the moment.

Rep. Sheldon Neeley (D-Flint) was a member of the Flint City Council during this time, and he said the crisis shows the state needs to change the emergency manager law.

"The emergency manager law from my perspective caused 100 percent of the problem," he said.

Changes need to be made to assure a review panel on decisions made by emergency managers involving the health, welfare and safety of the community, Mr. Neeley said. He called PA 436 of 2012 a failed experiment.

"There should be some safeguards," he said.

While the council did vote for the KWA, it never voted on switching to the Flint River as a temporary source of water, he said, and to the extent local officials praised the reliability of the river as a drinking water source, he said that was because they assumed the water would be properly treated.

Further, Mr. Neeley said the emergency manager at the time of the vote, Ed Kurtz, vetoed the resolution adopted by the council, which he said contained changes to Mr. Kurtz's version, and then Mr. Kurtz, under his emergency manager powers, implemented his initial resolution.

But Rep. Al Pscholka (R-Stevensville), the sponsor of the original emergency manager law (later replaced with PA 436), said the law is not to blame. Flint wanted to leave the Detroit system for years.

"There's a lot of revisionist history going on here," he said. "The emergency manager didn't make the decision to build a pipeline to Lake Huron."

And Mr. Pscholka said local officials were involved in the decision to begin pumping water out of the Flint River.

"It was not as simple as the emergency manager declaring I'm going to be a hero and save a million and a half dollars by doing this," he said. "The locals were involved in this."

Mr. Pscholka said he saw no need to change the law to address this situation.

At some point, an engineer must have advised Mr. Earley the river would work as a water source, Mr. Pscholka said. The same thing would have happened had the city not been under emergency management.

"The blame game, I'm sure, will continue," he said. "But my focus right now on the floor is to make sure the people of Flint have safe drinking water."

The Legislature is expected to move swiftly this week on putting up \$6 million toward the cost of Flint drawing water from Detroit until next summer.

Moody's Report Raises Concern About School Credit Ratings

In a report that focuses on the Holland School District, a top Wall Street rating agency has determined that problems the district is facing due to enrollment are indicative of problems that many districts across Michigan are facing.

And according to an analyst for Moody's Investors Services, these problems are ones school districts across Michigan have faced for several years. While the agency has downgraded the credit ratings of 44 school districts so far this year, that follows a number of downgrades made over the last several years.

Andrew Van Dyck Dobos, a Chicago-based analyst for the firm, said school districts across the state may see lower credit ratings across the board and have to recognize that as a "new normal."

State policy on school finance, adopted in 1994 as part of the Proposal A school finance reforms, makes it extremely tough for districts to raise revenues locally, he said, which is unusual among other states in the Midwest. Plus, the state's policy now has funding following the students instead of being based more on a geographic basis.

Almost the only way districts can raise funds is by attracting more students, and that has been made difficult by an estimated 13 percent drop in Michigan's population of children under 18 from 2000 to 2012.

While the report focused on Holland, it said the issues that district faced were similar to problems school districts across the state are facing.

Michigan schools held "count day" last week to establish student population. Schools do not have to report their totals until November, and state officials said there have been no early reports on enrollment.

The state forecasted total school enrollment for the 2015-16 school year at 1.493 million students, down 14,700 from the total in 2014-15, during the May Revenue Estimating Conference. Of that projected total, 1.335 million were expected to attend traditional public schools, while 158,000 were anticipated to enroll in charter schools and the Education Achievement Authority in Detroit.

In Holland, Moody's said the district was forecasting a drop of 174 students on top of declines in six of the past seven school years. If the district does lose that many students, it would mean a cut in total state aid of \$591,000.

Enrollment concerns run across the state, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said. In rural areas, school population has declined because of overall demographic factors - with more older people living in the areas - and with families leaving the areas in search of jobs.

In suburban areas, Michigan's schools of choice policy spurs ongoing competition for students, which means some districts get more students from other districts as opposed to a natural increase, he said.

And in larger urban areas, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said, traditional public schools face more competition from charter schools.

The report also said state aid per student has been stagnant in Holland and statewide.

In the 2015-16 budget, total school aid funding is \$13.89 billion, up from \$13.68 billion in the 2014-15 budget.

The minimum per pupil allowance, according to the state, is \$7,391. Moody's, however, said Holland will see school aid of \$7,126 per student, which is \$318 less per student than it was in 2011.

The state has raised money for schools, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said, but increases to districts have not followed inflation as much as they had in the past.

Adding to the fiscal problem is the limitation the state has for school districts seeking more funding on a local level. Since the adoption of the Proposal A in 1994, property taxes paid for schools are collected and allocated by the state.

Virtually the only option Proposal A allowed for local schools to raise more money at the local level for operations has to come countywide, and very few counties have adopted that option, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said.

All that means, he said, is that until school populations recover and grow, school districts will have to deal with ongoing fiscal issues.

That will affect credit ratings and mean more downgrades. Since 2009 - and including 2015, though figures for 2014 were not immediately available - Moody's has downgraded a total of at least 181 school districts. Dozens of those were downgraded multi-steps in their overall credit worthiness.

Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said districts statewide may see an overall downgrading of their credit ratings, and have to expect that to continue.

In dealing with the realities of their finances, Mr. Van Dyck Dobos said Michigan districts have thus far been more innovative than districts in other states in finding solutions. For example, he said, in dealing with employee contracts many districts have worked out one-time payments to teachers and other workers instead of adopting general wage increases.

#### HP Returns To State To Aid With BAM Project

While the Department of State and Hewlett Packard await continuation of a court hearing on their dispute over how they managed the Business Application Modernization project, HP has returned its workers to the state, a department spokesperson said.

The state terminated its contract with HP and then sued the company. HP pulled its workers from the project and refused to turn over the source code. Major worries have been raised about a collapse of online services without access to that source code and an orderly transition.

The state is seeking a preliminary injunction ordering HP's staff back to work and the turning over of the source code.

Department spokesperson Gisgise Davila Gendreau said HP staff was working side-by-side Monday with staff from the departments of State and Technology, Management and Budget. And the two sides are working out a transition plan, she said.

"It's a step in the right direction," she said.

The court hearing on the motion for a preliminary injunction is scheduled resume Friday.

### Consumers Projects Lower Heating Costs For Winter

Consumers Energy on Monday projected lower heating costs this winter for its natural gas customers, with savings of more than \$100 for an average residential customer depending on weather and actual usage.

"We're reducing costs for customers due to our gas purchasing program which takes full advantage of lower commodity costs," said Tim Sparks, the company's vice president of energy supply operations, in a statement. "Customers also benefit by Consumers Energy's underground storage system ... (which) allows us to buy gas when it costs less in the summer, for use by customers during the colder winter months."

Customer heating costs could be down by more than 15 percent based on normal winter gas consumption, the company estimated. Business customer savings will depend on their gas usage.

The company also noted that its customers are paying 60 percent less for natural gas than a decade ago, and the last time fuel prices were this low was in 2001.

Consumers' natural gas commodity price has hovered around the \$5 mark for the last three years (\$5.45 per thousand cubic feet in 2012, \$4.63 in 2013 and \$5.14 in 2014), but that saw a dramatic dip in 2015 to \$3.31.

The Public Service Commission has not yet issued its annual Michigan Energy Appraisal for the winter of 2015-2016 that projects the total sales in Michigan for natural gas, electricity and petroleum, among other fuels. The appraisal for natural gas for last winter was an expectation of an increase in sales by about one percent from 2013 under the expectation that temperatures would return to more normal conditions in Michigan.

### Several Cities Still Showing Double-Digit Unemployment

Michigan's statewide unemployment rate matches the federal rate of 5.1 percent, but estimates by the state show that in four cities unemployment is still in double-digit figures.

Unemployment has dropped considerably in those cities from the stratospheric highs - jobless rates of 30 percent and higher in Highland Park and Pontiac - during the Great Recession. But the numbers still stick out compared to the state's overall decline in unemployment.

In August, according the state's Labor Market Information section, Highland Park had the highest jobless rate in the state at 15.7 percent.

That was followed by Detroit at 12.7 percent, then Pontiac at 11.6 percent and Inkster at 11 percent.

Georgetown Township, in Ottawa County, had the lowest unemployment rate among the cities and townships tracked, with the jobless rate at 2.1 percent in August. Northville Township in Wayne County had the second lowest unemployment rate at 2.2 percent.

In contrast, no county had a jobless rate in double digits in August. Schoolcraft County had the highest jobless rate at 9.6 percent. Mackinac County had the lowest unemployment rate in August at 2.8 percent, and 41 of Michigan's 83 counties had unemployment rates below the state's rate of 5.1 percent.

#### State Provides Water Filters For Flint Child Care Facilities

The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs announced Monday that any registered child care facilities in Flint can receive free water filters.

The Department of Health and Human Services is providing free water filters to the child care providers, including an additional filter for any home-based providers who already received one as a resident.

The Genesee County Community Action Resource Department is also providing water-filtering pitchers.

Both the pitchers and filters will be available at the GCCARD office, 2727 Lippincott, beginning at 9 a.m. on Tuesday. To qualify, those picking up pitchers and filters have to show a child care license and proof of employment at the facility.

#### Capital Notebook

**MOTOR CARRIER SCHOOL OPENS:** Twenty-one recruits have begun training to become Department of State Police motor carrier officers. They will receive instruction in firearms, water safety, defensive tactics, patrol techniques, report writing, ethics, first aid, criminal law, precision driving, commercial vehicle law and commercial vehicle inspection procedures. Those who graduate will conclude the program in February.

**PASSENGER RAIL:** The Department of Transportation announced Monday it was seeking proposals on asset management plans for upcoming intercity passenger rail service.

The request is particularly to outline parts of that maintenance that could be provided by Michigan companies.

"The challenge is that if we do NOT prepare to compete for this service, the economic benefits of providing such services could go to other states," the bid request said. "In addition, absent an effective strategy or system in place to provide for long-term care of the fleet, rail service and the multi-state investment in new equipment could be compromised due to premature wear and tear that could have been prevented by adequate planning."

Proposals are due November 2.

**LARA ISSUES TWO KENT COUNTY CHILD CARE SUSPENSIONS:** The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs expects to suspend the child care certificate of registration of two Kent County residents.

The first, Sandra LaFortune, at 122 Wadsworth Street SW, in Wyoming, is to be suspended after a complaint investigation found in July violations of law regarding family and group child care homes.

Under the suspension, Ms. LaFortune is prohibited from operating a family child care home at the aforementioned address, or any other address or location. She may not accept children for care, and she must inform all of the parents of children in her care that her certificate of registration has been suspended and she can no longer provide child care.

The second suspension is for Terri Kowalczyk, 3584 Leonard Street NW, in Walker. The suspension comes as a complaint investigation earlier this month found violations of law regarding caregiver suitability, supervision, capacity, record maintenance, bedding and sleeping and equipment, and home maintenance and safety.

Ms. Kowalczyk is subject to the same disciplinary actions and required information to her clients as Ms. LaFortune, LARA noted in a statement.

Campaign Notes: Prevailing Wage Challenge Deadline

Challenges to the proposal to repeal prevailing wage are due October 26 at 5 p.m., the Department of State announced Monday.

Sample petitions used to review the submission by Protecting Michigan Taxpayers were released Monday. Requests for copies of the petitions can be made to the Bureau of Elections at [election@michigan.gov](mailto:election@michigan.gov) or (517) 373-2540.

Supplemental Event Planner



## **Tuesday, October 20**

Sen. Goeff Hansen (R) Fundraiser, The Exchange, 141 East Michigan Avenue, Lansing, 5:30 p.m.

## **Wednesday, October 21**

Sen. Steve Bieda (D) Fundraiser, 332 Townsend Street, Lansing, 8 a.m.

Rep. Christine Greig (D) Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 8:30 a.m.

Rep. Aric Nesbitt (R) Fundraiser, 110 West Michigan Avenue, 12th Floor, Lansing, 11:30 a.m.

## **Thursday, October 22**

Lt. Governor Brian Calley (R) Fundraiser, 332 Townsend Street, Lansing, 7:30 a.m.

An Evening with Frank J. Kelley, presented by the Michigan Political History Society, Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing, 5 p.m.

West Michigan Meet the Players, hosted by Michigan Association of CPAs and the State Bar of Michigan, Cascade Hills Country Club, 3725 Cascade Road SE, Grand Rapids, 5:30 p.m.

## **Tuesday, November 10**

Sen. Jack Brandenburg (R) Fundraiser, 121 West Allegan Street, Lansing, 5 p.m.

Sen. Jim Stamas (R) PAC fundraiser, Tavern and Tap, 101 South Washington Square, Lansing, 5 p.m.

## **Supplemental Notice Of Legislative Committees**

## **Tuesday, October 13**

House Transportation and Infrastructure (Committee Record), (Chr. Pettalia, 373-1260), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

- Testimony only:

SB 274 **SADDLE MOUNT VEHICLE COMBINATIONS** (Jones) Modifies maximum length for saddle mount vehicle combinations.

HB 4423 **SPEED LIMITS** (Jacobsen) Modifies speed limits on highways.

HB 4424 **SPEED LIMITS** (Jacobsen) Revises certain requirements for speed limits in school zones.

HB 4425 ☐ **SPEED LIMITS** (Outman) Allows modified speed limits on certain roads.

HB 4426 **SPEEDING** (Kivela) Modifies assessment of points for certain speeding violations and ☐ makes other revisions.

HB 4427 **AUTO INSURANCE** (Smiley) Modifies auto insurance rates based on certain traffic ☐ violations.

Senate Judiciary (Committee Record), (Chr. Jones, 373-1721), Room 110, Farnum Building, 3 p.m.

SB 442 ☐ **CONCEALED CARRY** (Green) Prohibits open-carry of firearms in certain areas but ☐ allows concealed carry in those areas.

## **Wednesday, October 14**

House Appropriations (Committee Record), (Chr. Pscholka, 373-5795), House Appropriations Room, Capitol, 9 a.m.

- **Presentation by Keith Creagh, Department of Natural Resources director, regarding changes in hunting and fishing license fees**

HB 4783 ☐ **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION** (Pscholka) Increases civil fines for solid ☐ waste.

House Tax Policy (Committee Record), (Chr. Farrington, 373-2002), Room 521, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

SB 349 ☐ **DELINQUENT TAXES** (Stamas) Revises delinquent taxes notice provision.

SB 369 ☐ **INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING** (Schmidt) Expands tangible personal property eligible ☐ for an industrial processing exemption.

SB 370 ☐ **INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING** (Brandenburg) Expands tangible personal property ☐ eligible for an industrial processing exemption.

Senate Natural Resources (Committee Record), (Chr. Casperson, 373-5314), 210, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

SB 363 ☐ **WATERS AND BOTTOMLANDS** (Casperson) Waives payment for occupying waters ☐ or bottomlands in certain circumstances.

Senate Outdoor Recreation and Tourism (Committee Record), (Chr. Hansen, 373-1721), Room 100, Farnum Building, 12:30 p.m.

- **Presentation on Pure Michigan by David Lorenz, vice president of Travel Michigan.**

Senate Appropriations (Committee Record), (Chr. Hildenbrand, 373-5307), Senate Appropriations Room, Capitol, 2 p.m.

- Discussion regarding boilerplate report benchmarks of new programs funded at \$500,000 in FY15 budget: Making Michigan a No-Wait State for senior home-delivered meals and in-home services; Child welfare performance-based funding; and the School Safety Hotline

**HCR SECONDARY ROAD PATROLS** (McCready) Declares that counties, cities, and villages have met the necessary terms of their agreements for road patrol services and secondary road patrol funding as they relate to maintenance of effort.

## Thursday, October 15

**House Workforce and Talent Development** (Committee Record), (Chr. Johnson, J., 373-5176), Room 519, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

**HB ELECTRICIANS** (Price) Revises number of apprentice electricians allowed for each journeyman or master electrician on a jobsite. (Testimony only)

## Tuesday, October 20

**House Appropriations (Natural Resources Subcommittee)** (Committee Record), (Chr. Bumstead, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol, 9 a.m.

- Presentation on invasive species from the Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division

## Wednesday, October 21

**House Appropriations (General Government Subcommittee)** (Committee Record), (Chr. Cox, 373-8080), Room 307, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

- Pure Michigan tourism campaign return on investment and fiscal year 2015-16 marketing plan

## Wednesday, October 28

**House Appropriations (General Government Subcommittee)** (Committee Record), (Chr. Cox, 373-8080), Room 307, House Office Building, 10:30 a.m.

- Hearing to discuss with the Department of Technology, Management and Budget updates on IT Investment Projects and Space Consolidation

## Tuesday, November 3

**House Appropriations (Natural Resources Subcommittee)** (Committee Record), (Chr. Bumstead, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol, 9 a.m.

- Update on the Recreation Passport program from the Department of Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Division

**Tuesday, December 8**

House Appropriations (Natural Resources Subcommittee) (Committee Record), (Chr. Bumstead, 373-8080), Room 426, Capitol, 9 a.m.


- Presentation on Chronic Wasting Disease from the Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division

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## **Michigan Report for Monday, November 16, 2015**

Snyder Pause On Syrian Refugees Prompts Divided Reaction

Court Rules For State In Dispute With HP

'Extortion' Texts Saga Ends With No Charges, Gamrat's Husband ID'd As Culprit

Switch Confirms Michigan Campus Pending Passage Of Legislation

Groups Announce Lawsuit Over Flint Water

Republican Attorneys General Defend Schuette On Clean Power Fight

Schuette Named Chair Of GOP Attorneys General

Radio Ad Calls For Competitive Energy Generation

'Sunshine Squad' Seeks To Increase Ethics, Transparency

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Day Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #226 -- Monday, November 16, 2015

### Snyder Pause On Syrian Refugees Prompts Divided Reaction

Supporters of enabling more refugees from Syria to settle in Michigan sharply criticized Governor Rick Snyder's decision to suspend state efforts on that front in response to the recent terrorist attacks in Paris and Lebanon, while several Republicans praised the move, saying bringing the refugees was a horrible idea from the beginning.

Mr. Snyder has made a big point during his nearly five years in office of labeling himself the most pro-immigration governor in the country. And in the wake of the Syrian civil war, now raging for four years, hundreds of thousands of Syrians have fled the country as refugees, some 200,000 to Europe and another 4 million in other Middle East countries, according to the United Nations.

The governor's administration had been working with Lutheran Social Services of Michigan to intensify the state's efforts to place Syrian refugees, but those will now be put on hold, Mr. Snyder said. He is asking the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to review its procedures on vetting refugees to enter the country to determine whether strengthening is needed. He sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson making the request.

"It's important there are people in need across the world and we're open to those folk," Mr. Snyder told reporters Monday. "We just want to make sure we're following the best practices and keeping our country safe."

Several other governors declared they would block Syrian refugees from entering their states as well, and Mr. Snyder made a point of noting he is not permanently barring them from Michigan.

"It just seems prudent that we pause for a moment, pause for some time to work with the U.S. government to see are there are revisions in their procedures and practices that should be made given new information," he said.

How long the pause will last is up to Homeland Security in its review, Mr. Snyder said.

There already were 20 refugees in the pipeline going through the process of settling in Michigan. What happens with them is up to the federal government, Mr. Snyder said.

Several Republican members of the Legislature and Michigan's U.S. House delegation commended Mr. Snyder's move.

"With so many unknowns, the United States has a duty to pause and develop the necessary protocols before processing Syrian refugees," U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop (R-Rochester) said in a

statement. "Our number one priority is keeping our families safe here at home, so I commend Governor Snyder for suspending his efforts to bring Syrian refugees to Michigan at this time. America will always be a nation of immigrants, but without adequate background information to crosscheck, it would be more than irresponsible to push ahead and simply 'hope for the best.'"

U.S. Rep. Candice Miller (R-Harrison Township) said in a statement she had been worried about the Snyder administration's efforts on Syrian refugees from the start.

"Throughout his tenure, I think that Governor Snyder has done great things for Michigan, but I was very distressed about this particular initiative that he and Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley were pursuing," she said. "The fact is, as evidenced by Friday's horrific attack in Paris, terrorist organizations like ISIS are looking for any and every opportunity to exploit a nation's hospitality to carry out their barbaric attacks against the innocent. Anyone who says we can adequately and safely vet these refugees is wrong because there is no database in Syria and no way to identify who's who."

Republican National Committeeman Dave Agema, a virulent critic of Islam, said in a Facebook post he was "most pleased that (Governor) Snyder finally agrees with me concerning the security crises that the Syrian refugee(s) posed to Michigan and the U.S."

Rep. Triston Cole (R-Mancelona) and Rep. Tim Kelly (R-Saginaw Township) were among those in the state Legislature hailing the move.

The Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs, which Mr. Snyder recently created and appointed, offered its condolences to those who lost loved ones in the two terrorist attacks and backed the governor's decision.

"While these events have a huge impact on us here at home, we all must remain united in order to defeat terrorism. Governor Snyder has paused the noble efforts Michigan is undertaking to welcome new refugees pending the complete and full review of security clearances and procedures by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Department of State," the commission said in a statement. "We support the Governor's step that is designed to ensure the safety and security of all Michiganders."

But liberal organizations deplored the actions of Mr. Snyder and other governors.

"Some politicians have attempted to fabricate a link between the tragedy in Paris and the resettlement of Syrian refugees to the United States," Cecillia Wang, director of the American Civil Liberties Union's Immigrants' Rights Project, said in a statement. "Making policy based on this fear mongering is wrong for two reasons. It is factually wrong for blaming refugees for the very terror they are fleeing, and it is legally wrong because it violates our laws and the values on which our country was founded."

Progress Michigan called Mr. Snyder's action a cowardly reversal.



"This type of behavior is the exact cowardice and capitulation that the terrorists seek to force out of our elected leaders," Progress Michigan Executive Director Lonnie Scott said in a statement. "Instead of stoking the fear that drives his party to a frenzy, Gov. Snyder should do the right thing and show Michiganders that we're a state that will accept responsibility as global citizens to do our part to help people in crisis and that we can do that in a way that is both safe and responsible."

## Court Rules For State In Dispute With HP

HP Enterprise Service must turn over to the Department of State the source code used as part of the Business Application Modernization project to upgrade the department's online services, a judge ruled Monday.

Kent Circuit Judge Christopher Yates granted the state's request for a preliminary injunction ordering HP to turn over the code, essentially calling it an obvious move.

The state terminated its contract with HP after several years and more than \$30 million spent to improve online services for customers on licenses and registration. But HP refused to turn over the source code, saying the contract clearly called for that to happen only upon completion of the entire project.

But the state warned of a potential massive collapse of the department's online services, as well as the inability to implement changes in vehicle registration fees that are part of the just-enacted road funding plan, without the source code.

"The state has paid for that source code and thereby obtained ownership of it, the state has previously received source code on three occasions without any adverse consequences, the state cannot move forward in implementing the registration-fee enhancements for the road funding plan without the current source code, the state cannot address potential security vulnerabilities without the current version of the source code and the state cannot effectively define the tasks for HP's replacement without the current source code," Mr. Yates wrote in his opinion. "To put it plainly, this is a situation that cries out for a straightforward injunctive order directing HP to turn over the current source code ... immediately."

The state's lawsuit alleging breach of contract, and HP's countersuit, remains pending before the court.

"We respect the ruling of the court, and its recognition that the state was wrongfully deprived of property it had fully paid for," Secretary of State Ruth Johnson said in a statement. "It's a shame we had to take them to court to force them to honor their agreement and responsibilities."

A message left with HP was not immediately returned.

'Extortion' Texts Saga Ends With No Charges, Gamrat's Husband ID'd As Culprit

The Lapeer County prosecutor is deciding not to press charges against Joe Gamrat for sending harassing text messages to his wife, former Rep. Cindy Gamrat, and former Rep. Todd Courser, with whom she was having an affair.

Mr. Courser said Monday Mr. Gamrat's actions were not what someone working to heal their marriage would do.

"That is abuse," he said.

The decision was unsurprising. Legal experts who reviewed the texts Mr. Gamrat sent to Mr. Courser said they did not rise to the level of extortion because he never made a demand for anything of value in exchange for staying quiet.

Lapeer County Prosecutor Timothy Turkelson said in a statement the investigation showed Mr. Gamrat sent the messages in an effort to end the extramarital affair. The messages urged Mr. Courser to resign from office or the affair would be revealed.

"A scheme was implemented to contact Todd Courser and Cindy Gamrat through text messages sent from a pre-paid cell phone," the statement said. "The motivation behind the text messages sent from the individuals involved was to assist Joe Gamrat in ending the extramarital affair. The messages therefore do not rise to the level of criminal extortion."

The Department of State Police report, obtained by MLive, shows Mr. Gamrat recruited a friend from work - David Horr - to purchase the phone and send the text messages. The police used GPS to determine the texts were sent from where the two men work. Neither man would cooperate with the police when initially asked if they were involved.

Mr. Courser initially was hesitant to give police his phone in case they bugged him, the report showed, though he did eventually relent.

The report also shows Mr. Gamrat bugged Ms. Gamrat's bag and was conducting surveillance on Ms. Gamrat since the summer of 2014. Mr. Gamrat allegedly told Dan Courser, Mr. Courser's brother, he had audio of his wife and Mr. Courser having sex.

Ms. Gamrat posted Monday on Facebook that she has not yet seen the report or spoken to the prosecutor. She said the text messages she received were disturbing and intimidating.

"As you can imagine, I was devastated to hear that the investigation appears to show that a number of individuals, including my husband, former staff from my office, and others, collaborated and had some degree of involvement together," Ms. Gamrat wrote. "However, I have not personally spoken with the prosecutor nor have I seen the full report.

"After I have taken the time to look at the full report, I will thoughtfully consider what the right action is to take to move forward in regards to this," she said.

Mr. Courser said he does feel slightly vindicated. When he initially released the texts, many suspected Mr. Courser himself sent them, similar to the fake email he had distributed claiming he had paid for sex with a male prostitute as a way of tainting any future subsequent allegations of an affair as part of a smear campaign.

"It was not me," he said. "I wasn't lying."

Mr. Courser has held that the reason he wrote the email, which also claimed he was addicted to drugs, alcohol and porn, is because of the intense pressure he felt from whoever was texting him.

A former staffer recorded the conversation of Mr. Courser asking him to send the email, which led to the House Business Office conducting an investigation on the two former lawmakers. The investigation found they had misused taxpayer resources for personal and political gain.

Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House Speaker Kevin Cotter, said the text messages were never seen as relevant in terms of the House investigation that led to Ms. Gamrat's expulsion and Mr. Courser resigning just before being expelled.

"We've held all along that the 'blackmail' was irrelevant to whether or not they were fit to serve in office," Mr. D'Assandro said. "That was the real question for the House to consider."

The police report also assumes the former staffers - Keith Allard, Joshua Cline and Ben Graham - were in contact with Mr. Gamrat and provided some information to him.

It also shows the State Police investigator became upset with Mr. Courser after "Trucker Randy" Bishop, a tea party activist, called the officer and said he heard from a source the police were not moving forward with an extortion charge.

The officer, according to the report, told Mr. Courser he was manipulating others to become involved in the case.

And it appeared the officer and Mr. Turkelson were prepared to offer Mr. Horr immunity if he told them everything. But in the end, Mr. Turkelson did not press charges.

Mr. Courser said he has made no decision on whether or not he will take legal action against any of those involved in sending the messages.

Mr. Turkelson said no one involved came to "the table with clean hands."

"All bear some responsibility in creating this embarrassing and costly chapter in our county's history," he said. "Under these circumstances I see no benefit in prolonging this saga at the expense of Lapeer County taxpayers in a prosecution that would be tenuous at best."

With this matter put to rest, the next question is whether the investigation the Department of State Police and Department of Attorney General are conducting into whether Mr. Courser and Ms. Gamrat committed any criminal misconduct will lead to any charges.

## Switch Confirms Michigan Campus Pending Passage Of Legislation

Switch, a Nevada-based data center company with international locations, confirmed Monday that it is indeed looking to build an eastern campus in West Michigan pending legislation introduced in both the House and the Senate that would exempt it from certain sales, use and property tax, and the committee chair of House Tax Policy expects a hearing on the bills as soon as possible.

"We'll be taking it up on the Tuesday of our return, though the bills will probably change from the way they were submitted," Rep. Jeff Farrington (R-Utica), said of [HB 5074](#), [HB 5075](#) and [HB 5076](#), referring to December 1 when the Legislature returns from its break.

Mr. Farrington said the details are being worked out right now, so the changes are not likely to be significant.

"I think it's a good idea all around," he said.

Identical bills were introduced in the Senate last Tuesday as well ([SB 616](#), [SB 617](#) and [SB 618](#)), and while the chair of the Senate Michigan Competitiveness Committee where the bills were sent was not immediately available late Monday to speak about their fate, the majority leader's spokesperson expressed enthusiasm about them.

"(This is a) great opportunity for Michigan and for the entire eastern half of the country," Amber McCann, spokesperson for Senate [Majority Leader Arian Meekhof](#) (R-West Olive), said Monday. "The Senate will work to help facilitate this new investment in our state."

Rumors had been swirling late last week that the company - whose 1,000 clients include eBay, Intel, Shutterfly, Dreamworks, HP, JP Morgan Chase and Google - was looking at a location previously owned by Steelcase, known as the Steelcase pyramid, but most legislators associated with the legislation were tight-lipped last week about early reports about the company being Switch (See [Gongwer Michigan Report, November 13, 2015](#)).

The announcement, coming in a joint statement with The Right Place, Incorporated, was met more cautiously by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, to which [Governor Rick Snyder](#) has referred questions to about the project since being asked at recent events.

The MEDC said it does not comment on questions or pending legislation regarding potential business attraction deals, but it appreciated the public excitement and talk about the potential economic impact "when any business locates in Michigan and commits to creating high-paying jobs and a substantial private investment," MEDC [CEO Steve Arwood](#) said in a statement.

"We remain open to all options the Legislature provides us in leveling the playing field creating new business attraction opportunities in Michigan," he said.

If sent to Mr. Snyder, the legislation would mark a significant departure for an administration that moved away from using tax incentives to woo new business to the state, though the types of

jobs the data center would eventually bring in are exactly what Mr. Snyder and his administration has been looking toward.

Birgit Klohs, president and CEO of The Right Place, said the impact Switch could have on the greater Grand Rapids area and the entire state of Michigan could not be overstated.

"The unparalleled technology and data infrastructure investments planned by Switch will unleash countless new possibilities for growth in our state," Ms. Klohs said in the statement with Switch. "The future of business will be driven by data, and Michigan will be well positioned as a hub of data innovation."

Indeed, Switch could be one of the most significant businesses to land in Michigan during the Snyder administration. The company had been looking for an eastern U.S. data center campus, and if all goes well, Michigan will be the home of the 2 million-square-foot, \$5 billion data center campus. The total capital investment reflects the costs for both the data centers and the computer servers that would be placed inside the buildings over a multi-year period, the company said.

"The campus will create thousands of well-paid construction jobs over the estimated 10-year build out of the entire project. Similar to their construction projects in Nevada, a vast majority of Switch's contractors will be hired from the local workforce," Switch said in the statement. "In addition, at full-build out Switch and its clients are projected to employ 1,000 people to work in the data center campus. With a current workforce comprised of 70 percent veterans, Switch will continue its commitment to hire the men and women who have served."

Pending passage of the legislation, SUPERNAP Michigan would be the largest data center campus in the eastern United States, Switch said, adding the campus would provide transformational infrastructure and serve the eastern U.S. by offering "the only Uptime Institute rated Tier IV Gold carrier-neutral colocation data center location outside of the SUPERNAP facilities in the western U.S."

"We are excited to be working with Governor Snyder, the Michigan Legislature, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and The Right Place, Inc. to bring Switch and its 1,000+ clients that make up the largest data center ecosystem in the world to Michigan," Adam Kramer, executive vice president of strategy for Switch, said in the statement. "Before Switch can finalize its announcement, it will work with the Michigan Legislature to pass new data center legislation that creates an equal playing field between Michigan and its neighboring states."

**MICHIGAN ADVANTAGE:** The company said it sought a location - similar to its home base in Nevada - that would be able to serve its necessary major markets without the obvious increased risk of natural disasters associated with coastline locations.

"Switch's enterprise business clients will collectively place billions of dollars of equipment at these selected Prime hubs, which is why geographic safety is critical," it said in its statement. "The Michigan SUPERNAP Prime would join those ranks and share the infrastructure attributes as well as follow the Switch site selection criteria."

Its location in Las Vegas, for example, is seven milliseconds from Los Angeles and 14 milliseconds from San Francisco. And SUPERNAP Tahoe Reno, the company's most recent expansion, is six milliseconds from Silicon Valley and 14 milliseconds from San Diego, Switch said.

Michigan's advantage, other than fewer natural disasters, Switch said, is its data center operations to be two milliseconds from Chicago and 14 milliseconds from New York, among other major population hubs, "without being burdened with the high power prices, taxes and earthquake/hurricane risks associated with those cities."

### Groups Announce Lawsuit Over Flint Water

The Natural Resources Defense Council and the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan announced Monday their intent to file a federal lawsuit over the water crisis in Flint.

The groups argue city and state officials have continued to violate federal drinking water standards despite the recent move back to the Detroit water system from the Flint River water that caused problems.

Anjali Waikar, NRDC attorney, said Flint's water source is expected to change again next summer but neither the city nor the state have spelled out how they will ensure water remains safe.

"They haven't identified the manner in which they plan to amend their monitoring and testing protocols," Ms. Waikar said. "They may have conceded there were problems in the past."

Unlike some other lawsuits that have been filed regarding the water crisis, Ms. Waikar said the NRDC/ACLU lawsuit is not seeking damages. While the groups are planning to move forward with the lawsuit at this point, she said they would also see it as a victory if the city and state provided monitoring plans that she said have so far been missing.

Federal law requires that plaintiffs issue a notice of intent to sue before actually filing their case. Ms. Waikar said that period is designed precisely to give the government time to comply without court intervention.

"If they come forward with proposals and assurances, we would be delighted," she said.

Sara Wurfel, spokesperson for Governor Rick Snyder, declined to comment on the threatened lawsuit because she said the administration had not yet been served, but the state and the city have taken steps to resolve the issues with Flint's water system.

"The governor has outlined a detailed multiple step action plan for both immediate, mid and long term," Ms. Wurfel said. "He has also appointed a task force doing a very important job of reviewing all past actions. They are a bipartisan group of people of the highest integrity, experts in their fields and widely respected who are going to do a very thorough, objective review."

City officials did not respond to requests for comment.

## Republican Attorneys General Defend Schuette On Clean Power Fight

Attorney General Bill Schuette is working in the state's best interests when it comes to fighting the federal Clean Power Plan, the Republican Attorneys General Association said in an ad released Monday to counter spots released last week by environmental groups.

Independence USA PAC is running television ads in Michigan and other states arguing that attorneys general involved in challenges to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan were putting the interests of the coal industry ahead of those of their constituents (See Gongwer Michigan Report, November 6, 2015).

But the RAGA, of which Mr. Schuette is now president (see separate story), counters it is Michael Bloomberg, the primary financier of Independence USA, who is not looking out for the best interests of Michigan residents.

"The Obama/Bloomberg plan would raise your electric rates and kill jobs here in Michigan," the RAGA ad says. "Schuette fights Washington to save jobs in Michigan, keeping your energy costs down."

The RAGA is running similar ads for Attorney General Pam Bondi of Florida and Attorney General Brad Schimel of Wisconsin.

Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster, the other target of the Independence USA ads, is a Democrat.

RAGA officials did not return calls to clarify where or when the ads would run.

## Schuette Named Chair Of GOP Attorneys General

Attorney General Bill Schuette was named chair of the national Republican Attorneys General Association, and he said he looked forward to working with the other GOP state lawyers to "fight to protect free enterprise, liberty and our constitution."

But a liberal organization said Mr. Schuette should dust off the U.S. Constitution because it is the job of the legislative and judicial branches to provide checks and balances to the president. A state attorney general's job is to protect the people of a state from criminals, pollution and corruption, they said.

The GOP organization, which now has 27 state attorneys general as members, was meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, when Mr. Schuette was elected chair of the group.

He will serve as chair through the 2016 elections.

Mr. Schuette is in his second and final term as attorney general and is considered a potential GOP candidate for governor in 2018.

Mr. Schuette said it was his "honor to serve as chair during this critical time in which federal government overreach is hurting job creation and economic growth in our states and our country."

Progress Michigan blasted Mr. Schuette for "using his elected position to defend polluters, fight to take away health care from Michigan citizens and attack individuals' freedoms," it said in a statement.

### Radio Ad Calls For Competitive Energy Generation

A group called Unleash Michigan Energy has launched a radio ad calling for the Legislature to adopt competitive bidding on new energy generation similar to the concept of competitive bidding that was included in the highway funding package that is now law.

If competitive bidding will be good for the state in terms of driving down costs on road construction and maintenance, the same concept would help keep down energy and electrical generation costs, it said.

The ad released by the group, a 501c4 organization, also said Governor Rick Snyder has called for competitive bidding in all state services, so it would make sense to have it with energy policy too.

Where the ad is playing and for how long it will play was not released by the organization, but the group said the ad is its first.

The group consists of both legislators and businesses, including Sen. Mike Shirkey (R-Clarklake) and Midland Cogeneration Venture.

Along with saving money, competitive bidding would also help attract more businesses to the state and create more jobs, the ad said.

### 'Sunshine Squad' Seeks To Increase Ethics, Transparency

Progress Michigan announced Monday it would launch a new website as part of a broader "Sunshine Squad" campaign seeking to make the Legislature more accountable on the heels of a report that indicated Michigan ranked last nationally when it comes to ethics and transparency laws.

The website features every member of the Legislature, not including the seats yet to be filled by special elections, broken down by committee assignment and House or Senate district. Each legislator-specific page currently features committee assignments and searchable financial contributions so residents can find where their legislator's financial support is coming from, the group said in a statement.



"Our elected officials in the legislature have gotten away with shielding themselves from public scrutiny for too long. This campaign will shine some light on their actions and who is putting money into their campaign coffers," Executive Director Lonnie Scott said. "The Sunshine Squad's goal is to promote transparency, increase public disclosure and to hold our state lawmakers accountable. The launch of the website today is only the beginning."

Financial information included on the site comes from the National Institute on Money in State Politics via FollowTheMoney.org, and voting records are pulled directly from the House and Senate journals, the group said.

"Donation information and voting records, while public, can be difficult to find and track at times, so this website will be a one-stop resource for the public to hold their elected officials to account," Mr. Scott said. "Unlike some of the other voting sites out there, we hold no editorial sway over any of the information included on the website, we're just putting out the facts and letting the public use it how they will. It's important to see how money is influencing the voting tendencies of those in power."

Progress Michigan also said as the campaign moves forward, there will be additional elements added to the site and the information will be updated regularly.

#### Campaign Notes

**DEMOCRAT FILES TO RUN IN 24<sup>TH</sup> HOUSE DISTRICT:** Democrat Dana Camphous-Peterson of Harrison Township announced on Monday she has filed to run in the 24<sup>th</sup> House District where Republican Rep. Anthony Forlini of Harrison Township cannot seek re-election because of term limits.

Ms. Camphous-Peterson works as an executive project coordinator in Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel's office and the co-founder of the child advocacy center, Care House.

"As a Macomb County employee, I've seen how decisions in Lansing affect our families and local businesses. I look forward to sharing my experience in local government and how that could help me speak for the residents of Harrison, Macomb and Clinton Townships," she said in a statement.

**MIELKE TRYING AGAIN IN 99<sup>TH</sup> HOUSE DISTRICT:** Democrat Bryan Mielke of Mount Pleasant will try again to win the 99<sup>th</sup> House District, this time with House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mount Pleasant) unable to seek re-election because of term limits.

"While I came close in 2014, close is not enough for the people of Isabella and Midland counties," Mr. Mielke wrote on his Facebook page.

Mr. Mielke criticized the recent road funding solution Mr. Cotter crafted with his Republican caucus.

"(The road funding) law gives a tax break to the wealthiest in Michigan while raising registration fees, and adds cuts to fire and police services, education funding and health care. This disservice to the people of Michigan from lawmakers in Lansing has to stop. That's why I'll continue what I started in 2014," he said.

**DRISKELL ENDORSEMENT:** The Sierra Club has endorsed Rep. Gretchen Driskell (D-Saline) in her challenge to U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg (R-Tipton) in the 7<sup>th</sup> U.S. House District.

"Gretchen Driskell earned Sierra Club's endorsement because of her commitment to protecting Michigan's Great Lakes' way of life," Richard Barron, political chair of Michigan Sierra Club, said in a statement announcing the endorsement. "She understands the importance of clean air, clean water, and public health. We are confident that she will work to protect Michigan's environment for our families and our future."

**ANTI-BISHOP ADS:** The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee launched a series of radio advertisements this week hitting U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop (R-Rochester) on his opposition to prevailing wage requirements and arguing loss of prevailing wage would disproportionately affect veterans.

"Michigan vets want politicians to stand up for their wages, but Mike Bishop would rather take the same side as the billionaires backing the anti-prevailing wage petition - and his campaign," the ads, which are running in the Lansing and Detroit markets, say.

The ads urge veterans particularly to call Mr. Bishop's office on the issue.

**REPEAL PLEDGE:** Sen. Phil Pavlov (R-Saint Clair), who is running for the 10<sup>th</sup> U.S. House District to succeed retiring U.S. Rep. Candice Miller (R-Harrison Township) has signed Independent Women's Voice's pledge to repeal the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the group announced Monday.

"Phil understands the harm that ObamaCare has already caused and will continue to cause if it's not turned back," Heather Higgins, president and CEO of the group, said in a statement. "He recognizes that ObamaCare hurts seniors and increases costs for families. Moreover, he knows that ObamaCare means bigger government and less freedom, places government bureaucrats between doctors and their patients, and reduces our choice and control in health care decisions."

Capital Notebook

**MSU SAYS IT BEATS OTHER SCHOOLS IN PLACEMENT:** A new website launched by Michigan State University shows that 92 percent of students with undergraduate degrees are either working or in graduate school.

That means MSU's placement rate for students with undergraduate degrees is 12 percent higher than the average college in the U.S.

The Spartan Success website uses data derived from the annual destination survey conducted by the university's career services network. The data shows 63 percent of the graduates remain in the state and another 15 percent getting jobs or going to graduate school in the Midwest.

The website also shows 58 percent of the graduates working have salaries of \$40,000 a year or above.

**VETERAN-FRIENDLY EMPLOYERS:** The Veterans Affairs Agency on Monday recognized 37 employers for their efforts to hire and retain veterans among their workforce.


There were 1,000 jobs for veterans among the companies, officials said.

"I applaud those companies committed to helping our veterans build long-lasting careers," Governor Rick Snyder said in a statement. "Veterans are an important source of untapped talent in our state, they bring valuable skills to the workforce and are an integral part of Michigan's continued reinvention."

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## Michigan Report for Monday, January 4, 2016

Talberg Named To Lead PSC

Flint, Genesee County Formally Request Emergency Assistance On Water

Julie Calley Moves Toward House Run

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Muchmore To Head Up Government Affairs At Honigman Firm

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## Volume #55, Report #1 -- Monday, January 4, 2016

### Talberg Named To Lead PSC

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } on Monday appointed Sally Talberg to chair the Public Service Commission as current chair John Quackenbush prepares to head back to the private sector.

Mr. Quackenbush will continue in a commissioner position until March 31, 2016, to help facilitate a smooth transition.

"Sally's experience as an energy consultant will be invaluable as she takes on this new role," Mr. Snyder said in a statement. "John has been an exceptional chair and regulator for the state. We are fortunate to have the notice period he has provided to effect a quality transition. I wish him the best of luck with his future plans."

Prior to joining the PSC in 2013, Ms. Talberg, of Williamston, was a senior consultant at Public Sector Consultants in Lansing, serving as the firm's energy and regulatory expert. While there, she helped establish Michigan Saves, an energy waste reduction financing program.

She was also recently appointed president of the organization of MISO States, a multi-state organization working on electric transmission issues, and a key position as Michigan's Legislature works to develop new energy policy standards and regulations in 2016.

The Federal Communications Commission has also appointed Ms. Talberg to several federal-state boards, a statement from the governor's office indicated.

Mr. Quackenbush worked in management at UBS Global Asset Management and Sprint Corp. prior to being appointed by Mr. Snyder to chair the PSC in September 2011, though it was not immediately clear if he intended to return to either of those companies upon his departure from the PSC.

Ms. Talberg initially replaced Orjiakor Isiogu, who retired after serving as the chair of the commission since September 2007. When she first accepted the position, she told Gongwer News Service her focus would be striking a balance between affordable service and environmental protection (See { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=521310101](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=521310101)" } ).

Norm Saari, former chief of staff to House { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1>" } (R-Mount Pleasant), is the newest member to the three-person commission, having been appointed to the commission in July 2015 to replace Greg White, who retired.

## Flint, Genesee County Formally Request Emergency Assistance On Water

Declaring that the water crisis goes beyond the ability of local resources to resolve, the Genesee County Board of Commissioners agreed Monday with the Flint mayor's call to declare a state of emergency in the city.

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2016/01/genesee\_county\_declares\_emerge.html" \t "blank" } the request will seek more than \$50 million to replace lead service lines and other yet to be determined needs.

Several residences and other facilities in Flint use water service lines made of lead. When the source of the city's water was switched from the Detroit system to the Flint River without corrosion control treatment, lead-based service lines began leaching lead into the water, resulting in lead levels beyond those when the federal government requires remediation. Blood samples showed elevated lead levels in many children.

The request will go through the Department of State Police's Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division, which will meet with the Genesee County emergency management coordinator.

Snyder press secretary Dave Murray said the governor will seriously consider a state declaration of emergency or disaster, but given the time involved following the procedures to make that decision, the state is treating the situation as an emergency.

"Prior to a formal declaration, we are recognizing this as an emergency and are working with city and county leaders to coordinate efforts, streamline communication and tap all available resources at the state's control," he said. "A formal declaration could take a fair amount of time as people assess their needs and the damages."

Mr. Murray said the State Police have been closely engaged since the beginning of the crisis.

"Due to the uniqueness of this situation, we have to look at all possible options to help Flint residents," Mr. Murray said.

Senate { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) called for Mr. Snyder to act quickly on the request.

"This is an important step in the process and the governor should make a swift decision," he said in a statement. "I'll continue pushing hard to make sure we receive additional resources that address immediate and long-term needs, and that they are used efficiently and effectively."

## Julie Calley Moves Toward House Run

Republican Julie Calley has created a campaign committee to run in the 87<sup>th</sup> House District after rumors had been swirling around for months that she might seek the seat.

Ms. Calley, chair of the Ionia County Board of Commissioners and wife of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1" }, did not return a request for comment Monday, or multiple requests previously, but several sources have said she will run to replace { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=284701&locid=1" } (R-Nashville), who is term limited and cannot seek re-election in 2016.

Ms. Calley has not formally filed to run, but setting up her campaign committee will allow her to start raising and spending money.

#### House Spent \$77K On Outside Firm During Courser, Gamrat Scandal

The House Business Office paid \$77,192 to the Dickinson Wright law firm during the investigation and expulsion proceedings of former Reps. Cindy Gamrat and Todd Courser, Progress Michigan said Monday after requesting the information.

The group criticized House Republican leadership for spending more than a representative's annual salary on outside counsel rather than using the Department of Attorney General or House counsel.

The current figure disclosed by Progress Michigan does not include any billings for the lawsuit former aides for Mr. Courser and Ms. Gamrat have brought against the House.

"It is troubling and incredibly ironic that two lawmakers were expelled from the House for wasting taxpayer resources, and yet, Speaker Cotter has already spent more than a lawmaker's salary on an outside firm as a result of his bungled investigation," Lonnie Scott, executive director of Progress Michigan, said in a statement. "Speaker Cotter seems to be using taxpayer dollars to cover up his own political missteps. Cotter should use his taxpayer-funded attorney to defend the House and pay for any outside counsel himself."

However, Gideon D'Assandro, spokesperson for House { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=288901&locid=1" } (R-Mount Pleasant), said the House also hired Dickinson Wright for a lawsuit against Rep. Brian Banks (D-Detroit) and paid more than \$85,000 when a former employee of Mr. Banks' sued the House.

And Mr. D'Assandro said attorneys at the Department of Attorney General and the House counsel are not "pro-bono" lawyers waiting to be brought in. He said either option would have likely led to higher costs for the department or in hiring additional House counsel.

He said when talking about taxpayers' potential liability, it is better to spend more on the front end to ensure everything is done correctly.



"You want to spend more to make sure you're doing it right on the front-end," Mr. D'Assandro said.

## Muchmore To Head Up Government Affairs At Honigman Firm

Dennis Muchmore, { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" }'s outgoing chief of staff, will head up the government relations and regulatory practice at the Honigman, Miller, Schwartz and Cohn law firm starting in February.

Mr. Muchmore had said last year he planned to depart the administration in 2016, and months ago Mr. Snyder named Jarrod Agen to become his new chief of staff upon Mr. Muchmore's departure.

"It's been an honor to serve with Governor Snyder as we've worked to make Michigan the Comeback State," Mr. Muchmore said in a statement circulated by the Honigman firm. "I'm just as excited to enter this next phase with Honigman. Just as there were people who guided me along the way in my career, I see this as an opportunity to give back and help others prepare to do great things."

The firm also announced it is creating a faculty of current and previous Honigman attorneys to provide specialized training opportunities for firm attorneys and clients, legislators, legislative staff and leading state department and agency employees.

For Mr. Muchmore, the move will mark a return to the government relations and lobbying world. He helped found what is now the Muchmore, Harrington, Smalley and Associates lobbying firm.

"Dennis has tremendous respect from people on both sides of the aisle. He is known across the state for his superb integrity and for his long, distinguished and successful career," said David Foltyn, Honigman's chair and CEO. "With his guidance, we expect to continue to be an active voice for our clients in the legislative and regulatory process for decades to come."

## Supreme Court: Injured Police Officers Cannot Sue For Damages

The prohibition on police officers and fire fighters from suing for damages from injuries sustained on the job is absolute, the Supreme Court unanimously ruled Monday.

In a per curiam decision, the court in *Lego v. Liss* ({ [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://courts.mi.gov/Courts/MichiganSupremeCourt/Clerks/Recent%20Opinions/15-16%20Term%20Opinions/149246-](http://courts.mi.gov/Courts/MichiganSupremeCourt/Clerks/Recent%20Opinions/15-16%20Term%20Opinions/149246-7%20Opinion.pdf?utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=24971803)

[7%20Opinion.pdf?utm\\_source=hs\\_email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=24971803](http://courts.mi.gov/Courts/MichiganSupremeCourt/Clerks/Recent%20Opinions/15-16%20Term%20Opinions/149246-7%20Opinion.pdf?utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=24971803)" \t "blank" }) held that Michael Lego, a police officer, had no right to sue Jake Liss, a fellow officer who inadvertently shot him as they attempted to arrest a suspected armed robber, for gross negligence.

The decision overturned the Wayne Circuit Court and the Court of Appeals.

The Wayne Circuit Court had refused Mr. Liss' motion to dismiss the case, and the Court of Appeals agreed.

The Court of Appeals had ruled it could not decide as a matter of law the applicability of the statute stating that governments are "immune from tort liability for an injury to a firefighter or police officer that arises from the normal, inherent, and foreseeable risks of the firefighter's or police officer's profession."

But the Supreme Court ruled that, in fact, the issue can be decided as a matter of law.

"The undisputed facts here are that Michael Lego was shot by the defendant as both were attempting to apprehend an armed robbery suspect," the Supreme Court said in its ruling. "As the Court of Appeals partial dissent correctly concluded, 'being shot by a fellow police officer while engaging an active shooter is one of 'the normal, inherent, and foreseeable risks of . . . [a] police officer's profession' within the meaning of MCL 600.2966.'

"This is true irrespective of whether the defendant was acting consistently with his training and departmental safety procedures or whether the defendant was grossly negligent while attempting to apprehend the suspect in this case. Thus, no question of material fact remains unresolved. Accordingly, the defendant is entitled to immunity as a matter of law," the court said.

The case was returned to the Wayne Circuit Court to enter an order granting summary disposition to the defendant.

#### Indigent Defense Council Submits Standards To Court

The Michigan Indigent Defense Commission has submitted its initial set of standards to the state Supreme Court, it announced Monday, addressing four elements: training and education of counsel, initial client interview, use of investigation and experts and counsel at first appearance.

The standards were originally released in June 2015 and were subject to a public hearing in mid-August. At the December 15, 2015 meeting, the commission voted to submit the final version to the Supreme Court for adoption.

The court now has 180 days to approve the { HYPERLINK "<http://michiganidc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/FINAL-first-set-of-standards-for-submission.pdf>" \t "blank" }, the MIDC said in statement.

"Today marks an important achievement for the MIDC," Executive Director Jonathan Sacks said. "In less than one year since establishing a formal office, the MIDC has developed this set of standards, met with stakeholders, received public comment and held a public hearing. I look forward to the Court's approval of this first set of standards."

Four points are raised on the issue of education and training of defense counsel, the first of which requires counsel to know "substantive Michigan and federal law, constitutional law, criminal

law, criminal procedure, rules of evidence, ethical rules and local practices," the draft notes. Counsel is also to know the forensic and scientific issues that can arise in a criminal case and the legal issues concerning defenses to a crime, and be able to effectively litigate those.

Also on education, the commission outlines that counsel shall "annually complete continuing legal education courses relevant to the representation of the criminally accused," the standards indicate. Lawyers can discharge this obligation for annual continuing legal education by attending local trainings or statewide conferences, though. And attorneys with less than two years of experience practicing criminal defense are to participate in one basic skills acquisition class.

All attorneys are to annually complete at least 12 hours of continuing legal education in some form.

The second standard on initial interview outlines regulations on the timing and setting of the interview, as well as the necessary preparation and evaluation of client status (such as whether the client is competent to participate in his or her representation, understands, the charges, and has some basic comprehension of criminal procedure).

Where counsel is unable to communicate with a client because of language or communication differences, it is to take "whatever steps necessary to fully explain the proceedings in a language or form of communication the client can understand."

The MIDC also proposed a minimum standard for investigation and the use of experts in its third proposed standard. An independent investigation of the charges and offense in as prompt time as practical is required, and the "reasonable" request of funds to retain investigators to assist with a client's defense is appropriate in some situations, the MIDC said.

Finally, the commission proposed a minimum standard on counsel at first appearance and other critical stages of the procedure.

Counsel is to be assigned as soon as the defendant is determined to be eligible for indigent criminal defense services, and the indigency determination and appointment of counsel is to be made "as soon as the defendant's liberty is subject to restriction by a magistrate or judge," the draft standards suggest.

"All persons determined to be eligible for indigent criminal defense services shall also have appointed counsel at pre-trial proceedings, during plea negotiations and at other critical stages, whether in court or out of court," the final standard outlines.

The MIDC will also develop standards in the future addressing issues, it said, including the following: delivery of indigent defense independent of the judiciary, caseload levels, the assignment of counsel, qualifications and review of counsel, economic incentives and disincentives for the practice of indigent defense, and representation of clients by the same attorney at every court appearance.

## Phelps Bill Would Make Manipulating Data A Felony

State employees who are caught manipulating data could be convicted of a felony under legislation { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=349901&locid=1>" } plans to introduce, he announced Monday.

Mr. Phelps (D-Flushing) said in a statement the legislation prevents government corruption by making it a felony for any state employee to knowingly manipulate data that would change the outcome of an official report. The felony would be punishable by up to five years in prison.

"As we began to comb through all of the facts surrounding Flint's water crisis it was frightening to learn that there were very few laws on our books that protect the public from potential government abuse such as data manipulation," Mr. Phelps said. "I am not sure if anyone involved in the Flint water crisis deliberately changed or removed critical data in state reports, but I am absolutely certain that it should be a crime if it did happen."


Mr. Phelps said he plans on introducing the legislation when the House resumes session next week.

"Protecting Michigan residents should be our highest priority, yet the Auditor General recently noted that potential bad actors in our government merely stand to lose their jobs, even if they put innocent lives in jeopardy," he said. "As elected leaders we must send out a signal to everyone letting them know that we will not tolerate this form of injustice."

## Campaign Notes: Mitchell Slams Fellow Republicans For Road Resolution

Business executive Paul Mitchell, one of several Republicans vying to succeed retiring { [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=3701&locid=1>" }, called out sponsors of a Senate measure that would again increase the sales tax to pay for roads.

The plan, { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SJRM01](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SJRM01)" }, would impose a 7 percent sales tax, with the new penny divided between the state and local road agencies. The constitutional amendment would also declare void the fuel tax and registration fee increases recently enacted.

"I simply can't understand what these members of the state Senate are thinking in proposing even higher taxes," Mr. Mitchell said in a statement. "When the Legislature failed to produce a viable solution to fix our roads and punted their responsibility to the voters by proposing the largest tax increase in Michigan in the last 50 years it was rejected by the largest margin in modern Michigan election history. Career politicians, like those backing Senate Joint Resolution M, who continue to propose one bad tax idea after another clearly aren't getting the message that government needs to live within its means."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-St. Clair), currently one of Mr. Mitchell's key opponents for the seat, supported the package that created Proposal 2015-1, but is not listed as a sponsor of the new measure, which was introduced December 15. { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301&locid=1" } (R-Frankenmuth) is the primary sponsor on the resolution.

Mr. Mitchell, who headed Say No to Higher Taxes and Special Interest Deals, one of the efforts against Proposal 2015-1 to increase the sales tax as part of a plan to increase road funding, said the failure of that proposal showed voters want roads fixed without a tax increase.

"We elected a Republican supermajority to the Legislature based upon the promise that they would enact conservative solutions to our state's challenges, but what we get is more taxes and more spending. The citizens are demanding and deserve better," he said.

**LEGAL MARIJUANA:** MILEgalize, one of two groups trying to get initiated legislation to legalize marijuana possession (a third is seeking a constitutional amendment), urged supporters in a release Monday to continue submitting signatures, and money.

The committee is expecting to pass 180 days collecting signatures, meaning some of its petitions will become stale, but is also hoping for a rule change from the Board of State Canvassers that would keep more of those signatures alive.

The group announced it was planning fundraisers, and an update on signature collections, later in the month.

**LOWER ANNOUNCES IN 70<sup>TH</sup> HOUSE WITH OUTMAN ENDORSEMENT:** Edmore Village Manager { HYPERLINK "http://www.votelower.com/" \t "blank" }, a Republican, announced Monday he is running in the 70<sup>th</sup> House District seat with the endorsement of { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=204701&locid=1" } (R-Six Lakes), the current representative who cannot seek re-election due to term limits in 2016.

"I am Pro-Life, Pro-Jobs, Pro-2nd Amendment, Pro-Family Values and I believe that 'We the People' must be in charge of our own government, Mr. Lower said in a statement. "We need a strong conservative voice in the State House of Representatives with the experience to get things done, I will be that voice. My experience, strong work ethic, and relationships with the people of this district will enable me to be effective on day one."

Mr. Lower has also served as a county commissioner, an aide in the Michigan House, and as an aide to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301&locid=1" } (R-Sheridan).

Capital Notebook

**SENATE SCHEDULE:** The Senate session calendar has been updated for January-June. The chamber is slated to return on Wednesday, January 13, 2016, at noon and will go back to its

normal 10 a.m. time after. Its spring break is scheduled to take place April 1-9, 2016. It has also scheduled tentative session days for June 2 and June 14-16.

## Supplemental Agency Calendar

### Monday, January 11

**Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program Advisory Council, Shady Lodge Farm, 6255 Clark Road, Lansing, 1 p.m.** ( { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/Draft%20MAEAP%20AC%20Meeting%20Agenda%20Jan%2011%202016.pdf" \t "\_blank" })

### Tuesday, January 12

**Gaming Control Board, Detroit Office Hearing Room, Gaming Control Board, Cadillac Place, 3062 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit, 9:30 a.m.** ( { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/public/MGCB\_2016\_Jan\_Agenda.docx" \t "\_blank" })

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**From:** Gongwer News Service <gongwerreports@gongwer.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 28, 2015 5:30 PM  
**To:** Baker, Kay (DTMB)  
**Subject:** Michigan Report, Monday, December 28, 2015  
**Attachments:** Dec28.htm; 151228plan.htm; 151228dayplan.htm



## Michigan Report for Monday, December 28, 2015

Auditor General Criticizes, Supports DEQ On Flint Water

Lyon: Flint Did Not Meet Lead Expectations, Wants Department More Preventative Oriented

Ananich Reflects On Rocky Year For Caucus, Hometown

Supreme Court To Hear Transmission Line Case

Campaign Finance Bill Presented, But No Signings Anticipated This Week

Dow Sues Treasury In New Tax Dispute

Snyder Activates Emergency Operations Center In Response To Winter Storm

## Calendars

Day Planner

Event Planner

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## Volume #54, Report #252 -- Monday, December 28, 2015

### Auditor General Criticizes, Supports DEQ On Flint Water

Democrats saw "serious failings" of the system in an early report released Monday from the Office of the Auditor General on the state's ability to adequately address a drinking water crisis in the city of Flint earlier this year.

The report primarily consisted of answers to questions posed by Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich (D-Flint) in a letter he sent to the auditor general in October during the height of the water crisis, but Mr. Ananich and Rep. Sheldon Neeley (D-Flint) said in a statement that some of those answers "confirmed that Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality failed to ensure proper corrosion control was used to treat Flint River water and that the state was responsible for the decision to use the river as the city of Flint's primary drinking water source."

Mr. Ananich also said the results suggest that legislative oversight of the situation was best and expected hearings on the situation to be "high on the agenda" when the Legislature returns.

"What's clear is that corrosion control should have been used and there are serious failings in our system that must be addressed," he said in the statement. "Between the FOIA emails released recently and these findings, it's obvious that legislative oversight is the best way to see how all of these pieces fit together."

But the administration saw the responses differently.

"The letter from the Office of the Auditor General includes some criticisms, but also reflects that state officials were following accepted protocols, or in one case, an interpretation of the corrosion control program that the EPA later clarified," Dave Murray, spokesperson for Governor Rick Snyder, said in a statement.

"But we need to do better in ensuring Flint residents have safe water and tracking children affected by elevated lead levels. We continue to work with the bipartisan task force that is reviewing all the actions at the state, local and federal level and is expected to offer recommendations in a month or so. Governor Snyder is committed to working with Flint Mayor Weaver and officials on these issues," Mr. Murray said.

And DEQ spokesperson Brad Wurfel said the department agreed with the findings in the AG's review.

"The findings align with our internal department review," he said. "We appreciate the auditor general's work to provide a fair and well considered look at some key issues."



One key finding was supporting the DEQ's decision to drop the two samples with the highest lead content in its second six-month sample. That decision has come under withering scrutiny, but the auditor general report set it was appropriate under federal rules.

The report answered questions on how the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance ensures the data it receives is accurate - to which the auditor general noted two potential improvements for the Flint water sampling process - and what accountability measures are in place for office staff who fail to follow data verification protocols.

"DEQ does not provide any direct oversight over the Flint Water Treatment Plant (Flint WTP) and, therefore, does not have any accountability measures over the Flint WTP's LTR (Lead Copper Rule) data verification protocols," the report indicated. "We did not identify any instances in which ODWMA staff failed to verify that submitted samples were certified by the Flint WTP."

On accountability measures in place for Drinking Water staff who lie or misrepresent information, the auditor general noted only one e-mail exchange between the DEQ and the Environmental Protection Agency that appeared to be a "significant contributor" to the concern that the DEQ misrepresented information to the EPA.

"The EPA requested clarification on February 26, 2015 regarding the type of optimized corrosion control **treatment** (their emphasis) the Flint WTP was using. DEQ responded on February 27, 2015 that the city had an optimized corrosion control **program** in place, but DEQ did not provide any program details," the report outlined. "DEQ informed us that the Flint WTP corrosion control **program** included performing lead and copper monitoring for two consecutive six-month periods to determine whether corrosion control **treatment** would be necessary in the future.

"However, it appears the EPA interpreted corrosion control **program** to mean that corrosion control **treatment** was being performed," the audit stated.

Still, based on its review of numerous e-mails, the auditor said it had no specific reason to believe the DEQ willfully misrepresented the information to the EPA.

But Democrats pointed out other issues: In response to the question about whether corrosion control treatment should have been maintained when the switch for the water source was made to the Flint River, the AG letter concludes, "We believe that corrosion control treatment should have been maintained," Democrats noted.

And with regard to how the decision was made about using the Flint River as the primary drinking water source, the letter states, "Although the Flint City Council voted in March 2013 in support of moving to the KWA (Karegnondi Water Authority) pipeline, the vote was silent on the use of Flint River water as a temporary drinking water source," Democrats said.

"This is another example of how the state failed initially, and continues to fail by not treating this situation like the emergency it is," Mr. Neeley said in a statement. "We need answers, we need action, and we need them sooner rather than later."

The full report on the ODWMA within the DEQ is not expected until late February.

Lyon: Flint Did Not Meet Lead Expectations, Wants Department More Preventative Oriented

Testing for childhood lead exposure has not typically included water tests, so when Flint-area physicians earlier this year reported children with higher concentrations of lead, the state had to look at what could cause it, Health and Human Services Director Nick Lyon said in an interview. And when it was clear the increased levels correlated with the city's switch to water from the Flint River, the state almost immediately took action, he said.

Mr. Lyon also said finding ways of reducing exposure to lead has been a priority of his and the department. The almost unique circumstances surrounding the Flint situation, "is not my issue," Mr. Lyon said. "My issue is how do I reduce the exposure to lead in children of Flint? That's the immediate concern, and then the next concern is, what sort of interventions are needed in the future?"

In one sense, trying to anticipate what future interventions are needed ties into a theme Mr. Lyon stressed repeatedly in the interview, which was how to make the Department of Health and Human Services more pro-active and preventative-oriented to help prevent issues from arising.

If, for example, the department can help a family that appears to have problems before a child is abused or neglected, then the child and the family both are spared traumas that could have dramatic effects years later, and the state will save the cost of the intervention system it has to go through, he said.

Mr. Lyon has also overseen the integration and adjustment of the department - a merger of the former departments of Community Health and Human Services - through 2015 and said it had forced him to "drink from the fire hose" as he familiarized himself with all the programs offered and the people who worked for the combined department.

And one of the things he found that impressed him most was the "trust and optimism the employees of both agencies displayed in a great period of uncertainty" that "really gave me a belief we could accomplish a lot," he said.

In looking back at the year, the Flint water situation was not initially something anticipated.

The city in 2014, then under an emergency manager, decided to switch its water system away from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department system as Flint worked on its own water system that would draw water from Lake Huron. As a cost savings measure, the city moved to have its water come from the Flint River in the interim.

Officials in the Department of Environmental Quality said the water had met requirements for safety. And while almost immediately residents complained about the taste, the smell and the appearance of the water, state officials insisted the water was safe.

But DEQ officials, speaking on background, have acknowledged that the department did not anticipate the effects the water could have on the antique plumbing systems, causing them to leach lead.

That was also not something DHHS had anticipated, Mr. Lyon said. DHHS was brought into the controversy late, and specifically because of the issue of whether children exposed to the water were seeing increased lead levels.

Typically, children are exposed to lead in houses with old lead-based paint that chips and flakes and is consumed by children. They are also exposed to lead in the overall environment. Mr. Lyon said typically lead levels rise in the summer when doors and windows are opened more, releasing chips of paint, and kids are playing outside more.

Plus, data on lead level exposure is kept on a county level.

DHHS did not anticipate an issue with lead in water due to antique pipes, Mr. Lyon said. And that proves to be a lesson to the state, he said: When issues of lead exposure come up it may mean the state will also have to check plumbing systems in older houses.

Nor did the state see any significant changes in lead exposure in county data from Genesee County, he said.

But Flint-area physicians were reporting higher lead levels in children from the area. "We are never dismissive of the data," Mr. Lyon said. "Data is data."

While saying that now, a department spokesperson told The Flint Journal in September the state had better data than Hurley Medical Center on the question of lead exposure. That spokesperson did say at the time the department was reviewing the Hurley data.

When the state got the reports of the higher lead levels in Flint, DHHS scientists had to look at it. That research showed higher levels in the ZIP Codes where the affected children lived.

And that evidence led to state action. Once he had spoken to the Executive Office about the findings, it began to take steps to reconnect the city to the Detroit system, ensure water filters were distributed and began doing additional testing of exposed children and adults.

In terms of better coordinating services a family or individual may be eligible for, local departments will also play a big role with the state in meeting individual needs, Mr. Lyon said. That will mean overall improved communications between the state and local departments, all with an eye towards recognizing that both agencies are serving the same people.

**PROACTIVITY AND COMPACT DEPARTMENT:** When the merger of DHS and DCH was announced a year ago, Mr. Lyon - then newly on the job as director of DCH - said he wanted to improve overall coordination to ensure a family had easier access to all the services it was entitled to. Some of that already was in the works because there is a large degree of overlap in people who need both food assistance and Medicaid.

But in terms of having the department take on a more proactive attitude, Mr. Lyon said he hopes to find a way "to use our caseworkers more like success coaches." That will take some work in both the state and local offices, as well as getting buy-in from the federal government "to say what can we do when those individuals walk in the door, what can we learn from them and what do they need a self-determination aspect to be successful and how do we craft that person's needs" with available programs.

In addition, given the state's budget situation which will likely prevent his being able to add personnel, finding ways of helping individuals off the system could go a long way to reducing what Mr. Lyon acknowledged were dramatic caseload levels. Caseworkers often find themselves with as many as 600 to 800 cases to handle.

And by helping those individuals work their way out of programs, that would eventually reduce the overall cost of the programs to the state, he said.

As currently structured, state programs are designed to be reactive, Mr. Lyon said. Taking the example of an abused child, Mr. Lyon said the state will get a report of an incident, investigate the incident, if needed put the child in a foster care situation, if needed search out a permanent placement and, again if needed, involve the courts. All those are reactions, Mr. Lyons said.

But if the state gets a tip of problems brewing, it can do nothing unless there is an actual incident of abuse or neglect. That means a child has to suffer a trauma that could have both dramatic effects on his or her physical and mental health in later years, as well as expose the family to trauma and stigma, he said.

Getting a more proactive approach will require federal government approval to shift funding - and Mr. Lyon said he is working on that - that would look at those at-risk families and try to see if there are services they need to help ensure that "initial mistake or event never happens. If you talk to most parents they don't want to abuse their children or neglect this child. I believe that to the core, and if we can find that family and teach them the skills necessary to prevent something bad from happening" again it will save money, he said, but more importantly prevent the trauma both the child and family can experience.

Asked if that would not draw criticisms of the state acting as Big Brother for these families, Mr. Lyon said he would hope the families would understand and accept why the help is being offered.

"If I can prevent something bad from happening to a child that will impact that child for the rest of their lives, that is something I am willing to save from happening," Mr. Lyon said.

Being proactive applies to other areas. Asked, for example, if the state would need to look at reopening the now closed Maxey juvenile justice center, Mr. Lyon said the state should have the capacity needed to deal with youth in legal trouble.

More importantly, he said, is to find ways to help those kids before they get in trouble. Many have behavioral health issues, Mr. Lyon said, "and what are we doing to make sure they are getting the treatment they need? ... Warehousing them in a jail or juvenile facility, I don't think that's right thing to do."

### Ananich Reflects On Rocky Year For Caucus, Hometown

It was a whirlwind of a 2015 for Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich, who not only saw some ups and downs within his own caucus, but also had to deal with emergency appropriations for a Third World-like water emergency in his hometown this year.

And despite the last-minute push from legislative Republicans to pass major election-related reforms late at night during last two session days of the year, Mr. Ananich (D-Flint) said he remains optimistic that his caucus will be united and his relationship with Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof (R-West Olive) will still be cordial in 2016.

The Senate adjourned late on December 17, passing very little legislation except a couple of major election-related bills and recessing most of the day otherwise. At one point, it seemed like the elimination of straight ticket voting (SB 13), one of those reforms, would be shelved until next year, as speeches of good holiday cheer and well wishes filled the Senate chamber. Both Mr. Ananich and Mr. Meekhof complimented their colleagues on their professionalism for the first year of the new term. And in an interview with Gongwer News Service, the tone was no different.

"The relationship between me and Arlan and our staffs is something that's very strong, and I want to continue that," Mr. Ananich said in an interview on December 17, prior to those controversial elections bills passing. "For 2016, I want to see the Democrats, my caucus and the chamber as a whole doing things in a bipartisan way."

Roughly four hours later, that couldn't have been further from reality, as predominately Republicans eliminated straight ticket voting and substituted what was previously a bipartisan bill (SB 571) for a more divisive one that opponents worry will significantly affect local government and its ability to communicate to citizens about ballot questions (See Gongwer Michigan Report, December 16, 2015)

Asked after session if what he viewed as a good, professional relationship with the majority leader may have gone a bit awry with that legislation, Mr. Ananich seemed changed, but not entirely.

"We're going to stand up and have aggressive and robust debates about things and do it in a professional way. We're going to win some and we're going to lose some," he told reporters. "We

think our values are right and their values are wrong, and this is one of those opportunities, but that doesn't change the fact we're going to do it in a professional way. We're still going to fight for what we think we're right, and that's what we did tonight."

And it wasn't the first adversity Mr. Ananich had faced, of course. Earlier in the year, Republicans passed legislation to repeal the state's prevailing wage law. Around the same time, Sen. Virgil Smith (D-Detroit) was involved in an incident with his ex-wife that is still playing out in court with potentially felonious implications. Then the Flint clerk told candidates for the mayoral race the wrong deadline to submit their paperwork, requiring a very quick fix in the Legislature or else a costly write-in campaign for most candidates.

And another, more serious situation was developing in his hometown involving lead in the water that would spur numerous headlines in the fall.

To that end, Mr. Ananich said he was in contact with pastors and others working the water issues in Flint, but he was primarily working on the cost of the water initially.

"I heard of a lot of people that were having shutoffs, similar to Detroit, probably proportionally worse in Flint, because the costs are more expensive," Mr. Ananich said in his interview with Gongwer.

Then there was an E. Coli breakout, he said, and other issues, "but we were sure over and over again that this was it, we got it fixed," he said.

Then Mr. Ananich said he saw a report by the ACLU and read findings (sometimes in September) by Doctor Marc Edwards, a Virginia Tech professor who has been following the Flint water crisis and recently alleged the Department of Health and Human Services had data showing elevated lead levels in Flint's water but delayed releasing that data to others for review (See Gongwer Michigan Report, December 21, 2015).

"I really tried to get the administration and other folks to all come together and fix this problem, and then obviously we saw the administration's sort of denial at first, attacking individuals that were heroes really for trying to help solve this issue, and then they realized they were telling the truth and they started the ball rolling. I expected a lot more urgency," Mr. Ananich said. "I still think it's much more important to protect the citizens than to protect the reputation of certain departments, and I still see a little more of that than I do of making sure we're really addressing this issue, the urgency we need.

"But things are moving in the right direction. I'm going to keep pushing for more action and more tangible results for my citizens, but it's unfortunate it's something some of my citizens are going to have to deal with the ... generation maybe, depending on how bad it ends up being," he said.

In hindsight, Mr. Ananich said he couldn't really complain about the response from his colleagues in the House and Senate, but the administration and some state departments are a different story.

"I was very appreciative of the help with the money and switching back to Detroit, and now we're just going to keep working to make sure the kids get the nutrition they need and the services," he said. "The administration still, I think, seems to lack the sense of urgency that I expect, but they've done some positive steps in the right direction. They still have folks, Brad Wurfel for one, who are still making statements that aren't really true, I think, to the public.

"You can't say it's the faucets in the school. If it wasn't for the corrosive, poisonous water, we wouldn't have a problem. It's another example of trying to make it sound like it wasn't their fault as opposed to just fixing the problem," he said.

Mr. Wurfel, spokesperson for the Department of Environmental Quality, disputed Mr. Ananich's comment.

"The governor's 10-point plan includes an unprecedented look at lead levels in Flint schools, free testing around the community, free home water filters until we can be confident the system returns to acceptable levels, and a series of immediate, near-term and long-term steps to protect Flint families. We are doing the work and presenting the data as it comes forward," he said.

"I'm a department spokesman. I'm as good as the information I get to work with. And we've tried to do a very careful job of making sure folks in Flint get accurate information on this issue, because it is a very serious one for thousands of families. This administration acknowledged an error in October and has been working hard since then to partner with communities and deliver necessary resources to protect kids and families."

But Mr. Ananich did compliment the governor's task force - one of many groups reviewing the issue - whom he believes will come up with an "independent" analysis of the situation. The task force issued some early statements on what it saw as a "disturbing situation" (See [Gongwer Michigan Report, December 17, 2015](#)).

And on Monday, Mr. Ananich and [Rep. Sheldon Neeley](#) (D-Flint) got some answers they were seeking when the auditor general responded to Mr. Ananich's request for more information on what happened in Flint (see separate story). The auditor general's full response, specifically on the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance within the DEQ, is not expected until late February.

**BIPARTISANSHIP AND DPS:** Asked about his caucus goals for 2016, Mr. Ananich said they are similar to 2015: "to make sure we felt like a united caucus that stands up for the things we believe," he said. "I think we've done that. I think we showed a sense of professionalism and willingness to work together when we have agreement. I think the difference in the tenor and the differences in the House and Senate is obvious to pretty much everyone."

Mr. Ananich said he is hopeful his caucus and Senate Republicans can do more together, and there will be plenty of opportunities to do that, he said.

Among the policy issues are finding a resolution to the crippling debt of Detroit Public Schools, workforce development, skilled trades funding, education funding and energy law overhaul, the minority leader said.

"I think those are the kinds of things that would be best if they came out of the chamber with bipartisan support, and that's what I want to see us do," he said.

He said he genuinely believed Mr. Meekhof wanted to find a bipartisan solution on DPS, and putting Sen. Goeff Hansen (R-Hart) in charge of the matter "is a very good step in that direction," Mr. Ananich said.

Democrats, especially within his caucus, will be looking for some form of an elected school board, he said, as well as ensuring that when all the debt is retired that there are resources available to provide a quality education for the students in the district and that the Legislature does not have to revisit such a situation again.

And he said he does not believe current teachers, staff or students should be punished in any way for the actions of others that led DPS into this situation.

"There's going to be a lot conversation going forward, and we'll find some things we want, some things they want ... but I think overall the package, if it's going to be successful, will have those elements in it and won't adversely affect other districts to the point that we're hurting other children to help DPS," Mr. Ananich said.

Though Mr. Hansen has kept talks about the DPS legislation tight-lipped, one thing that has so far been cited about DPS talks is a debate over governance. Mr. Ananich said some of those questions are about whether the governor, the mayor, or others should do the appointing officials to fix DPS, or whether they should be elected.

The minority leader said the Legislature needs to get "very serious" about resolving the matter around the first of the year because it will only become more distant and complicated when the state begins determining its next budget in February.

**ELECTIONS:** Though the Senate is not up for re-election until 2018, Mr. Ananich said his caucus will continue to help the House with its fundraising and candidate recruitment efforts for their 2016 election.

"The relationship between the House and Senate Democrats is the best it's been in a long time," he said.

But he isn't putting off 2018 for long either.

"Like I said before, the relationship between me and Arlan is very good, but we have a fun competition and we plan on being competitive in 2018," he said.

Supreme Court To Hear Transmission Line Case



The Supreme Court has ordered arguments in a case where a Kalamazoo County township has challenged an award by the Public Service Commission for an electric transmission line across its property.

The Supreme Court agreed to hear the case, *Oshtemo Township v. Michigan Electric Transmission Company* (SC docket No. 150695), more than 13 months after the Court of Appeals upheld a 2013 order issued by the PSC allowing for the construction of the line in both Oshtemo and Almena Township in Van Buren County.

In calling for arguments, the Supreme Court said the parties should issue briefs on whether the state's Electric Transmission Line Certification Act of 1995 is consistent with the "first sentence" of Article 7, Section 29 of the Constitution.

That sentence reads: "No person, partnership, association or corporation, public or private, operating a public utility shall have the right to the use of the highways, streets, alleys or other public places of any county, township, city or village for wires, poles, pipes, tracks, conduits or other utility facilities, without the consent of the duly constituted authority of the county, township, city or village; or to transact local business therein without first obtaining a franchise from the township, city or village."

A date for the arguments has not been set.

#### Campaign Finance Bill Presented, But No Signings Anticipated This Week

The last remaining bill awaiting presentation to Governor Rick Snyder, a hotly controversial one involving campaign finance issues, was formally presented Monday.

That means the last two remaining bills to win approval from the Legislature prior to adjourning for the year are now on Mr. Snyder's desk. Those bills would end the ability for voters to select a party's slate of candidates with a single mark on the ballot (SB 13) and enact a wide variety of campaign finance changes, notably barring local governments and school districts from issuing any communication regarding local ballot proposals (SB 571).

Mr. Snyder is out of state vacationing with his family this week, press secretary Dave Murray said Monday. Mr. Murray said he does not anticipate any bills being signed or vetoed this week.

Lt. Governor Brian Calley could make the signing or veto decision with Mr. Snyder out of state, but typically Mr. Calley has signed noncontroversial bills in which he has personally worked the issue.

Mr. Snyder has until January 5 to sign or veto the end of straight ticket voting. He has until January 11 to sign or veto the campaign finance bill, which also would prohibit corporations from collecting contributions to political action committees not affiliated with the corporation via employee payroll deduction.

#### Dow Sues Treasury In New Tax Dispute

The Dow Chemical Company is disputing how the Department of Treasury calculated its tax credit under the Michigan Business Tax, filing suit in the Court of Claims on how the department applied tax credits.

In September, the department issued a notice of adjustment to Dow regarding its 2008 Michigan Business Tax return, decreasing its tax credit carryover from the 2008 tax year to the 2009 tax year by about \$1.6 million.

The dispute concerns the order in which a business applies its credits.

Dow applied its credits "in a specific order," the company said in its lawsuit, including applying its compensation credits, investment tax credits and research and development credits before applying its Single Business Tax carryover credits.

The department, however, applied the carryover credits first.

Dow pointed to an unpublished November 2015 Court of Appeals ruling (*Ashley Capital v. Department of Treasury*) holding that compensation credits and investment credits take priority. Dow also pointed to a Court of Claims ruling earlier this month involving Dow Corning.

#### Snyder Activates Emergency Operations Center In Response To Winter Storm

A winter storm forecast to coat much of the Lower Peninsula with ice, potentially as much as a half-inch in some locations, prompted Governor Rick Snyder to activate the State Emergency Operations Center on Monday.

The major concern with the projected ice storm is the potential loss of electrical power. A half-inch of ice, coupled with the strong winds expected to accompany the winter storm, would likely lead to considerable tree damage and subsequent damage to electrical lines.

Mr. Snyder also ordered all state offices in the Lower Peninsula to close at 1 p.m. to enable employees to leave early with road conditions deteriorating.


The Supreme Court and Court of Appeals closed their offices early. The House closed its offices at noon.

The worst icing was expected to take place on the west side of the state with between 0.4 to 0.5 inches of ice forecast between an area roughly bounded by I-96, U.S. 127, M-55 and the Lake Michigan shoreline. The state's freeways were littered with traffic crashes by early afternoon.

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## Michigan Report for Friday, October 2, 2015

State To Contribute \$1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix

House 80th Race Between Storey, Whiteford, Gamrat

19-Year MPERS Error Results In \$112M Refund To Seven Universities

Poll Suggests Support To End Prevailing Wage Is Tepid

Insurance Code Changes To See Committee Meeting This Week

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Legislative Committee Schedules

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## Volume #54, Report #196 -- Friday, October 2, 2015

### State To Contribute \$1M As Part Of Flint Water Fix

In the short term, Flint residents will have access to water filters, some purchased with state funds, and in the longer term the city will be improving its corrosion controls to keep lead out of water supplies, state and city officials said Friday in unveiling a plan to address recent water safety concerns in the city.

Moving Flint back to getting water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage System is also still on the table for both state and local officials but will require negotiations, both sides said.

Both sides said the water itself is not the source of lead and the city will be working in the coming years to replace the lead service lines that are the source.

"We're working around the clock on every level with so many partners to address the immediate health concerns," Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said at a media event Friday to announce the plan. "We're now all working on a common response plan."

"We are focused on helping ensure safe, clean, accessible drinking water and addressing and mitigating concerns and protecting public health," { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1" }, who did not attend the event, said in a statement. "Today's action plan builds upon ongoing work with local, state and federal agencies and our partnership with city and community leaders. Together, we are working to ensure that all Flint residents have accurate information and know that help is available to address potential problems."

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said the state still had substantial work to do.

"Filters and corrosion control additives are first steps, but anything less than an aggressive, comprehensive response is still unacceptable," Mr. Ananich said in a statement. "Our top priority remains ensuring Flint families have safe drinking water. I will continue to work to make that happen."

"We can't just rely on the kindness of strangers to protect our children," { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=358901&locid=1" } (D-Flint) said, noting recent contributions toward water filter purchases. "The governor and Department of Environmental Quality need to make this an urgent priority."

And { [HYPERLINK](#)

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=349901&locid=1" } (D-Flushing)

said help needs to happen sooner rather than later. "This is a public health crisis, and our children are in danger," he said.

Mr. Phelps had been pushing the state and the city for more information on the water switch and its effects to little avail (See { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541950101) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\_id=541950101" }).

The Sierra Club Michigan Chapter urged that part of the plan be an executive investigation into why the DEQ did not act more quickly on the issue.

"The governor, finally, is assuming direct responsibility for responding to a crisis that every day is damaging the health of Flint's children," David Holtz, chair of the group, said in a statement. "His actions should be much stronger, however, and he needs to find out how we got to the point where Flint children are drinking lead and what the DEQ's role was in those decisions and actions."

The key elements of the plan, from the Snyder administration's perspective, are to continue testing and, in the short term, provide filters for those who need them, Environmental Quality Direct Dan Wyant said at the media event.

The state and the city will provide free water testing for anyone in the city, he said, and both entities are working to provide residents with water filters.

The state also will be testing the water in all schools in the city, Mr. Wyant said.

"We're working closely with public and private partners to provide water filters," Health and Human Services { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1) "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=392601&locid=1" } said.

As part of that effort, the state will be providing \$1 million and a number of charitable groups are providing filters or funding toward them, but Mr. Lyon said officials were also working with retailers to provide free or low-cost filters.

United Way, General Motors and the Making Our Children Smile Foundation announced Thursday a joint contribution of \$105,000 toward purchase of filters.

Mr. Walling said filters would be available beginning Saturday morning.

Mr. Lyon warned, though, that the filters might not resolve the increase in blood lead levels found in recent testing.

"We cannot say conclusively water is the source of this," he said, noting that lead paint in older homes, and the remnants of it in the surrounding soils, continues to be the leading source of lead poisoning.

Mr. Lyons did not take issue with Genesee County's move Thursday to issue a water emergency for the city but said his agency would not be joining. "This is certainly an issue that deserves attention," he said. "I do not believe that it rises to the level of a statewide emergency. We are here with our resources."

Eden Wells, chief medical officer for the state, said two high-risk zip codes in the city did see increased blood levels in tested children after the city switched its water source, but she said levels in those areas, and citywide, were already at least twice the levels found in the rest of Genesee County and only increased significantly in one of the high-risk regions.

In the two highest-risk zip codes, blood lead levels were averaging 2.7 times averages for the county as a whole. After the water source switch, those averages climbed to 3.2 times the rest of the county. But for the city as a whole, lead levels were 2 times the rest of the county, she said.

Mr. Wyant argued the problem was the switch and not the water source. He said one of the state's efforts is to ensure the city has sufficient corrosion controls in place so when it switches sources again away from the Flint River, the problem does not reoccur.

"Every time we tested the water, it was non-detect for lead," Mr. Wyant said of the state's quarterly testing. "So our issue is lead service lines."

Mr. Wyant said the DEQ would be part of a new Mayor's Safe Drinking Water Advisory Committee that would also include officials from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

"With the mayor's help, we're going to expedite those corrosion controls," Mr. Wyant said.

"At this point we have confidence that we can put additional corrosion controls in place and it will be effective," he said.

Mr. Walling said the city also needs to step up its efforts to replace the lead service lines.

"We have a gap in our capital improvement plan that needs to be filled and we need to replace lead service lines in our city," he said.

Mr. Walling said the city was still considering switching back to Detroit water while efforts to finish an agreement with Karegnondi Water Authority are completed. But he said the switch would cost the city up to \$2 million a month.

"The city is not in a position to afford that cost, but I am looking to Lansing for additional funding and financing so that option could be available," he said.

Mr. Wyant, asked if the state would cover those costs, said only that the state had committed \$1 million already toward the problem.

Mr. Snyder said during an earlier media call he was mediating discussions between the city and the Detroit system.



"It's just something that's currently in process ... I'm looking at this as an alternative to go with all these action steps," Mr. Snyder said. "We trying to help everyone get the facts: What is the data on what would be involved with potentially switching back? What would be the cost parameters? That's one of the reasons for the technical advisory council, to make sure we would see better results with switching back."

"I'd like science to make that determination," Mr. Wyant said of the need to change water supplies. "It's our sense that corrosion controls are going to be needed in either case."

In addition to assistance on the ground, the state launched a website, { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater" \t "blank" }, with information about the state plan and other efforts to address the water issue.

#### House 80th Race Between Storey, Whiteford, Gamrat

While it is still believed a long shot for former Rep. Cindy Gamrat to come out of the House 80<sup>th</sup> District special election primary, the possibility is still there with an eight-person field.

But Ms. Gamrat faces tough competition with Allegan County Commissioner { HYPERLINK "http://www.storeyforallegan.com/" \t "blank" } and Allegan County GOP Vice Chair { HYPERLINK "http://www.votemarywhiteford.com/" \t "blank" } who are seen as frontrunners.

Mr. Storey of Holland appears to have the momentum on his side, at least this week, as he received an endorsement from former Governor John Engler. He also has the endorsement of former Rep. Bob Genetski and former Rep. Fulton Sheen.

The primary special election is November 3. The election comes after Ms. Gamrat of Plainwell was expelled from the House after participating in an extramarital affair with former Rep. Todd Courser and then being found through an internal investigation to have misused taxpayer resources for personal and political gains.

Mr. Sheen said voters in the district are looking for someone who has experience, and Mr. Storey has that in both the public and private sector.

"He's a known commodity," Mr. Sheen told Gongwer News Service Friday.

But he said Ms. Whiteford of Allegan is very much in the race as well, and is leading the field in signs around the district.

One issue with Ms. Whiteford, Mr. Sheen said, is her background is very similar to Ms. Gamrat's. He said they both tout their backgrounds as moms and nurses.

But Ms. Whiteford said that was an issue during the last campaign as well, and is not new to her. She said she tried to focus on her success as an emergency pediatric nurse. Ms. Whiteford noted she is not even sure where or how long Ms. Gamrat actually worked as a nurse.

Another factor for Ms. Gamrat, Jason Watts - who is also involved with the local party - said is that former Allegan County Commissioner Bill Sage, who has the endorsement of Republican National committeeman Dave Agema, will take some votes from the Gamrat camp.

Mr. Watts said he is not aware of Mr. Agema physically helping Mr. Sage in the district. Mr. Sage was also a part of a lawsuit the pair brought against Allegan County schools and the city after they brought a person into a school to talk about the "dangers" of Islam, but were shut down after law enforcement discovered the person may have had a \$25 million bounty on their head. The case was dismissed earlier this year.

Mr. Watts also said Democrats in the district may be attempting to get Ms. Gamrat through the primary so their sole candidate, David Gernant, has a chance in the general.

Ms. Gamrat said she was not sure how re-connecting with the voters would go for her after the "negative media" during the last six weeks, but she said it has been going well.

"A lot of people have said my personal life is none of their business and that what Lansing did was wrong," she said.

So far, the candidates said there has not been any mail. But all three candidates interviewed Friday said they will begin issuing mailers soon. Mr. Sheen said the Allegan County Tea Party sent out emails including a Ms. Gamrat piece with a photo of her looking angry and criticizing those in Lansing for expelling her.

There have been phone surveys and messages. Ms. Whiteford said she sent a message last night but has also heard two others without disclaimers.

Ms. Gamrat said there was one telephone push poll that was negative against her, and did not include a disclaimer.

Ms. Whiteford said she is focusing on herself and is not going to go negative against Ms. Gamrat.

Mr. Storey and Ms. Whiteford said they have been knocking on doors and attending several meetings.

Mr. Storey said voters are upset they even have to participate in the special election.

"They are not happy that we face this," he said. "But they are also not at all interested in anything other than sending someone who can restore respect for this county to Lansing."

Ms. Whiteford agreed, saying voters are concerned about having good representation in Lansing.

Ms. Whiteford said if elected, her priority is to create relationships and vote conservatively.

"My priorities are to build relationships and vote conservatively for the people of this county," she said. "And take advantage of being in the majority Republican caucus. I really want to bring a voice for our farmers and out educators."

Ms. Gamrat was kicked out of caucus four months into her term.

Ms. Gamrat said she believes people are underestimating voters in the district and their frustration with Lansing politicians, who passed the state's largest budget but still are exploring a tax increase to pay for roads.

"One of the things voters ask all the time, they say why do they flip, why do people say one thing while they are campaigning and they get into office and they do something else/" she said. "I have a strong record that shows I will stand for the issues against increasing taxes and stand for limited government, for life and for the second amendment."

Mr. Storey said his priorities would include reducing the size of government and fulfilling special projects for Allegan County.

"First of all my priority will be ... to restore respect for Allegan County and value for our voice," he said. "To build the kind of coalitions that is necessary to get anything done."

#### 19-Year MPSERS Error Results In \$112M Refund To Seven Universities

The recent discovery of an error in how the state calculated payments to the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System from seven universities prompted a \$112 million refund to those schools.

The state's Office of Retirement Services was in the middle of a review of a new accounting standard to assist the seven universities gradually phasing out of the MPSERS system when staff realized MPSERS had overcharged the universities going back to 1996, said Caleb Buhs, spokesperson for the Department of Technology, Management and Budget.

Seven universities began to phase out of MPSERS starting in 1997 and received a refund September 30: Central Michigan, Eastern Michigan, Ferris State, Lake Superior State, Michigan Technological, Northern Michigan and Western Michigan.

As part of the phase-out - in which new employees were not put into MPSERS - the state allowed the institutions to spread their full retirement liabilities across all employees but made a miscalculation in the process, Mr. Buhs said.

So difficult to detect was the mistake that multiple regular independent audits and peer reviews never discovered it, Mr. Buhs said.

As soon as Office of Retirement Services staff discovered the error, they alerted their superiors who advised universities of the situation, Mr. Buhs said.

The \$112 million is equal to just 0.25 percent of total MPSERS assets, he said, and so the refund would have no effect on the system's stability.

### Poll Suggests Support To End Prevailing Wage Is Tepid

While a plurality of voters favor ending Michigan's prevailing wage statute, it may not be enough support to prevent voters from blocking its repeal should it go to an election, a poll released Friday showed.

The poll, from Lansing-based Marketing Resource Group, showed that 49 percent of those asked supported repeal of the act, while 39 percent opposed it. Another 5 percent had no opinion and 11 percent did not know.

The results come from a poll done of 600 likely voters, with an error rate of plus or minus 4 percentage points. The poll was conducted from September 9 to September 14.

The issue of voter support may be moot if the Legislature approves an initiated act outlawing prevailing wage. Repeal supporters have turned in petitions signatures, which are still be reviewed by the state's elections officials.

If the Legislature does not approve the initiated act, then it would go before the voters in the 2016 election.

Perhaps one of the most surprising findings in the poll was that respondents who identified themselves as part of a union household were relatively split on the issue. While 43 percent were opposed, a surprising 39 percent were in favor of repeal.

Overall, those identifying as Republicans were strongest in support for repeal, with 60 percent in favor of ending the law. Democrats and ticket-splitting individuals were strongest against, with 53 percent against repeal.

And non-union households split dead-on, with 47 percent both supporting repeal and opposing repeal.

### Insurance Code Changes To See Committee Meeting This Week

The House Insurance Committee will take up legislation designed to improve competition in the insurance industry and increase company flexibility in developing new products for consumers, and unsurprisingly, the Michigan Association of Health Plans said it is supporting the bills.

The lead sponsor of the bills ( { HYPERLINK

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☐) is { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=325701&locid=1" } (R-DeWitt Township), who said last week the association met with him on the concept and suggested the legislation.

The committee is meeting on the legislation, also sponsored by { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=312601&locid=1" } (D-Westland) and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371201&locid=1" } (R-Pottersville).

The association said the package of bills is the first major update of state health insurance laws in more than 20 years. Over that time, insurance policies, consumers' needs and the insurance marketplace has changed dramatically. This package seeks to keep state laws strong, including those protecting consumers, while recognizing those changes in state and federal law.

"The health insurance industry is rapidly changing, and it is vital that state laws recognize those changes to allow companies to meet the needs of consumers," said Rick Murdock, executive director of the association, which represents virtually all state health insurance companies. "After discussions with Rep. Leonard, state regulators and consumer organizations, we believe this package addresses key issues while ensuring the state maintains strong solvency and consumer protection policies."

The bills, according to the association, would:

- Update the insurance code to give health insurers the ability and greater flexibility to develop new products in response to market demands;
- Streamline sections of the law that regulates health maintenance organizations to reflect changes in state and federal policies that now apply to all insurers;
- Clean up the code by eliminating duplication and outdated sections. For instance, Chapter 36, originally intended to regulate group disability policies, is now duplicated by Chapter 34, which originally regulated individual policies but has been amended over the years to include group insurers and HMOs. It also clarifies that several insurance mandates currently in law only apply to health insurance, and not to auto, life, or property and casualty insurers;
- Modernize the law to recognize electronic means of communications. For instance, it will allow insurance sales through websites without use of an insurance agent, while setting strong consumer protection standards to allow delivery of notices and forms to insureds and enrollees by electronic means if consumers desire;
- Recognize that virtually all insurers today are required to provide services that used to be provided mostly by HMOs, eliminating most special requirements on HMOs.

- Reduce regulatory requirements by streamlining the readability scoring process conducted by state regulators in certain cases where products are similar;
- Add language that addresses situations where policyholders sign up for coverage, use coverage, but never pay the premium;
- Revise the Code to conform to federal law prohibiting pre-existing condition exclusions and follow federal law for processing grievances, simplifying compliance for consumers and insurers; and
- Update the Patient's Right to Independent Review Act to enable Michigan to maintain its own external review process, rather than defaulting to the federal process.

#### Senate Legislation Seeks To Expand Promise Zones

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=101501&locid=1) } and at least 12 other senators from both sides of the aisle have introduced legislation to expand promise zones and make some technical amendments for the Department of Treasury to better manage the program.

The bills, { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB53901)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB53901](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB53901)" }<sup>[9]</sup>

and { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54001)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54001](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB54001)" }<sup>[10]</sup>,

consolidate current statute related to the program first created under former Governor Jennifer Granholm and inspired by the Kalamazoo Promise, which allows high school graduates from Kalamazoo Public Schools to attend certain universities or community colleges tuition-free within 10 years of graduation.

The main goal, Mr. Hansen's (R-Hart) legislative assistant Anna Mooney said, is to "continue to improve access to higher education for students across the state." The bills are already slated to have a committee hearing next Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in the Senate Economic Development and International Investment Committee chaired by { [HYPERLINK](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301&locid=1)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=179301&locid=1>" } (R-Frankenmuth).

Mr. Hansen is the lead sponsor on SB 539, which contains the major components of the package. It allows a governing body, if it is determined to be in the best interest of the public, to declare its intent to establish a promise zone by resolution. That body must then set a date for a public hearing on the adoption of a proposed resolution at least 20 days and not more than 40 days before the date of a hearing, which also must be published twice in a newspaper of general circulation, the bill reads.

At least 15 days after the public hearing, if a governing body intends to proceed with the creation of a promise zone, it must submit an application to the Department of Treasury, which will

review the application and determine if the area is eligible to participate. If it is, SB 539 requires Treasury to certify the eligibility to establish a promise zone.

There were 10 promise zones created during the Granholm administration, but the Jackson Promise Zone recently dissolved and the Muskegon Promise Zone is still under development. Under the bill, 15 governing bodies of eligible entities may be established as promise zones.

"It would be expanding the number ... but also to make technical changes on how it's administered from Treasury's end," Ms. Mooney said.

She said Mr. Hansen and his staff have been working very closely with Treasury on the issue and there are no known issues at this time. They are hopeful that the bills will move quickly through the Legislature, but that of course remains to be seen.

"Some of the changes that are needed in this bill will allow for some Promise Zones to get off the ground," she said. "We believe the timing is pretty essential for some of these zones."

A promise zone is required to fundraise privately for the first two years to distribute scholarships. After that time, if it can raise enough money to show a valid public interest in the program (and thus be sustainable), the zone is able to capture half of the growth in the state education tax as determined by the formula outlined in the bill.

Mr. Hansen's bill also gives local school districts the option to not participate in the resolution set forth by promise zone governing body and lays out a process for dissolution of a promise zone by a governing body.

Cities, townships, counties, local school districts or intermediate school districts not eligible by state standards may also still create a promise zone under Mr. Hansen's bill, but would not be able to capture revenue from the state education tax.

The bill creates some reporting requirements for Treasury to assess how well the program is working. Under the bill, the report is due no later than February 15 of each year and must include:

- The number of students who received financial assistance pursuant to the approved Promise Zone Development Plan during the prior calendar year;
- Of those students, the number who successfully completed a certificate or associate program, a bachelor's program, or a postgraduate or professional program;
- The number who withdrew from classes during the prior calendar year;
- The number of students who initially reached successful completion of more than the equivalent of 223 semester credits during the prior calendar year and the average time that took; and

- The graduation rate for students who first received financial assistance during each of the six prior calendar years.

The other bill in the package, SB 540, sponsored by Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1" } (D-Flint), amends a section of the State Education Tax Act to align it with the other bill.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=74701&locid=1" } (R-Escanaba), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=95101&locid=1" } (R-Evart), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=60301&locid=1" } (R-Sheridan), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=161201&locid=1" } (D-Detroit), Sent. Bert Johnson (D-Highland Park), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=364301&locid=1" } (D-East Lansing), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=57701&locid=1" } (R-Battle Creek), Sen. Jim Marleau (R-Lake Orion), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=308601&locid=1" } (D-Dearborn Heights), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=209301&locid=1" } (D-Southfield) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1" } (R-St. Joseph) are listed co-sponsors for both bills.

### Court Rejects City's Action To Change Retiree Insurance

Harper Woods could not simply change retiree health care benefits that were established contractually, the Court of Appeals ruled Friday.

In sending the case, *Harper Woods Retirees Association v. Harper Woods* ({ HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20151001\_C318450\_61\_318450.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" }), back to the trial court, however, the appeals panel also said the retirees will have to show they have a vested interest in the health care benefits that would extend beyond the limit of any contract.

In an effort to cut costs, Harper Woods notified retirees that it was changing its health care benefits plan to one that would impose larger deductibles and co-pays than the plan the retirees were using and had been included in their contract.

The retirees formed an association and sued, but the trial court found for the city.

Judge Michael Gadola, joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=76401&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152701&locid=1" }, held the city could not simply change the terms of the contract because it could save money.



The first principle of changing a contract is that a change be mutually agreed to, the court said. And even though the proposals to change the contract could appear reasonable, that is an invalid reason to unilaterally change a contract.

The court also rejected the argument that a 6<sup>th</sup> U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling allowing a community to change a contract was a governing ruling. State courts do not have to abide with the findings of U.S. courts that are lower than the Supreme Court, the appeals panel said.

### Court Throws Out Gag Order In Wayne County Jail Case

A gag order blocking anyone who might be involved in a trial involving the failed Wayne County Jail was thrown out by the Court of Appeals, which called the order overbroad, vague and constituting a prior restraint of the press and free speech.

The decision reversed the Wayne Circuit Court, in *People v. Sledge* and *People v. Collins* ({ HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20151001\_C324680\_79\_324680.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" }).

The case revolves around the decision to halt construction of a new jail after only about a quarter of the structure was built and was running more than \$100 million over budget.

Carla Sledge was the county's former financial director and Steven Collins was the county's assistant corporation counsel, and both were indicted of two common law offences and two counts of willful neglect of duty.

The trial judge ordered proceedings in the case sealed, and further ordered that no one involved in the upcoming trial speak to reporters.

The Detroit Free Press protested and filed an action, arguing the orders were a violation of the constitutional right of freedom of speech. Following a hearing, the judge unsealed the proceedings but kept the gag order in place.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152701&locid=1" }, joined by Judge Michael Gadola and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=190101&locid=1" }, held the gag order was an unconstitutional prior restraint on the freedom of the press.

In addition, it was unclear in its writing as to who might be considered a person participating in the trial, the appellate judges said. There are times when gag orders are permitted, the court held, but in this case the trial judge failed to meet the strict standards that would permit such an order.

### Capital Notebook

**WILDLIFE GRANTS:** The Department of Natural Resources this week awarded \$910,000 in grants for habitat improvement projects around the state.

The largest of the grants was \$99,400 to the Michigan United Conservation Clubs for projects across the Lower Peninsula, followed by \$81,095 for projects in Crawford and Oscoda counties.

The grants are funded with hunting and fishing license revenue.

**CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION:** Following adoption of new certificate of need standards, the Department of Health and Human Services has designated Accreditation for Cardiovascular Excellence and Corazon, Incorporated as the two accrediting bodies for cardiac catheterization services in the state.

**ACTIVE SHOOTER:** With the recent spate of mass shootings around the country, the Michigan Occupational Health and Safety Administration is participating in an active shooter training seminar hosted by the Delta College School of Criminal Justice.

"This training will focus on helping organizations develop strategies for effective crisis management to prepare for, manage, and recover from the aftermath of workplace violence, traumatic accidents, fatalities and workplace emergencies," the agency said in an email announcing the free training.

Those interested can register by contacting Dawn Jurik at (989) 686-9176 or { [HYPERLINK "mailto:dawnjurik@delta.edu" \t "blank" }](mailto:dawnjurik@delta.edu) }.

Appointments By The Governor

**COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMISSION:** State Police { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303901&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=303901&locid=1) } of Brighton succeeds David Andrews to represent experts in the delivery of human, educational, environmental, or public safety services; Heidi Magyar of Laingsburg succeeds LaMont Campbell to represent experts in the delivery of human, educational, environmental, or public safety services; Michelle Rabideau of Grand Rapids succeeds Janet Lawson to represent experts in the delivery of human, educational, environmental, or public safety services; and Julie Calley of Portland, Robert Collier of Grand Rapids, Bob Kolt of Haslett, David Price of Lansing and John Truscott of Okemos are reappointed.

All of the appointments expire October 1, 2018 and are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

**EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Shirley Stancato of Detroit succeeds Roy Roberts, who resigned, for a term expiring August 8, 2017, and Mike Morris of Northville is reappointed for a term expiring August 8, 2019. The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

**MICHIGAN AUTISM COUNCIL:** Jeff DeLay of Davison succeeds Scott Gilman to represent Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans and Community Mental Health Services Programs and Diane Heinzelman of Petoskey, Anthony Ianni of Novi and Amy Matthews of Grand Haven are reappointed, all for terms expiring September 30, 2019. The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD INVESTMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Jason Gold of Ypsilanti and Beverly Burns of Detroit are reappointed for terms expiring July 22, 2019. The appointments are not subject to Senate advice and consent.

**EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES:** Karen McPhee of Lowell, senior education policy advisor to the governor; State Board of Education member Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor); and { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=393401&locid=1" } of Okemos are appointed for terms expiring at the pleasure of the governor.

**MIDWEST HIGHER EDUCATION COMPACT:** Steven Ender of Grand Rapids, Ms. McPhee and Mr. Whiston are appointed for terms expiring at the pleasure of the governor.

**STATE BOUNDARY COMMISSION:** Pamela Jarvis of Hastings succeeds Dennis Schornack, who resigned, for a term expiring November 15, 2016, and David Doyle of Okemos is reappointed for a term expiring November 15, 2018. The appointments are subject to Senate advice and consent.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

**Tuesday, October 6**

**Veterans Trust Fund Board of Trustees, Veterans Trust Fund Central Office, Fifth Floor, 222 North Washington Square, Lansing, 10:30 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dmva/MVTF\_Agenda\_2014\_451554\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

**Thursday, October 8**

**Eastern Upper Peninsula Citizens Advisory Committee, Clark Township Community Center, 133 East M-134, Cedarville, 6:30 p.m. (Following Natural Resources Commission; { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/EUPCAC\_2015\_October\_8\_Agenda\_501422\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

Supplemental Event Planner

**Tuesday, October 6**

**Michigan Laborers' Training & Apprenticeship Institute's Mobile Training Unit Event, Capitol Building exterior, Lansing, 9:30 a.m.**

**Saturday, October 10**

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=79201&locid=1" } (R)  
Fundraiser, Tavern and Tap, 101 South Washington Square, Lansing, 5 p.m.

## **Monday, October 19**

**82nd House District Candidate Jake Davison (R) Fundraiser, Cavelli's, 44 West Park Street, Lapeer, 5:30 p.m.**

**124 West Allegan Street, Suite 1200**

**Lansing Michigan 48933**

**Phone: 517-482-3500 | Fax: 517-482-4367 | Email: { HYPERLINK**

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**Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.**

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**Subject:** Michigan Report, Friday, October 16, 2015  
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## **Michigan Report for Friday, October 16, 2015**

Newsmaker Friday: Price Says Third Grade Reading Took Over Her Heart

Presumptive Parole Has Uphill Battle In Senate

EPA Creates Drinking Water Task Force For Flint

Bishop Shows Slight Lead Over Gilbert In Funds With All Reports In

Supreme Court Vacates Appellate Ruling On MCCA, FOIA

Snyder Names Task Force To Draft Special Education Changes

Appeals Court Upholds Registry For New Non-Sex Convictions

Campaign Notes

Capital Notebook: Court Again Continues Hearing In State, HP Case

Supplemental Agency Calendar

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## **Calendars**

Day Planner

Legislative Committee Schedules

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## Volume #54, Report #206 -- Friday, October 16, 2015

### Newsmaker Friday: Price Says Third Grade Reading Took Over Her Heart

The process leading up to the vote on two separate bills related to education policy was "intense," { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=285601&locid=1>" }, who led the charge on legislation to get third-graders reading at grade level and another outlining educator evaluations in the state, told Gongwer News Service.

"I think maybe I can sleep now," Ms. Price said Friday. The House voted Thursday { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482201](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB482201)" }, which would set up interventions for students struggling with reading in their early elementary grades and would also retain students if they are not reading proficiently at the end of third grade.

The bill was more controversial than { HYPERLINK

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10301](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015SB10301)" }, outlining educator evaluations, and it took two long session days this week before the third-grade reading bill had enough votes to eventually pass the House 57-48.

"It was a heavy lift," Ms. Price said.

Though a similar bill did come up last term on reading proficiency, it never got enough traction for the full House to bring it up on the floor.

But this term, { HYPERLINK

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } also made it a priority. A work group was put together with various lawmakers and stakeholders who met for three hours every Thursday during the summer, Ms. Price said.

"That process was very intense," Ms. Price said.

Ms. Price, during her floor speech on the bill Thursday, said she wouldn't consider herself "fire-y," but when talking with stakeholders on the third grade reading bill, she said it wasn't difficult for her to hold her ground on ideas she thought would harm the legislation.

"It's hard for me not to get fired up about this though," she said. "Every so often there is one piece of legislation that takes over your heart. For me it is this bill. I think it is likely because I love to read so much and I don't want any child to be deprived of that ability."

Ms. Price said her passion originated with hearing the statistics of how many students in the state were not reading proficiently before entering the fourth grade. Using the state assessment, it's 30 percent of kids, she said. But when looking at a more rigorous national assessment, it's almost 70 percent.

Ms. Price said she used to have conversations with former Rep. Joe Haveman about how the state could decrease its prison population, and both agreed it started at early childhood.

"If you start giving children a better education ... then they will have more options in life," she said.

The bill began as a bipartisan effort with Democrats involved in the work group and { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=319301&locid=1) } (D-Ann Arbor), the minority vice chair on the Education Committee, and House { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=268401&locid=1) } (D-Auburn Hills) co-sponsors on the bill.

However, Democrats ended up offering a variety of amendments that were not adopted to the bill, and the bill passed with only three Democrats voting in support. Mr. Zemke and Mr. Greimel removed their names from the bill.

"I will just be honest," Ms. Price said of losing the Democratic support. "I was very disappointed."

Ms. Price said it is not a partisan issue, but there was a disagreement on how to get increased reading proficiency in the state.

"I don't think anyone disagrees our children's reading scores are too low," she said.

Ms. Price said the retention portion of the bill got too much attention. She said the intervention pieces in the bill are the key. But last term, instead of being in a single bill, the legislation was a package of two. One held the retention portion and the other held the interventions.

Ms. Price said she believes that led to a focus on the retention last term and this one.

"Truly, I do not want to retain any kids," she said.

On the Senate side, Ms. Price said she believes { [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1) } (R-St. Clair), chair of the Senate Education Committee, is on board with the bill. She said he was on the work group as well.

"I have every reason to believe it will pass in the Senate," she said.

Another bill that passed this week, SB 103, which outlines educator evaluations in the state, began dramatically but eventually passed with relative ease in the House.

"If you had asked me about that three months ago, I would have (been surprised)," Ms. Price said of the bill passing drama-free.

But Ms. Price said the committee worked hard with stakeholders to get a final product out of committee.

"We were pretty confident when it came out of the committee it would move forward easily," she said.

On what's next for the Education Committee, Ms. Price said Mr. Zemke and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=371701&locid=1" } (R-Holland), the vice chair of the committee, have been working in a group discussing teacher preparedness.

She also said a debate on how to move forward with Detroit Public Schools is also coming to the committee.

Mr. Snyder has advocated getting state funds help pay off DPS debt and developing a new district in the city.

Ms. Price said she understands where the governor is coming from with his proposal, but also knows her caucus will be hesitant because of the money involved.

She also said she wants something sustainable put in place.

"I am very concerned that whatever is put in place is sustainable and in 10 years we won't be right back here," she said. "That means for me financial stability and academic improvement."

## Presumptive Parole Has Uphill Battle In Senate

Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151101&locid=1" } was not shy earlier this week about the fact that his caucus has numerous concerns and questions about a bill allowing presumptive parole for inmates reaching their earliest release date, and responses from several members of that caucus on Friday only further illustrate the bill is in trouble in the chamber.

"I did not hear one person pushing this at all, and I think it's very telling this wasn't referred to Judiciary committee or the corrections budget (subcommittee) where it should be," { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=83401&locid=1" } (R-Lawton) said of general caucus support or opposition to { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=legislation\_billdetail.cfm&billid=2015HB413801" }

.

Indeed, when the House passed the bill earlier this month, Mr. Meekhof sent it to the Senate Government Operations Committee, which tends to serve either as a bill graveyard or a place where very controversial legislation that needs a longer period of time to review goes.



Of the prospects of this bill in particular, Senate { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=18801&locid=1" } (R-White Lake Township) said it was likely the latter. Mr. Kowall said he does not himself have a position on the bill as it was sent over.

"Right now I'm listening to all sides," he said. "There's concerns, rightfully so, with prosecutors and sheriffs. It's a long way from being done."

Having run a small police department himself, Mr. Kowall said, he shares the concerns of some on whether those who would be paroled are still a danger to society and whether they were prior to being locked up.

"It's all the typical concerns over what type of parolees will be looked at to let out, the danger to society, (and) are we letting out people we're afraid of or people we're simply mad at," Mr. Kowall said. "It's all the same discussions that have been going on in the House and it's just going to take a while."

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=102801&locid=1" } (R-St. Joseph), chair of the Senate Appropriations Corrections Subcommittee, said all the conversations are exactly what need to be had for meaningful reform, though. He said his colleagues have been interested in whether HB 4138 would indeed show savings to the cost of corrections, how much, and whether it begins to change the way the department operates "for the benefit of the taxpayers and public safety."

"I have a lot of questions as to what the intent of the bill is and whether or not the intent matches the goals and objectives. If the intent is to save us money, I'm not sure this gets us to the kind of savings we want," he said. "If the intent is to provide the kind of services necessary to reintegrate offenders into Michigan society after they've served their time, I'm not sure this accomplishes that goal either."

Mr. Meekhof (R-West Olive) earlier this week pointed to Mr. Proos as being one of the lead legislators on the matter as the Senate considers the legislation and other types of Corrections reform. When asked about those alternatives, Mr. Proos listed numerous options, including:

- Continuing investment in law enforcement as the deterrent and as the public safety factor;
- Continuing investment in things like the Swift and Sure program, as well as the pilot program Parole Sanction Certainty (which follow the same model as Swift and Sure on the probation side to ensure parolees are receiving the kind of services they need to prevent them from becoming repeat offenders, he said); and
- A continued effort to ensure the cost structure in the Department of Corrections is "closely aligned with private sector costs so as to get the best taxpayer value possible," he said.

In fact, those issues are so central to this matter, Mr. Proos said, that he expects to have a hearing to discuss prisoner education, the positives and negatives of that expenditure, and whether it's meeting present-day job needs in various communities.

"After all, every three-to-four years, we parole the entire population of the Department of Corrections," he said. "If the folks are not prepared for parole, the question should be asked, why aren't they?"

He continued, "You have to peel away all the misinformation that exists on all sides of the issues and try to get to the root cause and the root problem. This isn't just a discussion about finances, it's not just a discussion about criminals, it has to be a more comprehensive and broad conversation about corrections, the judiciary and law enforcement and our entire criminal justice system."

Of the House plan, he said it calls into question "the most salient question about parole" in that some offenders are not as ready as others to go before the Parole Board before their earliest release date.

But Ms. Schuitmaker, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee who also served on the House committee during her time there, said the rate at which Michigan already paroles most of its prisoners is exactly why the legislation isn't necessary.

"We've done a lot in probation and swift and sure ... to try to rehabilitate people or hold them accountable to break the cycle of crime," she said. "I think the statistics don't bear it out and most people are let out within their first year of their earliest release date.

"I think also, we've had two reports from (Council of State Governments) come in and dispel the myth that we have all these people in prison that shouldn't be there," Ms. Schuitmaker said. "I think when you take a look at how we rank comparatively, we send fewer people initially to prison than surrounding states and that's why you see on the back-end that we keep more people. Michigan does a good job keeping people with substance abuse problems out of prison."

And the cost savings are "minimal" at best, she said.

As to the chance the bill might have in the Senate, especially in the immediate future, Mr. Proos said his hope is simply that the bill takes the time necessary for such a monumental change.

"We'll look at the positives and negatives of the House package and take that into account as it relates to comprehensive reform and criminal justice," he said. "I commend the House for working on a package that has opened the door to real conversations (about Corrections)."

## EPA Creates Drinking Water Task Force For Flint

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced Friday it had developed a Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force to provide technical assistance to the city and the Department of Environmental Quality as they work through the water issues in the city.

The task force will be led by Region 5 Deputy Regional Administrator Susan Hedman and will assist with developing and implementing a plan to secure water quality, including measures to optimize corrosion control, it said. Task force members will also be available for consultation purposes, as well as to coordinate, as necessary, with federal, state and local public health agencies to assist with protection of public health.

"EPA is committed to working with our state and local partners to ensure a safe and reliable drinking water supply for the residents of Flint, Michigan," Ms. Hedman said in a statement. "The formation of this task force continues our commitment to providing technical assistance to the city of Flint and the state of Michigan."

The task force is intended to provide technical guidance for both the coming switch back to the Detroit Water and Sewerage System and, once it is completed, to the new pipeline from Lake Huron by the Karegnondi Water Authority. The various officials and experts are intended to be available on-site in Flint.

Flint Mayor Dayne Walling said the switch back to Detroit water was expected to be completed by 5 p.m. Friday, earlier than expected.

The DEQ welcomed the additional assistance, spokesperson Brad Wurfel said. "We are glad to have the continued technical support and counsel from our federal partners," he said. "We have been working closely with the U.S. EPA on the challenges in Flint, including its added presence on the city's technical advisory and the Governor's 10-point plan. This is welcome news and we anticipate it will help us implement the Governor's strategy."

Elected officials from the region also hailed the EPA's assistance.

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=306801&locid=1) } (D-Flint) said he had requested the EPA send in advisors.

"I welcome the EPA's announcement today that they'll be sending technical advisors to Flint to assist the city and MDEQ on site with ensuring the safety of Flint's water," Mr. Kildee said in a statement. "The task force is a result of letters and phone calls over the past week with Administrator McCarthy and the EPA. In those communications, I repeatedly requested that the EPA send technical advisors to Flint to help with the transition of water sources. I am pleased to see that within a week the EPA has responded positively to my request, and I'm hopeful that this announcement is a step forward for the future of Flint's water."

{ [HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=7801&locid=1"](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=7801&locid=1) } (D-Bloomfield Township) also took some credit for the additional assistance being lent to Flint.

"All Michiganders deserve access to safe and clean drinking water, and the increased lead levels found in the Flint water system are simply unacceptable. I personally raised this issue with EPA Administrator McCarthy and have called on the EPA to provide the necessary resources and technical expertise to help ensure the water system is safe for drinking, cooking and bathing," Mr. Peters said in a statement. "All levels of government need to work together to prevent this

type of situation from ever happening again, and the Flint Safe Drinking Water Task Force is a good first step."

Senate { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1>" } (D-Flint) was also pleased to hear the news.

"The EPA plays an important role in managing Flint's crisis recovery. We should work closely with them and consider whether they may be able to offer additional support," Senate { [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=106601&locid=1>" } (D-Flint) said. "I also hope the EPA will be able to help us determine what happened and provide us with a solid oversight framework going forward. It's crucial that we take steps to ensure this never happens again."

The Task Force will be comprised of scientists and technical experts from the EPA Region 5 office in Chicago, the National Risk Management Research Lab in Cincinnati and the EPA drinking water program. In addition, EPA will ask { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } to designate a DEQ official and the Mayor of Flint to designate a city official to serve as points of contact for the Task Force, the EPA said.

Bishop Shows Slight Lead Over Gilbert In Funds With All Reports In

{ [HYPERLINK](#) "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=17501&locid=1>" } was able to outraise Democratic challenger Melissa Gilbert, but not by much, his quarterly campaign finance report showed.

Mr. Bishop (R-Rochester) raised \$213,962 for the quarter compared to the \$200,372 Ms. Gilbert raised (See { [HYPERLINK](#)

"[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542050104](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542050104)" }). But his \$396,776 in cash gave him a substantial funding head start in the race. He has raised \$529,352 total for the cycle. He also brought in \$2,975 total for the cycle from other authorized funds.

He did, though, still have \$31,872 in debt.

Paul Mitchell is leading the race to succeed { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=3701&locid=1>" } (R-Harrison Township), at least based on funding, reporting \$328,025 raised in his first quarter in the race. He had \$363,758 cash on hand but also had a \$250,000 loan from himself as part of those funds.

Ms. Miller, as she wound down her campaign, still had \$739,721 in cash, though she raised nothing for the quarter and only \$7,675 for the cycle.

Democrat Paul Clements does have a way to go to catch { [HYPERLINK](#)

"<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=2401&locid=1>" } (R-St. Joseph)

on fundraising. Mr. Upton reported collecting \$235,000 for the quarter and \$1.28 million so far for the cycle. He had \$829,168 in cash.

Among his total funding, Mr. Upton had \$67,493 for the quarter and \$89,790 for the cycle from other authorized committees.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=246701&locid=1" } (R-Crystal Falls), had he chosen to run, would have been substantially behind his likely Democratic challenger, at least in current fundraising. Mr. Benishek reported raising \$119,903 for the quarter and \$633,467 for the cycle. He showed \$446,341 cash on hand, which was more than Lon Johnson, but still had outstanding debts of \$89,500.

**SUBSCRIBERS PLEASE NOTE: { HYPERLINK**

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=87801&locid=1" } (R-Tipton) slightly outraised challenger { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=318101&locid=1" } (D-Saline) for the quarter. In addition to the \$133,160 his campaign raised in contributions for the quarter, his leadership fund, the Walberg Victory Fund, transferred \$77,970 to his campaign committee. That fund provided him \$93,844 in total for the cycle. Those receipts were included in his \$922,034 in cash on hand reported Thursday.

**Supreme Court Vacates Appellate Ruling On MCCA, FOIA**

The Supreme Court in { HYPERLINK "http://cdn2.hubspot.net/hubfs/434504/150001\_2015-10-16\_or.pdf?t=1445014759186&utm\_source=hs\_email&utm\_medium=email&utm\_content=22923628" \t "blank" } has vacated a Court of Appeals ruling holding that the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act and remanded the case to the appellate court for further action.

Specifically, the Supreme Court vacated the conclusion of the Court of Appeals that the establishment of the MCCA did not violate Article IV, Section 25 of the Constitution, which requires the section or sections of any act altered or amended by a bill to be re-enacted and published at length.

The MCCA statute specifically exempts the records of the association from being public, but the Legislature did not also amend the FOIA to exempt MCCA records.

In its order regarding *CPAN v. Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association* (SC Docket No. 150001), the Supreme Court said the Court of Appeals on remand should rule on an issue it left untouched in its first ruling - whether the MCCA is a public body. If it is a public body, then it should again decide whether the statute creating it violated the Constitution's requirement that all statutes amended should be re-enacted and published.

If it is not a public body, then the entire issue is moot because then the MCCA would not fall under the jurisdiction of the FOIA.

The Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault and others have urged the opening up of MCCA records. Insurers, which run the MCCA, have resisted the change.

The Supreme Court held arguments Tuesday on whether to grant leave to appeal (See { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=542030104](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=542030104)" } ).

Major points of discussion during those arguments were the question of whether the MCCA is a public body and whether the Legislature erred in not amending the Freedom of Information Act.

Attorneys for the two sides vigorously disagreed on whether the MCCA is a public body with CPAN contending it is and the MCCA arguing it is not.

In a statement, CPAN general counsel George Sinas said he expected CPAN to prevail on the question of whether the MCCA is a public body.

"When the Michigan Legislature publicly creates such entities through its legislative power, the entity created should be considered a 'public body' and therefore be subject to FOIA," he said. "This allows that all interested citizens who impacted by that entity will have the ability to learn the truth about the way it operates."

#### Snyder Names Task Force To Draft Special Education Changes

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=245801&locid=1>" } announced Friday a new task force to turn the comments { HYPERLINK "<http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=151301&locid=1>" } collected over the summer on special education into new policy recommendations on special education.

Mr. Calley started his listening tour on special education at about the same time the Department of Education was seeing substantial backlash to a package of administrative rules changes that opponents said would give more power to school districts to limit or deny services.

Among the key recommendations Mr. Calley collected from his public meetings and online surveys was stronger language controlling how districts use restraint and seclusion to control behavior.

He had asked the State Board of Education, when he presented his findings to that body (See { HYPERLINK "[http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article\\_id=541760103](http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=news.cfm&article_id=541760103)" } ), for help developing a dispute resolution process.

Mr. Snyder is seeking quick work from the task force, asking for a final report before the end of the year.

"This group will help us remain focused on putting Michigan's special needs children and their families front-and-center when considering reforms to this vital component in our educational system," Mr. Snyder said.

In addition to Mr. Calley, who will chair the panel, the task force includes education board members Michelle Fecteau (D-Detroit) and Eileen Weiser (R-Ann Arbor).

Legislators on the panel include { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=93801&locid=1" } (R-Saint Clair), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=41301&locid=1" } (D-Taylor), { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=353601&locid=1" } (R-Clarkston) and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=264501&locid=1" } (D-Allen Park).

Karen McPhee, Mr. Snyder's education adviser, as well as Walled Lake Schools elementary teacher Melody Arabo, who was Michigan Teacher of the Year for 2014-15 will also participate, as will Mary Bouwense, president of the Grand Rapids Education Association and a special education teacher; Elmer Cerano, executive director of Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service; Teri Chapman, director of the Department of Education Office of Special Education; Diane Heinzelman director of special education for Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District and chair of the Michigan Autism Council; Laura Jones, founder of Special Education Advocacy and Development; Scott Koenigsknecht, superintendent of the Ingham Intermediate School District; and Marcie Lipsitt, founder of Michigan Alliance for Special Education.

#### Appeals Court Upholds Registry For New Non-Sex Convictions

The requirement, added in 2011, that those who have a prior criminal sexual conduct conviction who commit a new felony have to register as sex offenders is a recidivist law and so is constitutional, the Court of Appeals said in a case released Friday.

Anthony Tucker, who was required to register after pleading guilty to felonious assault and domestic violence charges, argued the law was unconstitutional because it added to the penalty of his prior offense. He had been released from probation for a 1990 assault with intent to commit criminal sexual conduct conviction before the registry took effect in October 1995.

Mr. Tucker argued the new provision requiring him to register was an ex post facto addition to that earlier charge.

The court, in a per curiam published decision signed by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=108801&locid=1" }, { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152701&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=77401&locid=1" } (*People v. Tucker*, { HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20151015\_C322151\_31\_322151.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" } }), found the law met the standards for a recidivist statute.

"Defendant's registration was not required until he committed another felony in 2013," the court said. "His 1990 conviction was used to enhance the consequences of his 2013 felony, which was committed after the effective date of the statute."

To be considered *ex post facto*, the law would have had to require Mr. Tucker to register immediately on its effective date based on his prior conviction, the court said.

The court also rejected Mr. Tucker's argument that the prohibition on him being in school safety zones and the requirement that he register in person were cruel and unusual punishment. The court, citing a variety of prior cases, found the provisions were not punishment.

**CONDOMINIUM OWNERS:** Residents of a condominium are on their own land and so cannot sue for slip and fall injuries, the court said (*Francescutti v. Fox Chase Condominium Association*, { HYPERLINK "http://publicdocs.courts.mi.gov:81/OPINIONS/FINAL/COA/20151015\_C323111\_36\_323111.OPN.PDF" \t "blank" }).

Michael Francescutti sued after such a fall, arguing the association was negligent for not keeping the snow and ice from the walks. The association countered that it was an open and obvious hazard.

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=108901&locid=1" }, joined by { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=220101&locid=1" } and { HYPERLINK "http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=152801&locid=1" }, said the association owed Mr. Francescutti no duty as a lessor because it was not. He, as a unit owner, was a co-owner of the common area where he fell.

"Defendant is not leasing the common areas to plaintiff under a lease and, therefore, it is not a 'lessor'," Mr. Sawyer said.

Nor, because he is a co-owner, is he an invitee or a licensee owed any duty of care by the association, Mr. Sawyer said.

## Campaign Notes

**FARM BUREAU ENDORSES WHITEFORD:** The Michigan Farm Bureau AgriPAC has endorsed Rep. Mary Whiteford of Allegan in the 80<sup>th</sup> House District special election.

Ms. Whiteford is up against seven other Republicans in the special election primary for the seat, which was vacated when former Rep. Cindy Gamrat was expelled. Ms. Gamrat is also running for re-election.

The Farm Bureau also endorsed Ms. Whiteford in her 2014 bid.

Capital Notebook: Court Again Continues Hearing In State, HP Case



Kent Circuit Judge Christopher Yates continued the hearing held Friday on the state's request for a preliminary injunction ordering Hewlett Packard to turn over the source code for the Business Application Modernization project for the Department of State and assist the department with an orderly transition following the state's termination of HP's contract.

Department spokesperson Gisgine Davila Gendreau said the two sides have agreed on a transition plan and that HP agreed to provide the source code by Monday until the judge rules on the state's request.

The hearing will continue November 2.

**TOURISM SOCIAL MEDIA WORKSHOP RFP:** Travel Michigan has issued a request for proposals for a contractor to create a series of regional workshops and materials to educate Michigan's travel industry on utilizing social media to promote their destinations and better engage with Pure Michigan.

The RFP seeks a contractor to educate members of the state's tourism industry on the latest social media strategies, trends and best practices; organize and host a series of regional, in-person workshops and develop a Social Media Tourism Toolkit; create and maintain a social media Resource Library and provide industry members with a self-assessment workbook that will allow them to audit their social media efforts and presence.

Application questions will be due via email by 3 p.m. Eastern Time on October 22, 2015, a q-and-a posted to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation website on October 28 and electronic proposal submissions due by 3 p.m. on November 4, 2015.

The complete RFP can be viewed online at { HYPERLINK "http://www.michiganbusiness.org/public-notices-rfps/" \t "blank" }

**BONE MARROW STANDARDS:** The Certificate of Need Commission announced Friday that the members of its Bone Marrow Transplant Standards Advisory Committee had been posted on its { HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71551\_2945\_5106-122713--,00.html" \t "blank" }.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

## **Tuesday, October 20**

**Administrative Board/Building Committee, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/bcagenda\_16764\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

**Administrative Board/Finance and Claims Committee, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ({ HYPERLINK "http://www.michigan.gov/documents/fcagenda\_16770\_7.pdf" \t "blank" })**

Administrative Board/Transportation and Natural Resources, Lake Superior Room, First Floor, Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, 11 a.m. ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.michigan.gov/documents/buymichiganfirst/dnr\_agenda\_222565\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }

## **Wednesday, October 21**

Natural Resources Trust Fund, Lansing Community College West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone, Lansing, 9 a.m. ( { HYPERLINK

"http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Agenda\_-\_October\_21\_2015\_\_502659\_7.pdf" \t "blank" }

## **Thursday, October 22**

~~Canceled: State Police Retirement Board, Conference Room A, First Floor, General Office Building, State Secondary Complex, 7150 Harris Drive, Dimondale, 1:30 p.m.~~

### **Subscribers Please Note**

An item in Thursday's Capital Notebook contained the incorrect year through which Court of Appeals { HYPERLINK

"http://www.gongwer.com/index.cfm?link=bio.cfm&nameid=76201&locid=1" }'s term as chief judge runs. It runs through 2017.

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For September 28, 2015**

### **News**

Fiorina, Miller highlight GOP Mackinac Island conference (Detroit Free Press, 9/27/2015)

Michigan friends, foes of John Boehner praise service (Detroit Free Press, 9/25/2015)

New bills include increased transparency for DIA (Detroit Free Press, 9/26/2015)

Should guns be allowed in school? (Detroit Free Press, 9/26/2015)

Snyder fund still collects cash from undisclosed donors (Detroit Free Press, 9/26/2015)

Top of Michigan's '18 ticket could be historic first: All female (Detroit Free Press, 9/26/2015)

Michigan debates energy deregulation (Lansing State Journal, 9/27/2015)

Michigan Political Points: Cindy Gamrat, Todd Courser inspire re-election prevention bill (MLive, 9/26/2015)

First on the scene (Port Huron Times Herald, 9/26/2015)

Bill Clinton to headline Mich. fundraiser for Hillary (The Detroit News, 9/26/2015)

Detroit city clerk to challenge Conyers for House seat (The Detroit News, 9/25/2015)

Michigan facing \$13B tab to maintain water systems (The Detroit News, 9/27/2015)

Here's what your foreign cars have done to Michigan (Washington Post, 9/28/2015)

### **Editorials**

Snyder must act on Flint lead crisis (Detroit Free Press, 9/26/2015)

State data confirms higher blood-lead levels in Flint kids (Detroit Free Press, 9/26/2015)

Clemons: Rape culture change needs legislation (Lansing State Journal, 9/27/2015)

Snyder to address Middle Eastern commission (Lansing State Journal, 9/26/2015)

Clean Water Rule needs protection for Michigan rivers' sake (MLive, 9/27/2015)

Snyder taking right tack in wooing China trade (MLive, 9/25/2015)

Crops rot for want of immigration reform (The Detroit News, 9/28/2015)

Keep prevailing wage (Toledo Blade, 9/27/2015)

George Weeks: Continuing presidential campaign focus on Michigan (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 9/27/2015)

## **Blogs**

Huizenga Scoops Everyone On Boehner Departure (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 9/25/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For October 8, 2015**

### **News**

Dingell to have 2nd heart procedure, stays in hospital (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Group: IRS should probe pro-Schuette spending (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Michigan House OKs medical pot rules with wide support (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

State moving 1,600 prisoners out of Kinross in U.P. (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

State nurses say they work too much OT (Lansing State Journal, 10/8/2015)

Forfeiture package sails through Michigan Legislature, requiring police to disclose profits (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Medical marijuana dispensaries, taxes and edibles approved by Michigan House (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Michigan Senator challenges 'any state elected official' to gas tax debate (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Planned Parenthood not mishandling fetal remains in Michigan, state finds (MLive, 10/8/2015)

30,000 Michigan Teamsters face pension cuts (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Flint health experts support Detroit water reconnection (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

House votes to expand types of medical pot allowed (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Law that ends tax-debt loophole snags homeowners (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Mass evictions loom after homes sold off (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

Our editorial: Good behavior paroles will cut costs (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

### **Editorials**

Michigan legislators need to check their priorities (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Waiting for answers, action in Flint water crisis (Detroit Free Press, 10/8/2015)

Sex Trafficking in Michigan (Huffington Post, 10/8/2015)

Stop flow of microbeads into Great Lakes and break toxic chain (MLive, 10/8/2015)

Moss: Mich. Supreme Court shuts door on young readers (The Detroit News, 10/8/2015)

## **Blogs**

Joey Gamrat Video: Mom 'Not Here To Play Games And Attend Cocktail Parties' (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/7/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For October 12, 2015

### News

Active shooter training part of security plans at Michigan universities and colleges (Associated Press, 10/12/2015)

Michigan State researchers studying algae on Torch Lake (Associated Press, 10/12/2015)

State under mounting scrutiny for Flint's water crisis (Associated Press, 10/11/2015)

DTE, Consumers Energy want to shut off Michigan's renewable energy mandates (Crain's Detroit Business, 10/12/2015)

Flint doctor makes state tell truth about lead in water (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

Major reforms afoot for juvenile offenders (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

Michigan House looks at banning microbeads (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

Michigan's Energy Evolution: A Special Report (Detroit Free Press, 10/11/2015)

U-M freshman class has more minorities (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

Who gets money in Vets Day raffle? (Detroit Free Press, 10/12/2015)

First warning of rising lead levels in Flint water came 9 months ago (Flint Journal, 10/10/2015)

Flint water crisis doesn't change KWA pipeline plan to finish in June or July (Flint Journal, 10/11/2015)

Trust needed for Flint to rebound from water crisis, say those who know (Flint Journal, 10/12/2015)

8 facts about property assessments and tax rates in Michigan (Kalamazoo Gazette, 10/12/2015)

Bill would reopen Maxey, restore 65 state jobs (Lansing State Journal, 10/12/2015)

State nurses say they work too much OT (Lansing State Journal, 10/11/2015)

Report: Nearly \$24 million in suspected drug assets seized (Macomb Daily, 10/12/2015)

Detroit-area law enforcement join AG Bill Schuette to oppose parole reform (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Michigan AG Bill Schuette alleges anti-police sentiment, elitism in presumptive parole legislation (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Michigan Political Points: Sponsor sees 'green' on medical marijuana dispensary bill (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Lawmakers, parents seek 'Wyatt's Law' to protect kids (The Detroit News, 10/10/2015)

Mich. cops seized \$24M in 2014 in drug cases (The Detroit News, 10/11/2015)

Michigan finds electronic thieves at the gas pump (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

Schuette calls complaint about campaign ads 'pathetic' (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

Snyder officials take on painkiller overdose 'epidemic' (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

## **Editorials**

Battle is on for control of Michigan's marijuana market (Detroit Free Press, 10/11/2015)

Brian Dickerson: Was Schuette's \$2-million lesson a bargain? (Detroit Free Press, 10/11/2015)

Our view: Time for an independent redistricting commission? (Midland Daily News, 10/11/2015)

Prison time, forfeiture and medical pot: Lansing is on a bipartisan roll (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Proposed legislation addresses Michigan's gap in early literacy: guest column (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Rick Haglund: Finding funds for road repair not an easy fix (MLive, 10/12/2015)

Improvements in college counseling are underway (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

Our Editorial: Detroit's blight progress (The Detroit News, 10/12/2015)

Jack Lessenberry: Matty Moroun and the Port Authority (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 10/12/2015)

## **Blogs**

Flint Water Catastrophe Roils Snyder Administration (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/9/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For October 14, 2015

### News

Senate panel OKs concealed guns in 'gun-free' zones (Associated Press, 10/14/2015)

'Clean slate' law for offenders could be boon for business (Bridge Magazine, 10/14/2015)

Poll: Michigan voters strongly favor state prison reform (Bridge Magazine, 10/14/2015)

Michigan Senate panel OKs concealed weapons in schools (Detroit Free Press, 10/14/2015)

Road funding talks break down over income tax cut (Detroit Free Press, 10/14/2015)

Ex-emergency manager says he's not to blame for Flint River water switch (Flint Journal, 10/14/2015)

Flint City Council OKs \$2 million for reconnection to Detroit water (Flint Journal, 10/12/2015)

Lawmaker's lawsuit claims Flint, state withheld documents on water safety (Flint Journal, 10/12/2015)

Michigan lawmakers 'offended' by lack of DHHS answers (Lansing State Journal, 10/14/2015)

Michigan Supreme Court returns to Capitol for a day (Lansing State Journal, 10/14/2015)

Aide to Michigan congressman accused of attacking man with kitchen knife, using gay slur (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Ann Arbor schools chief asks lawmakers to keep concealed guns out of schools (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Cindy Gamrat says a Republican lock-out would be a slap in the face (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Income tax debate at heart of latest Michigan road funding stalemate (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Meth lab map shows why Michigan lawmakers are continuing crackdown (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Powdered alcohol ban passes Michigan House (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Court: Pot as tip no reason for police to seize car (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Gun control debate draws voters' attention in Mich. (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Snyder: Road fund talks hit dead end (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

## **Editorials**

Editorial: No need for more speed on Michigan highways (Battle Creek Enquirer, 10/14/2015)

For GOP, bloodying unions comes before fixing roads (Detroit Free Press, 10/14/2015)

Sorry seems to be the hardest word for the state to say to Flint (Flint Journal, 10/12/2015)

Ken Braun: Fixing the federal debt needs to start at Michigan's Capitol (MLive, 10/14/2015)

Column: Presumptive parole isn't safe for Michigan (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Editorial: Detroit community policing cutting murders (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Letter: Dem tax plan would help families (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Yanez: Prevailing wage good for Michigan (The Detroit News, 10/14/2015)

Flint's lessons (Toledo Blade, 10/14/2015)

## **Blogs**

Flint Crisis Comes On Eve Of Mayoral Election (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/13/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For October 20, 2015

### News

Michigan Supreme Court hears arguments on prevailing wage law (Bridge Magazine, 10/20/2015)

Blind activist to stand trial for resisting police (Detroit Free Press, 10/20/2015)

Federal appeals court hears Ambassador Bridge challenge (Detroit Free Press, 10/20/2015)

DEQ chief says state used wrong federal water rules in Flint for 17 months (Flint Journal, 10/20/2015)

DEQ replaces water official after state acknowledges 'mistake' in Flint (Flint Journal, 10/20/2015)

Emails show feds warned state in February of leaching lead in Flint (Flint Journal, 10/20/2015)

Michigan marijuana arrests rise as use increases nationwide (Michigan Radio, 10/20/2015)

'Green Tea' Party? Far right Republicans, liberal Democrats aligning on Michigan renewable energy issue (MLive, 10/20/2015)

How Snyder plans to sell his \$715 million plan for Detroit schools to Michigan lawmakers (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Schuetz fights resentencing as 'juvenile lifers' debate returns to U.S. Supreme Court (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Watch live: Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder to detail plans for Detroit schools, debt relief (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Legislation calls for microbead ban, environmentalists say its not enough (Petoskey News-Review, 10/20/2015)

Mich. GOP calls on Gilbert to refund spouse's cash (The Detroit News, 10/20/2015)

Snyder defends environmental director on Flint crisis (The Detroit News, 10/20/2015)

### Editorials

Gov's plan to fix DPS: The best we've got (Detroit Free Press, 10/20/2015)

Column: Teacher evaluation bill lacks mandates experts say are necessary to lift student achievement (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Lawmakers must stand up for Medicare cancer care in Michigan (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Susan J. Demas: Here's how bad things are for Democrats in Michigan (MLive, 10/20/2015)

Column: Update young offender sentencing (The Detroit News, 10/20/2015)

Right-to-know victory (Toledo Blade, 10/20/2015)

## **Blogs**

The Road Funding Debate And Michigan State's Miraculous Win (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/19/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For October 30, 2015**

### **News**

Improved smiles for some low-income Michigan children (Bridge Magazine, 10/30/2015)

Courser text scandal case heads to Lapeer prosecutor (Detroit Free Press, 10/30/2015)

Downriver, Allen Road miss out on U.S. DOT grants (Detroit Free Press, 10/30/2015)

Flint City Council votes to hire outside legal help on water issue (Flint Journal, 10/30/2015)

Seven key takeaways from a town hall meeting on Flint's water crisis (Flint Journal, 10/30/2015)

City Council president: Emergency manager set Flint on path to river water (MLive, 10/30/2015)

House Speaker Paul Ryan: See how Michigan lawmakers are reacting to election (MLive, 10/30/2015)

Whitmer/Richardville 2018? Former Senate GOP leader open to bipartisan gubernatorial run (MLive, 10/30/2015)

Why Michigan education officials aren't freaking out over dismal scores on new M-STEP test (MLive, 10/30/2015)

Mich. leads nation in Supreme Court election spending (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

Mystery group attacks GOP challenger to Gamrat (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

Pot legalization group stops collecting signatures (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

State police give Courser text report to prosecutor (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

### **Editorials**

A small victory for regional transit in metro Detroit (Detroit Free Press, 10/30/2015)

Government messed up in Flint water crisis, what next? (Detroit Free Press, 10/30/2015)

Are we there yet? The Senate says no (Michigan Radio, 10/30/2015)

Susan J. Demas: GOP roads plan could kill Snyder's signature 2011 tax reform (MLive, 10/30/2015)

High schools should pay for SC4 classes (Port Huron Times Herald, 10/30/2015)

Our editorial: Anybody but Courser, Gamrat (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

Rothwell: Assessing Michigan's talent future (The Detroit News, 10/30/2015)

It's time for Americans and Canadians to own the Ambassador Bridge (Toledo Blade, 10/30/2015)

## **Blogs**

The Subject Was Term Limits, The Discussion Elevated For Once (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 10/29/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For November 4, 2015

### News

Federal agency conducting review of Flint water supply (Associated Press, 11/4/2015)

2015 Michigan General Election: Macomb County results (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

2015 Michigan General Election: Oakland County results (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Everything we know about the Senate roads plan (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Former Reps. Courser, Gamrat defeated in comeback tries (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Legislature passes funding plan for roads (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

U.S. EPA will conduct 'full review' of Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 11/4/2015)

Michigan Legislature OKs roads plan with gas, fee hikes (Macomb Daily, 11/4/2015)

Election results around Michigan (Michigan Radio, 11/4/2015)

ABC's '20/20' filming Cindy Gamrat as election results come in (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Cindy Gamrat: 'I'm at peace with how it turned out' (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Election results: Full coverage of school bonds, state House primary and city leaders (MLive, 11/4/2015)

In re-election defeat, ex-state Rep. Todd Courser says he's 'walking corpse' (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Karen Weaver makes history, elected Flint's first woman mayor (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Michigan road funding deal: How they voted, and what they're saying about \$1.2 billion plan (MLive, 11/4/2015)

Two years after opening Detroit office, Republicans still eyeing long-term gains in Democratic stronghold (MLive, 11/4/2015)



Carson taps Mike Shirkey to chair Mich. campaign (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Election results for Wayne County (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Ex-DPS official 'steered' \$40M deal, feds say (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Snyder says he's ready to sign \$1.2B road fund package (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

## **Editorials**

Fixing our roads, at the expense of everything else (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Lawmakers fail LGBT in Mich., who deserve civil rights (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Michigan continues its dark money streak (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Michigan road funding bill: How we got to a bad deal (Detroit Free Press, 11/4/2015)

Judy Pulnam: Medicare costs curbed but only for some (Lansing State Journal, 11/4/2015)

Ken Braun: Michigan needs a Taxpayer Bill of Rights (MLive, 11/4/2015)

State View: Why hasn't Michigan banned microbeads? (Petoskey News-Review, 11/4/2015)

Berman: UAW is neglecting workers (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Michigan brings transparency to civil forfeiture (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

Wozniak: Campaign against clean air is embarrassing (The Detroit News, 11/4/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For December 11, 2015**

### **News**

Flint taking step to ensure safe water after problems (Associated Press, 12/11/2015)

Far from Flint, lead remains an irreversible scourge (Bridge Magazine, 12/11/2015)

Former Flint mayor wants feds to probe lead in water (Detroit Free Press, 12/11/2015)

GOP members of Congress from Michigan reject Trump plan (Detroit Free Press, 12/11/2015)

Flint will pay for independent water tests, added phosphate treatment (Flint Journal, 12/11/2015)

More lead in plumbing found at Flint's Brownell school, state report says (Flint Journal, 12/11/2015)

Troubled DHHS software improves (Lansing State Journal, 12/11/2015)

Black students struggling more in Michigan than other states, according to report (MLive, 12/11/2015)

Michigan marijuana legalization group extending petition drive, challenging 180-day policy (MLive, 12/11/2015)

Switch data center tax break bills delayed -- not dead -- in Michigan House (MLive, 12/11/2015)

Why school leaders say energy bill will take \$15M out of classrooms a year (MLive, 12/11/2015)

Obama calls Troy-bound Syrian refugee an 'inspiration' (The Detroit News, 12/11/2015)

### **Editorials**

Detroit school 'sickouts' measure system's dysfunction (Detroit Free Press, 12/11/2015)

For state's GOP reps, gun rights trump war on terrorism (Detroit Free Press, 12/11/2015)

Snyder can do the right thing on LGBT rights and endorse Fair Michigan (MLive, 12/11/2015)

Civil Rights commissioners: Stand up to hate (The Detroit News, 12/11/2015)

Editorial: Facts should inform gun debate (The Detroit News, 12/11/2015)

Szymanski: Juvenile court best answer for 17-year-olds (The Detroit News, 12/11/2015)

Detroit needs to unleash laws on humans to settle 'pit bull' issue (Toledo Blade, 12/11/2015)

## **Blogs**

A Thought , A Gloomy Thought, About Roads (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 12/10/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For December 15, 2015**

### **News**

Low-income workers must 'make it stretch' (Bridge Magazine, 12/15/2015)

Hillary Clinton campaign forms Mich. Leadership Council (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2015)

Report: Straits of Mackinac oil pipeline not necessary (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2015)

Mayor Karen Weaver declares water crisis state of emergency in Flint (Flint Journal, 12/15/2015)

Chief justice: State worker ruling unrelated to right-to-work (Lansing State Journal, 12/15/2015)

Where are tax dollars most at risk? (Lansing State Journal, 12/15/2015)

Lawmakers to argue energy overhaul, data center tax breaks in last week of 2015 (Michigan Radio, 12/15/2015)

Long-shot Dem seeks ballot access in Michigan primary, Donald J. Trump adds middle initial (MLive, 12/15/2015)

Detroit ranks No. 2 in Affordable Care Act contest (The Detroit News, 12/15/2015)

Donald Trump returns to Michigan for rally next week (The Detroit News, 12/15/2015)

Election board rejects recall petition against Snyder (The Detroit News, 12/15/2015)

Gov. Snyder 'open' to ending EAA school reform (The Detroit News, 12/15/2015)

### **Editorials**

The forest-loving Farm Bill at 25 (Bridge Magazine, 12/15/2015)

New bills boost legislators' attack on democracy (Detroit Free Press, 12/15/2015)

Editorial: Body camera footage is public (Lansing State Journal, 12/15/2015)

Worse than Citizens United (Michigan Radio, 12/15/2015)

As Legislature considers medical marijuana proposals, facts must overcome fiction, myths (MLive, 12/15/2015)

Rick Haglund: Michigan business tax incentives here to stay — for now (MLive, 12/15/2015)

Susan J. Demas: Courser-Gamrat scandal now threatens to take down House GOP in 2016 (MLive, 12/15/2015)

## **Blogs**

Even The Oversight Chair Can (Unofficially) Lose Control Of Time (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 12/14/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For December 17, 2015**

### **News**

Michigan letting school retirees return with pension (Associated Press, 12/17/2015)

Legislation to fix Detroit schools stalled until 2016 (Detroit Free Press, 12/17/2015)

MDOC restricts access to day rooms at women's prison (Detroit Free Press, 12/17/2015)

Michigan Senate, House OK end to straight ticket voting (Detroit Free Press, 12/17/2015)

Read Flint mayor's state of emergency declaration on water crisis (Flint Journal, 12/17/2015)

Public defender reform to get tougher (Lansing State Journal, 12/17/2015)

Michigan bills would ease vaccination waiver process, undermine new health rules (MLive, 12/17/2015)

Michigan Legislature caps 2015 with flurry of election bill action (MLive, 12/17/2015)

New contracts approved: State employees to get 1% raise, 1.5fixpercent lump sum payment (MLive, 12/17/2015)

New way to measure student growth for teacher evaluations in the works (MLive, 12/17/2015)

Mich. lawmakers vote to end straight-party voting (The Detroit News, 12/17/2015)

New law exempts young adults if they report drug abuse (The Detroit News, 12/17/2015)

Spending bill aids Great Lakes cleanup, MSU facility (The Detroit News, 12/17/2015)

### **Editorials**

When it comes to talent, Michigan needs more of everything (Bridge Magazine, 12/17/2015)

For Detroit students, don't go back to status quo (Detroit Free Press, 12/17/2015)

When did state know kids in Flint were lead poisoned? (Detroit Free Press, 12/17/2015)

Reading bill focuses on advancing students to proficiency (MLive, 12/17/2015)

Senate absentee-voting bill takes away more than it gives (MLive, 12/17/2015)

Without guidelines for Michigan teacher evaluations, everyone is awesome (MLive, 12/17/2015)

Durant: Give Michigan schools more freedom to innovate (The Detroit News, 12/17/2015)

Editorial: Deal to cap GM should be public (The Detroit News, 12/17/2015)

Letter: Time, dollars needed for juvenile justice (The Detroit News, 12/17/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For December 18, 2015

### News

Study: Rising lake temperatures may worsen algae blooms (Associated Press, 12/18/2015)

Detroit gets top score in ranks of gay-friendly cities (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

Federal government approves waiver for Healthy Michigan (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

Harvey Hollins tapped to lead Flint water effort (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

M-STEP results: Just 1 EAA 4th-grader passed math (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

MDOC restricts access to day rooms at women's prison (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

Questions, answers in Duggan's Detroit demolitions plan (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

Report rips security of state computer systems (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

Is Senate Business Office subject to FOIA? Michigan Senator seeks a formal AG opinion (MLive, 12/18/2015)

Michigan congressman hopes to add \$2 billion to blight fight (MLive, 12/18/2015)

Michigan wins crucial federal waiver to continue expanded Medicaid coverage program (MLive, 12/18/2015)

The 'CliffsNotes' guide to Michigan's new teacher evaluation law (MLive, 12/18/2015)

Feds approve Medicaid waiver for Michigan (The Detroit News, 12/18/2015)

Schuetz continues out-of-state fundraising (The Detroit News, 12/18/2015)

Snyder taps two advisers to help on Flint water crisis (The Detroit News, 12/18/2015)

Michigan prisoners train service dogs from behind bars (WZZM-TV, 12/18/2015)

### Editorials



Don't punish a breed of dogs for actions of bad owners (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

When did state know kids in Flint were lead poisoned? (Detroit Free Press, 12/18/2015)

Susan J. Demas: Anti-vaccination bills will harm Michigan children (MLive, 12/18/2015)

Bankruptcy could be option for ailing DPS (The Detroit News, 12/18/2015)

Editorial: Protect access to medical marijuana (The Detroit News, 12/18/2015)

Jack Lessenberry: Mich. lawmakers need to do more for Detroit's public schools (Toledo Blade, 12/18/2015)

## **Blogs**

What A Curious Thing House Democrats Have Done (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 12/17/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For December 28, 2015**

### **News**

Convicts paying for courts as lawmakers trump ruling (Associated Press, 12/28/2015)

2015: A list of state legislative achievements, inaction (Detroit Free Press, 12/28/2015)

Michigan mead-makers looking for a way to change laws (Detroit Free Press, 12/28/2015)

Road agencies: We're ready for whatever winter brings (Detroit Free Press, 12/28/2015)

State's handling of Flint water samples delayed action (Detroit Free Press, 12/28/2015)

Congressman calls for state water crisis health fund on Rachel Maddow show (MLive, 12/28/2015)

Gov. Snyder calls Flint water issue 'greatest challenge' during interview (MLive, 12/28/2015)

Schools celebrate more local control with new federal law (MLive, 12/28/2015)

Sluggish population growth may cost Michigan another Congressional seat after next Census (MLive, 12/28/2015)

Flint water scandal slops over onto DEQ (Port Huron Times Herald, 12/28/2015)

Mich. officials push back as feds recall military gear (The Detroit News, 12/28/2015)

Michigan's beach testing faster but expansion uncertain (The Detroit News, 12/28/2015)

Snyder signs bills granting tax breaks to data centers (The Detroit News, 12/28/2015)

State denies hiding Flint data on rising lead levels (The Detroit News, 12/28/2015)

### **Editorials**

Bizon: I heard constituents and voted against SB13 (Battle Creek Enquirer, 12/28/2015)

Legislature lets tragic failure in Detroit schools go on (Detroit Free Press, 12/28/2015)

Hurley: Michigan must get smarter, or it will get poorer. (Lansing State Journal, 12/28/2015)

Banning pit bulls is a knee-jerk response to a larger problem (MLive, 12/28/2015)

Blame term limits for Lansing's lack of sense (Port Huron Times Herald, 12/28/2015)

Our editorial: Transparency is Job One in demo work (The Detroit News, 12/28/2015)

Senate Bill 571 censors factual election information (The Detroit News, 12/28/2015)

Michigan's Medicaid victory (Toledo Blade, 12/28/2015)

George Weeks: Reflections on political deadlock (Traverse City Record-Eagle, 12/28/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For December 29, 2015**

### **News**

Mich. elections board to consider gay rights petition (Associated Press, 12/29/2015)

Should Wisconsin city get OK to tap Lake Michigan water? (Detroit Free Press, 12/29/2015)

State police probe sought in fatal shooting by officer (Detroit Free Press, 12/29/2015)

Auditor General's report says Flint water should have gotten corrosion control (Flint Journal, 12/29/2015)

Fair Michigan gay rights, anti-discrimination petition going before state board for review (MLive, 12/29/2015)

Michigan criminal justice reforms, shelved in 2015, are on the radar for first half of next year (MLive, 12/29/2015)

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder, legislative leaders name top accomplishments of 2015 (MLive, 12/29/2015)

State Rep. Gary Glenn named 'freshman lawmaker of the year' by news service (MLive, 12/29/2015)

Auditor general findings set off Flint water debate (The Detroit News, 12/29/2015)

Snyder plan to fix Detroit schools slow to gain steam (The Detroit News, 12/29/2015)

### **Editorials**

Black lives, Tamir Rice and America's uncivil history (Detroit Free Press, 12/29/2015)

Election reform laws headed in wrong direction (Midland Daily News, 12/29/2015)

Helping our veterans in Michigan and beyond (Oakland Press, 12/29/2015)

Lawmakers reinforce contempt for voters (Petoskey News-Review, 12/29/2015)

Bieda: Bills would leave voters in dark (The Detroit News, 12/29/2015)

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## **Michigan News & Opinion For December 30, 2015**

### **News**

3rd marijuana petition OK'd to collect signatures (Associated Press, 12/30/2015)

2015 deaths of famous Michiganders (Detroit Free Press, 12/30/2015)

Snyder apologizes, Wyant resigns in Flint water crisis (Detroit Free Press, 12/30/2015)

Missed Votes Report: See which votes area legislators missed in 2015 (Holland Sentinel, 12/30/2015)

Schools cry foul over bill limiting millage proposal publicity (Lansing State Journal, 12/30/2015)

Detroit watchdog group calls for Michigan State Police to investigate fatal police shooting (Michigan Radio, 12/30/2015)

DEQ spokesman also resigns over Flint water crisis, says city 'didn't feel like we cared' (MLive, 12/30/2015)

Fair Michigan gay rights, anti-discrimination petition approved for circulation (MLive, 12/30/2015)

Gov. Rick Snyder says he's sorry for Flint's lead-in-water crisis (MLive, 12/30/2015)

Flint water report prompts apologies, resignations (The Detroit News, 12/30/2015)

Rep. Upton plans congressional review of concussions (The Detroit News, 12/30/2015)

### **Editorials**

Editorial: Tell Snyder to veto majority's election 'reforms' (Battle Creek Enquirer, 12/30/2015)

Look back: What's it like to own the train station? (Detroit Free Press, 12/30/2015)

Gov. Rick Snyder still doesn't get it when it comes to Flint water crisis (Flint Journal, 12/30/2015)

State must pay for justice, not defendants (Port Huron Times Herald, 12/30/2015)

Editorial: Emergency management law working for cities (The Detroit News, 12/30/2015)

## Blogs

The Surprise In Wyant's Resignation Is Timing (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 12/29/2015)

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## Michigan News & Opinion For January 5, 2016

### News

Legal fees adding up for state in Courser, Gamrat case (Detroit Free Press, 1/5/2016)

Marathon refinery seeks OK to hike air pollutants (Detroit Free Press, 1/5/2016)

State employees who intentionally distort data could face jail time under a proposed law (Michigan Radio, 1/5/2016)

Cotter sets priorities for Michigan House in 2016 (Midland Daily News, 1/5/2016)

Bill inspired by Flint water crisis would make data manipulation by Michigan officials a felony (MLive, 1/5/2016)

Marijuana, LGBT protections and prevailing wage? 16 Michigan political issues to watch in 2016 (MLive, 1/5/2016)

Michigan taxpayers have spent more than \$77,000 on the Courser-Gamrat scandal so far (MLive, 1/5/2016)

Harassment suit against lawmaker settled for under \$12K (The Detroit News, 1/5/2016)

Michigan's Capitol buzzed by drone (The Detroit News, 1/5/2016)

Snyder chief of staff set to rejoin lobbying corps (The Detroit News, 1/5/2016)

Snyder weighs declaring water emergency in Flint (The Detroit News, 1/5/2016)

### Editorials

State apology, resignation over Flint water first step (Detroit Free Press, 1/5/2016)

Steady decline in wetlands endangers Great Lakes (Michigan Radio, 1/5/2016)

Editor's Note: Daisy Elliott's legacy will endure (The Detroit News, 1/5/2016)

Owens: Abuse at root of election bill (The Detroit News, 1/5/2016)



## Blogs

House Leaders Claim Optimism On Bipartisanship, But Can It Happen? (Gongwer News Service Michigan Blog, 1/4/2016)

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*Cheryl Lombard*

Departmental Analyst  
Professional Accountability Unit  
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## **MICHIGAN RADIO**

*State lawmakers will look at helping academically struggling schools*

Steve Carmody

Michigan schools that are failing academically are the focus of a series of legislative hearings kicking off this week.

State Senator Phil Pavlov, R-St. Clair, chairs the Senate Education committee. He says the state has spent time focusing on developing an early warning for school districts facing financial problems.

Pavlov says it's now time to see if efforts to help academically failing schools are working.

"The intent is to really put a focus on to see if we are really doing everything possible for these schools," says Pavlov.

Pavlov says, at this point, there is no specific legislation planned.

The committee plans to hear from State of Michigan Superintendent of Public Instruction Brian Whiston and other state education experts this week. Future meetings may include teachers, parents and students.

Pavlov says this is a problem for urban and rural schools.

## **GONGWER**

### *Split Reaction To Roads Package Finally Passing*

Business groups mostly hailed the Legislature completing action on a plan to raise \$600 million in new revenue for roads and commit \$600 million from the General Fund as well several years into the future, but other organizations decried the package as destabilizing funding for programs that rely on the General Fund and failing to solve the road funding shortage.

The Grand Rapids Regional Chamber of Commerce, the Michigan Chamber of Commerce and the Small Business Association of Michigan were among the groups praising the plan on its way to Governor Rick Snyder.

"Road and bridge repair is a key economic development issue of primary importance to small business owners, the communities in which they live and the economic recovery of the entire state," said SBAM President and CEO Rob Fowler in a statement. "The transportation and infrastructure funding package will provide the tools Michigan needs to fix our infrastructure, help our businesses grow and create jobs. It's an investment opportunity for Michigan's future."

Two business organizations that had sharply criticized the initial 600/600 plan from the House - Business Leaders for Michigan and the Detroit Regional Chamber - offered tepid praise. Both groups had criticized insufficient revenue from new taxes and raised worries about what the General Fund commitment would mean for higher education and other services.

"This road funding package provides substantial funding toward fixing our roads. While it doesn't meet all of our objectives for funding transportation - it meets many of them," said Doug Rothwell, BLM President and CEO, in a statement. "Moving forward, we will monitor the state's finances to ensure the goals of this multi-year funding plan are met and continue to encourage the state to prioritize investments to make college more affordable and to support job training and economic development as these are also critical priorities that are important to growing jobs and our economy."

Brad Williams of the Detroit Regional Chamber criticized the lack of new revenue prior to January 1, 2017.

"Michigan motorists deserve to have their roads fixed before 2017, but this appears to be the best this Legislature can do," he said in a statement. "It's time to move on and hope the long-term sustainability issues with this plan can be addressed in the future."

Lance Binoniemi of the Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association praised the plan and rejected criticism that the \$600 million from the General Fund - which will phase in starting in the 2018-19 fiscal year through the 2020-21 fiscal year - cannot be relied upon.

"It's a plan that's a long time coming," he said. "We obviously would have loved to see a quicker ramp up, and we will make efforts over the next few years to see if we can get more money in the next two or three construction seasons than this legislation allows for."

Nonetheless, Mr. Binoniemi said the General Fund money has the benefit of being enshrined in statute. He dismissed concerns that the next governor or future legislatures would vote to change that provision.

"We feel good there will still be demand from the public and there will still be demand from legislators that we continue to put more money into roads," he said.

The Michigan Municipal League cast the plan as underwhelming.

"It's an over-statement to say that a \$1.2 billion plan with \$600 million in new revenue and \$600 in General Fund dollars will fix Michigan's crumbling infrastructure," said MML Executive Director and CEO Dan Gilmartin in a statement. "This is especially true given that two-thirds of the new revenue will simply replace money already budgeted for roads in the current fiscal year and the plan doesn't fully phase in for almost a decade."

AFL-CIO President Ron Bieber said the numbers in the plan do not add up.

"This bill is based on fuzzy math and accounting gimmicks, and it won't do anything to actually fix our roads for at least two years," he said. "You don't fix the roads by cutting education, public safety, and health care, and you don't fix the roads by giving tax breaks to millionaires while raising taxes on working people."

Karen Holcomb-Merrill of the Michigan League for Public Policy said the proposal jeopardizes other key services.

"Our schools, public safety and local communities will all be put into jeopardy with \$600 million in unspecified future budget cuts and an income tax rollback that will further starve dollars available for many of the things Michigan residents value," she said in a statement. "This plan doesn't get us where we need to be funding-wise for years, when our roads will be even worse than they are now. It perpetuates the problem instead of offering a true solution."

## **DETROIT FREE PRESS**

### **EDITORIAL**

#### *Fixing our roads, at the expense of everything else*

This editorial has been updated to reflect a state House vote late Tuesday night on a road-funding package, which is now on its way to the governor's desk.

Irresponsible, reckless, shortsighted, ill-advised, wrongheaded ... we're running out of adjectives to describe Lansing's latest plan to fix our terrible roads.

But really, it's the same plan.

The deal that whizzed through the GOP-led Michigan Senate at breakneck pace yesterday afternoon and passed the House late last night, relies on the same dangerous, poorly defined \$600 million in cuts to the state's general fund that we've lambasted time and again. It's too much — or so Senate Majority Leader Arlan Meekhof of West Olive and Gov. Rick Snyder, both Republicans, have said.

That was last month.

Now, Meekhof's caucus — with the addition of apostate Sen. Virgil Smith, a Detroit Democrat who is awaiting trial on felony charges — has passed a roads deal that won't just cut that unspecified \$600 million from the state's general fund, the account that pays for most state services. An expansion in the Homestead Tax Credit included as a sweetener in the package means the total cost to the general fund is just more than \$800 million, about 7%, according to the House Fiscal Agency. Another \$400 million will come from increased fuel taxes and \$200 million from a 20% hike in registration fees.

Snyder, in a press conference last night, showed whole-hearted support for the deal.

What happened? It's possible Snyder and Meekhof find fiscal reassurances in this bill package that aren't apparent to the casual reader (or to the House Fiscal Agency, whose analysis of the bill package paints a dire picture of the impact to the state's budget). That both men have complete confidence in forecasts of economic growth, that Michigan's economy will perform so well that cuts to services will be offset by a new boom.

Or maybe they just gave up. Maybe they realized that in Speaker Kevin Cotter's truculent House, they won't get a better deal — that holdouts in the House would object to raising the gas tax and registration fees, not deep cuts to Michigan's state services. That to fix Michigan's roads, they'll have to preside over the evisceration of state government.

Thanks to term limits, neither man will hold office when the full brunt of these proposed cuts bears down on Michigan.

So there's that.

The governor should veto this bill. It doesn't merit his approval.

But Snyder is sold on the package. He called it fiscally responsible late Tuesday night. The general fund cuts, he said, "will not be done at the expense of other people."

At this point, it's unclear how that could happen.

In a recent interview on WDET-FM (101.9FM)'s "Detroit Today" about cuts to the general fund, Cotter seemed somewhere between naive and laissez-faire.

Cotter believes that a \$600-million reduction to the general fund could be "managed over time," without any cuts thanks to that forecast economic growth and "reprioritization." Fund "priorities" first, tweak some budget lines, and everything's A-OK.

It's the kind of wishy-washy fiscal management Republicans used to glory in decrying.

And here's the real kicker: Because half of the funding generated by this deal relies on general-fund cuts, which aren't defined, haven't been made, and might be hard to fully realize, this train wreck of a bill doesn't even answer the problem it's supposed to solve: how to generate \$1.2 billion to fix our roads.

Laugh, cry, throw up your hands in exasperation, do all three at the same time — there's no sane response to the Legislature's failure of leadership. To the prospect ahead, of a state struggling to provide basic services, starved into insolvency by a slate of GOP legislators working diligently to destroy the institution they were elected to lead.

Our roads may get fixed. But our state is broken.

**DETROIT FREE PRESS**

## *How to begin to stop the decline of Detroit's schools*

Tonya Allen/Skillman Foundation.

The bleak news announced last week about student performance in Detroit Public Schools has become an all-too-familiar and numbing element of the season, and something that Detroiters dread.

For the fourth year in a row, Michigan's biggest city ranked dead last among urban school districts that took part in the National Assessment of Educational Progress exam.

As if that weren't discouraging enough, Detroiters also were warned last week by the state treasurer that DPS — which has been managed from Lansing for the past several years — could be insolvent by spring.

Charter schools in Detroit, for the most part, also have failed to provide viable choices for parents seeking quality opportunities for their children.

The recent news that the U.S. Department of Education turned down the state's request for a \$45-million grant to expand charter schools should surprise nobody.

DPS apologists and charter demagogues alike ignore how poorly each sector has served Detroit schoolchildren, and, predictably, have taken to the airwaves and Twittersphere to spout self-serving and oft-repeated bromides that only feed the dysfunction.

The perpetual malaise in the Detroit education ecosystem is why a diverse group of unlikely allies came together nearly a year ago to form the Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren. Seven months ago, after working intensely for 100 days, the Coalition published its Choice Is Ours report, which laid out a comprehensive plan to make quality schools the new norm for Detroit families.

Key findings focused rightly on solving the most pressing issues holding Detroit schoolchildren back. Some of them include:

- Principals and teachers make or break a school, and we've got to support them and build successful schools around them.
- A DPS financial solution is only part of the answer. We need a different kind of DPS to emerge that is lean and focused on academics. It should have fewer administrators, do a better job of training teachers, and ramp up early literacy efforts to ensure all students are reading proficiently by the end of third grade
- All schools should be held to the same high standard of excellence, but given the freedom to decide how to get there
- School choice, and local control, should be protected
- And, finally, a new nonpartisan entity, the Detroit Education Commission, should be established to organize citywide services for all students, and to bring much-needed coordination for the opening and closing of schools across the city.

These initial pragmatic steps would put Detroit on the long road back to excellence. For Detroit schoolchildren to reach their destination, there needs to be continued leadership well beyond the triage phase of the work. Getting on that difficult road is the only way to bring about the education transformation we need — and once again make high-performing schools the norm for Detroit kids.

To accomplish this transformation, we have to be focused on making real change:

- Give schools the authority to make real decisions about their budgets and staff, and then hold them accountable to high expectations

- Hold parents and students accountable too for doing their part. That means kids show up every day, do their homework, and enthusiastically participate in their school communities
- Ensure that all schools are held to high standards, and close the low-performing schools that shortchange schoolchildren and families
- Create the conditions that make Detroit a place where teachers want to work, and develop and retain the most-capable teachers.

Sustaining Detroit's historic turnaround requires all of us to pull together to bring the city's schools back to national prominence. We can do this.

## **MICHIGAN RADIO**

### *Detroit teachers protest school district reorganization plan*

Rick Pluta

Several hundred demonstrators chanted "enough is enough" at a state Capitol rally opposing Governor Rick Snyder's proposed reorganization of the Detroit Public Schools.

The rally was organized by the teachers union, which brought in members by the busload to protest and to lobby state lawmakers.

"I'm here to defend public education in Detroit, to stop the governor from shutting down Detroit public schools, and to restore democratic rights to the people of Detroit with an elected school board immediately," said Nicole Conaway, an organizer with the Detroit Federation of Teachers.

The governor's plan includes creating a new school district, that would be run by a chief with sweeping authority and an appointed – not elected – school board. It would be funded entirely by the state. The current school district would exist solely to collect local taxes and pay off a mountain of debt.

High school teacher Chejuana Stewart says six years of state control over the Detroit schools hasn't worked. And she doesn't think more state oversight is the answer.

"We're here understanding that there are some budget cuts, but we are constantly being oppressed. Our personal quality of life is being effected," she says. "Many teachers are making less now than they were making five or six years ago, and it's just getting to be too much."

The governor's plan could be sent to the Legislature as soon as this week, although it's already drawing opposition from Republicans, who don't like the cost, and Democrats, who want to see control restored to an elected school board.

## **DETROIT NEWS**

### **LETTER**

### *Detroit coalition supports charter schools*

Re: Ingrid Jacques' Oct. 30 column, "Reformer fired for suggestion radical change": I would like to address a number of misleading assertions in this column. The Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren has never blamed the woes of the Detroit Public Schools on charter schools. On the contrary, the vast majority of coalition members are very pro-charter school.

Concerning culpability, the state of Michigan has been in full control of DPS for 13 of the last 15 years. Blame for the lack of progress rests squarely with the emergency managers, administrators, educators and governments that have been in control since 2000. The coalition is not seeking a “fat bailout check” from the state. Actually, the state — which ran DPS, drove it into near bankruptcy, and now owns virtually 100 percent of the \$866,000,000 back debt as well as the 2015-2016 budget — must find a way to pay itself back. And that should not be by misappropriating the “foundational grant,” which was intended to educate children, but currently is being used to pay back debt accumulated over the past 15 years.

I am in full agreement with the editorial’s conclusion that the schoolchildren of Detroit “deserve better,” and that we all have to come together to find solutions. It is ethically and morally wrong to lessen the quality of education for our state’s most vulnerable children.

John Rakolta Jr./co-chair/Coalition for the Future of Detroit Schoolchildren

## **WKAR/Current State**

### *Emergency Manager Darnell Earley defends Flint role, Detroit schools plan*

Twice, Delta Township resident Darnell Earley has been appointed as an Emergency Manager in Michigan: once in Flint and currently in the Detroit Public Schools. Current State talks with Earley about the Flint water switch and why he thinks the legislature should pass the Governor’s Detroit schools funding plan.

As the former Emergency Manager of the city of Flint, our first guest has come under fire recently. Many are blaming Darnell Earley for not stopping the city's decision to switch its water source to the Flint river. The move led to dangerously high lead levels in drinking water.

Earley left his Flint position early this year. Today, he is the EM for the Detroit Public Schools, trying to right the historically troubled district. It faces more than a half-billion dollars in debt.

In both roles, the ordained Baptist deacon has remained a resident of Delta Township.

Current State talks with Darnell Earley about the city of Flint and public schools in Detroit.

Listen: <http://cpa.ds.npr.org/wkar/audio/2015/11/CS151102a.mp3>

## **DETROIT NEWS**

### *Ex-DPS official ‘steered’ \$40M deal, feds say*

Shawn D. Lewis

A former Detroit Public Schools administrator worked to “fraudulently steer” a \$40 million contract from the district to a textbook publisher where she once worked, an FBI agent alleged in a federal court filing.

In an affidavit for a search warrant request filed in U.S. District Court in Detroit in March 2013, special agent Joseph Jensen said “there is probable cause to believe” Barbara Byrd-Bennett violated federal theft, fraud and conspiracy laws, the Chicago Sun-Times reported.

Byrd-Bennett, who was chief accountability officer for DPS from 2009 to 2011, served as chief executive officer of the Chicago Public Schools from 2012 until June 2015, when she resigned during an investigation of alleged bid-rigging in that district.



Byrd-Bennett pleaded guilty Oct. 13 to steering \$23 million in CPS contracts for the SUPES Academy and Synesi Associates, two education consulting companies she worked for before becoming CPS school chief.

According to the affidavit filed in Detroit, federal authorities also suspected that two aides helped Byrd-Bennett rig the bidding process in Detroit in favor of Boston-based Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, the Sun-Times reported. The affidavit was for a search warrant to search Byrd-Bennett's AOL email account.

No one has been charged in connection with the investigation of the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt deal. The Sun-Times reported last week that federal investigators were looking into the 2009 deal.

In a statement, DPS spokeswoman Michelle Zdrodowski said the district began an internal inquiry into the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt deal four years ago.

"Detroit Public Schools takes seriously any allegations of misconduct against its employees and/or vendors," Zdrodowski said. "As with any matter where there are allegations of misconduct, DPS investigates internally and works cooperatively with the law enforcement agency handling such matters.

"As it relates to Ms. Byrd-Bennett and the contract with HMH, the District initiated its internal investigation in 2011 and continues to work with law enforcement agencies in an ongoing investigation," she said.

Former Detroit Federation of Teachers president Keith Johnson was in office while Byrd-Bennett worked for DPS.

"The only thing that came up was that there was a question about whether there was a conflict of interest since she once worked for Houghton Mifflin, and them getting the \$40 million contract," he said.

"To my knowledge, nothing was revealed that there was any impropriety, but people did raise an eyebrow."

He was asked if he was surprised at the latest in the federal investigation.

"I could see it coming, given what happened in Chicago," Johnson said. "I will sit back and see if they come up with anything. If she received personal benefit from the contract, that would bring a whole different perspective to the circumstances."

## **ASSOCIATED PRESS**

*Court document reveals FBI suspicions against former Detroit schools official*

Court documents show the FBI was investigating whether former Chicago Public Schools CEO Barbara Byrd-Bennett fraudulently steered a \$40 million contract to an educational publisher while she worked for Detroit schools.

The documents obtained Monday by the Chicago Sun-Times (<http://bit.ly/1Q4gzGL>) also show authorities suspected two aides who later worked for Chicago schools of helping Byrd-Bennett rig the bidding process in Detroit in favor of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

The details come from an affidavit filed in March 2013 by the FBI for a warrant to search Byrd-Bennett's AOL email account. An FBI special agent wrote he believed emails would show she lied about her relationship with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt and had a conflict of interest.

Byrd-Bennett pleaded guilty last month in Chicago federal court to helping steer \$23 million in no-bid contracts to education firms for \$2.3 million in kickbacks and bribes while at Chicago Public Schools. She was named chief of the Chicago school district in 2012.

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt won the contract in 2009 in Detroit, where Byrd-Bennett was working as a high-ranking official for the school district. In the sealed affidavit, the special agent told a judge he thought Byrd-Bennett had "worked with and through" the two longtime aides and an executive for the publishing company in a fraudulent scheme.

Authorities told the judge that there was an "unusual financial transaction" three weeks before the contracting process began for the deal. Records show an FBI analysis of a bank account belonging to Byrd-Bennett showed a deposit of roughly \$26,500 from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in July 2009.

According to court records, Byrd-Bennett had worked with the publisher for three years before arriving in Detroit in May 2009. She returned to the publisher a couple months after leaving Detroit schools.

The FBI special agent wrote that emails indicated Byrd-Bennett and the two aides picked Houghton Mifflin Harcourt "as early as June 2009," two months before Detroit schools issued a request for proposals for the deal.

No one has been criminally charged in the investigation of the contract in Detroit. An attorney for Byrd-Bennett and a spokeswoman for Houghton Mifflin Harcourt declined to comment.

## **DETROIT FREE PRESS**

*FBI: Former DPS official 'fraudulently' steered contract*

Ann Zaniowski

An FBI investigator believed that a former Detroit Public Schools official who pleaded guilty last month to defrauding schools in Chicago illegally steered a controversial \$40 million book deal to DPS, according to court records.

Federal authorities also suspected that Barbara Byrd-Bennett lied to the district about her relationship with the book publisher, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, and had a conflict of interest, documents obtained this week by the Chicago Sun-Times newspaper show.

Byrd-Bennett was the chief academic and accountability officer for Detroit Public Schools from May 2009 to June 2011. Last month, she pleaded guilty to helping steer \$23 million in no-bid contracts to education firms for \$2.3 million in kickbacks and bribes while she worked at Chicago Public Schools after leaving Detroit.

The new details come from an affidavit filed in March 2013 by an FBI agent for a warrant to search Byrd-Bennett's AOL email account.

FBI agent Joseph Jensen wrote that there was "probable cause" to believe that Byrd-Bennett committed fraud, theft and conspiracy while she worked for DPS. He said emails showed Byrd-Bennett had conversations — many using her personal email account — that referenced the contract eventually awarded to Houghton Mifflin Harcourt weeks before the district even began seeking requests for proposals..

Jensen also noted that the book company deposited \$26,530.26 in Byrd-Bennett's money market account on July 20, 2009.

"This is an unusual financial transaction that occurred approximately three weeks before the (request for a proposal) was issued," Jensen wrote.

Other emails showed that Byrd-Bennett had an active relationship with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt while she was employed with the district.

The documents also show authorities suspected two longtime Byrd-Bennett aides and an executive at the book publisher of helping her "fraudulently steer" the nearly \$40 million contract to Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

The nearly \$40 million contract was paid for using federal funds.

Byrd-Bennett was a "superintendent in residency" for Houghton Mifflin Harcourt from February 2006 to March 2009, according to the affidavit. She returned to the publisher after leaving DPS.

DPS spokeswoman Michelle Zdrodowski said the district is cooperating with law enforcement in what she described as an ongoing investigation.

"Detroit Public Schools takes seriously any allegations of misconduct against its employees and/or vendors," she wrote in an e-mail. "As with any matter where there are allegations of misconduct, DPS investigates internally and works cooperatively with the law enforcement agency handling such matters.

"As it relates to Ms. Byrd-Bennett and the contract with (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt), the district initiated its internal investigation in 2011 and continues to work with law enforcement agencies in an ongoing investigation."

However, Wilbert Van Marsh, the former inspector general for Detroit Public Schools, told the Free Press that his investigation of Byrd-Bennett began sooner — in early fall 2010. He turned the findings over to the FBI in Detroit in late 2010 or early 2011, he said.

Marsh said the tip that sparked his investigation was related to the book deal. He declined to elaborate.

Jill Washburn, media coordinator for the FBI in Detroit, declined to comment Tuesday, saying "it's still a matter of investigation."

Byrd-Bennett became CEO of Chicago Public Schools in 2012. She stepped down in June.

During Byrd-Bennett's tenure in Detroit, the district awarded contracts worth about \$3.4 million to Synesi Associates, one of the companies named in the indictment against her out of Chicago.

As part of a plea deal, prosecutors in Chicago recommended that she serve 7½ years in prison for one count of fraud. In exchange for her guilty plea on that count, prosecutors said they will drop the 19 other fraud counts, each of which carried a maximum 20-year term.

## **MICHIGAN RADIO**

*Inkster voters asked to renew millage for dissolved school district*

Sarah Cwiek

Inkster voters are deciding a millage renewal this Election Day — for a school district that no longer exists.

The state dissolved Inkster schools in July 2013.

But the district still exists on paper to pay off debts — including a \$12.5 million emergency loan from the state in the spring of 2013.

Steve Ezikian is deputy superintendent of the Wayne Regional Educational Services Agency, which carries out the old district's remaining obligations.

Ezikian says Inkster voters face this decision: "Do we maintain the status quo to pay off this debt, or do we risk a judgment levy?"

Ezikian says that judgment levy could come about because the state could go to court to collect on the debt, and has "the law on its side."

That's because the district's 18-mill tax levy on non-homestead properties was pledged to guarantee the state loan. If there's a judgment levy, it would apply to property owners across the board.

"I understand their frustration. They don't have a school district. They don't feel like they did this," Ezikian said. But: "It's in their best interest, even though it's distasteful, to maintain the status quo."

A Michigan Department of Treasury spokesman did not immediately respond when asked if the state would pursue court action to collect the Inkster schools debt.

This wouldn't be the first time Inkster taxpayers would face a judgment levy.

They're already paying out settlements on several police brutality cases, including a \$1.37 million settlement for the police beating of motorist Floyd Dent. Former Inkster officer William Melendez went on trial for Dent's assault this week.

Inkster taxpayers also had to pay out this summer as part of a \$49 million Wayne County tax levy, after county retirees successfully sued for extra pay.

## **LANSING STATE JOURNAL**

OP-ED

### *Schools are losing their magic*

Maryanne Boylan/English and reading instructor/Bath High School

I ran into a fellow teacher recently. As teachers do, we asked each other how our years were going. Her response, "Well, after I collect my data, I have a little time for what I love about teaching." My response to her, "Oh, you mean the magic?" She laughed and said, "Yeah, I have less time for the magic each year."

As a teacher, I am evaluated on data. The data that indicates what I should be teaching, the data I must provide to indicate I am teaching, the data upon which 50 percent of my job performance is based. But when I am in my classroom, and I have made my way through what I am required to do by my district, with any time left I try to fit in the magic.

Teachers are highly trained professionals and we should be held accountable for what we do. And yet, it is as though teachers are no longer trained professionals in their own right, but rather voices who deliver content that is prescribed by data. This can include on any given or all days: pre-testing, post-testing, I Can Statements. And this is not to say that these are necessarily negative – unless they pull away from the content, the personality, the delivery that a teacher brings to the job. When a teacher is encumbered by requirements that do not use their abilities and strengths as a teacher to deliver content, it is then that the magic, the beauty of connecting to our students is threatened.

It is incumbent upon administrators to ensure that teachers are delivering content in a viable and productive manner while also honoring the professionalism and training of instructors. As of late, this has evolved into data-led instruction

as opposed to trusting the abilities and strength of teachers to deliver content in a way that honors their professionalism and their skills.

It is impossible to measure the magic that happens when I am reading *To Kill a Mockingbird* and the whispering amongst students as they start figuring out that Boo is a hero. I can't pull data out of that. I just know it worked. The kids know it worked. It's the accomplishment that a teacher cannot measure, but immediately recognizes as growth and mastery. It is the magic.

An oft-repeated concern amongst teachers is, "It would be nice to come into a year without additional time-consuming requirements that as professionals we do not feel support good practices in the classroom and instead build on those past practices that have worked." Less and less time is spent in the educational setting that allows for teachers to share what has been successful for them in the classroom and instead must be replaced is replaced with collecting data that administrators tell us will provide best practices.

This year, 50 percent of a teacher's evaluation is based on student improvement. That figure is derived from data collected by the teacher. That data must be collected during the school day. It is the ultimate Catch-22 – show us you are a better teacher by taking time out of instructional time for students to prove that. Day by day, killing the magic that makes teaching is being extinguished.

## **LANSING STATE JOURNAL**

### *Teacher accused of abusing student remains eligible to teach*

RJ Wolcott and Matt Mencarini

A former Lansing teacher who resigned from the district after abusing a student has retained his state teacher certification and remains eligible to teach in Michigan.

Lester Duvall, 58, was charged in November 2014 with fourth-degree child abuse after an investigation by the Lansing Police Department stemming from an incident last fall when he was accused of pushing a student to the ground and into a bookcase, according to court records.

That incident led to a federal civil lawsuit filed by the student's mother Monday, Jennifer Garza, which alleges Duvall was working as a substitute teacher in Garza's son's special education class at Gardner Leadership, Law & Government Academy the day of the incident. The lawsuit details other alleged abuses by Duvall against Garza's son, who is autistic, and other students dating back to 2003.

Duvall pleaded no contest to disorderly person/jostling in the criminal case after the Ingham County Prosecuting Attorney's Office amended the charge June 1, as part of the plea agreement, which included no upfront jail time. He was sentenced to court fines and costs of \$300.

Had he been convicted of the original charge, Duvall would have been required to report the incident to the Michigan Department of Education, said spokesperson Bill DiSessa. The department would then have the authority to take action against his educator's certificate, he added.

Review of a teacher's certification status by the MDE requires a conviction on a felony charge or certain misdemeanors, said DiSessa. A disorderly person charge is not on the list.

That means Duvall keeps his certification, which is set to expire June 30, 2017, according to MDE database.

"Mr. Duvall is certified to teach," DiSessa wrote in an email.

Ingham County Chief Assistant Prosecutor Lisa McCormick said her office isn't aware of the charges that allow the state to challenge or revoke a license and only considers the criminal case when making decisions on charges or plea agreements.

"We consulted with the victim about the case and the child testifying, and decided that this was in the best interest of everyone," McCormick said. She added that Garza and her son agreed with the decision.

Duvall didn't immediately return a message left seeking comment.

Fillipe Iorio, Duvall's defense attorney, didn't return a message left seeking comment.

A motion Duvall's attorney filed in the criminal case says the student was "acting out by shouting and screaming" after being told to sit down. Duvall restrained the student to keep him from running around the classroom and the student screamed and kicked Duvall, according to the motion.

Duvall's attorney added that the student had a history, documented in his student file, of having "significant outbursts" and becoming verbally abusive and aggressive.

Before Duvall was charged in the criminal case, the district investigated the incident. He was placed on administrative leave during the investigation and then suspended for three days without pay, according to a letter provided to the Lansing State Journal by representatives for Garza's attorneys. He resigned effective April 30, according to a text message Bob Kolt, district spokesman, sent to the State Journal Tuesday evening.

The lawsuit filed by Garza also cites a number of documented cases of Duvall using force against students in the past decade. In Oct. 2012, a Community Mental Health official sent a letter to the district asking a student with autism spectrum disorder not be placed in Duvall's class, according to the complaint.

A Community Mental Health representative said she was unable to confirm or deny the letter's existence, citing federal privacy law.

Kolt didn't respond to a message seeking information about any insurance policy the district has that would protect it against lawsuits and if the district will pay for legal fees for the employees named in the lawsuit.

Representatives from the Lansing School Educational Association did not respond to the State Journal's request for comment Tuesday.

Garza's lawsuit alleges Duvall was substituting in her son's special education class on Oct. 7, 2014. Duvall's teaching certification lists qualifications as a grade 6 through 12 history teacher as well as an ability to work with students with cognitive impairments and those with autism spectrum disorder.

After being instructed to halt sharpening his pencil and return to his desk, Garza's son, not named in the lawsuit because of his underage status, went to another sharpener. The lawsuit says he has autism spectrum disorder as well as attention deficit disorder.

According to the complaint, Duvall grabbed the student, dragged him to the classroom door and threw him onto the floor and into a bookcase. As a result of the incident, Garza's son has also seen an increase in anxiety and depressive symptoms following the incident, according to the lawsuit.

While the lawsuit cites a number of incidents involving Duvall using unwarranted force on students, attorneys said personnel reports, including Duvall's, were shredded by former Beekman Center principal Sheryl Bacon. He had worked at the center before being transferred to Gardner.

Garza said she was also not told the full extent of the incident involving Duvall and her son.

## NEW YORK TIMES

### *Rift Emerges Among Gun Owners Over Concealing Weapons in Schools*

MITCH SMITH

When Kenneth Herman visits his daughter's school, the handgun holstered to his right hip is visible to anyone. And that has caused him problems.

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School officials have denied Mr. Herman access to school buildings, asked him to wait in the principal's office and called the Sheriff's Department on him. So Mr. Herman, a paramedic who grew up in this semirural community 85 miles northwest of Detroit, sued Clio Area Schools for the right to carry his weapon openly on school grounds, and in August he won the case. The district has appealed.

Now his dispute with the school district has become part of a statewide debate over guns in schools that has exposed a rare split among firearm owners. It pits proponents of widespread open carry like Mr. Herman against other gun owners who believe concealed weapons are more appropriate in some settings.

The two sides are divided over legislation introduced by Republicans in the State Senate that would allow people with the proper permits to carry concealed weapons at schools, but would ban open carry there. The measure could come up for a vote before the end of the year.

Not surprisingly, Mr. Herman and other open-carry proponents are opposed to the legislation, a two-bill package. What is surprising are the allies they have found in the fight: gun control activists who oppose the legislation because they do not want any weapons carried on school grounds, openly or concealed, except by the police.

"A concealed gun is no less dangerous than one that is visible," said Dr. Sonya Lewis of the Michigan-based Physicians for Prevention of Gun Violence at a committee hearing on the legislation.

But perhaps even more surprising than the agreement between open-carry and gun control supporters is the split among firearm owners. Many concealed-carry supporters support the legislation as a compromise that would clarify a conflicting web of laws and court precedents on firearms while ensuring that guns could still be taken into schools.

"This is a very unusual bill in that it's being attacked by the usual suspects — all the Bloomberg groups — and it's also being attacked by some of the open-carry groups," said Steve Dulan, a board member for the Michigan Coalition for Responsible Gun Owners, which supports the bills. "We expect all the folks in the matching T-shirts to be against it. We didn't necessarily expect some of the guys wearing guns to be against it."

Michigan law on weapons in schools is complex, and to some extent unsettled. Like many states, Michigan bans concealed guns at schools, libraries, sports arenas and other places. But the judge in the Clio case found that residents can take handguns into those spaces provided they carry them openly and have concealed pistol licenses.

Another Michigan judge, however, found just the opposite, ruling that the Ann Arbor schools acted legally in banning openly carried guns inside their buildings.

State Senator Arlan Meekhof, a Republican with a concealed pistol license who said he carries a weapon "all the time, except in schools," is trying to resolve the conflict. He has sponsored legislation that would prohibit open carry on school campuses and require schools to allow concealed carry on their campuses for permit holders who seek an exemption.

The legislation would apply to schools covering kindergarten through 12th grade, and seeks to extend concealed-carry rights to colleges, bars, day care centers and other areas where such guns are currently restricted. The legality of guns on public college campuses remains murky: The University of Michigan bans weapons on its property, but that policy has been challenged in court. Under the bill, private businesses could still restrict guns on their property.

Though Mr. Meekhof said he generally supported open-carry rights, and though many gun owners alternate between concealed and open carry depending on the setting, he said classrooms deserved special protection from the distraction that openly carried firearms might cause.

“Someone exercising their right causes a disruption in education of our kids,” added Mr. Meekhof, the Senate majority leader. “I’m trying to find a way where people can still exercise their constitutional rights and not have the sight of a gun cause the school to lock everybody down.”

The Legislature passed a similar bill three years ago, but it was vetoed by Gov. Rick Snyder, a Republican, who has said individual school districts should have the option of banning guns altogether. Mr. Meekhof said that the governor’s idea was a “nonstarter,” and that law-abiding gun owners should have some mechanism for arming themselves at schools.

State-level gun owners’ groups have come down on both sides of the issue. Michigan Open Carry, which publishes a guide on how to legally carry a gun in schools, is campaigning against the legislation. The Michigan Coalition for Responsible Gun Owners — another prominent pro-gun group, whose board of directors includes Mr. Meekhof and another Republican sponsor of the legislation — supports the legislation.

On political battles over gun laws, concealed-carry and open-carry groups are in agreement “99 times out of 100,” Mr. Meekhof said. But the debate over his bills reveals how the two camps sometimes embrace conflicting views on displaying firearms in public.

Michigan Open Carry advocates the visible carrying of holstered handguns, similar to what an on-duty police officer might wear. Its members cite a variety of reasons — practical, legal and symbolic — for choosing to display their guns in public.

On a recent morning at a busy Clio doughnut shop, patrons either did not notice Mr. Herman’s openly carried handgun, or chose not to react to it. He said the weather often determined whether his gun was concealed or not: A coat shields it from view in winter, but not during the humid Michigan summer.

Tom Lambert, the president of Michigan Open Carry, said open carry can discourage criminals and serve as a “direct deterrent” to wrongdoing. Beyond that, open-carry supporters say carrying a visible weapon can be a form of free speech and sends a clear political message to people who want to restrict gun ownership and the display of firearms in public.

“What open carry does is basically brings gun owners out of the closet — says, ‘Hey, good guys have guns, too, and we’re not deranged killers,’” said Mr. Lambert, whose group joined Mr. Herman in his lawsuit.

Many other gun owners prefer concealed carry, because it is more subtle and allows law-abiding gun owners to maintain an element of surprise in confronting criminals. Some gun owners are also critical of certain open-carry practices, saying they can be intimidating and disruptive.

One concealed-carry advocate who supports the school legislation is Fletcher Spears III, the superintendent of the Clio school district at the center of the fight over open carry in schools. An avid deer hunter, he is a life member of the National Rifle Association and holds a concealed-pistol license.



Unlike some other Michigan school leaders who believe that only the police should have guns in schools, Mr. Spears spoke in favor of Mr. Meekhof's legislation at a committee hearing, saying he believed that giving trained, licensed gun owners the option of carrying concealed weapons would make students safer.

But Mr. Spears said having guns carried openly, as Mr. Herman does regularly, was more likely to scare students and cause well-meaning school employees to fear the worst and call the police.

"I certainly am a supporter of the Second Amendment," Mr. Spears said in an interview. "But open carry doesn't have any place in schools."

## **MICHIGAN CAPITOL CONFIDENTIAL**

*I Pledge Allegiance to the Union ...*

*Dearborn school employees asked to pledge to remain members of the union*

Tom Gantert

The teachers union at the Dearborn public school district recently asked school employees to sign a written pledge declaring that they will keep paying union dues rather than exercise their option, under Michigan's right-to-work law, to opt out.

But Dearborn school employees must pay union dues until their current union contract expires in 2018 — pledge or no pledge. The school district is contractually obligated to deduct slightly reduced union dues called "agency fees" for any employee who does not comply. Agency fees are determined by the union. The MEA defines agency fees as the dues that cover only the costs of negotiating and maintaining the contract.

The final section of the pledge request reads: "I therefore pledge to remain a member of the Dearborn Federation of Teachers, Local 681, for as long as I am employed at Dearborn Public Schools. I will politely but firmly decline invitations to resign my membership and deprive me — and my fellow workers — of our voice."

Dearborn was one of many school districts that signed unusually long union contracts in March 2013, just before the right-to-work law went into effect. The law does not apply to contracts that were signed before it went into effect.

Christine Sipperley, president of the Dearborn Federation of Teachers, didn't return an email seeking comment.

Terry Bowman, president of Union Conservatives, a nonprofit that informs union members on political and labor issues, said he does not think Dearborn teachers should sign the pledge.

"By signing that form, teachers are saying they are not going to hold their union accountable," Bowman said. "Whether they believe in right-to-work or not, they are releasing their union officials from being accountable for their actions."

**From:** GOV Newsroom [<mailto:govnewsroom@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 21, 2015 2:07 PM

**To:** VanSickle, Michele (GOV) <[vansicklem2@michigan.gov](mailto:vansicklem2@michigan.gov)>

**Subject:** NEWS RELEASE: Gov. Rick Snyder announces Flint Water Task Force to review state, federal and municipal actions, offer recommendations

Governor Rick Snyder  
**REINVENTING MICHIGAN**  
Getting It Right. Getting It Done.

## News Release

**Contacts:** [Sara Wurfel](#) or [Dave Murray](#)  
517-335-6397

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015

### **Gov. Rick Snyder announces Flint Water Task Force to review state, federal and municipal actions, offer recommendations**

*Experts in public health, water management, environmental protection to focus on steps to protect residents*

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced the creation of an independent advisory task force charged with reviewing actions regarding water use and testing in Flint and offer recommendations for future guidelines to protect the health and safety of all state residents.

Task force members include experts in public health and medicine, water management, and environmental protection from both sides of the aisle, and will be co-chaired by Ken Sikkema of Public Sector Consultants and Chris Kolb, of the Michigan Environmental Council. Also serving will be Dr. Matthew Davis of the University of Michigan Health System, Eric Rothstein, of the Galardi Rothstein Group and Dr. Lawrence Reynolds of Mott Children's Health Center in Flint.

"Transitioning back to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department-Great Lakes Water Authority is a good first step to protecting public health in Flint, but it's not the last step," Snyder said. "Bringing in outside experts to evaluate our actions and help monitor and advise on potential changes to law, procedures and practices will be key to continuing work on the comprehensive action plan and ensuring safe drinking water for all the residents in Flint and all of Michigan."

Snyder said the administration will fully cooperate with task force members, saying he wants an unbiased report focusing on steps taken in the past and recommendations that could improve practices to ensure all residents have access to safe, clean water.

**Ken Sikkema** is a senior policy fellow at Public Sector Consultants, where he specializes in public finance, environment, and energy policy. Prior to joining the firm, Sikkema served in both the Michigan House and Senate, culminating with four years as Senate majority leader. He has also served as both an adjunct and visiting professor at Grand Valley State University.

**Chris Kolb** is president of the Michigan Environmental Council, a statewide coalition of 70 environmental, public health and faith-based nonprofit groups. Before joining the MEC, Kolb represented Ann Arbor in the state House for six years and served six years on the Ann Arbor City Council. He has been president of the MEC for six years.

**Matthew Davis**, M.D., M.A.P.P., is professor of pediatrics and internal medicine at the University of Michigan Health System and professor of public policy at the Gerald R. Ford School at the University of Michigan, having joined the faculty in 2000. Davis also is a professor of health management and policy at the School of Public Health. He previously served as the chief medical executive of the Michigan Department of Community Health/Department of Health and Human Services.

**Eric Rothstein** is a national water issues consultant and principal at the Galardi Rothstein Group. He served as an independent advisor on the creation of the Great Lakes Water Authority. Rothstein also has served as Jefferson County, Alabama's rate consultant and municipal adviser for litigation related to the county's bankruptcy and issuance of \$1.7 billion in sewer warrants and led strategic financial planning for the City of Atlanta's Department of Watershed Management. He has more than 30 years of experience in water, wastewater and stormwater utility finance and rate-making assessments.

**Lawrence Reynolds**, M.D., is a pediatrician in Flint who serves as president of the Mott Children's Health Center. He received his medical degree from Howard University College of Medicine and has been in practice for 36 years. He has served as president of the Genesee County Medical Society and the Michigan Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. He has been honored for his humanitarian and advocacy efforts on behalf of children from the Community Foundation of Greater Flint.

Snyder has said reconnecting with the authority is a critical step to resolving water quality issues and addressing related health concerns. It will not immediately resolve the city's problem with lead service lines or aging infrastructure. It will take time for pipes in Flint to become coated with the phosphate corrosion control.

To best protect public health, state and local authorities will continue to carry out steps outlined on Oct. 2 in a comprehensive action plan, including continued testing, the use of faucet filters and providing residents with accurate information about steps to eliminate lead exposure. The Michigan Departments of Environmental Quality and Health and Human Services are continuing to provide free water filters, free lead testing through the state laboratory for Flint water customers, and hiring additional staff to conduct health exposure monitoring for lead in drinking water.

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# REINVENTING MICHIGAN -- INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

## Executive Budget Recommendation for Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014

Michigan's reinvention began in earnest last year with Governor Rick Snyder's first budget, which laid the foundation for a return to fiscal integrity and economic growth. That momentum continues with the fiscal year 2013 and projected 2014 Executive Budget Recommendation. The fiscal discipline and policy reforms reflected in the current-year budget are fundamentally changing discussions regarding the 2013 plan. With the elimination of last year's \$1.5 billion deficit through difficult but necessary decisions, Michigan is now looking at revenue growth and greater opportunities to strategically invest in key priorities that deliver real results for real people. Michigan's future depends on a prosperous economy and opportunities for current and future generations. The governor's proposed 2013 budget continues on the path that creates an environment of economic success, protects our most vulnerable residents, enhances our quality of life, and promotes good government.

The two Executive Budget bills presented for legislative introduction are again "omnibus" in nature, with one bill including all departmental operations and the other focused on education. Just as last year, the budget provides a balanced, two-year spending plan with recommended fiscal year 2013 appropriations, as well as anticipated appropriations for fiscal year 2014. The two-year approach continues the commitment to focus on success over the long haul, achieving a strategic approach to budgeting with a vision toward the future.

### Michigan's Improving Economy

After a decade of job loss, high unemployment, and declining state revenues, the dark cloud that had been hanging over Michigan has given way to rays of sunlight. In 2011, the state recorded a significant decline in the unemployment rate accompanied by a gain in payroll jobs. The annual average unemployment rate in 2011 fell by more than 2 full percentage points when compared to 2010, from 12.5 percent

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*"It's a new day in Michigan. We're leaving gridlock and negativity in the past. This fiscally disciplined, structurally balanced budget will let investors and job providers know that Michigan's house is in order. Restoring this fiscal integrity creates an economic environment that leads to more jobs for Michigan workers."*

**Governor Rick Snyder, May 19, 2011**

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to 10.4 percent. Michigan added nearly 80,000 private-sector jobs last year, jobs that are higher paying than the national average. Michigan is the number one state in the nation for research and development facility project announcements, beating out Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and North Carolina. Michigan's strong base of engineering talent and the strength of its research universities are cited as the biggest reasons for the strong showing in research and development. Finally, the unaudited book closing for 2011 showed the state had a surplus. That surplus, along with the forecasted revenue growth in 2013 and 2014, paints a much brighter budget picture when compared to the past decade.

## State's Supporting Role in Success

Michigan's turnaround isn't an accident. Tough decisions were made in last year's budget to get the state's fiscal house in order, showing job creators around the world that we are serious about our reinvention. Some of the key actions that have fueled the transformation that we are now witnessing include:

- Repealing the job-killing Michigan Business Tax and replacing it with a flat 6-percent corporate income tax that is simple, fair and efficient.

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*"Governor Rick Snyder got Michigan back on the right track with a series of key reforms during his first year in office. There will be those who differ with parts of his agenda for this year — as was the case in 2011 — but he's right to keep the pressure on for infrastructure improvements, better government efficiency at all levels and the use of technology to expand learning. As his online dashboards indicate, the unemployment rate is dropping, the state bond rating is rising and there's less violent crime."*

**The Detroit News, January 19, 2012**

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- Ending the unfair double tax on small business owners.
- Leveling the playing field for all job creators by eliminating tax loopholes.
- Adding rural development to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's mission to help build the economy in rural areas.
- Refocusing the Michigan Economic Development Corporation to provide greater assistance to Michigan businesses.
- Supporting Michigan's tourism industry by insuring stable funding for the successful Pure Michigan advertising campaign.
- Launching Pure Michigan Business Connect, resulting in \$8 billion of investment and capital being made available to Michigan businesses.
- Establishing the Global Michigan Immigration Initiative and the Cultural Ambassador program to attract and welcome immigrants with advanced degrees to Michigan.
- Launching Talent Connect to help reduce unemployment by connecting talent to jobs.

## Budget Recommendation in Totality

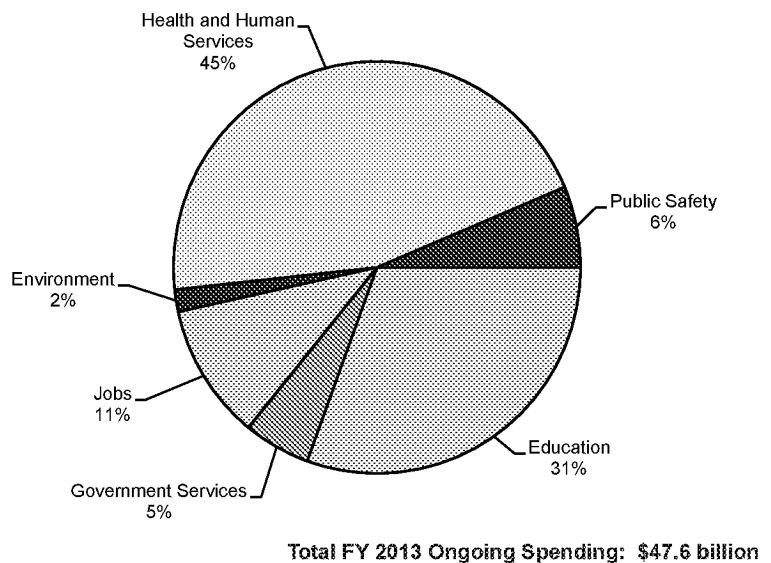
The total Executive Budget Recommendation for fiscal year 2013, including all state and federal revenue sources, is \$48.2 billion. This includes \$47.6 billion in ongoing base spending, with another \$600 million in one-time funding. Over 75 percent of the total budget is devoted to health, human services and education.

The Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference held in January projected that revenues will be \$9 billion in the general fund and \$11.1 billion in the School Aid Fund for fiscal year 2013, reflecting a combined total of \$20.1 billion. This budget cycle starts with a base increase of \$622.8 million over previously adopted revenue estimates.

In fiscal year 2014, projected revenues are \$9.2 billion in the general fund and \$11.4 billion in the School Aid Fund, for a combined total of \$20.6 billion. Assuming enactment of the Governor's fiscal year 2013 recommendation, the fiscal year 2014 budget is balanced with a modest surplus remaining.

The budget recommendation continues the Governor's focus on being accountable to the taxpayers with metrics to measure progress. With a new tax structure now firmly in place and a budget that is structurally balanced for the long term, this budget provides the right balance of funding for investing in Michigan's future, with associated measurements so results can be monitored.

**Over 75% of total budget devoted to health, human services and education spending**



One of the key financial principles used in the development of the recommended budget is that ongoing spending and one-time revenues are no longer commingled. This new budgeting approach is a major reform from past practice, where one-time funding was added to base spending creating the condition for structural imbalance. This new approach balances current revenues to current expenditures, enforcing fiscal responsibility and keeping the state on solid financial footing for the future.

At present, both the general fund and the School Aid Fund in fiscal year 2012 are balanced, and no action is needed at this time to rebalance the enacted budget. If revenues and expenditures warrant budgetary action in the current year, adjustments will be recommended to revise spending.

## Jobs and the Economy

The recommended budget provides \$195 million in funding for economic development to assist Michigan businesses, with a continued focus on an economic gardening strategy to help local businesses grow.

Reinventing Michigan and investing in our future demands that we ensure career opportunities for future generations. Thinking strategically about the relationship between economic development and a highly skilled workforce, Governor Snyder's special message on talent development provides the blueprint to reinvent the way in which we prepare the current and next generation for fulfilling careers. It redesigns the way in which employers obtain the skills they need. Pure Michigan Talent Connect, the new online tool at [www.MiTalent.org](http://www.MiTalent.org), is a web-based marketplace aimed at ensuring Michigan's economic development and talent enhancement are occurring in tandem.

The Governor recommends an additional \$15 million in general fund to support economic development in Michigan's distressed cities. The Talent Fund for Job Training and Skills Development will target communities with populations that have a history of chronic unemployment, investing in initiatives that assist citizens in accessing education, training, and employment opportunities.

## Education: K-12 and Beyond

In his special message on education, Governor Snyder proposed reforms aimed at transforming Michigan's educational system from one still rooted in the days of a mostly farm-based society to one that prepares students for the technological age of today and jobs of tomorrow. His message outlined a dramatic shift from viewing different levels of education as separate stages to viewing them as part of an integrated system, beginning with early childhood education all the way through the completion of an advanced degree or career training.

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*"Read through Snyder's proposed education reforms, and it's clear he understands how you go about producing an excellent product, which in the case of education, means kids who are ready to perform in the workforce."*

**Dan Calabrese, The Michigan View,  
April 29, 2011**

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In laying out his case for reform, the governor noted that Michigan ranks 21st in the country in total current per-pupil expenditures according to the most recent data from the National Center for Education Statistics, yet it ranks 39th in the nation when it comes to fourth grade math proficiency and 34th in reading proficiency. Fewer than 50 percent of students are proficient in writing, and ACT test scores need improvement.

The transformation has already started with the recognition that success in school starts well before a child's first day of class. To make sure children are developmentally on track, the governor created a new Michigan Office of Great Start. The proposed budget includes funding for this office of \$209.2 million, of which \$41.2 million is general fund. This is augmented by another \$115 million in School Aid funding for early childhood programs.



The recommended budget supports the \$10.8 billion in available School Aid Fund revenues with an additional \$200 million in general fund for best practices, and protects the per-pupil foundation allowances. Due to the pressure placed on school district budgets related to employee pension and health care costs, a total of \$179 million in ongoing funding is provided to help local schools defray those costs.

## Enhanced Best Practices for Education

A total of \$200 million is designated for districts engaged in best practices and meeting required performance metrics. This represents an increase of \$46 million from fiscal year 2012.

Of this total, \$120 million is recommended for districts that meet five of six best practices, which are: the district publishes a citizen's dashboard; the district serves as the policy holder for health care benefits; participation in schools of choice; the district monitors student growth in each subject area at least twice a year; the district offers dual enrollment, Advanced Placement courses, participates in a middle college, or offers other post-secondary learning opportunities; or the district offers online or blended learning.

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*"I believe the Governor's plan goes a long way toward creating the system of standards, measurements and accountability that Michigan so desperately needs."*

**Stephen Henderson, Detroit Free Press,  
April 28, 2011**

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A total of \$70 million is recommended for performance funding focused on student academic growth. Performance funding is allocated based on student growth in mathematics for grades 3-8, student growth in reading for grades 3-8, and growth over a four year period in all tested subject areas for high school students.

The recommendation also includes \$10 million in one-time funds for competitive innovation grants to help defray transition costs associated with consolidation of shared services efforts. Both local and intermediate school districts will be eligible to compete for these funds.

The recommended budget for community colleges includes a new performance formula based on degree completions to distribute an additional \$8.5 million to community colleges. This 3 percent increase is to be distributed based on associate degree and certificate completions in critical skill areas.

The Governor's recommendation for higher education establishes total funding of \$1.4 billion, of which \$1.1 billion is general fund. Investing an additional \$36.2 million in state universities, this 3 percent funding increase is distributed using a new performance formula based on four metrics: the growth in the number of undergraduate degree completions, the number of undergraduate completions in critical skill areas, the number of undergraduate Pell Grant recipients, and compliance with tuition restraint. Universities doing a better job of holding tuition costs down will receive greater funding. Funding for all student grants and financial aid is \$98.2 million.

## Protecting Michigan Residents

Residents and businesses demand that government provide for the safety of the public. A key role of government is to ensure that citizens are safe and protected. With four of the top 10 most violent cities in the nation, and with an overall crime rate that is too high, we must do better. In March, the Governor will present a special message on public safety, with key reforms to create a safer Michigan.

The proposed budget makes a strong investment in public safety by:

- Funding core programs for the Michigan State Police (MSP) including road patrol, motor carrier enforcement, investigative services, emergency management and homeland security, secondary road patrol grant funding, and funding for the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards. The recommendation adds a total of \$47 million in general fund for MSP, an increase of 16 percent over the current year.
- Providing \$3.1 million general fund for additional staffing within Forensic Sciences within MSP, reducing the number of days for processing forensic tests for criminal investigations.
- Implementing improved enforcement of tobacco tax laws with multi-agency support totaling \$2.2 million for MSP, Treasury, and Attorney General.
- Reserving an additional \$15 million general fund for law enforcement enhancements to be detailed in the Governor's Special Message on Public Safety in March.
- Adding \$4.8 million for critical maintenance needs at the 43 state armories throughout the state.
- An additional \$15 million is proposed for the criminal justice system, including funding for anticipated costs related to the public safety emergency in Flint and other distressed cities. The proposal increases funding for mental health courts by \$1 million.
- Funding the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) with \$55.7 million for Military Preparedness, representing the Michigan National Guard's traditional mission of state and national defense and homeland security.

## Advancing Health and Human Services; Protecting the Safety Net

The Governor's special message on health and wellness points out that good health is the foundation for our state's economic transformation and overall quality of life. While our state is home to some of the best health care providers and services in the world, many of our citizens still lack access, knowledge of and a commitment to a healthy lifestyle. Creating a healthy Michigan means giving people the tools they need to make informed decisions to access high-quality and affordable health care. The special message encouraged the expansion of the Healthy Kids Dental program as a priority item during the fiscal year 2013 budget cycle. The program has been highly successful in the areas in which it operates. Unfortunately, it is absent from some of our most populous counties where the greatest disparities in dental care exist. Expanding it to

all 83 counties would improve preventive care and decrease visits to emergency rooms for dental problems. A total of \$25 million in both 2013 and 2014 is proposed for a phased-in expansion of the Healthy Kids Dental program so that coverage will be available for all children receiving Medicaid over the next few years.

Michigan must also join the majority of states in more aggressively dealing with the challenges posed by autism. Without treatment, the average lifetime cost to Michigan of a single person suffering from autism is \$3.7 million. With early treatment, however, children can achieve better outcomes and many of these costs can be avoided. Michigan is recognized as one of the 10 worst states in which to raise a child with autism because evidence-based treatment is largely excluded from insurance coverage. To date, 27 other states have changed their laws to require insurers to cover evidence-based therapies for autism that will save taxpayers billions of dollars. While the Legislature continues its deliberations about autism coverage for children, the Governor's budget recommends a total of \$34.1 million to provide expanded autism coverage for children eligible for Medicaid and MICHild.

Each citizen can significantly improve personal health by practicing four key behaviors: maintaining a healthy diet, engaging in regular exercise, getting an annual physical examination, and avoiding all tobacco use. The four key health measures closely tied to the incidence of chronic disease are: body mass index (BMI), blood pressure, cholesterol levels, and blood sugar levels. When considered together, these four behaviors and four measures can be characterized as the "Michigan 4x4 Plan." In addition, infant mortality is a critical indicator of the overall health of Michigan, as well as the quality and accessibility of prenatal care for women. Unfortunately, the infant mortality rate in Michigan has increased over the past three years. The proposed budget increases funding for infant mortality reduction and 4 x 4 Wellness, with \$5 million in one-time funding, and \$1 million in ongoing funding.

In support of seniors and people with disabilities, \$14.1 million is recommended to reduce the waiting list for the MIChoice Home and Community Based Waiver Program. This increased support for home and community-based care allows the elderly to receive needed services while honoring their preference to remain in their homes or communities, and supports transitions from nursing homes to the waiver program.

This budget maintains Medicaid eligibility and uses federal funding to increase provider reimbursement rates for primary care providers. An appropriation of \$282 million in federal funds supports the provider rate increase, improving access to care for Medicaid recipients.

The proposed budget invests over \$942 million in Michigan's child welfare system. The rate paid to foster care parents and adoptive parents is increased by \$3 per day to help pay for basic living expenses and to encourage recruitment of foster and adoptive parents. Improvements to the child welfare system will maintain the focus on keeping children safe in their own homes, and when necessary, will support alternative living arrangements including foster care and adoption.

The recommendation invests \$255 million in federal and state restricted funds to support heating assistance programs, including \$195 million in federal funds for the home heating credit, energy-related crisis payments and weatherization for low-income home owners. The new Home

Heating Assistance for the Vulnerable Fund is supported with \$60 million in state restricted funds. Funded through utility rates and distributed to local agencies, these new funds will provide heating assistance to low-income families and individuals.

Veterans, their families, and Michigan communities are served in this budget through outreach programs with \$16.2 million in funding. As part of that funding, Veterans Service Organizations will receive \$2.9 million in state-funded grants to counsel veterans and assist them in receiving benefits and services for which they are eligible. In addition, \$65.6 million is provided to support the Grand Rapids and D. J. Jacobetti Veterans' Homes, which provide direct nursing care for 731 resident veterans.

## Investing in our Infrastructure

Governor Snyder said it in his special message on infrastructure: better roads drive better jobs. Investments in the state's infrastructure are essential to the economy and to the future growth of our state. The Governor's message focused on a modern transportation system that moves people and goods efficiently, reliably and safely, as well as water and sewer systems that support and protect Michigan's rich environment.

The proposed transportation budget totals \$3.3 billion in both 2013 and 2014, including \$119 million in one-time general fund appropriations in fiscal year 2013 to allow the legislature time to develop a long-term road funding solution. The \$119 million investment of general fund revenues will ensure that Michigan matches all federal highway and transit aid in fiscal year 2013.

Ignoring the state's deteriorating infrastructure is not an option, nor is allowing unmatched federal money to flow to other states. An extensive package of bills recently introduced in the Legislature provides for other necessary reforms mentioned in the special message on infrastructure, including the need for additional revenues.

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*"Governor Snyder is smart to be taking a comprehensive approach toward fixing the roads, bridges, sewers and water lines that are crumbling beneath our feet and wheels."*

**The Detroit News, October 27, 2011**

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The proposed budget recommends an additional \$10 million of restricted refined petroleum fund for environmental cleanup work at leaking underground storage tank sites. An additional \$5 million is recommended for use as state match to obtain federal grant dollars for the drinking water revolving fund program. The added funding will provide infrastructure loans to public water suppliers, enabling an increased percentage of communities to be in compliance with federal health-based standards. The recommendation also includes \$1 million to reach the goal of 5,000 MAEAP (Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program) farm verifications by 2015, which will result in more sustainable systems and increased production for the agriculture industry.

Resources have been included to stimulate investments in large sewer system improvement projects, with debt service funding to accommodate anticipated bond issuances of \$125 million in fiscal years 2013 and 2014.

## Revenue Sharing

Constitutional revenue sharing payments for cities, villages, and townships are increased by \$13.6 million (2 percent), to \$711.1 million, based on estimated sales tax collections. The budget continues and strengthens the Economic Vitality Incentive Program (EVIP) for local units of government, with \$210 million in funding for fiscal year 2013. Aimed at encouraging best practices for cities, villages, and townships, EVIP funding will again require that local units of government meet certain criteria that include accountability and transparency requirements, consolidation of services, and employee compensation reforms.

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*"Snyder is hoping to end once and for all the status quo thinking that has continued long after local units of government could afford to pay for it ... More cooperation and outright consolidation make sense."*

**The Flint Journal, August 4, 2011**

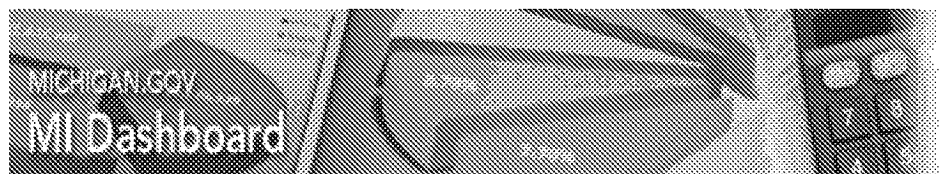
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A new incentive-based program for counties is recommended to replace statutory revenue sharing beginning in fiscal year 2013, funded with \$125.6 million in sales tax revenue. Sixty-one counties are estimated to exhaust their revenue sharing reserve funds prior to, or during, fiscal year 2013. These counties will qualify for financial incentive payments provided they meet specific standards and adopt best practices, consistent with requirements under EVIP for cities, villages, and townships.

In addition, a competitive grant assistance program is funded in fiscal year 2013 with \$25 million in sales tax revenue, using \$5 million in ongoing funding plus a one-time augmentation of \$20 million. Cities, villages, townships, or counties that elect to combine government operations may apply for reimbursement of costs for approved projects. Fiscal year 2013 funding represents a four-fold increase from fiscal year 2012 funding of \$5 million. The proposed one-time increase addresses significant interest expressed by local units seeking help with transition costs associated with mergers, inter-local agreements, and other cooperative efforts.

## Good Government and Measuring for Success

Governor Snyder's first budget required tough decisions to achieve balance for the long term. Because that has been accomplished, a renewed focus on good government is now in motion, utilizing metrics and measurements to monitor progress and help make informed decisions. The commitment to government transparency and accountability is strong, and the government culture is fully ingrained in the movement to measure. Last year, the Citizens Guide to State Government provided the first step in making it easier for Michigan citizens to understand how and where their money is spent and whether it is effective. The Governor continued the progress in transparency and accountability with the Michigan Dashboard, providing a quick assessment of the state's performance in key areas including: economic strength; health and education; value for money government; quality of life; and public safety. Separate dashboards were created for measuring education, health and wellness, infrastructure, and talent. And now, with the release of this budget and



representing the evolution of the original Citizen's Guide, the state unveils its new dashboard for financial health, found at [www.michigan.gov/openmichigan](http://www.michigan.gov/openmichigan).

While the dashboards measure how Michigan as a whole is doing within key areas, there are also scorecards in place that track how Michigan government is performing within each of the agencies. During budget development, the State Budget Office worked closely with state departments to ensure that funding is aligned to agency priorities. In doing so, each funding decision is examined and outcomes are evaluated based on how they "move the needle" of performance.

The measurements provided by the dashboards and scorecards cast a spotlight on how Michigan is doing, and whether we're trending in a positive or negative direction. Without this focus on measurement, it's impossible to know where government is succeeding or failing so that the necessary course adjustments can be made.

## **Investing in our Business Platforms and Physical Assets**

**I**n times of budget crisis, states cannot make necessary investments to save money over the long term. Most states across the country still find themselves in this negative situation. With Michigan's fiscal house restored to order, we can now make targeted investments that protect our assets, build for the future, and lead to long-term cost savings.

Technology plays a major role in realizing government efficiency, but requires up-front investments to achieve it. The proposed budget includes \$50 million in ongoing funding for information technology projects designed to address system upgrades and major opportunities for automation. The Department of Technology, Management and Budget will complete an assessment of those systems and areas most in need of investment, ensuring that the information technology investment will help state workers do their jobs, improve services for citizens, and produce long term savings for the state.

Governor Snyder recommends additional support of Michigan's universities and community colleges by advancing 18 capital outlay construction projects previously approved for planning by the legislature. The budget also recommends substantial reform of the capital outlay process in order to ensure spending decisions are more transparent and merit-based for future projects. These reforms will assist in strategically aligning capital investments with statewide economic development goals, while streamlining the approval process.

## Fiscal Order Restored

Just one year ago, Michigan faced a \$1.5 billion deficit with unresolved liabilities that had lingered for years. It was an unhealthy budget situation for both taxpayers and businesses. Tough decisions were necessary to get Michigan government back into long-term structural balance so residents and businesses could see that state government had its fiscal house in order. Through a strong partnership with the legislature, the deficit is gone and the budget is in structural balance. For the first time in almost a decade, state government is balanced for the future, with ongoing expenditures now matching ongoing revenues. Reinventing Michigan demanded a new approach to budgeting.

## Legacy Costs No Longer Ignored

Not only has the budget been put into balance for the long term, Governor Snyder's 2012 budget also took major strides in addressing the state's long-term liabilities, including post-retiree health care costs. The state paid off its \$3.2 billion loan to the federal government for unemployment benefits in order to refinance the liability at a better rate. Successful negotiations with unions representing state employees produced solutions to better

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*"Working together, Michigan showed great commitment to do not just what is easy but what is right. Not what is political but what is practical. Not what is partisan but what is principled. While not everyone agreed on every approach, we worked hard to make sure our decisions were rooted in common sense. We refused to engage in the kind of finger-pointing that stymies government from meeting its obligations to citizens."*

**Governor Rick Snyder, State of the State Address,  
January 18, 2012**

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manage rocketing state employee health care costs. In short, after too many years of pushing the problem down the road, the state got serious about its legacy costs.

One of the most significant and monumental accomplishments came with the signing of Public Acts 264 and 265 in December 2011 (commonly referred to as the OPEB legislation, where OPEB refers to "other post-employment benefits"). The new laws reduce the state's long-term retiree health care liability, ensuring that the post-retirement promises made to employees can be kept.

Michigan has restructured state employee retiree benefits, saving the state \$5.6 billion in long-term liabilities. Funding has been included in the base budget to fully fund the anticipated actuarially required contribution (ARC) for state employee pensions and health care. Fully funding the ARC is significant, especially in light of the OPEB legislation, because it's another step in paying down the liability and making good on the promise to state employees.

Last year also brought important and significant reforms to health care costs for existing state employees. After a successful bargaining process between the state and union leaders representing state employees, the Michigan Civil Service Commission took action in approving the contracts overwhelmingly ratified by the unions. As in the case of the OPEB legislation, the agreement provided wins for both the state and state employees. The new contracts provide a 1 percent pay raise to state employees in October, 2012. In addition, lump-sum payments will

be made in 2012 and 2013 that equal 1 percent increases, but will not be added to ongoing base pay. In turn, union leaders worked in partnership with the state to resolve the financial stress placed on the state related to funding health care for employees. As a result of the agreement, all employees will begin paying 20 percent of their health plan premiums beginning in October 2012, bringing the state in line with the private sector. Those hired on or after April 1, 2010 already pay 20 percent.

## Deferred Maintenance

Another component of infrastructure that too often goes unnoticed is maintenance of state buildings. The budget recommendation includes \$15 million in ongoing funding for state buildings plus \$10 million in one-time funding to be administered by the Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB). The past practice of bonding for routine building maintenance defers payment of current costs to the future. The new funding will eliminate that practice and fund current needs with current resources. DTMB will develop a space consolidation plan that will make better use of existing state office space, putting necessary investments into the renovation and upkeep of existing state owned buildings, eliminating the need for some of the existing leased space paid for by the state. The proposed budget also includes funding for armory maintenance with \$2.4 million in ongoing funding, plus an additional \$2.4 million in one-time funding.

## Maintaining Structural Balance; Reserves for a Rainy Day

While this budget places new investments in our future, the importance of maintaining structural balance has not been and cannot be lost. Funding for programs is recommended based on the state's ability to pay, making sure that revenues match expenditures to keep the state in balance for the long term.

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*"Last January, Michigan ranked at or near the bottom of most measures of economic activity and attractiveness. Today, its recovery is leading the nation, and the people who make decisions about where to invest are viewing the state in a far more favorable light...Using today's surpluses to further reduce Michigan's future obligations is a good investment."*

**The Detroit News, December 27, 2011**

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This budget recommendation makes another deposit in the Budget Stabilization Fund. Commonly referred to as the Rainy Day Fund, a deposit of \$130 million is recommended to continue to build the necessary reserves in the event of an emergency. This deposit, coupled with the action taken last year to invest \$255 million into the fund, places the state's rainy day reserves at \$385 million - a far cry from just two short years ago when the fund had bottomed out and there were essentially no emergency reserves.



## External Validation

Working in “dog years” coupled with “relentless positive action” have been popular themes in all areas of the Snyder administration, and those concepts have certainly been applied to the budget development process. Hard work and a positive attitude toward structural balance have led the budget process, and others outside of Michigan have taken note. In July 2011, Fitch Ratings announced that it had revised the State of Michigan’s Rating Outlook for all bonds to Positive from Stable. According to Fitch, continued evidence of a return to structural balance in the budget, continued progress toward re-building reserve funds, and continued employment recovery could trigger a future upgrade in Michigan’s rating.

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*“The Positive Outlook reflects prudent budgeting and efforts to grow reserve levels in the context of an economy beginning to slowly rebound.”*

**Fitch Ratings, July 2011**

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Fitch Ratings are not the only ones who have noticed the positive steps in Michigan. Bloomberg has long been a respected leader when it comes to delivering business and financial information, news and insight around the world. In November 2011, Bloomberg’s Economic Evaluation of States ranked Michigan second in economic health out of all 50 states, sending a strong message that Michigan’s economy is headed in the right direction. The Bloomberg analysis took into account important economic factors such as personal income, tax revenue, employment, home prices and other key indicators, placing Michigan at the upper echelon of the ranking. The Bloomberg evaluation provides evidence that Michigan is ripe for positive growth in our economy that will make a positive difference for Michiganders. Strong corporate performance, coupled with the fact that Michigan’s state budget is now balanced for the long term, has put Michigan in a solid economic position.

## Conclusion

This budget invests in our future and funds the key priorities to continue Michigan’s recovery and its path to further growth and success. In stark contrast to last year’s budget where cuts and strong reforms were necessary for long-term structural balance, this budget is focused on building on that foundation – a budget made possible due to the tough but necessary decisions made in the 2012 budget. This two-year budget presented by Governor Snyder continues the plan that will lead to job creation and a brighter future for Michigan’s residents. It is a budget built with metrics and measurements so our progress and results can be monitored, found at [www.michigan.gov/openmichigan](http://www.michigan.gov/openmichigan). The Snyder administration stands ready to work in partnership with the members of the Michigan House of Representatives and Senate to enact a fiscal year 2013 budget that will lead to an even stronger, more prosperous state.

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	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
1	Agriculture & Rural Development	Qualified Forest Program	\$2,500.0	\$2,325.0	(\$445.0)	(\$400.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
2	Agriculture & Rural Development	Food and Dairy Safety Improvement Initiative	\$1,760.0	\$1,760.0	(\$300.0)	(\$315.0)	\$0.0	\$14.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
3	Agriculture & Rural Development	Pesticide and Plant Pest Management	\$800.0	\$800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
4	Agriculture & Rural Development	Building Occupancy Fund Shift	\$419.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5	Agriculture & Rural Development	Food and Agriculture Industry Growth Initiative	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	(\$250.0)	(\$300.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-1	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Commercial Forestry Audit Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150.0	\$150.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-2	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP)	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$100.0)	(\$200.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-3	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Engine Oil Inspection and Enforcement Program - Related to SB 685	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$190.0	\$190.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-4	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce the Consumer Protection Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$250.0)	(\$250.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-5	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Replace Refined Petroleum Fund with General Fund - Related to SB 791	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,912.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-6	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Shows and Exhibitions Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$50.0	\$50.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-7	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Increase the Horse Racing Programs (leaves a hole in the Gaming budget)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,889.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
6	Agency Subtotal		\$5,479.4	\$4,895.0	(\$1,750.0)	\$154.4	\$4,000.0	\$102.6	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	(\$250.0)	(\$300.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
7	Attorney General	Human Trafficking Initiative	\$400.0	\$400.0	(\$200.0)	(\$200.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
8	Agency Subtotal		\$400.0	\$400.0	(\$200.0)	(\$200.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
9	Civil Rights	Expansion of Targeted MDCR Initiatives - anti-bullying efforts, the Michigan Alliance Against Hate Crimes (MAAHC) and Advocates and Leaders for Police and Community Trust (ALPACT)	\$500.0	\$500.0	(\$300.0)	(\$300.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
10	Civil Rights	Expansion of Intake Unit	\$175.0	\$175.0	(\$87.5)	(\$87.5)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
11	Agency Subtotal		\$675.0	\$675.0	(\$387.5)	(\$387.5)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
12	Community Colleges	3% Operations Increase	\$8,947.3	\$8,947.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
13	Community Colleges	MPSERS Rate Cap Reduction (see also Education #45 and School Aid #117)	\$6,800.0	\$6,800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$3,240.0)	(\$3,240.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
13-1	Community Colleges	Legislative Initiative -- Replace School Aid Fund with General Fund (see also School Aid #12B-4)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
13-2	Community Colleges	Legislative Initiative -- MPSERS Retiree Health Care	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$6,800.0	\$6,800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
14	Agency Subtotal		\$15,747.3	\$15,747.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
15	Community Health	Primary Care Rate Adjustment	\$26,000.0	\$75,449.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
16	Community Health	Eliminate MChoice Home and Community Based Waiver Waiting List	\$9,020.9	\$26,177.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
17	Community Health	Healthy Kids Dental - expand to Kalamazoo and Macomb counties	\$5,400.0	\$15,670.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
18	Community Health	Mental Health and Wellness Commission Recommendations	\$10,620.0	\$10,620.0	\$0.0	\$18,242.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$3,962.5	\$0.0	\$0.0
19	Community Health	Wayne State Psychiatric Residency Program	\$5,605.9	\$5,605.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
20	Community Health	Eliminate Waiting Lists for Home Delivered Meals and In-Home Services for the Aging	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
21	Community Health	Mental Health Diversion (see also Corrections #35 and Judiciary #75)	\$3,350.0	\$3,350.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
22	Community Health	Rural Prenatal Care Visitation	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
23	Community Health	Prevention of Elder Abuse	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
24	Community Health	Increase Crime Victim Rights Grants to Prosecuting Attorney Offices	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
25	Community Health	Data Analytics for Behavioral Health Services	\$425.0	\$425.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
26	Community Health	Northern Michigan Island Primary Care Clinics - Mackinac, Drummond, Bois Blanc, and Beaver Island	\$325.0	\$325.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
27	Community Health	Administrative Costs for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)	\$62.5	\$125.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
28	Community Health	Emergency Medical Services Program Revenue Shortfall	\$1,006.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
29	Community Health	Eliminate Special Medicaid Rural Hospital Payment	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$35,629.5	\$12,000.0	\$35,629.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
30	Community Health	University of Detroit Dental Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4,092.3	\$4,092.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
31	Community Health	University Autism Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,000.0	\$3,000.0	\$1,500.0	\$1,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0
32	Community Health	Child and Adolescent Health Services - Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-1	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Diabetes Prevention Programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150.0	\$150.0	\$150.1	\$150.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-2	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Alzheimer's Disease Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150.0	\$150.0	\$150.1	\$150.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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			Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
32-3	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Local Health Department Operational Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,500.0	\$1,500.0	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-4	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- MiChild Administrative Alignment	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$267.4)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-5	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Remove Transparency Database Website Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$333.3)	(\$333.3)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-6	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Continue Partial FY2014 GME One-Time Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$2,901.9	\$1,450.0	\$4,314.2
32-7	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce General Fund and Utilize Restricted Autism Coverage Fund to support the Autism Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$5,280.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-8	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- GME MIDocs Consortium	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-9	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- GME Residencies New Options	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-10	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- 2% Increase for Kidney Dialysis Services	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$110.5	\$320.7	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-11	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- 15% Increase for Ambulance Medicaid Services	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$1,451.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-12	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- 3% Increase in Adult Foster Care Personal Services	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$375.0	\$1,086.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-13	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Increase OB/GYN Medicaid Rate to Medicare Rate	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$6,500.0	\$18,862.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-14	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Restore 2012-13 Harper/Hutzel Payment	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$6,500.0	\$18,862.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-15	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Breast Cancer Programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-16	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Reduction in Before and After School Healthy Exercise Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$333.3)	(\$333.3)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-17	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Increase for MI Essential Health Provider Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-18	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Increase for Rural Health Programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$24.0	\$24.0	\$24.0	\$24.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-19	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Increase for "Real Alternatives" Pregnancy and Parenting Support Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$800.0	\$800.0	\$1,500.0	\$1,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-20	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- "Be the Match" Bone Marrow Registry Funding to Michigan Blood, Partner Agency, National Marrow Donor Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$250.0	\$250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
33	Agency Subtotal		\$58,315.4	\$111,619.4	(\$7,854.2)	\$42,031.6	\$9,165.1	\$65,894.0	\$14,092.3	\$14,092.3	(\$2,550.0)	\$5,364.4	(\$3,543.5)	\$1,814.3
34	Corrections	Prisoner Education Enhancement	\$3,250.0	\$3,250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$5,250.0)	(\$5,250.0)	\$1,045.3	\$1,045.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,045.3)	(\$1,045.3)
35	Corrections	Mental Health Diversion (see also Community Health #21 and Judiciary #75)	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
36	Corrections	Mobilize Parole/Probation Staff	\$582.4	\$582.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$440.6	\$440.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
37	Corrections	Professional Development Training Services for Bureau of Healthcare Services	\$402.6	\$402.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$440.6	\$440.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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			ONGOING (\$ in Thousands)						ONE-TIME (\$ in Thousands)					
	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
37-1	Corrections	Legislative Initiative -- Savings for RFP for Non-State, Non-Secure Nursing Home for Disabled	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
37-2	Corrections	Legislative Initiative -- Remove Lapsed Balances	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$12,407.3)	(\$12,407.3)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
37-3	Corrections	Legislative Initiative -- 1:8 Management to Staff Ratios for Central Office / Regional Business Offices	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,140.9)	(\$1,140.9)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
37-4	Corrections	Legislative Initiative -- Funding for new IDG to DHS for Michigan Rehabilitation Services / Swift and Sure Sanctions	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,000.0	\$3,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
37-5	Corrections	Legislative Initiative -- Earmark for Goodwill - Flip the Script	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4,500.0	\$4,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
37-6	Corrections	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce Michigan State Industries	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$6,148.7)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
38	Agency Subtotal		\$5,235.0	\$5,235.0	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	(\$2,746.3)	(\$15,895.1)	\$1,485.9	\$1,485.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,045.3)	(\$1,045.3)
39	Education	Federal Child Development and Care (CDC) -- increase maximum reimbursable hours from 80 to 90 per two-week pay period	\$0.0	\$6,900.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
40	Education	Michigan Council for Educator Effectiveness Staffing and System Upgrades	\$5,014.0	\$5,014.0	(\$5,014.0)	(\$5,014.0)	(\$3,014.0)	(\$3,014.0)	\$900.0	\$900.0	(\$801.0)	(\$801.0)	(\$1,045.3)	(\$1,045.3)
41	Education	Federal Child Development and Care (CDC) - tiered reimbursement	\$0.0	\$3,672.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
42	Education	School Reform Efforts - assistance to lowest 5% performing districts	\$318.6	\$318.6	(\$318.6)	(\$318.6)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
43	Education	Financial Independence Team for Distressed Schools (see also Treasury #160)	\$778.1	\$778.1	(\$575.0)	(\$575.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
44	Education	Administrative costs for Great Start Readiness Program	\$404.0	\$404.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
45	Education	MPSEERS Rate Cap Reduction for Public Libraries (see also Community Colleges #13 and School Aid #117)	\$356.0	\$356.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$356.0)	(\$356.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
45-1	Education	Legislative Initiative -- Increase State Aid to Libraries	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$612.4	\$612.4	\$356.0	\$356.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
45-2	Education	Legislative Initiative -- Update Teacher Certification Tests	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,600.0	\$3,600.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
46	Agency Subtotal		\$7,470.7	\$18,042.7	(\$2,191.9)	(\$2,191.9)	(\$5,014.0)	(\$5,014.0)	\$900.0	\$900.0	(\$800.0)	(\$800.0)	(\$990.0)	(\$990.0)
47	Environmental Quality	Water Quality and Use Initiative	\$3,977.2	\$3,977.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
48	Environmental Quality	Leaking Underground Storage Tank Cleanup (see also Treasury #168)	\$0.0	\$3,014.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
49	Environmental Quality	Drinking Water Revolving Fund Program	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
50	Environmental Quality	Waste Management Program	\$1,900.0	\$1,900.0	(\$1,000.0)	(\$1,000.0)	\$0.0	(\$1,200.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
51	Environmental Quality	Recycling Initiative	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
52	Environmental Quality	Compliance Assistance	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,100.0	(\$1,100.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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			ONGOING (\$ in Thousands)						ONE-TIME (\$ in Thousands)					
	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
53	Environmental Quality	Electronic Document Management System	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	(\$1,250.0)	(\$1,250.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
54	Agency Subtotal		\$10,377.2	\$13,391.7	(\$750.0)	(\$2,250.0)	\$0.0	(\$1,500.0)	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	(\$1,250.0)	(\$1,250.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
55	Executive Office	Office for New Americans	\$385.0	\$385.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
56	Executive Office	Base Adjustment	\$161.1	\$161.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
57	Agency Subtotal		\$546.1	\$546.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
58	Higher Education	Operations Increase - Includes MSU Ag + Extension	\$80,325.6	\$80,325.6	(\$4,125.0)	(\$4,125.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
58-1	Higher Education	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Tuition Grants by 5.0%	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,762.5	\$1,762.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
58-2	Higher Education	Legislative Initiative -- Cut to Michigan State University for union activities	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$300.0)	(\$300.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
58-3	Higher Education	Legislative Initiative -- School Aid Fund for MPERS Reform Costs for 7 Universities	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$15,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
58-4	Higher Education	Legislative Initiative -- Indian Tuition Waiver Costs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
59	Agency Subtotal		\$80,325.6	\$80,325.6	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	\$0.0	\$15,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
60	Human Services	Disability Determination Services (DDS) Program	\$0.0	\$20,639.7	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
61	Human Services	Donated Funds Positions (Pathways to Potential)	\$0.0	\$19,290.0	(\$8,215.0)	(\$8,215.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
62	Human Services	Automation of Asset Tests (Pathways to Potential)	\$2,750.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,750.0)	(\$4,200.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
63	Human Services	Offset County Costs for Child Welfare	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
64	Human Services	Additional OIG Field Agents (Pathways to Potential)	\$1,462.8	\$2,438.0	(\$210.0)	(\$210.0)	(\$170.0)	(\$1,462.8)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$791.4	\$1,218.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
65	Human Services	Michigan Rehabilitation Services Matching Funds	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$14,084.5	\$2,400.0	\$2,400.0	(\$2,400.0)	(\$2,400.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
66	Human Services	Performance-Based Funding Implementation Costs	\$1,000.0	\$1,372.1	(\$100.0)	(\$100.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$100.0	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
67	Human Services	Child Support - Impact of IRS Offset	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$100.0)	(\$200.0)	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	(\$1,000.0)	(\$1,000.0)	(\$100.0)	(\$200.0)
68	Human Services	Funding Increase - Michigan Community Service Commission, Children's Trust Fund Administration, and Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment	\$981.8	\$981.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$100.0)	(\$100.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
69	Human Services	Expand Juvenile Justice Re-entry Initiative (Pathways to Potential)	\$200.0	\$800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$100.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
70	Human Services	Pilot iPads for Service Workers	\$465.9	\$666.7	(\$100.0)	(\$100.0)	(\$100.0)	(\$266.7)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
71	Human Services	Child Support Technology Initiatives	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$3,000.0	(\$1,000.0)	(\$3,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
72	Human Services	Catholic Charities Center for Hope Project	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)



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	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
72-1	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Funding to Assist Private Child Welfare Services Providers Implement SACWIS	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$300.0	\$300.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-2	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Private Residential Rates by 2.14% While Holding Counties Harmless	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,295.7	\$3,655.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-3	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Close W.J. Maxey Training School and Transfer Youth to Other Facilities	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,000.0)	(\$1,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-4	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Before and After School Programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,000.0	\$3,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-5	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Centers for Independent Living Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-6	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Parent-to-Parent Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-7	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- School Success Partnership / Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$300.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-8	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Michigan Reading Corps	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$350.0	\$350.0	\$125.0	\$359.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-9	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Child Welfare Assessments	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$100.0	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-10	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Michigan 2-1-1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$100.0	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-11	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Gentle Teaching Methods Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$100.0)	(\$100.0)	\$400.0	\$400.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-12	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Fund MiCAFE at 100% General Fund	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$75.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-13	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce Supervisor-to-Staff Ratio	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,541.3)	(\$2,541.3)	(\$1,205.0)	(\$3,078.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-14	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Rebase Various Programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$7,017.0)	(\$7,100.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-15	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Additional Elder Abuse Prosecuting Attorney	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150.0	\$150.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-16	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Adoption Determination of Care Payments	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$14,147.4	\$18,797.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-17	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Travel Reimbursements for Parent-Child Visitations	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$202.5	\$300.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-18	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Juvenile Justice Vision 20/20 Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,850.0	\$2,850.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-19	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- In-Home Community Care for Juvenile Justice	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-20	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce Field Staff to Align with Caseload Reductions	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$5,104.0)	(\$1,021.5)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-21	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce State Disability Assistance for Federal Funding Increase	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,041.0)	(\$2,041.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-22	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Food Bank	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$200.0	\$200.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-23	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce 1,000 Computers	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$531.0)	(\$531.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0



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	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
73	Agency Subtotal		\$14,860.5	\$59,090.3	(\$5,381.0)	(\$21,873.4)	(\$182.7)	(\$18,888.1)	\$4,900.0	\$6,900.0	(\$3,788.6)	(\$5,281.0)	(\$890.0)	(\$800.5)
74	Judiciary	Next Generation Michigan Court System Implementation	\$4,125.0	\$4,125.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$4,125.0)	(\$4,125.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0
75	Judiciary	Mental Health Diversion (see also Community Health #21 and Corrections #35)	\$1,730.0	\$1,730.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
76	Judiciary	Michigan Indigent Defense Commission Administration Costs	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
77	Judiciary	Limited English Proficiency in the Courts	\$245.0	\$245.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$245.0)	(\$245.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
78	Judiciary	State Appellate Defender Office	\$350.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
79	Judiciary	Trial Court Performance Innovation Fund	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,000.0)	(\$1,000.0)
80	Agency Subtotal		\$7,450.0	\$7,100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$5,500.0)	(\$5,000.0)	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0
81	Legislature	Base Adjustment	\$4,751.2	\$7,751.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
82	Legislative Auditor General	Base Adjustment	\$626.0	\$804.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
82-1	Legislature	Legislative Initiative -- State Capital Historic Site	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,360.0	\$360.0	\$360.0	\$360.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
82-2	Legislative Auditor General	Legislative Initiative -- IT Auditors	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$800.0	\$800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
83	Agency Subtotal		\$5,377.2	\$8,555.6	\$3,360.0	\$360.0	\$1,160.0	\$1,160.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
84	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Reinventing Performance in Michigan	\$700.0	\$700.0	(\$700.0)	(\$700.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
85	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Unemployment Insurance Agency Authorization Increase	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$18,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
86	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Unemployment Insurance Agency Mobile Claim Filing Application	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,400.0	\$0.0	(\$5,800.0)	\$0.0	(\$1,000.0)
87	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Michigan Liquor Control Commission Technology Rewrite Project	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	(\$3,500.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
87-1	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Legislative Initiative -- Remove a Portion of the Veterans Fee Exemption General Fund Offset	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,318.7)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
87-2	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Legislative Initiative -- Remove Fireworks Safety Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,900.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
87-3	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Legislative Initiative -- Add Restricted Elevator Fees Revenue for a Disabled Accessibility Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
88	Agency Subtotal		\$700.0	\$700.0	(\$2,318.7)	(\$1,700.0)	\$0.0	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$22,400.0	\$0.0	(\$3,500.0)	\$0.0	(\$1,200.0)
89	Michigan Strategic Fund	Business Attraction and Community Revitalization	\$29,800.0	\$29,800.0	(\$30,000.0)	(\$30,000.0)	(\$2,500.0)	(\$2,500.0)	\$10,000.0	\$10,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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			ONGOING (\$ in Thousands)						ONE-TIME (\$ in Thousands)					
	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
90	Michigan Strategic Fund	Michigan Film Incentive Program	\$25,000.0	\$25,000.0	(\$25,000.0)	(\$25,000.0)	\$35,000.0	\$35,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$25,000.0	\$25,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
91	Michigan Strategic Fund	Skilled Trades Training Program	\$10,000.0	\$10,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
92	Michigan Strategic Fund	Debt Service for University Engineering Talent Investment Program	\$7,900.0	\$7,900.0	(\$7,900.0)	(\$7,900.0)	\$7,900.0	\$7,900.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
93	Michigan Strategic Fund	Debt Service for Community College Skilled Trades Equipment Program	\$4,600.0	\$4,600.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
94	Michigan Strategic Fund	Land Bank Fast Track Authority	\$3,950.0	\$3,950.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
95	Michigan Strategic Fund	Pure Michigan Marketing Program	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
96	Michigan Strategic Fund	Arts and Cultural Grants	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,500.0	\$1,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
97	Michigan Strategic Fund MSHDA	Automotive, Engineering and Manufacturing Technology Fund	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)
97-1	Michigan Strategic Fund	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce Welfare-to-Work Programs as a Result of DHS Caseload Declines	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$4,200.0)	(\$4,200.0)	(\$4,200.0)	(\$4,200.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
97-2	Michigan Strategic Fund	Legislative Initiative -- Entrepreneurship Eco-System / Van Andel Institute Earmark	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4,500.0	\$4,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
97-3	Michigan Strategic Fund	Legislative Initiative -- Michigan GED-to-School Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$600.0	\$600.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
98	Agency Subtotal		\$85,250.0	\$85,250.0	(\$56,300.0)	(\$56,300.0)	\$7,600.0	(\$2,400.0)	\$15,000.0	\$15,000.0	\$20,000.0	\$20,000.0	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)
99	Military & Veterans Affairs	Michigan National Guard Tuition Assistance Program	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	(\$3,000.0)	(\$3,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
100	Military & Veterans Affairs	Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency Base Increase	\$1,200.0	\$1,200.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,500.0)	(\$2,500.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
101	Military & Veterans Affairs	MVAA Regional Coordinator Funding and Performance Incentives	\$750.0	\$750.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
102	Military & Veterans Affairs	County Veteran Service Offices Incentive Program	\$250.0	\$250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
103	Military & Veterans Affairs	Special Maintenance for Armories/Veterans' Homes (Amounts Revised for Executive Revision 2015-1; Pulls Forward \$3,051.2 Ongoing and \$4M One-Time into FY2014)	(\$3,051.2)	(\$3,051.2)	\$3,051.2	\$3,051.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,000.0	\$3,000.0	(\$300.0)	(\$300.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
103-1	Military & Veterans Affairs	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Veterans Advice, Advocacy and Assistance Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$857.9	\$857.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
103-2	Military & Veterans Affairs	Legislative Initiative -- Veterans Affairs Agency General Legal Services and Federal Representation Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$50.0	\$50.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
104	Agency Subtotal		\$4,148.8	\$4,148.8	\$551.2	\$551.2	\$657.9	\$657.9	\$3,000.0	\$3,000.0	(\$300.0)	(\$300.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
105	Natural Resources	State Park Repair and Maintenance (Amounts Revised for Executive Revision 2015-1; Pulls Forward \$250.0 Ongoing into FY2014 for Mackinac Island Fort Holmes Restoration Project)	\$3,750.0	\$6,250.0	(\$3,000.0)	(\$3,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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			Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
106	Natural Resources	Strategic Investment in Forestry	\$4,000.0	\$4,000.0	(\$4,000.0)	(\$4,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
107	Natural Resources	Invasive Species Initiative	\$4,000.0	\$4,000.0	(\$4,000.0)	(\$4,000.0)	\$170.0	\$170.0	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
108	Natural Resources	25 New Conservation Officers	\$3,500.0	\$3,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
109	Natural Resources	Non-Motorized Trail Initiative	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	(\$2,500.0)	(\$2,500.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
110	Natural Resources	Michigan Civilian Conservation Corps	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	(\$1,000.0)	(\$1,000.0)	(\$2,500.0)	(\$2,500.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
111	Natural Resources	Great Lakes Research Vessel Replacement	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
111-1	Natural Resources	Legislative Initiative -- Bear Management Practices Audit	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$125.0	\$125.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
111-2	Natural Resources	Legislative Initiative -- Cormorant Population Mitigation	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$50.0	\$50.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
111-3	Natural Resources	Legislative Initiative -- River Raisin National Battlefield Foundation Grant	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0
111-4	Natural Resources	Legislative Initiative -- Saginaw River Feasibility Study	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$280.0	\$280.0
111-5	Natural Resources	Legislative Initiative -- Flint River Dike Repair	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0
112	Agency Subtotal		\$18,750.0	\$21,250.0	(\$10,750.0)	(\$10,750.0)	(\$1,280.0)	(\$1,280.0)	\$3,000.0	\$4,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,280.0	\$3,280.0
113	School Aid	Foundation Allowance Increase (\$83/pupil to \$111/pupil)	\$0.0	\$150,000.0	\$0.0	\$16,000.0	\$0.0	\$240,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
114	School Aid	Great Start Readiness Program	\$0.0	\$65,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
115	School Aid	Equity Payment	\$0.0	\$36,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
116	School Aid	Michigan Educator Effectiveness Evaluations and Student Testing	\$0.0	\$20,000.0	\$0.0	(\$10,000.0)	\$0.0	(\$40,000.0)	\$0.0	\$15,000.0	\$0.0	(\$10,000.0)	\$0.0	(\$15,000.0)
117	School Aid	MPSERS Rate Cap Reduction (see also Community Colleges #13 and Education #49)	\$0.0	\$3,244.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,214,400.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
118	School Aid	Best Practices Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$80,000.0	\$0.0	(\$1,000.0)	\$0.0	(\$80,000.0)
119	School Aid	Technology Infrastructure Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$50,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
120	School Aid	Emergency Reserve for Schools in Fiscal Distress	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10,000.0	\$0.0	\$5.0	\$0.0	(\$10,000.0)
121	School Aid	Small Class Size Supplemental Payments	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$9,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
122	School Aid	Consolidation Innovation Grants/Pilot Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$5,000.0)
123	School Aid	Year-Round School Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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			GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
	Agency	Investment Request												
124	School Aid	First Robotics	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
125	School Aid	Dual Enrollment Programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,750.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
126	School Aid	Michigan Merit Curriculum Integration into Career and Technical Education	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
127	School Aid	Statewide Career Readiness Study	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128	School Aid	Advanced Placement Testing Incentives	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-1	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Eliminates Funding for MVU and Transfers Functions to the Department of Education	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,000.0)	\$0.0	(\$2,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-2	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Isolated District Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$299.2)	\$0.0	\$129.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-3	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Increase DMVA Challenge Program Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$50.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-4	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Replace General Fund with School Aid Fund (see also Community Colleges #13-2)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$150,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-5	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Hold Harmless Provision to Ensure Districts Receive at Least \$75 Per Pupil Increase with the Elimination of Categoricals and Foundation Increase Combined	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$25,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-6	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Vocational Education Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-7	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Eliminate ISD Best Practices	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-8	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Increase STEM Partnership and STEM Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-9	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Conversion of School Busses to Natural Gas	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,000.0
128-10	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers in Approved STEM programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$330.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-11	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Data Analytic Tools for Districts	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-12	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- ISD Operations	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,567.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-13	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Strict Discipline Academies from PA 116 of 2014	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
129	Agency Subtotal		\$0.0	\$280,244.0	\$0.0	(\$4,099.5)	(\$150,000.0)	\$137,444.7	\$0.0	\$176,250.0	\$0.0	(\$16,590.6)	\$0.0	(\$106,250.6)
130	State	Fraud Detection and Prevention	\$1,830.8	\$1,830.8	(\$830.8)	(\$830.8)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
131	Agency Subtotal		\$1,830.8	\$1,830.8	(\$830.8)	(\$830.8)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
132	State Police	100 New Troopers	\$7,800.0	\$7,800.0	\$177.7	\$177.7	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4,800.0	\$5,700.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
133	State Police	31 New Motor Carrier Officers	\$3,210.0	\$3,210.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,022.3	\$2,022.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
134	State Police	Statewide Records Management System	\$1,528.0	\$1,528.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
135	State Police	Helicopter Purchase	\$246.0	\$246.0	(\$246.0)	(\$246.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4,932.0	\$4,932.0	(\$4,932.0)	(\$4,932.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
136	State Police	Electronic Warrant to Disposition Reporting System	\$50.0	\$50.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$750.0	\$750.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
137	State Police	Lab Services - State Service Fee Fund Shift	\$4,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
138	State Police	Local Public Safety Initiatives - Grants to Locals, with Focus on School Safety	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	(\$5.0)	(\$5.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
139	State Police	Update LEIN System	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$350.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
140	State Police	Armored Car Replacement	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$225.0	\$225.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
140-1	State Police	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce Security at Events Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$703.4)	(\$703.4)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
140-2	State Police	Legislative Initiative -- Shifted MIS Traffic Control Funding to One-Time	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$831.9)	(\$831.9)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$831.9	\$831.9
141	Agency Subtotal		\$16,834.0	\$12,834.0	(\$88.2)	(\$88.2)	(\$1,591.5)	(\$1,591.5)	\$17,729.3	\$18,979.3	(\$4,932.0)	(\$4,932.0)	\$831.9	\$831.9
142	Technology, Management & Budget	Information Technology Investment Fund	\$28,000.0	\$28,000.0	(\$14,000.0)	(\$14,000.0)	(\$14,000.0)	(\$14,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
143	Technology, Management & Budget	Michigan Public Safety Communications System (MPSCS) Lifecycle Replacement	\$25,300.0	\$25,300.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
144	Technology, Management & Budget	Cyber Security	\$6,785.0	\$6,785.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
145	Technology, Management & Budget	Enterprisewide Maintenance	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10,000.0	\$10,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
146	Technology, Management & Budget	Regional Prosperity Grants	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	(\$2,500.0)	(\$2,500.0)	(\$2,500.0)	(\$2,500.0)	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
147	Technology, Management & Budget	Children's Ombudsman	\$510.2	\$510.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
148	Technology, Management & Budget	Office of Urban Initiatives	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,500.0	\$5,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
149	Technology, Management & Budget	Litigation Fund	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
150	Technology, Management & Budget	Capital Outlay Universities and Community Colleges Planning Authorizations - Ferns, West Shore, and Lake Michigan	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$0.0)	(\$0.0)	(\$0.0)	(\$0.0)
150-1	Technology, Management & Budget	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce IT Interdepartmental Grants to Phase Out the Michigan Business One-Stop	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,510.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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			ONGOING (\$ in Thousands)						ONE-TIME (\$ in Thousands)					
	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
150-2	Technology, Management & Budget	Legislative Initiative -- Increase IT Interdepartmental Grants for Depreciation Expenses for the Michigan Business One-Stop	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$871.7	\$0.0	\$0.0
150-3	Technology, Management & Budget	Legislative Initiative -- Juvenile Justice Vision 20/20 Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,350.0	\$1,350.0
151	Agency Subtotal		\$68,095.2	\$68,095.2	(\$15,500.0)	(\$23,015.5)	(\$15,500.0)	(\$15,500.0)	\$23,000.3	\$23,000.3	(\$0.3)	\$871.4	\$1,349.7	\$1,349.7
152	Transportation	Maintenance Services	\$0.0	\$40,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
153	Transportation	Local Agency Federal Aid Program	\$0.0	\$3,469.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
154	Transportation	Road and Bridge Construction Federal Match	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$127,000.0	\$127,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
155	Transportation	Funding for State Roads and Bridges	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$115,000.0	\$115,000.0	\$137,000.0	\$137,000.0	\$900.0	\$900.0
156	Transportation	Transit Grants Federal Match	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10,000.0	\$10,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
157	Transportation	Aeronautics Federal Match	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,047.9	\$2,047.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
157-1	Transportation	Revised for Executive Revision 2015-1 -- Newly Created Regional Transit Authority in Southeast Michigan	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,100.0	\$1,100.0	(\$1,100.0)	(\$1,100.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
157-2	Transportation	Legislative Initiative -- Detroit-Windsor Rail Tunnel	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10,000.0	\$10,000.0
157-3	Transportation	Legislative Initiative -- High-Speed Rail Crossing Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,500.0	\$1,500.0
158	Agency Subtotal		\$0.0	\$43,469.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$255,147.9	\$255,147.9	\$135,900.0	\$135,900.0	\$12,400.0	\$12,400.0
159	Treasury	Debt Service New Issuances	\$6,886.1	\$6,886.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
160	Treasury	Financial Independence Team for Distressed Schools (see also Education #44)	\$6,500.0	\$6,500.0	(\$6,488.5)	\$6,488.5	(\$6,488.5)	(\$6,488.5)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
161	Treasury	Office of Tax Plan Implementation Testing	\$1,550.0	\$1,550.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
162	Treasury	Technical Issues Resolution Unit Expansion	\$600.0	\$600.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
163	Treasury	Data Governance Program	\$401.0	\$401.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
164	Treasury	Student Scholarships and Grants System Maintenance	\$400.0	\$400.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
165	Treasury	Personal Property Tax Reform - Grants to Locals	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$18,300.0	\$18,300.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
166	Treasury	Credit Card Payments for State Taxes (Amounts Revised for Executive Revision 2015-1, Pulls Forward \$1.5M into FY2014.)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
167	Treasury	Personal Property Tax Reform - Administration Costs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,500.0	\$1,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
168	Treasury	Debt Service - Refined Petroleum Fund Shift (see also Environmental Quality #48)	\$3,014.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
168-1	Treasury	Revised for Executive Revision 2015-1 -- Payments in Lieu of Taxes Adjustments	\$2,638.2	\$2,960.4	(\$2,625.2)	(\$2,625.2)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0



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			ONGOING (\$ in Thousands)						ONE-TIME (\$ in Thousands)					
	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
169		Agency Subtotal	\$21,989.8	\$19,297.5	(\$9,138.1)	(\$9,488.3)	(\$2,098.0)	(\$2,098.0)	\$21,300.0	\$21,300.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
170	Treasury - Casino Gaming	Administrative Costs	\$0.0	\$266.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
171		Agency Subtotal	\$0.0	\$266.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
172	Treasury - Revenue Sharing	County Revenue Sharing	\$0.0	\$62,352.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$21,040.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
172-1	Treasury - Revenue Sharing	County Incentive Programs	\$0.0	\$19,588.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$21,040.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
173	Treasury Revenue Sharing	Economic Vitality Incentive Program	\$0.0	\$16,700.0	\$0.0	(\$9,316.1)	\$0.0	(\$28,800.0)	\$0.0	\$28,800.0	\$0.0	(\$28,800.0)	\$0.0	(\$28,800.0)
173-1	Treasury - Revenue Sharing	Legislative Initiative -- New Revenue Sharing Formula	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$9,316.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$28,800.0	\$0.0	\$28,800.0
173-2	Treasury - Revenue Sharing	Legislative Initiative -- Competitive Grant Assistance Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$5,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
173-3	Treasury - Revenue Sharing	Legislative Initiative -- Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Townships	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
174		Agency Subtotal	\$0.0	\$88,640.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$28,800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
175	Reserves	Distressed Communities Reserve	\$0.0	\$17,500.0	\$0.0	(\$17,500.0)	\$0.0	(\$17,500.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
176	Reserves	MI Health Savings Sub-Fund	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$122,000.0	\$122,000.0	(\$122,000.0)	(\$122,000.0)	(\$122,000.0)	(\$122,000.0)
177	Reserves	Budget Stabilization Fund Reserve	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$120,000.0	\$120,000.0	(\$120,000.0)	(\$120,000.0)	(\$120,000.0)	(\$120,000.0)
178	Reserves	MPERS Reserve	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$90,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$90,000.0)
178-1	Reserves	Legislative Initiative -- Education Reserve Fund	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$35,000.0
179		Subtotal	\$0.0	\$17,500.0	\$0.0	(\$17,500.0)	\$0.0	(\$17,500.0)	\$242,000.0	\$292,000.0	(\$142,000.0)	(\$142,000.0)	(\$142,000.0)	(\$157,000.0)
SUBTOTAL - ALL REQUESTS			\$429,858.0	\$969,149.8	(\$1,084,297.5)	(\$1,127,685.3)	(\$333,683.5)	\$128,630.5	\$607,055.7	\$698,755.7	(\$1,084,297.5)	(\$1,127,685.3)	(\$1,084,297.5)	(\$1,127,685.3)
Total School Aid Funding Requests			\$280,244.0		(\$4,059.5)		\$152,444.7		\$226,250.0		(\$16,550.0)		(\$129,250.0)	
Total Sales Tax Revenue (Revenue Sharing) Requests			\$88,640.0		\$0.0		\$0.0		\$28,800.0		\$0.0		\$0.0	
TOTAL REQUESTS (GF + SCHOOL AID FUND + SALES TAX REVENUE)			\$796,742.0	\$969,149.8	(\$1,088,357.5)	(\$1,127,685.3)	\$129,363.1	\$128,630.5	\$862,105.7	\$698,755.7	(\$1,100,847.5)	(\$1,148,285.3)	(\$1,213,297.5)	(\$1,246,685.3)

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	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
1	Agriculture & Rural Development	Qualified Forest Program	\$2,500.0	\$2,325.0	(\$415.0)	(\$400.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
2	Agriculture & Rural Development	Food and Dairy Safety Improvement Initiative	\$1,760.0	\$1,760.0	(\$300.0)	(\$315.0)	\$0.0	\$14.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
3	Agriculture & Rural Development	Pesticide and Plant Pest Management	\$800.0	\$800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
4	Agriculture & Rural Development	Building Occupancy Fund Shift	\$419.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5	Agriculture & Rural Development	Food and Agriculture Industry Growth Initiative	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	(\$250.0)	(\$250.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-1	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Commercial Forestry Audit Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150.0	\$150.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-2	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP)	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$100.0)	(\$200.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-3	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Engine Oil Inspection and Enforcement Program - Related to SB 685	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$190.0	\$190.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-4	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce the Consumer Protection Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$250.0)	(\$250.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-5	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Replace Refined Petroleum Fund with General Fund - Related to SB 791	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,912.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-6	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Shows and Exhibitions Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$50.0	\$50.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
5-7	Agriculture & Rural Development	Legislative Initiative -- Increase the Horse Racing Programs (leaves a hole in the Gaming budget)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,889.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
6	Agency Subtotal		\$5,479.4	\$4,895.0	(\$1,750.0)	\$154.4	\$4,000.0	\$102.6	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	(\$250.0)	(\$250.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
7	Attorney General	Human Trafficking Initiative	\$400.0	\$400.0	(\$200.0)	(\$200.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
8	Agency Subtotal		\$400.0	\$400.0	(\$200.0)	(\$200.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
9	Civil Rights	Expansion of Targeted MDCR Initiatives - anti-bullying efforts, the Michigan Alliance Against Hate Crimes (MAAHC) and Advocates and Leaders for Police and Community Trust (ALPACT)	\$500.0	\$500.0	(\$300.0)	(\$300.0)	(\$200.0)	(\$200.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
10	Civil Rights	Expansion of Intake Unit	\$175.0	\$175.0	(\$87.5)	(\$87.5)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
11	Agency Subtotal		\$675.0	\$675.0	(\$587.5)	(\$587.5)	(\$200.0)	(\$200.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
12	Community Colleges	3% Operations Increase	\$8,947.3	\$8,947.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
13	Community Colleges	MPSERS Rate Cap Reduction (see also Education #45 and School Aid #117)	\$6,800.0	\$6,800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,240.0)	(\$2,240.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0



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	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
13-1	Community Colleges	Legislative Initiative -- Replace School Aid Fund with General Fund (see also School Aid #12B-4)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
13-2	Community Colleges	Legislative Initiative -- MPSERS Retiree Health Care	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$6,800.0	\$6,800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
14	Agency Subtotal		\$15,747.3	\$15,747.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
15	Community Health	Primary Care Rate Adjustment	\$26,000.0	\$75,449.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
16	Community Health	Eliminate MChoice Home and Community Based Waiver Waiting List	\$9,020.9	\$26,177.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
17	Community Health	Healthy Kids Dental - expand to Kalamazoo and Macomb counties	\$5,400.0	\$15,670.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
18	Community Health	Mental Health and Wellness Commission Recommendations	\$10,620.0	\$10,620.0	\$0.0	\$18,242.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$3,962.5	\$0.0	\$0.0
19	Community Health	Wayne State Psychiatric Residency Program	\$5,605.9	\$5,605.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
20	Community Health	Eliminate Waiting Lists for Home Delivered Meals and In-Home Services for the Aging	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
21	Community Health	Mental Health Diversion (see also Corrections #35 and Judiciary #75)	\$3,350.0	\$3,350.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
22	Community Health	Rural Prenatal Care Visitation	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
23	Community Health	Prevention of Elder Abuse	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
24	Community Health	Increase Crime Victim Rights Grants to Prosecuting Attorney Offices	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
25	Community Health	Data Analytics for Behavioral Health Services	\$425.0	\$425.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
26	Community Health	Northern Michigan Island Primary Care Clinics - Mackinac, Drummond, Bois Blanc, and Beaver Island	\$325.0	\$325.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
27	Community Health	Administrative Costs for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)	\$62.5	\$125.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
28	Community Health	Emergency Medical Services Program Revenue Shortfall	\$1,006.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
29	Community Health	Eliminate Special Medicaid Rural Hospital Payment	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$35,629.5	\$12,000.0	\$35,629.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
30	Community Health	University of Detroit Dental Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4,092.3	\$4,092.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
31	Community Health	University Autism Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,000.0	\$3,000.0	\$1,500.0	\$1,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0
32	Community Health	Child and Adolescent Health Services - Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-1	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Diabetes Prevention Programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150.0	\$150.0	\$150.1	\$150.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-2	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Alzheimer's Disease Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150.0	\$150.0	\$150.1	\$150.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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			ONGOING (\$ in Thousands)						ONE-TIME (\$ in Thousands)					
	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
32-3	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Local Health Department Operational Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,500.0	\$1,500.0	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-4	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- MICHild Administrative Alignment	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$267.4)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-5	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Remove Transparency Database Website Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$333.3)	(\$333.3)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-6	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Continue Partial FY2014 GME One-Time Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$2,901.9	\$1,450.0	\$4,314.2
32-7	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce General Fund and Utilize Restricted Autism Coverage Fund to support the Autism Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,200.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-8	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- GME MIDocs Consortium	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-9	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- GME Residencies New Options	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-10	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- 2% Increase for Kidney Dialysis Services	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$110.5	\$320.7	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-11	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- 15% Increase for Ambulance Medicaid Services	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$1,451.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-12	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- 3% Increase in Adult Foster Care Personal Services	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$375.0	\$1,086.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-13	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Increase OB/GYN Medicaid Rate to Medicare Rate	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$6,500.0	\$18,862.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-14	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Restore 2012-13 Harper/Hutzel Payment	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$6,500.0	\$18,862.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-15	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Breast Cancer Programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-16	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Reduction in Before and After School Healthy Exercise Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$333.3)	(\$333.3)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-17	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Increase for MI Essential Health Provider Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-18	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Increase for Rural Health Programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$24.0	\$24.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-19	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- Increase for "Real Alternatives" Pregnancy and Parenting Support Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,500.0	\$1,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
32-20	Community Health	Legislative Initiative -- "Be the Match" Bone Marrow Registry Funding to Michigan Blood, Partner Agency, National Marrow Donor Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$250.0	\$250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
33	Agency Subtotal		\$58,315.4	\$111,619.4	(\$8,878.2)	\$41,207.6	(\$4,594.4)	\$21,535.1	\$14,092.3	\$14,092.3	(\$2,550.0)	\$5,364.4	(\$3,343.5)	\$1,814.3
34	Corrections	Prisoner Education Enhancement	\$3,250.0	\$3,250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$3,250.0)	(\$3,250.0)	\$1,045.3	\$1,045.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,045.3)	(\$1,045.3)
35	Corrections	Mental Health Diversion (see also Community Health #21 and Judiciary #75)	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
36	Corrections	Mobilize Parole/Probation Staff	\$582.4	\$582.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$440.6	\$440.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
37	Corrections	Professional Development Training Services for Bureau of Healthcare Services	\$402.6	\$402.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$402.6	\$402.6	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
37-1	Corrections	Legislative Initiative -- Savings for RFP for Non-State, Non-Secure Nursing Home for Disabled	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
37-2	Corrections	Legislative Initiative -- Restore Justice and Correctional Reform Negative Line	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$30,329.3)	(\$30,329.3)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
37-3	Corrections	Legislative Initiative -- Remove Lapsed Balances	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$12,403.3)	(\$12,403.3)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
37-4	Corrections	Legislative Initiative -- 1:8 Management to Staff Ratios for Central Office / Regional Business Offices	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,140.0)	(\$1,140.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
37-5	Corrections	Legislative Initiative -- Funding for new IDG to DHS for Michigan Rehabilitation Services / Swift and Sure Sanctions	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,000.0	\$3,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
37-6	Corrections	Legislative Initiative -- Earmark for Goodwill - Flip the Script	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4,500.0	\$4,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
37-7	Corrections	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce Michigan State Industries	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$4,142.3)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
38	Agency Subtotal		\$5,235.0	\$5,235.0	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	(\$40,178.3)	(\$46,329.3)	\$1,485.9	\$1,485.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,345.3)	(\$1,045.3)
39	Education	Federal Child Development and Care (CDC) -- increase maximum reimbursable hours from 80 to 90 per two-week pay period	\$0.0	\$6,900.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
40	Education	Michigan Council for Educator Effectiveness Staffing and System Upgrades	\$5,014.0	\$5,014.0	(\$5,014.0)	(\$5,014.0)	(\$5,014.0)	(\$5,014.0)	\$900.0	\$900.0	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)
41	Education	Federal Child Development and Care (CDC) - tiered reimbursement	\$0.0	\$3,672.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
42	Education	School Reform Efforts - assistance to lowest 5% performing districts	\$918.6	\$918.6	(\$918.6)	(\$918.6)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
43	Education	Financial Independence Team for Distressed Schools (see also Treasury #160)	\$778.1	\$778.1	(\$778.0)	(\$778.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
44	Education	Administrative costs for Great Start Readiness Program	\$404.0	\$404.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
45	Education	MPERS Rate Cap Reduction for Public Libraries (see also Community Colleges #13 and School Aid #117)	\$356.0	\$356.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$356.0)	(\$356.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
45-1	Education	Legislative Initiative -- Increase State Aid to Libraries	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$612.4	\$612.4	\$356.0	\$356.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
45-2	Education	Legislative Initiative -- Update Teacher Certification Tests	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,600.0	\$3,600.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
46	Agency Subtotal		\$7,470.7	\$18,042.7	(\$2,191.6)	(\$2,191.6)	(\$5,014.0)	(\$5,014.0)	\$900.0	\$900.0	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)
47	Environmental Quality	Water Quality and Use Initiative	\$3,977.2	\$3,977.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
48	Environmental Quality	Leaking Underground Storage Tank Cleanup (see also Treasury #168)	\$0.0	\$3,014.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
49	Environmental Quality	Drinking Water Revolving Fund Program	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
50	Environmental Quality	Waste Management Program	\$1,900.0	\$1,900.0	(\$1,000.0)	(\$1,000.0)	\$0.0	(\$1,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
51	Environmental Quality	Recycling Initiative	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
52	Environmental Quality	Compliance Assistance	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,150.0	\$1,150.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
53	Environmental Quality	Electronic Document Management System	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	(\$1,250.0)	(\$1,250.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
54	Agency Subtotal		\$10,377.2	\$13,391.7	(\$750.0)	(\$2,250.0)	\$0.0	(\$1,300.0)	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	(\$1,250.0)	(\$1,250.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
55	Executive Office	Office for New Americans	\$385.0	\$385.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
56	Executive Office	Base Adjustment	\$161.1	\$161.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
57	Agency Subtotal		\$546.1	\$546.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
58	Higher Education	Operations Increase -- Includes MSU Ag + Extension	\$80,325.6	\$80,325.6	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
58-1	Higher Education	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Tuition Grants by 5.6%	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,762.5	\$1,762.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
58-2	Higher Education	Legislative Initiative -- Cut to Michigan State University for union activities	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
58-3	Higher Education	Legislative Initiative -- School Aid Fund for MPSEBS Reform Costs for 7 Universities	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$15,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
58-4	Higher Education	Legislative Initiative -- Indian Tuition Waiver Costs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
59	Agency Subtotal		\$80,325.6	\$80,325.6	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	\$0.0	\$15,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
60	Human Services	Disability Determination Services (DDS) Program	\$0.0	\$20,639.7	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
61	Human Services	Donated Funds Positions (Pathways to Potential)	\$0.0	\$19,290.0	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
62	Human Services	Automation of Asset Tests (Pathways to Potential)	\$2,750.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
63	Human Services	Offset County Costs for Child Welfare	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
64	Human Services	Additional OIG Field Agents (Pathways to Potential)	\$1,482.8	\$2,438.0	(\$500.0)	(\$1,518.0)	(\$500.0)	(\$5,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$731.4	\$1,219.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
65	Human Services	Michigan Rehabilitation Services Matching Funds	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$14,084.5	\$2,400.0	\$2,400.0	(\$2,400.0)	(\$2,400.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
66	Human Services	Performance-Based Funding Implementation Costs	\$1,000.0	\$1,372.1	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$100.0	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
67	Human Services	Child Support - Impact of IRS Offset	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	(\$1,000.0)	(\$1,000.0)	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)
68	Human Services	Funding Increase -- Michigan Community Service Commission, Children's Trust Fund Administration, and Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment	\$981.8	\$981.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$500.0)	(\$500.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
69	Human Services	Expand Juvenile Justice Re-entry Initiative (Pathways to Potential)	\$200.0	\$800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$500.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
70	Human Services	Pilot iPads for Service Workers	\$466.9	\$566.7	(\$500.0)	(\$511.3)	(\$466.9)	(\$566.7)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
71	Human Services	Child Support Technology Initiatives	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	(\$1,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0

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			GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
	Agency	Investment Request												
72	Human Services	Catholic Charities Center for Hope Project	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$500.0
72-1	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Funding to Assist Private Child Welfare Services Providers Implement SACWIS	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$300.0	\$300.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-2	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Private Residential Rates by 2.14% While Holding Counties Harmless	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,295.7	\$3,655.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-3	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Close W.J. Maxey Training School and Transfer Youth to Other Facilities	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,000.0)	(\$2,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-4	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Before and After School Programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,000.0	\$3,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-5	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Centers for Independent Living Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-6	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Parent-to-Parent Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-7	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- School Success Partnership / Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$300.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-8	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Michigan Reading Corps	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$350.0	\$350.0	\$125.0	\$359.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-9	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Child Welfare Assessments	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$100.0	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-10	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Michigan 2-1-1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$100.0	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-11	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Gentle Teaching Methods Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$100.0)	(\$100.0)	\$400.0	\$400.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-12	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Fund MICAPE at 100% General Fund	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$75.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-13	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce Supervisor-to-Staff Ratio	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,241.3)	(\$2,241.3)	(\$1,250.5)	(\$3,078.6)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-14	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Rebase Various Programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,217.4)	(\$2,150.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-15	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Additional Elder Abuse Prosecuting Attorney	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$150.0	\$150.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-16	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Adoption Determination of Care Payments	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$14,147.4	\$18,797.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-17	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Travel Reimbursements for Parent-Child Visitations	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$202.5	\$300.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-18	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Juvenile Justice Vision 20/20 Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,850.0	\$2,850.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-19	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- In-Home Community Care for Juvenile Justice	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-20	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce Field Staff to Align with Caseload Reductions	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,100.0)	(\$1,217.2)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-21	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce State Disability Assistance for Federal Funding Increase	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,241.3)	(\$2,241.3)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
72-22	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Food Bank	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$200.0	\$200.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0



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			ONGOING (\$ in Thousands)						ONE-TIME (\$ in Thousands)					
			Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
72-23	Human Services	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce 1,000 Computers	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$336.6)	(\$336.6)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
73	Agency Subtotal		\$14,860.5	\$59,090.3	(\$5,561.0)	(\$21,873.4)	(\$182.7)	(\$18,698.1)	\$4,900.0	\$6,900.0	(\$3,758.5)	(\$5,281.0)	(\$830.0)	(\$830.0)
74	Judiciary	Next Generation Michigan Court System Implementation	\$4,125.0	\$4,125.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$3,445.0)	(\$3,445.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,500.0	\$3,500.0
75	Judiciary	Mental Health Diversion (see also Community Health #21 and Corrections #35)	\$1,790.0	\$1,790.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$6,300.0)	(\$6,300.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
76	Judiciary	Michigan Indigent Defense Commission Administration Costs	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
77	Judiciary	Limited English Proficiency in the Courts	\$246.0	\$246.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$345.0)	(\$345.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
78	Judiciary	State Appellate Defender Office	\$350.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
79	Judiciary	Trial Court Performance Innovation Fund	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,400.0)	(\$1,400.0)
80	Agency Subtotal		\$7,450.0	\$7,100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$5,088.0)	(\$5,088.0)	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0
81	Legislature	Base Adjustment	\$4,751.2	\$7,751.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
82	Legislative Auditor General	Base Adjustment	\$626.0	\$804.4	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
82-1	Legislature	Legislative Initiative -- State Capital Historic Site	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$360.0	\$360.0	\$360.0	\$360.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
82-2	Legislative Auditor General	Legislative Initiative -- IT Auditors	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$800.0	\$800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
83	Agency Subtotal		\$5,377.2	\$8,555.6	\$360.0	\$360.0	\$1,160.0	\$1,160.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
84	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Reinventing Performance in Michigan	\$700.0	\$700.0	(\$200.0)	(\$200.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
85	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Unemployment Insurance Agency Authorization Increase	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$18,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
86	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Unemployment Insurance Agency Mobile Claim Filing Application	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,400.0	\$0.0	(\$3,400.0)	\$0.0	(\$1,000.0)
87	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Michigan Liquor Control Commission Technology Rewrite Project	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	(\$1,500.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
87-1	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Legislative Initiative -- Remove a Portion of the Veterans Fee Exemption General Fund Offset	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,100.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
87-2	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Legislative Initiative -- Remove Fireworks Safety Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$1,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
87-3	Licensing & Regulatory Affairs	Legislative Initiative -- Add Restricted Elevator Fees Revenue for a Disabled Accessibility Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
88	Agency Subtotal		\$700.0	\$700.0	(\$2,316.7)	(\$1,700.0)	\$0.0	\$100.0	\$0.0	\$22,400.0	\$0.0	(\$3,900.0)	\$0.0	(\$1,200.0)

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	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
88	Michigan Strategic Fund	Business Attraction and Community Revitalization	\$29,800.0	\$29,800.0	(\$80,000.0)	(\$80,000.0)	(\$71,500.0)	(\$71,500.0)	\$10,000.0	\$10,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
90	Michigan Strategic Fund	Michigan Film Incentive Program	\$25,000.0	\$25,000.0	(\$25,000.0)	(\$25,000.0)	\$35,000.0	\$35,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$25,000.0	\$25,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
91	Michigan Strategic Fund	Skilled Trades Training Program	\$10,000.0	\$10,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
92	Michigan Strategic Fund	Debt Service for University Engineering Talent Investment Program	\$7,800.0	\$7,800.0	(\$7,800.0)	(\$7,800.0)	\$7,800.0	(\$7,800.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
93	Michigan Strategic Fund	Debt Service for Community College Skilled Trades Equipment Program	\$4,600.0	\$4,600.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
94	Michigan Strategic Fund	Land Bank Fast Track Authority	\$3,950.0	\$3,950.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
95	Michigan Strategic Fund	Pure Michigan Marketing Program	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
96	Michigan Strategic Fund	Arts and Cultural Grants	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,500.0	\$1,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
97	Michigan Strategic Fund MSHDA	Automotive, Engineering and Manufacturing Technology Fund	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)
97-1	Michigan Strategic Fund	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce Welfare-to-Work Programs as a Result of DHS Caseload Declines	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$4,000.0)	(\$4,000.0)	(\$4,000.0)	(\$4,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
97-2	Michigan Strategic Fund	Legislative Initiative -- Entrepreneurship Eco-System / Van Andel Institute Earmark	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4,500.0	\$4,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
98	Agency Subtotal		\$85,250.0	\$85,250.0	(\$86,800.0)	(\$86,800.0)	\$7,600.0	(\$2,400.0)	\$15,000.0	\$15,000.0	\$20,000.0	\$20,000.0	(\$5,000.0)	(\$5,000.0)
99	Military & Veterans Affairs	Michigan National Guard Tuition Assistance Program	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	(\$1,000.0)	(\$1,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
100	Military & Veterans Affairs	Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency Base Increase	\$1,200.0	\$1,200.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$2,500.0)	(\$2,500.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
101	Military & Veterans Affairs	MVAA Regional Coordinator Funding and Performance Incentives	\$750.0	\$750.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
102	Military & Veterans Affairs	County Veteran Service Offices Incentive Program	\$250.0	\$250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
103	Military & Veterans Affairs	Special Maintenance for Armories/Veterans' Homes (Amounts Revised for Executive Revision 2015-1; Pulls Forward \$3,051.2 Ongoing and \$4M One-Time into FY2014)	(\$3,051.2)	(\$3,051.2)	\$3,051.2	\$3,051.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,000.0	\$3,000.0	(\$300.0)	(\$300.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
103-1	Military & Veterans Affairs	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Veterans Advice, Advocacy and Assistance Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$857.9	\$857.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
103-2	Military & Veterans Affairs	Legislative Initiative -- Veterans Affairs Agency General Legal Services and Federal Representation Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$50.0	\$50.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
104	Agency Subtotal		\$4,148.8	\$4,148.8	\$551.2	\$551.2	\$657.9	\$657.9	\$3,000.0	\$3,000.0	(\$300.0)	(\$300.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
105	Natural Resources	State Park Repair and Maintenance (Amounts Revised for Executive Revision 2015-1; Pulls Forward \$250.0 Ongoing into FY2014 for Mackinac Island Fort Holmes Restoration Project)	\$3,750.0	\$6,250.0	(\$2,000.0)	(\$2,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
106	Natural Resources	Strategic Investment in Forestry	\$4,000.0	\$4,000.0	(\$3,000.0)	(\$3,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
107	Natural Resources	Invasive Species Initiative	\$4,000.0	\$4,000.0	(\$3,000.0)	(\$3,000.0)	\$170.0	\$170.0	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
108	Natural Resources	25 New Conservation Officers	\$3,500.0	\$3,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
109	Natural Resources	Non-Motorized Trail Initiative	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	(\$2,000.0)	(\$2,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
110	Natural Resources	Michigan Civilian Conservation Corps	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	(\$1,000.0)	(\$1,000.0)	(\$2,000.0)	(\$2,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
111	Natural Resources	Great Lakes Research Vessel Replacement	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
111-1	Natural Resources	Legislative Initiative -- Bear Management Practices Audit	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$125.0	\$125.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
111-2	Natural Resources	Legislative Initiative -- Cormorant Population Mitigation	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$50.0	\$50.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
111-3	Natural Resources	Legislative Initiative -- River Raisin National Battlefield Foundation Grant	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$2,000.0
111-4	Natural Resources	Legislative Initiative -- Saginaw River Feasibility Study	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$280.0	\$280.0
111-5	Natural Resources	Legislative Initiative -- Flint River Dike Repair	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0
112	Agency Subtotal		\$18,750.0	\$21,250.0	(\$10,750.0)	(\$10,750.0)	(\$1,280.0)	(\$1,280.0)	\$3,000.0	\$4,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$3,280.0	\$3,280.0
113	School Aid	Foundation Allowance Increase (\$83/pupil to \$111/pupil)	\$0.0	\$150,000.0	\$0.0	(\$8,100.0)	\$0.0	\$240,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
114	School Aid	Great Start Readiness Program	\$0.0	\$65,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
115	School Aid	Equity Payment	\$0.0	\$36,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
116	School Aid	Michigan Educator Effectiveness Evaluations and Student Testing	\$0.0	\$20,000.0	\$0.0	(\$1,000.0)	\$0.0	(\$30,000.0)	\$0.0	\$15,000.0	\$0.0	(\$10,000.0)	\$0.0	(\$5,000.0)
117	School Aid	MPSERS Rate Cap Reduction (see also Community Colleges #13 and Education #49)	\$0.0	\$3,244.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$3,244.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
118	School Aid	Best Practices Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$80,000.0	\$0.0	(\$1,000.0)	\$0.0	(\$80,000.0)
119	School Aid	Technology Infrastructure Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$50,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
120	School Aid	Emergency Reserve for Schools in Fiscal Distress	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$10,000.0)
121	School Aid	Small Class Size Supplemental Payments	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$9,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
122	School Aid	Consolidation Innovation Grants/Pilot Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$5,000.0)
123	School Aid	Year-Round School Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0



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			ONGOING (\$ in Thousands)						ONE-TIME (\$ in Thousands)					
	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
124	School Aid	First Robotics	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
125	School Aid	Dual Enrollment Programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,750.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
126	School Aid	Michigan Merit Curriculum Integration into Career and Technical Education	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
127	School Aid	Statewide Career Readiness Study	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128	School Aid	Advanced Placement Testing Incentives	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$250.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-1	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Remove All Existing Assessment Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-2	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Eliminates Funding for MVU and Transfers Functions to the Department of Education	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-3	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Isolated District Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$129.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-4	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Increase DMVA Challenge Program Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$50.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-5	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Replace General Fund with School Aid Fund (see also Community Colleges #13-2)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-6	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Hold Harmless Provision to Ensure Districts Receive at Least \$75 Per Pupil Increase with the Elimination of Categoricals and Foundation Increase Combined	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$25,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-7	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Health and Nutrition Education Software (myNutratak)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-8	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Increase Vocational Education Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-9	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Eliminate ISD Best Practices	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-10	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Increase STEM Partnership and STEM Grants	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
128-11	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Conversion of School Busses to Natural Gas	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,000.0
128-12	School Aid	Legislative Initiative -- Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers in Approved STEM programs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$390.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
129	Agency Subtotal		\$0.0	\$280,244.0	\$0.0	(\$30,258.5)	(\$150,000.0)	\$99,933.3	\$0.0	\$176,250.0	\$0.0	(\$16,550.0)	\$0.0	(\$135,250.0)
130	State	Fraud Detection and Prevention	\$1,830.8	\$1,830.8	(\$830.8)	(\$830.8)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
131	Agency Subtotal		\$1,830.8	\$1,830.8	(\$830.8)	(\$830.8)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
132	State Police	100 New Troopers	\$7,800.0	\$7,800.0	\$177.7	\$177.7	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4,800.0	\$5,700.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
133	State Police	31 New Motor Carrier Officers	\$3,210.0	\$3,210.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,022.3	\$2,022.3	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
134	State Police	Statewide Records Management System	\$1,528.0	\$1,528.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
135	State Police	Helicopter Purchase	\$246.0	\$246.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$4,332.0	\$4,332.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
136	State Police	Electronic Warrant to Disposition Reporting System	\$50.0	\$50.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$750.0	\$750.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
137	State Police	Lab Services - State Service Fee Fund Shift	\$4,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
138	State Police	Local Public Safety Initiatives - Grants to Locals, with Focus on School Safety	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
139	State Police	Update LEIN System	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$350.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
140	State Police	Armored Car Replacement	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$225.0	\$225.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
140-1	State Police	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce Security at Events Funding	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$750.0)	(\$750.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
140-2	State Police	Legislative Initiative -- Shifted MIS Traffic Control Funding to One-Time	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$831.9)	(\$831.9)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$831.9	\$831.9
141	Agency Subtotal		\$16,834.0	\$12,834.0	(\$63.2)	(\$63.2)	(\$1,581.5)	(\$1,581.5)	\$17,729.3	\$18,979.3	(\$4,932.0)	(\$4,932.0)	\$831.9	\$831.9
142	Technology, Management & Budget	Information Technology Investment Fund	\$26,000.0	\$26,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
143	Technology, Management & Budget	Michigan Public Safety Communications System (MPSCS) Lifecycle Replacement	\$25,300.0	\$25,300.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
144	Technology, Management & Budget	Cyber Security	\$6,785.0	\$6,785.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
145	Technology, Management & Budget	Enterprisewide Maintenance	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10,000.0	\$10,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
146	Technology, Management & Budget	Regional Prosperity Grants	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,500.0	\$2,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
147	Technology, Management & Budget	Children's Ombudsman	\$510.2	\$510.2	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
148	Technology, Management & Budget	Office of Urban Initiatives	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,500.0	\$5,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
149	Technology, Management & Budget	Litigation Fund	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$5,000.0	\$5,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
150	Technology, Management & Budget	Capital Outlay Universities and Community Colleges Planning Authorizations -- Ferris, West Shore, and Lake Michigan	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
150-1	Technology, Management & Budget	Legislative Initiative -- Reduce IT Interdepartmental Grants to Phase Out the Michigan Business One-Stop	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$518.5)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
150-2	Technology, Management & Budget	Legislative Initiative -- Increase IT Interdepartmental Grants for Depreciation Expenses for the Michigan Business One-Stop	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$871.7	\$0.0	\$0.0

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			GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
	Agency	Investment Request												
150-3	Technology, Management & Budget	Legislative Initiative -- Juvenile Justice Vision 20/20 Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,350.0	\$1,350.0
151	Agency Subtotal		\$68,095.2	\$68,095.2	(\$18,500.0)	(\$20,015.5)	(\$18,850.0)	(\$18,850.0)	\$23,000.3	\$23,000.3	(\$0.3)	\$871.4	\$1,349.7	\$1,349.7
152	Transportation	Maintenance Services	\$0.0	\$40,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
153	Transportation	Local Agency Federal Aid Program	\$0.0	\$3,469.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
154	Transportation	Road and Bridge Construction Federal Match	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$127,000.0	\$127,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
155	Transportation	Funding for State Roads and Bridges	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$115,000.0	\$115,000.0	\$137,000.0	\$137,000.0	\$900.0	\$900.0
156	Transportation	Transit Grants Federal Match	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10,000.0	\$10,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
157	Transportation	Aeronautics Federal Match	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,047.9	\$2,047.9	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
157-1	Transportation	Revised for Executive Revision 2015-1 -- Newly Created Regional Transit Authority in Southeast Michigan	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,100.0	\$1,100.0	(\$1,350.0)	(\$1,350.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0
157-2	Transportation	Legislative Initiative -- Detroit-Windsor Rail Tunnel	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10,000.0	\$10,000.0
157-3	Transportation	Legislative Initiative -- High-Speed Rail Crossing Pilot Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,500.0	\$1,500.0
158	Agency Subtotal		\$0.0	\$43,469.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$255,147.9	\$255,147.9	\$135,900.0	\$135,900.0	\$12,400.0	\$12,400.0
159	Treasury	Debt Service New Issuances	\$6,886.1	\$6,886.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
160	Treasury	Financial Independence Team for Distressed Schools (see also Education #44)	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$0.0)	(\$0.0)	(\$0.0)	(\$0.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
161	Treasury	Office of Tax Plan Implementation Testing	\$1,550.0	\$1,550.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
162	Treasury	Technical Issues Resolution Unit Expansion	\$600.0	\$600.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
163	Treasury	Data Governance Program	\$401.0	\$401.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
164	Treasury	Student Scholarships and Grants System Maintenance	\$400.0	\$400.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
165	Treasury	Personal Property Tax Reform - Grants to Locals	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$19,300.0	\$19,300.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
166	Treasury	Credit Card Payments for State Taxes (Amounts Revised for Executive Revision 2015-1, Pulls Forward \$1.5M into FY2014)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
167	Treasury	Personal Property Tax Reform - Administration Costs	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$1,500.0	\$1,500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
168	Treasury	Debt Service - Refined Petroleum Fund Shift (see also Environmental Quality #48)	\$3,014.5	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
168-1	Treasury	Revised for Executive Revision 2015-1 -- Payments in Lieu of Taxes Adjustments	\$2,639.2	\$2,960.4	(\$0.0)	(\$0.0)	(\$0.0)	(\$0.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
169	Agency Subtotal		\$21,989.8	\$19,297.5	(\$8,138.1)	(\$9,460.0)	(\$4,833.2)	(\$4,833.2)	\$21,300.0	\$21,300.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0

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	Agency	Investment Request	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross	GF/GP	Gross
170	Treasury - Casino Gaming	Administrative Costs	\$0.0	\$266.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
171	Agency Subtotal		\$0.0	\$266.8	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
172	Treasury - Revenue Sharing	County Revenue Sharing	\$0.0	\$52,952.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$21,040.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
172-1	Treasury - Revenue Sharing	County Incentive Programs	\$0.0	\$19,588.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$21,040.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
173	Treasury - Revenue Sharing	Economic Vitality Incentive Program	\$0.0	\$16,700.0	\$0.0	(\$30,316.1)	\$0.0	(\$55,000.0)	\$0.0	\$28,800.0	\$0.0	(\$28,800.0)	\$0.0	(\$55,000.0)
173-1	Treasury - Revenue Sharing	Legislative Initiative -- New Revenue Sharing Formula	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$9,316.1	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$28,800.0	\$0.0	\$28,800.0
173-2	Treasury - Revenue Sharing	Legislative Initiative -- Competitive Grant Assistance Program	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$55,000.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
173-3	Treasury - Revenue Sharing	Legislative Initiative -- Financially Distressed Cities, Villages, and Townships	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$10,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
174	Agency Subtotal		\$0.0	\$88,640.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$28,800.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
175	Reserves	Distressed Communities Reserve	\$0.0	\$17,500.0	\$0.0	(\$17,500.0)	\$0.0	(\$17,500.0)	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
176	Reserves	MI Health Savings Sub-Fund	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$122,000.0	\$122,000.0	(\$122,000.0)	(\$122,000.0)	(\$122,000.0)	(\$122,000.0)
177	Reserves	Budget Stabilization Fund Reserve	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$120,000.0	\$120,000.0	(\$120,000.0)	(\$120,000.0)	(\$120,000.0)	(\$120,000.0)
178	Reserves	MPERS Reserve	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$50,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	(\$50,000.0)
178-1	Reserves	Legislative Initiative -- Education Reserve Fund	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$35,000.0
179	Subtotal		\$0.0	\$17,500.0	\$0.0	(\$17,500.0)	\$0.0	(\$17,500.0)	\$242,000.0	\$292,000.0	(\$142,000.0)	(\$142,000.0)	(\$142,000.0)	(\$157,000.0)
SUBTOTAL - ALL REQUESTS			\$429,858.0	\$989,149.8	(\$139,811.3)	(\$139,811.3)	(\$17,500.0)	\$12,969.9	\$607,056.7	\$888,755.7	(\$300.0)	(\$1,420.0)	(\$120,400.0)	(\$445,015.0)
Total School Aid Funding Requests			\$280,244.0		(\$30,259.5)		\$108,683.3		\$226,250.0		(\$16,550.0)		(\$120,250.0)	
Total Sales Tax Revenue (Revenue Sharing) Requests			\$88,640.0		\$0.0		\$0.0		\$28,800.0		\$0.0		\$0.0	
TOTAL REQUESTS (GF + SCHOOL AID FUND + SALES TAX REVENUE)			\$798,742.0	\$989,149.8	(\$139,870.7)	(\$139,811.3)	\$38,374.1	\$12,969.9	\$862,105.7	\$888,755.7	(\$16,550.0)	(\$1,420.0)	(\$340,650.0)	(\$445,015.0)

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Full-time equated classified positions..... 2.0

GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	7,300,000
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Interdepartmental grant revenues:

Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental transfers.....		0
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ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	7,300,000
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Federal revenues:

Federal funds.....		0
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Special revenue funds:

Total local revenues.....		0
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Total private revenues.....		0
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Total other state restricted revenues.....		1,000,000
--	--	-----------

State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	6,300,000
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(2) RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Full-time equated classified positions ..... 2.0

City of Flint emergency water service.....	\$	6,000,000
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Drinking water and environmental health - 2.0 FTE positions....		300,000
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GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	6,300,000
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Appropriated from:

Special revenue funds:

Settlement funds.....		1,000,000
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State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	5,300,000
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(3) REMEDIATION AND REDEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Laboratory services.....	\$	1,000,000
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GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$	1,000,000
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Appropriated from:

Special revenue funds:

State general fund/general purpose.....	\$	1,000,000
---	----	-----------

BOILERPLATE:

1           Sec. xxx. From the funds appropriated for the City of Flint  
2 emergency water services, the department is authorized to pay up to  
3 \$6.0 million for re-connection services to the Detroit Sewer and  
4 Water Department. The payments shall only be made once a legally  
5 executable agreement has been reached between the parties and a  
6 successful re-connection has occurred to the Flint Water System.  
7 These funds are intended to pay re-connection costs through June  
8 30, 2016.

9   **EXPLANATION:**

10           This supplemental provides \$6.0 million to support the re-connection of  
11 the City of Flint to the Detroit Sewer and Water Department, \$1.0 million for  
12 testing water samples, and \$300,000 for home and school inspections to ensure  
13 the safety of the City of Flint's water system.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Full-time equated classified positions..... 0.0

GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$ 1,850,000

Interdepartmental grant revenues:

Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental

transfers..... 0

ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$ 1,850,000

Federal revenues:

Social security act, temporary assistance for needy families... 0

Capped federal revenues..... 0

Total other federal revenues..... 0

Special revenue funds:

Total local revenues..... 0

Total private revenues..... 0

Total local and private revenues..... 0

Merit award trust fund..... 0

Total other state restricted revenues..... 1,000,000

State general fund/general purpose..... \$ 850,000

(2) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Emergency services local office allocations..... \$ 1,000,000

GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$ 1,000,000

Appropriated from:

Special revenue funds:

Total other state restricted revenues..... 1,000,000

State general fund/general purpose..... \$ 0

(3) FAMILY, MATERNAL, AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH SERVICES

Childhood lead program..... \$ 850,000

GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$ 850,000

Appropriated from:

Special revenue funds:

1 State general fund/general purpose..... \$ 850,000

2

3 **EXPLANATION:**

4       The department is funding the purchase of water filters for  
5 Flint residents and is partnering for their distribution with the  
6 Genesee County Community Action Resource Department. In addition,  
7 it will make arrangements for appropriate health care and other  
8 clinical personnel to address child blood level concerns in that  
9 community.



1                    **DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS**

2            **(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY**

3            Full-time equated classified positions..... 1.0

4    GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$                    200,000

5            Interdepartmental grant revenues:

6    Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental

7            transfers..... 0

8    ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$                    200,000

9            Federal revenues:

10   Total federal revenues..... 0

11           Special revenue funds:

12   Total local revenues..... 0

13   Total private revenues..... 0

14   Total other state restricted revenues..... 200,000

15   State general fund/general purpose..... \$                    0

16           **(2) OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION**

17           Full-time equated classified position ..... 1.0

18   Bureau of construction codes..... \$                   200,000

19   GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$                    200,000

20           Appropriated from:

21           Special revenue funds:

22   Construction code fund..... 200,000

23   State general fund/general purpose..... \$                    0

24

25   **EXPLANATION:**

26           This supplemental provides \$200,000 in construction code funds to

27   support efforts in ensuring the safety of the City of Flint's water system.

28   The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs will use this budgetary

29   authorization and existing resources for plumbing inspections of schools and

30   health facilities within the City of Flint.

1                    **DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS**

2            **(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY**

3            Full-time equated classified position..... 1.0

4            GROSS APPROPRIATION ..... \$                    200,000

5            Interdepartmental grant revenues:

6            Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental

7            transfers..... 0

8            ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION ..... \$                    200,000

9            Total federal revenues ..... 0

10           Total local revenues ..... 0

11           Total private revenues ..... 0

12           Total other state restricted revenues ..... 200,000

13           State general fund/general purpose ..... \$                    0

14           **(2) OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION**

15           Full-time equated classified position..... 1.0

16           Bureau of construction codes ..... \$                    200,000

17           GROSS APPROPRIATION ..... \$                    200,000

18           Appropriated from:

19           Construction code fund ..... 200,000

20           State general fund/general purpose ..... \$                    0

21

22           **EXPLANATION:**

23                This supplemental provides \$200,000 in construction code funds to

24                support efforts in ensuring the safety of the City of Flint's water system.

25                The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs will use use this

26                budgetary authorization and existing resources for plumbing inspections of

27                schools and health facilities within the City of Flint.



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
STATE BUDGET OFFICE  
LANSING

JOHN S. ROBERTS  
DIRECTOR

October 8, 2015

The Honorable Dave Hildenbrand, Chair  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Michigan State Senate  
State Capitol  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

The Honorable Al Pscholka, Chair  
House Appropriations Committee  
Michigan House of Representatives  
State Capitol  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Legislators:

SUBJECT: Supplemental Request 2016-1

Attached please find supplemental recommendations for fiscal year 2016 for the departments of Environmental Quality, Health and Human Services, and Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Nancy Duncan at (517) 373-0870.

Sincerely,



John S. Roberts  
State Budget Director

Attachment

cc: Arlan Meekhof, Senate Majority Leader  
Kevin Cotter, Speaker of the House  
Jim Ananich, Senate Minority Leader  
Tim Greimel, House Minority Leader  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
House Appropriations Committee  
Senate Fiscal Agency  
House Fiscal Agency

Departments  
Dick Posthumus, Executive Office  
Dennis Muchmore, Chief of Staff  
Nancy W. Duncan, Deputy State  
Budget Director  
Michael J. Moody, Office of  
Financial Management  
Internal State Budget Office

1	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	
2	(1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY	
3	Full-time equated classified positions.....	2.0
4	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 7,300,000
5	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
6	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental	
7	transfers.....	0
8	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 7,300,000
9	Federal revenues:	
10	Federal funds.....	0
11	Special revenue funds:	
12	Total local revenues.....	0
13	Total private revenues.....	0
14	Total other state restricted revenues.....	1,000,000
15	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 6,300,000
16	(2) RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION	
17	Full-time equated classified positions .....	2.0
18	City of Flint emergency water service.....	\$ 6,000,000
19	Drinking water and environmental health - 2.0 FTE positions....	<u>300,000</u>
20	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 6,300,000
21	Appropriated from:	
22	Special revenue funds:	
23	Settlement funds.....	1,000,000
24	State general fund/general purpose.....	\$ 5,300,000
25	(3) REMEDIATION AND REDEVELOPMENT DIVISION	
26	Laboratory services.....	<u>\$ 1,000,000</u>
27	GROSS APPROPRIATION.....	\$ 1,000,000
28	Appropriated from:	
29	Special revenue funds:	

1 State general fund/general purpose..... \$ 1,000,000

2 BOILERPLATE:

3 Sec. xxx. From the funds appropriated for the City of Flint  
4 emergency water services, the department is authorized to pay up to  
5 \$6.0 million for re-connection services to the Detroit Sewer and  
6 Water Department. The payments shall only be made once a legally  
7 executable agreement has been reached between the parties and a  
8 successful re-connection has occurred to the Flint Water System.  
9 These funds are intended to pay re-connection costs through June  
10 30, 2016.

11 EXPLANATION:

12 This supplemental provides \$6.0 million to support the re-connection of  
13 the City of Flint to the Detroit Sewer and Water Department, \$1.0 million for  
14 testing water samples, and \$300,000 for home and school inspections to ensure  
15 the safety of the City of Flint's water system.

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

## (1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Full-time equated classified positions..... 0.0

GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$ 1,850,000

Interdepartmental grant revenues:

Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental  
transfers.....

0

ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$ 1,850,000

Federal revenues:

Social security act, temporary assistance for needy families...

0

Capped federal revenues.....

0

Total other federal revenues.....

0

Special revenue funds:

Total local revenues.....

0

Total private revenues.....

0

Total local and private revenues.....

0

Merit award trust fund.....

0

Total other state restricted revenues.....

1,000,000

State general fund/general purpose.....

\$ 850,000

## (2) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Emergency services local office allocations.....

\$ 1,000,000

GROSS APPROPRIATION.....

\$ 1,000,000

Appropriated from:

Special revenue funds:

Total other state restricted revenues.....

1,000,000

State general fund/general purpose.....

\$ 0

## (3) FAMILY, MATERNAL, AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH SERVICES

Childhood lead program.....

\$ 850,000

GROSS APPROPRIATION.....

\$ 850,000



1       Appropriated from:  
2       Special revenue funds:  
3       State general fund/general purpose..... \$           850,000

4  
5       EXPLANATION:

6       The department is funding the purchase of water filters for  
7       Flint residents and is partnering for their distribution with the  
8       Genesee County Community Action Resource Department. In addition,  
9       it will make arrangements for appropriate health care and other  
10      clinical personnel to address child blood level concerns in that  
11      community.

# DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

## (1) APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Full-time equated classified positions..... 1.0

GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$ 200,000

Interdepartmental grant revenues:

Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental  
transfers..... 0

ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$ 200,000

Federal revenues:

Total federal revenues..... 0

Special revenue funds:

Total local revenues..... 0

Total private revenues..... 0

Total other state restricted revenues..... 200,000

State general fund/general purpose..... \$ 0

## (2) OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION

Full-time equated classified position..... 1.0

Bureau of construction codes..... \$ 200,000

GROSS APPROPRIATION..... \$ 200,000

Appropriated from:

Special revenue funds:

Construction code fund..... 200,000

State general fund/general purpose..... \$ 0

## EXPLANATION:

This supplemental provides \$200,000 in construction code funds to support efforts in ensuring the safety of the City of Flint's water system. The Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs will use this budgetary



- 4
- 1 authorization and existing resources for plumbing inspections of schools and
  - 2 health facilities within the City of Flint.

## One-Time Spending

### General Fund and GF/GP Equivalent Funding

	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
<b>Statewide</b>						
Budget Stabilization Fund	\$ 362,700,000	\$ 140,000,000	\$ 75,000,000	\$ 94,000,000	\$ 95,000,000	\$ 766,700,000
DTMB-Other Post Employment Benefits	\$ 60,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60,000,000
Roads and Risks Reserve	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 230,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 230,000,000
State employee lump sum payments	\$ -	\$ 25,313,900	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,313,900
Subtotal	\$ 422,700,000	\$ 165,313,900	\$ 305,000,000	\$ 94,000,000	\$ 95,000,000	\$ 1,082,013,900
<b>Agriculture and Rural Development</b>						
OPEB	\$ 1,176,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,176,000
Cattle indemnification	\$ 140,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 140,000
Contingency Plan - 9 vacancies	\$ (720,300)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (720,300)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (111,800)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (111,800)
Rural development value-added grants	\$ -	\$ 900,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 550,000	\$ 1,450,000
New food safety requirements	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000
Private forestry initiative	\$ -	\$ 600,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600,000
Pesticide program revenue shortfall	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ 800,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,300,000
Bovine tuberculosis testing	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000
Ottawa county water resources study	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000
Qualified forest affidavit program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,300,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,300,000
Food and agriculture industry growth initiative	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,400,000	\$ -	\$ 1,400,000
Muskegon farmers market earmark	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 200,000
Ottawa county ag incubator grant earmark	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000
Geagley laboratory	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
Fruit tree research grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
Subtotal	\$ 483,900	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 3,400,000	\$ 2,100,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 10,183,900
<b>Attorney General</b>						
OPEB	\$ 1,468,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,468,700
Contingency Plan - program reductions	\$ (40,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (40,000)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (88,900)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (88,900)
Public safety initiative	\$ 900,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 900,000
HICA legal defense	res. revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sexual assault prosecutions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000
Subtotal	\$ 2,239,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ 5,239,800
<b>Capital Outlay</b>						
Higher ed construction authorizations	\$ -	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 700
Construction/planning authorizations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500
Subtotal	\$ -	\$ 700	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,200

	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
<b>Community Colleges</b>						
Shift to School Aid Fund (HMO use tax fix)	\$ (63,748,900)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (63,748,900)
Virtual learning collaborative	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,100,000
Shift GF funding to School Aid revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (167,110,800)	\$ -	\$ (167,110,800)
MPSERS cap	\$ -	\$ 12,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,500,000
Subtotal	\$ (63,748,900)	\$ 12,500,000	\$ 1,100,000	\$ (167,110,800)	\$ -	\$ (217,259,700)
<b>Civil Rights</b>						
OPEB	\$ 508,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 508,100
Contingency Plan - 3 vacancies; other reductions	\$ (260,900)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (260,900)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (70,900)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (70,900)
Subtotal	\$ 176,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 176,300
<b>Community Health</b>						
<b>(see Health and Human Services for FY 16)</b>						
Medicaid electronic health records	\$ 1,398,900	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,398,900
HMO use tax	\$ 167,292,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 167,292,200
OPEB	\$ 13,252,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,252,800
Contingency Plan - 88.3 vacancies	\$ (5,729,600)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (5,729,600)
Contingency Plan - elim MI PH Institute billing contract	\$ (331,300)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (331,300)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (817,600)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (817,600)
Graduate medical education funding	\$ 8,800,000	\$ 1,450,000	\$ 1,450,000	\$ (5,000,000)	\$ -	\$ 6,700,000
Rural and sole community hospitals	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,000,000)	\$ -	\$ 8,000,000
Healthy MI Fund (one-time \$900K cancer screening)	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000
Mental health services for special populations	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000,000
Mental health innovation fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000
Island health clinics	\$ 300,000	\$ 325,000	\$ 325,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 950,000
Replace GF with Medicaid Benefits Trust Fund	\$ (106,900,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (106,900,000)
<del>Uncompensated care \$3.4 million</del>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Dental programs	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000
Chiropractic services	\$ 152,400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 152,400
Traumatic brain injury treatment	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (350,000)	\$ -	\$ (250,000)
Bronson Methodist Hospital-primary care DSH	\$ 111,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 111,800
Caseload adjustments	\$ (103,825,500)	\$ (50,155,800)	\$ (28,195,200)	\$ (87,028,100)	\$ -	\$ (269,204,600)
ACA Hlth Insurer Fee - Medicaid HMO	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,995,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,995,300
Nursing home transitions	\$ (1,500,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,500,000)
ICD-10 Diagnostic Coding project in CHAMPS	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,300,000
Health and wellness initiatives	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000	\$ -	\$ (1,500,000)	\$ -	\$ 3,500,000
University autism centers/svcs (EMU/CMU/OU/WMU)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000
University autism- replace GF with autism covg fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (3,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (3,000,000)
MI care improvement immunization registry	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 89,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 89,300
Healthy MI Plan savings (sec 105e)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (103,292,500)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (103,292,500)
Revised Healthy MI Plan savings - non-MA mental hlth	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000,000
Revised dual eligibles savings	\$ -	\$ 10,025,400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,025,400
Various restricted revenue adjustments	\$ -	\$ 9,860,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,860,200
DSH payment - DMC-Hutzel hospital final payment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,366,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,366,300
State psych DSH - MA managed care	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (15,770,600)	\$ -	\$ (15,770,600)
Hospice services-non-nursing homes fed fund replcmt	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,200,000
Mental health and wellness commission recs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,100,000	\$ -	\$ 2,100,000

<b>Community Health (contd)</b> <b>(see Health and Human Services for FY 16)</b>	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
Dental clinic program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,092,300	\$ -	\$ 4,092,300
Child and adolscent health services pilot program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
HICA revenue shortfall/HMO payment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 173,572,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 173,572,700
Replace GF funding with HICA rev	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (6,474,000)	\$ -	\$ (6,474,000)
Statewide EMS trauma system	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,300,000	\$ -	\$ 1,300,000
Statewide trauma system - replace GF with Crim Vic	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,300,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,300,000)
Healthy kids dental CHAMPS/IT - expand via zipcode	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ 300,000
Senior olympics	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Pay for success contracts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Jail diversion council funding	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (300,000)	\$ -	\$ (300,000)
MA managed care reimbursement - lab services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,500,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,500,000)
Local health department funding	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,500,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,500,000)
Replace Medicaid GF with federal CPE revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (5,900,000)	\$ -	\$ (5,900,000)
Replace Medicaid Hlth Plan GF with Roads/Risk Res	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,000,000)
Bone marrow transplant registry	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ (11,670,900)</b>	<b>\$ (17,495,200)</b>	<b>\$ 87,810,900</b>	<b>\$ (120,480,400)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (61,835,600)</b>

<b>Corrections</b>						
OPEB	\$ 76,102,900	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76,102,900
Contingency Plan - closure of Mound Corr Facility	\$ (21,256,300)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (21,256,300)
Contingency Plan - vacant parole/probation positions	\$ (10,640,500)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (10,640,500)
Contingency Plan - operations savings	\$ (9,183,400)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (9,183,400)
Contingency Plan - health care savings	\$ (7,909,500)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (7,909,500)
Contingency Plan - spending reductions	\$ (8,809,200)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (8,809,200)
Contingency Plan - equip/maintenance funding	\$ (1,000,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,000,000)
Contingency Plan - new spec equip fund revenue	\$ (500,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (500,000)
Contingency Plan -restore FY 12 enacted savings	\$ 34,298,900	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 34,298,900
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (7,744,800)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (7,744,800)
Camp Brighton site redevelopment	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400,000
Public safety initiative	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000
Computerized imaging	\$ -	\$ 629,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 629,500
Digitization of certain prisoner files	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000
New custody training staff	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,032,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,032,500
Healthy MI Plan savings (sec 105e)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (16,141,500)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (16,141,500)
Revised Healthy MI Plan savings - sub abuse/sex offndr	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,601,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,601,100
Electronic monitoring center tether device savings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (3,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (3,000,000)
Transportation efficiencies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,000,000)
Worker's comp anticipated lapse	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,500,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,500,000)
County jail reimbursement anticipated lapse	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,250,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,250,000)
Chippewa correctional closed housing units	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,500,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,500,000)
Food service bid savings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,000,000)
Facility efficiencies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (7,550,000)	\$ -	\$ (7,550,000)
Prisoner re-entry local service provider efficiencies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (500,000)	\$ -	\$ (500,000)
Replace Field Ops GF with parole/probation fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,900,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,900,000)
Transfer to Legislative Council	\$ -	\$ (250,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (250,000)
Prisoner education enhancement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 545,300	\$ -	\$ 545,300
Mobilize parole/probation staff	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 440,600	\$ -	\$ 440,600
Neal settlement agreement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000,000	\$ -	\$ 25,000,000
Muskegon county 70 x 7 life recovery pilot	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600,000	\$ -	\$ 600,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 46,758,100</b>	<b>\$ 879,500</b>	<b>\$ (507,900)</b>	<b>\$ 6,385,900</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 53,515,600</b>

<b>Education</b>						
OPEB	\$ 584,900	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 584,900
Reorganization 2011-8 Office of Great Start	\$ 42,045,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42,045,100
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (28,800)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (28,800)
Educational improvement/innovation operations	\$ 125,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125,000
Education achievement authority	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Financial Independence Team operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (389,100)	\$ -	\$ (389,100)
Shift MPSERS payments to libraries to School Aid rev	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,200,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,200,000)
CMU Central Assessment Lending Library	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000
Child development and care matching funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,400,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,400,000)
Child development and care caseload adjustment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,703,500)	\$ -	\$ (2,703,500)
Cooperative education agreement grant funding	\$ -	\$ 350,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 350,000
MCEE staffing and system upgrades	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,514,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,514,000)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 42,726,200</b>	<b>\$ 400,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (10,206,600)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 32,919,600</b>

	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
<b>Environmental Quality</b>						
Muskegon cleanup site	\$ 6,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000,000
OPEB	\$ 886,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 886,700
Contingency Plan - 1 vacancy; other reductions	\$ (81,600)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (81,600)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (93,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (93,000)
Wetlands program	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 600,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,100,000
Replace restricted funds - hazardous wst program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400,000
Drinking water revolving fund state match	\$ -	\$ 2,500,000	\$ -	\$ (2,750,000)	\$ -	\$ (250,000)
Beach water quality monitoring	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000
Electronic document management sytem	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,850,000	\$ -	\$ 1,850,000
City of Flint emergency water services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 5,000,000
Drinking water and environmental health	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000
Laboratory services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000
Subtotal	\$ 6,712,100	\$ 4,000,000	\$ 1,050,000	\$ (900,000)	\$ 6,300,000	\$ 17,162,100

#### Executive Office

Council on Educator Effectiveness	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000
Office for New Americans	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 170,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 170,000
Subtotal	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 170,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 370,000

#### Health & Human Services

Caseload adjustments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
University autism centers/svcs (EMU/CMU/OU/WMU)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Rent and state office facilities	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100
Childhood lead program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 850,000	\$ 850,000
Mental health and wellness commission recs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000
Pay for success contracts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000
Drug Policy initiatives	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000
Hospice services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000
Employment & training support services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000
Subtotal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,250,100	\$ 8,250,100

#### Higher Education

EMU Autism Collaborative Center	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000
MSU Facility for Rare Isotope Beams	\$ 1,200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,200,000
WMU Economic Development/Commercialization	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000
Replace GF MPERS support with School Aid rev.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,000,000)
Subtotal	\$ 1,900,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (100,000)

#### Human Services

(see Health and Human Services for FY 16)

OPEB	\$ 22,691,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,691,100
Reorganization 2011-8 Office of Great Start	\$ (42,045,100)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (42,045,100)
Caseload adjustments	\$ -	\$ (19,564,500)	\$ (21,040,600)	\$ 7,997,000	\$ -	\$ (32,608,100)
Fugitive felon costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,656,400	\$ -	\$ 2,656,400
Contingency Plan - salary and wage estimates	\$ (5,796,100)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (5,796,100)
Contingency Plan - 182 vacancies	\$ (5,216,500)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (5,216,500)
Contingency Plan - TANF savings	\$ (7,758,400)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (7,758,400)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (1,461,800)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,461,800)
<del>State disability assistance - vote of negative amount</del>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,287,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,287,800
FIP lifetime limit court order - \$30 M TANF	res. revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Specialized independent living rates	\$ 175,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 175,500
Inspector General information technology	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000
<del>Before or after school program - \$1.0 million</del>	\$ -	\$ vetoed	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Seita scholarship program	\$ -	\$ 750,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750,000
Juvenile justice behavioral health study	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000
Medicaid eligibility review	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000
State emergency relief energy services	\$ -	\$ 27,700,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,700,000
Indigent burial	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000
Projected overspending (retirement/OPEB)	\$ -	\$ 20,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000,000
Biometric fraud detection technology	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
Bridges IT funding	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,039,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,039,600
Foster care payment replace local revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500,000

	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
<b>Human Services (contd)</b>						
Parent-to-parent program for adoptive parents/children	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 400,000
Caseload adjustments	\$ (75,732,300)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (75,732,300)
Deliverable fuels crisis assistance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000,000
Three-year pilot - youth-in-transition	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000
MI Rehab services matching funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,300,000	\$ -	\$ 1,300,000
Performance-Based Funding Implementation Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Child support - impact of IRS offset	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000
Catholic charities center for hope project	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000
Private Child Welfare Svc Providers/SACWIS impl.	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ 300,000
Michigan Reading Corps	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 350,000	\$ -	\$ 350,000
In-home community care for juvenile justice	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (350,000)	\$ -	\$ (350,000)
Transfer MRS from LARA	\$ -	\$ 15,625,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,625,700
Food bank	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Fostering future trust fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000
Sexual Assault Evidence Kit....Commission (sec 10)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ 25,000
Maxey training school operations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (400,000)	\$ -	\$ (400,000)
Recoupment position	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (21,700)	\$ -	\$ (21,700)
Align non-FIS and AP worker wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (82,500)	\$ -	\$ (82,500)
Healthy MI call center	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,181,900)	\$ -	\$ (2,181,900)
Child welfare training institute	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (50,000)	\$ -	\$ (50,000)
Emergency services local office allocations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (559,300)	\$ -	\$ (559,300)
Adoption subsidy redetermination of care pymts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (6,547,400)	\$ -	\$ (6,547,400)
Juvenile justice vision 20/20	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,000,000)
Asset test automation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,750,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,750,000)
Child welfare training related travel reimbursements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (46,000)	\$ -	\$ (46,000)
PATH coordinators	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (100,200)	\$ -	\$ (100,200)
Peer coach positions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (217,500)	\$ -	\$ (217,500)
Laptops for executives	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (15,900)	\$ -	\$ (15,900)
Replace adoption subsidy GF with federal TANF	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (7,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (7,000,000)
Replace FIP GF with federal TANF	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (380,800)	\$ -	\$ (380,800)
Replace medical rev team GF with federal revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (206,400)	\$ -	\$ (206,400)
Replace regulation agent GF with federal revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (40,500)	\$ -	\$ (40,500)
Subtotal	\$ (115,143,600)	\$ 49,761,200	\$ (8,763,200)	\$ (7,671,700)	\$ -	\$ (81,817,300)
<b>Insurance and Financial Services</b>						
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subtotal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Judiciary</b>						
OPEB	\$ 2,206,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,206,000
Court of appeals judges (1/2 year)	\$ 171,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 171,300
Court of Claims tax appeal cases (2015 PA XX )	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
Replace Court Fee Fund revenue	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 820,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,620,000
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (179,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (179,000)
Information technology	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,490,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,490,700
Trial court performance innovation fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 375,000	\$ -	\$ 1,375,000
Indigent defense commission	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750,000
Subtotal	\$ 3,998,300	\$ 820,000	\$ 5,240,700	\$ 375,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 10,634,000
<b>Legislature</b>						
Retirement costs	\$ 470,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 470,000
OPEB	\$ 13,612,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,612,700
Transfer from Corrections	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000
Criminal justice policy commission	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 50,000
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (197,500)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (197,500)
Subtotal	\$ 13,885,200	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 14,185,200

	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
<b>Licensing and Regulatory Affairs</b>						
Heating and energy assistance	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000
OPEB	\$ 951,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 951,300
Contingency Plan - 1 vacancy	\$ (71,100)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (71,100)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (93,300)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (93,300)
Independent living	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000
Autism coverage reimbursement start-up costs	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000
Right-to-Work (private sector) 2012 PA 348	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
Right-to-Work (public sector) 2012 PA 349	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
Transfer MRS to DHS	\$ -	\$ (15,625,700)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (15,625,700)
Worker's compensation supplemental payments	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
UIA expanded fraud control program	\$ -	\$ 1,800,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800,000
Nursing home survey IT system	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,140,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,140,300
Collective bargaining expenditures; web posting	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Health professions regulation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (100,000)	\$ -	\$ (100,000)
Health systems regulation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (100,000)	\$ -	\$ (100,000)
Replace Work Comp agency GF with Corp fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (112,500)	\$ -	\$ (112,500)
Delphi corp. workers comp payment fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 12,436,900</b>	<b>\$ (10,825,700)</b>	<b>\$ 2,140,300</b>	<b>\$ 14,787,500</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 18,539,000</b>

<b>Military and Veterans Affairs</b>						
OPEB	\$ 938,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 938,800
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (88,800)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (88,800)
GR home - emergency domestic water system repairs	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000
Unrealized savings-privatizing resident care aides	\$ 4,200,000	\$ 5,136,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,336,500
Armory special maintenance	\$ -	\$ 2,400,000	\$ 7,200,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 12,600,000
Grand Rapids Home special maintenance	\$ -	\$ 1,600,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,600,000
Jacobetti Home special maintenance	\$ -	\$ 516,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 516,000
Special maintenance - veterans home	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000
Veterans Advice, Advocacy and Assistance Grants	\$ -	\$ 434,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 434,000
Pilot Grant - county incentive-accredited veterans svc officers	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000
Data upgrades and digitization of records	\$ -	\$ 750,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750,000
Veterans service delivery initiative	\$ -	\$ 2,997,500	\$ 5,955,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,952,500
County counselor education & training expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,000
Veterans affairs agency computer upgrade (hero2hire)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000
Grand Rapids Home - replace chiller system	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,200,000
Replace income and assessment revenue with GF	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,300,000	\$ -	\$ 3,300,000
MNG tuition assistance program reserve	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ 400,000
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 5,350,000</b>	<b>\$ 14,034,000</b>	<b>\$ 15,900,000</b>	<b>\$ 6,700,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 44,984,000</b>

<b>Natural Resources</b>						
Grand Marais harbor (capital outlay)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
OPEB	\$ 495,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 495,500
Public safety initiative	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Duck Lake fire suppression	\$ 3,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500,000
Contingency Plan - 3.9 vacancies	\$ (50,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (50,000)
Contingency Plan - wildfire protection supplies	\$ (32,200)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (32,200)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (76,900)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (76,900)
Dam management program	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Harbor dredging	\$ -	\$ 11,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,500,000
Grand River water study	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Conservation officer training	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600,000
Aquatic invasive species initiative	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000
Fort Holmes restoration project on Mackinac Island	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000
Kawkawlin dredging	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,100,000
Hart-Montague trail earmark	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 470,000	\$ -	\$ 470,000
R Raisin national battlefield foundation grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Saginaw R feasibility study	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 280,000	\$ -	\$ 280,000
Flint R dike repair	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
City of Alma/Alma college public safety land improvement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
Mgmt practices-aquatic invasive species	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
Non-motorized trail program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (250,000)	\$ -	\$ (250,000)
State parks repair and maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (250,000)	\$ -	\$ (250,000)
Non-motorized trail program grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,000,000)
Replace Forestry program GF with forest dev funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (500,000)	\$ -	\$ (500,000)

	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
<b>Natural Resources (contd)</b>						
Expand public recreation shooting-priority areas	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
Detroit recreation department/Stein Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000
Palmer Park	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Farwell recreation center	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Park renovation (honoring Detroit civil rights Viola Luizzo)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000
City of Westland recreation department	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
Summer youth training program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Subtotal	\$ 5,836,400	\$ 13,600,000	\$ 2,100,000	\$ 3,750,000	\$ 1,075,000	\$ 26,361,400

<b>School Aid</b>						
Contribution to School Aid Fund	\$ 60,000,000	\$ -	\$ (35,000,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000,000
Technology infrastructure grants	\$ -	\$ 50,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000,000
MPERS reserve	\$ -	\$ 41,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,000,000
MPERS one-time liability payment reduction	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (80,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (80,000,000)
Health and nutrition software allowance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,200,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,200,000)
Small class size supplemental payments	\$ -	\$ 357,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 357,600
Best practices funding for schools	\$ -	\$ 80,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,000,000
K-12 consolidation competitive grants	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000
Dissolution of school districts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,900,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,900,000
Subtotal	\$ 60,000,000	\$ 181,357,600	\$ (30,100,000)	\$ (81,200,000)	\$ -	\$ 130,057,600

<b>State</b>						
OPEB	\$ 464,400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 464,400
Contingency Plan - 11 vacancies	\$ (103,900)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (103,900)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (39,100)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (39,100)
CDL medical certificate implementation	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
ExpressSOS marketing	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000
Interlock ignition system	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000
CDL Group License Fee	\$ -	\$ 600,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600,000
IT changes impacting vehicle registrations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 200,000
Reimburse late campaign filing fees (MCL 169.232(6))	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 117,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 117,000
Subtotal	\$ 1,321,400	\$ 750,000	\$ 317,000	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 2,588,400

<b>State Police</b>						
OPEB	\$ 4,690,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,690,000
Contingency Plan - 2 vacancies	\$ (1,155,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,155,000)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (284,400)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (284,400)
Trooper school	\$ 6,789,000	\$ -	\$ 3,661,900	\$ 681,400	\$ 3,200,000	\$ 14,332,300
Trooper collective bargaining agreement (2015)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
Local Public safety initiative (focus:school safety)	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,050,000	\$ -	\$ 5,550,000
Fleet leasing (gas price increase)	\$ 1,900,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,900,000
Collins Road facility lease	\$ 750,000	\$ 350,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,100,000
Replace assesment revenue - secondary road patrol	\$ 600,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600,000
MI International Speedway traffic control	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ -	\$ 831,900	\$ -	\$ 2,431,900
Emergency response team vehicle replacement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 350,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 350,000
Disaster and emergency contingency fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
At-post troopers - outdated equipment replacement	\$ -	\$ 1,623,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,623,700
Security at events	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Grand Rapids forensics laboratory	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400,000
Secondary road patrol program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,000
St. emergency ops - Spring 2013 flooding disaster	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,310,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,310,000
Assist locals with ice storm costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
Motor carrier officers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,028,100)	\$ -	\$ (2,028,100)
Helicopter purchase	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,932,000	\$ -	\$ 4,932,000
Electronic warrant to disposition reporting system	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750,000	\$ -	\$ 750,000



	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
<b>State Police (contd)</b>						
Armored car replacement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 225,000	\$ -	\$ 225,000
Marshall post building costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Disaster assistance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,000,000	\$ -	\$ 14,000,000
Capitol security	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (294,000)	\$ -	\$ (294,000)
Urban search and rescue taskforce	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (500,000)	\$ -	\$ (500,000)
Legal settlement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,725,000	\$ -	\$ 6,725,000
Reduce sexual assaults on campus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
Subtotal	\$ 15,589,600	\$ 4,773,700	\$ 9,871,900	\$ 32,373,200	\$ 3,700,000	\$ 66,308,400

#### Talent & Economic Development

Film incentive funding	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000,000	\$ 25,000,000
Business attraction & community revitalization	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,300,000	\$ 17,300,000
Grand Rapids Public Museum	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000
Van Andel Medical Research	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000
Northern Michigan UAV Consortium	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
Beat the Streets Detroit	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Chaldean Community Foundation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
Veteran neighborhood assistance project	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Kramswood community association	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
Dexter-Elmhurst community center	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
Lake MI College - Great Lakes wine institute	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000
Wayne State University	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000
Prisoner Re-Entry initiative	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Green Acres neighborhood patrol services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
Subtotal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 47,450,000	\$ 47,450,000

#### Technology, Mgmt and Budget

OPEB	\$ 2,445,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,445,300
Asbestos abatement - former State Police headquarters	\$ 1,250,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,250,000
Planning - st energ ops ctr, MI cyber command, MPSCS	\$ 80,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,000
Contingency Plan - 7 vacancies	\$ (567,100)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (567,100)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (282,100)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (282,100)
Contingency Plan - SBA lease cancellations	\$ (19,800,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (19,800,000)
SBA rent/LSSU construction	\$ -	\$ 900,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 900,000
Marshall state police post planning authorization	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Montcalm Community College access road	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000
Building Maintenance Fund, state facilities	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ 22,000,000
Space consolidation fund	\$ -	\$ 7,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,000,000
Teacher evaluation pilot program	\$ -	\$ 4,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000,000
Delta county bridge removal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000
Regional prosperity initiative grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000
MSU-combined sewer overflow (sec 822c)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 430,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 430,500
Legal services/litigation fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 5,000,000
Military retirement prefunding 2013 PA 99	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400,000
Military retirement pension cost increase	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 107,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 107,000
SBA rent lapse	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (26,400,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (26,400,000)
SBA rent - U/CC planning authorization	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,464,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,464,700
Office of urban initiatives	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000,000	\$ -	\$ 4,000,000
MNG pension increase	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000
Catholic Charities - Genesee county	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000
Technology services funding	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ 300
Network upgrades	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,000,000)
IT investment fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,500,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,500,000)
MI public safety communication system	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (3,500,000)	\$ -	\$ (3,500,000)
State building authority rent	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (17,800,000)	\$ -	\$ (17,800,000)
Venture Michigan Fund tax vouchers ((FY 15 & FY 16)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 76,200,000	\$ -	\$ 76,200,000
Treasury/technology services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 3,000,000
School Sudy (2014 PA 555)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
Chromebooks for South Redford School District	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 95,000	\$ 95,000
Special Projects	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000
Parent computer lab for Redford Union School District	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Subtotal	\$ (16,673,900)	\$ 22,000,000	\$ (6,997,800)	\$ 61,150,300	\$ 4,605,000	\$ 64,083,600

	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
<b>Transportation</b>						\$ -
Maintenance of (2) swing bridges	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000
Federal aid match for transit capital	\$ -	\$ 12,000,000	\$ 121,300,000	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ 143,300,000
Federal aid match for rail operations/infrastructure	\$ -	\$ 11,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,000,000
Priority road projects	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 115,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 115,000,000
Winter road maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000,000
Beaver Island boat company	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000
Road/bridge construction federal match	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 127,000,000	\$ 258,000,000	\$ 385,000,000
State road/bridge funding	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 144,500,000	\$ -	\$ 144,500,000
Aeronautics federal match	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,047,900	\$ -	\$ 2,047,900
Regional transit authority - SE Michigan	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,100,000	\$ -	\$ 1,100,000
High speed rail crossing pilot \$1.5 million	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 500,000</b>	<b>\$ 23,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 336,600,000</b>	<b>\$ 284,647,900</b>	<b>\$ 258,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 902,747,900</b>

<b>Treasury</b>						
Tax restructuring implementation (sec. 697)	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
MI finance authority (sec 21)	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
OPEB	\$ 1,320,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,320,200
Contingency Plan - 43 vacancies	\$ (3,088,300)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (3,088,300)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (70,900)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (70,900)
Distressed communities	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000
HICA administration	rest. revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Payments in lieu of taxes	\$ 2,226,000	\$ 2,167,400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,393,400
Escanaba industrial park broadband access	\$ 94,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 94,000
Treasury legal services	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000
Agricultural loan program	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000
Emergency manager salaries	\$ -	\$ 780,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 780,000
Emergency manager admin/professional services	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000
Upgrade SUW legacy system administrative costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,763,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,763,300
Credit or debit card payment of indiv. Income taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Personal property tax reform - local grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,300,000	\$ 19,300,000	\$ 38,600,000
Personal property tax reform - administrative costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000
MI Financial Review Commission (Detroit settlement)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 900,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 900,000
Treasury business portal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000
Nonpublic pupil dual enrollment payments est spend	\$ -	\$ (9,500,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (9,500,000)
City of Flint police/fire safety grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,100,000	\$ -	\$ 1,100,000
Tax programs-administrative efficiencies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (700,000)	\$ -	\$ (700,000)
Senior coop housing anticipated lapse	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,000,000)
May 2015 ballot proposal administrative costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000
Supervision of general property tax law efficiencies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,000,000)
Tax compliance administrative efficiencies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (500,000)	\$ -	\$ (500,000)
Financial independence teams	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,250,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,250,000)
IT systems changes - May 2015 ballot proposal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
2014 PA 182, sec 4t(2) - Detroit package; create CFO	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000
2014 PA 282, sec 508(3) - MBT changes; IBM fix	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
Presidential primary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 10,000,000
Unspecified - tbd	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 12,481,000</b>	<b>\$ 16,447,400</b>	<b>\$ 9,163,300</b>	<b>\$ 27,050,000</b>	<b>\$ 29,900,000</b>	<b>\$ 95,041,700</b>

Treasury/Strategic Fund (see Talent & Economic Development for FY 16)	Enacted Fiscal 2012	Enacted Fiscal 2013	Enacted Fiscal 2014	Enacted Fiscal 2015	Enacted Fiscal 2016	FY 2012 thru FY 2016 enacted Total
Precollege programs in engineering/sciences	\$ 680,100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 680,100
Contingency Plan - 2 vacancies	\$ (250,100)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (250,100)
Contingency Plan - employees' 4% DB contributions	\$ (40,900)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (40,900)
Film incentive funding	\$ 25,000,000	\$ 50,000,000	\$ 50,000,000	\$ 13,000,000	\$ -	\$ 138,000,000
Business attraction & community revitalization	\$ 50,000,000	\$ -	\$ 24,800,000	\$ 15,700,000	\$ -	\$ 90,500,000
Replace bus attract/comm rev GF with 21st C Jobs rev	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (7,800,000)	\$ -	\$ (7,800,000)
OPEB	\$ 732,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 732,600
Land Bank Fast Track - public safety	res. revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Land Bank Fast Track/administration	\$ -	\$ 1,220,800	\$ 1,750,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,970,800
Skilled trades training fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000
Detroit pre-college science and engineering program	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 340,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 340,000
Pyramid P20 education hub	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100
River Rouge park improvements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000
Auto, engin and mfg technology fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000,000
Special grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,750,000	\$ -	\$ 15,750,000
Subtotal	\$ 76,121,700	\$ 51,220,800	\$ 87,190,100	\$ 38,650,000	\$ -	\$ 253,182,600

<b>Total One-Time Spending (GF/GP)</b>	<b>\$ 524,179,600</b>	<b>\$ 535,787,900</b>	<b>\$ 820,685,800</b>	<b>\$ 185,650,300</b>	<b>\$ 458,680,100</b>	<b>\$ 2,524,983,700</b>
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County revenue sharing	\$ 15,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000,000
County incentive program	\$ -	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 6,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,000,000
Economic vitality incentive program	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 7,500,000	\$ 9,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 32,000,000
CVT revenue sharing	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,800,000	\$ 5,800,000	\$ 11,600,000
Competitive grant assistance program	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 10,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000,000
Competitive grant assistance program-public safety	\$ 5,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000,000
Financially distressed CVTs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000,000
Subtotal	\$ 40,000,000	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 26,000,000	\$ 8,800,000	\$ 5,800,000	\$ 100,600,000

<b>Total GF and GF-Equivalent Funding</b>	<b>\$ 564,179,600</b>	<b>\$ 555,787,900</b>	<b>\$ 846,685,800</b>	<b>\$ 194,450,300</b>	<b>\$ 464,480,100</b>	<b>\$ 2,625,583,700</b>
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(a) FY 2015 Enacted includes MDOC Neal lawsuit settlement of \$25.0 M moved from ongoing appn for FY 2015 only

(b) Initiated Law - 2014 PA 281 is effective 3/31/2015

(b) FY 2016 Executive Recommendation includes Treasury payment to locals for PPT reform for second year of two-year payment.

SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 4093

A bill to make appropriations for the department of environmental quality for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016; and to provide for the expenditure of the appropriations.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1 PART 1

2 LINE-ITEM APPROPRIATIONS

3 Sec. 101. There is appropriated for the department of  
4 environmental quality for the fiscal year ending September 30,  
5 2016, from the following funds:

6 **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

7 APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

8 Full-time equated unclassified positions ..... 6.0

9 Full-time equated classified positions ..... 1,218.0

10 GROSS APPROPRIATION ..... \$ 486,909,300



1	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
2	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
3	transfers.....		9,115,300
4	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	477,794,000
5	Federal revenues:		
6	Federal funds .....		138,079,100
7	Special revenue funds:		
8	Private funds .....		546,000
9	Total other state restricted revenues .....		304,341,200
10	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	34,827,700
11	State general fund/general purpose schedule:		
12	Ongoing state general fund/general		
13	purpose .....		34,827,700
14	One-time state general fund/general		
15	purpose .....		0
16	FUND SOURCE SUMMARY		
17	Full-time equated unclassified positions .....		6.0
18	Full-time equated classified positions .....		1,218.0
19	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	486,909,300
20	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
21	IDG, MDOT - Michigan transportation fund .....		1,310,500
22	IDG, MDSP .....		1,720,100
23	IDT, interdivisional charges .....		2,053,400
24	IDT, laboratory services .....		4,031,300
25	Total interdepartmental grants and intradepartmental		
26	transfers.....		9,115,300
27	ADJUSTED GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	477,794,000



1	Federal revenues:	
2	Federal funds .....	138,079,100
3	Special revenue funds:	
4	Private funds .....	546,000
5	Air emissions fees .....	11,910,500
6	Aquatic nuisance control fund .....	897,800
7	Campground fund .....	309,300
8	Clean Michigan initiative - response activities .....	1,500,000
9	Clean Michigan initiative - clean water fund .....	2,617,100
10	Clean Michigan initiative - contaminated sediments ...	1,565,000
11	Clean Michigan initiative - nonpoint source .....	2,000,000
12	Cleanup and redevelopment fund .....	19,105,000
13	Community pollution prevention fund .....	250,000
14	Electronic waste recycling fund .....	320,700
15	Environmental education fund .....	164,000
16	Environmental pollution prevention fund .....	7,824,700
17	Environmental protection bond fund .....	126,800
18	Environmental protection fund .....	2,379,800
19	Environmental response fund .....	3,719,000
20	Fees and collections .....	421,500
21	Financial instruments .....	9,347,200
22	Great Lakes protection fund .....	234,800
23	Groundwater discharge permit fees .....	1,719,500
24	Infrastructure construction fund .....	50,000
25	Land and water permit fees .....	3,150,700
26	Landfill maintenance trust fund .....	30,300
27	Medical waste emergency response fund .....	325,100



1	Metallic mining surveillance fee revenue .....	98,900
2	Mineral well regulatory fee revenue .....	217,200
3	Nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance .....	353,600
4	NPDES fees .....	4,459,100
5	Oil and gas regulatory fund .....	10,349,200
6	Orphan well fund .....	2,372,300
7	Public swimming pool fund .....	638,500
8	Public utility assessments .....	257,400
9	Public water supply fees .....	4,861,300
10	Refined petroleum fund .....	40,685,600
11	Revitalization revolving loan fund .....	100,700
12	Revolving loan revenue bonds .....	11,400,000
13	Sand extraction fee revenue .....	91,100
14	Scrap tire regulatory fund .....	5,066,600
15	Septage waste contingency fund .....	18,100
16	Septage waste program fund .....	520,400
17	Settlement funds .....	419,000
18	Sewage sludge land application fees .....	1,114,800
19	Small business pollution prevention revolving loan	
20	fund .....	162,600
21	Soil erosion and sedimentation control training fund .	167,000
22	Solid waste management fund - staff account .....	4,956,400
23	Stormwater permit fees .....	3,059,700
24	Strategic water quality initiatives fund .....	116,173,600
25	Underground storage tank cleanup fund .....	20,000,000
26	Wastewater operator training fees .....	579,300
27	Water analysis fees .....	2,204,200



1	Water pollution control revolving fund .....	3,667,500
2	Water quality protection fund .....	100,000
3	Water use reporting fees .....	278,300
4	Total other state restricted revenues .....	304,341,200
5	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 34,827,700
6	<b>Sec. 102. EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS</b>	
7	Full-time equated unclassified positions ..... 6.0	
8	Full-time equated classified positions ..... 13.0	
9	Unclassified salaries--6.0 FTE positions .....	\$ 735,600
10	Executive direction--13.0 FTE positions .....	<u>2,058,000</u>
11	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 2,793,600
12	Appropriated from:	
13	Federal revenues:	
14	Federal funds .....	27,100
15	Special revenue funds:	
16	Environmental protection fund .....	298,100
17	Environmental response fund .....	169,300
18	Oil and gas regulatory fund .....	221,800
19	Refined petroleum fund .....	590,900
20	Settlement funds .....	11,400
21	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 1,475,000
22	<b>Sec. 103. OFFICE OF THE GREAT LAKES</b>	
23	Full-time equated classified positions ..... 12.0	
24	Office of the Great Lakes--12.0 FTE positions .....	\$ 2,141,200
25	Coastal management grants .....	<u>1,250,000</u>
26	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 3,391,200
27	Appropriated from:	





1	Federal revenues:	
2	Federal funds .....	2,176,300
3	Special revenue funds:	
4	Great Lakes protection fund .....	213,500
5	Settlement funds .....	111,900
6	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 889,500
7	<b>Sec. 104. GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE</b>	
8	Full-time equated classified positions .....	6.0
9	Great Lakes restoration initiative--6.0 FTE positions	\$ <u>15,046,100</u>
10	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 15,046,100
11	Appropriated from:	
12	Federal revenues:	
13	Federal funds .....	15,046,100
14	Special revenue funds:	
15	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
16	<b>Sec. 105. DEPARTMENT SUPPORT SERVICES</b>	
17	Full-time equated classified positions .....	34.0
18	Central support services--34.0 FTE positions .....	\$ 4,073,300
19	Accounting service center .....	1,362,200
20	Administrative hearings .....	372,200
21	Automated data processing .....	2,053,400
22	Building occupancy charges .....	4,438,600
23	Environmental support projects .....	5,000,000
24	Rent - privately owned property .....	<u>2,281,200</u>
25	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 19,580,900
26	Appropriated from:	
27	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	



1	IDG, MDSP .....	59,100
2	IDT, interdivisional charges .....	2,053,400
3	IDT, laboratory services .....	150,200
4	Special revenue funds:	
5	Air emissions fees .....	1,230,600
6	Campground fund .....	13,900
7	Cleanup and redevelopment fund .....	1,408,500
8	Electronic waste recycling fund .....	15,000
9	Environmental pollution prevention fund .....	759,700
10	Environmental response fund .....	213,400
11	Fees and collections .....	26,100
12	Financial instruments .....	7,218,700
13	Great Lakes protection fund .....	13,800
14	Groundwater discharge permit fees .....	178,900
15	Land and water permit fees .....	515,600
16	Medical waste emergency response fund .....	15,600
17	Metallic mining surveillance fee revenue .....	4,400
18	Mineral well regulatory fee revenue .....	7,800
19	Nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance .....	800
20	NPDES fees .....	217,700
21	Oil and gas regulatory fund .....	593,400
22	Orphan well fund .....	45,900
23	Public swimming pool fund .....	23,800
24	Public utility assessments .....	19,900
25	Public water supply fees .....	168,800
26	Refined petroleum fund .....	1,611,500
27	Sand extraction fee revenue .....	3,700



1	Scrap tire regulatory fund .....	154,000
2	Septage waste program fund .....	17,500
3	Settlement funds .....	36,500
4	Sewage sludge land application fees .....	117,600
5	Small business pollution prevention revolving loan	
6	fund.....	16,900
7	Soil erosion and sedimentation control training fund .	16,500
8	Solid waste management fund - staff account .....	298,300
9	Stormwater permit fees .....	111,600
10	Wastewater operator training fees .....	30,000
11	Water analysis fees .....	134,300
12	Water use reporting fees .....	21,500
13	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 2,056,000
14	<b>Sec. 106. OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE</b>	
15	Full-time equated classified positions .....	38.0
16	Office of environmental assistance--38.0 FTE positions \$	6,179,400
17	Pollution prevention local grants .....	<u>250,000</u>
18	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 6,429,400
19	Appropriated from:	
20	Federal revenues:	
21	Federal funds .....	695,100
22	Special revenue funds:	
23	Private funds .....	359,200
24	Air emissions fees .....	134,600
25	Community pollution prevention fund .....	250,000
26	Environmental education fund .....	164,000
27	Environmental pollution prevention fund .....	1,481,700



1	Fees and collections .....	118,500
2	Settlement funds .....	259,200
3	Small business pollution prevention revolving loan	
4	fund.....	132,500
5	State general fund/general purpose ..... \$	2,834,600
6	<b>Sec. 107. WATER RESOURCE DIVISION</b>	
7	Full-time equated classified positions ..... 316.0	
8	Land and water interface permit programs--82.0 FTE	
9	positions..... \$	11,439,100
10	Program direction and project assistance--27.0 FTE	
11	positions.....	2,972,900
12	Water withdrawal assessment program--4.0 FTE positions	611,900
13	Water quality and use initiative/general--5.0 FTE	
14	positions.....	1,624,000
15	Real-time beach monitoring program .....	500,000
16	Wetlands program .....	1,000,000
17	Aquatic nuisance control program--6.0 FTE positions ..	897,800
18	Expedited water/wastewater permits--1.0 FTE position .	50,000
19	Fish contaminant monitoring .....	316,100
20	Groundwater discharge--22.0 FTE positions .....	3,157,800
21	NPDES nonstormwater program--83.0 FTE positions .....	12,777,900
22	Surface water--86.0 FTE positions .....	15,638,200
23	Federal - Great Lakes remedial action plan grants ....	583,800
24	Federal - nonpoint source water pollution grants .....	4,083,300
25	Contaminated lake and river sediment cleanup program .	1,565,000
26	Nonpoint source pollution prevention and control	
27	project program.....	2,000,000



1	Wetland mitigation banking grants and loans .....	3,000,000
2	Water quality protection grants .....	<u>100,000</u>
3	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 62,317,800
4	Appropriated from:	
5	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
6	IDG, MDOT - Michigan transportation fund .....	1,225,400
7	Federal revenues:	
8	Federal funds .....	19,233,000
9	Special revenue funds:	
10	Aquatic nuisance control fund .....	897,800
11	Clean Michigan initiative - clean water fund .....	2,617,100
12	Clean Michigan initiative - contaminated sediments ...	1,565,000
13	Clean Michigan initiative - nonpoint source .....	2,000,000
14	Environmental response fund .....	201,600
15	Groundwater discharge permit fees .....	1,446,200
16	Infrastructure construction fund .....	50,000
17	Land and water permit fees .....	2,295,900
18	NPDES fees .....	4,070,300
19	Refined petroleum fund .....	440,600
20	Sewage sludge land application fees .....	936,200
21	Soil erosion and sedimentation control training fund .	137,600
22	Stormwater permit fees .....	2,860,700
23	Strategic water quality initiatives fund .....	3,000,000
24	Wastewater operator training fees .....	276,600
25	Water pollution control revolving fund .....	809,500
26	Water quality protection fund .....	100,000
27	Water use reporting fees .....	240,500



1	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$	17,913,800
2	<b>Sec. 108. LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION</b>		
3	Full-time equated classified positions .....	14.0	
4	Environmental investigations--14.0 FTE positions .....	\$	<u>2,809,200</u>
5	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$	2,809,200
6	Appropriated from:		
7	Interdepartmental grant revenues:		
8	IDT, laboratory services .....		15,700
9	Federal revenues:		
10	Federal funds .....		569,500
11	Special revenue funds:		
12	Air emissions fees .....		55,900
13	Campground fund .....		2,100
14	Cleanup and redevelopment fund .....		185,500
15	Electronic waste recycling fund .....		1,600
16	Environmental pollution prevention fund .....		106,200
17	Environmental response fund .....		40,000
18	Fees and collections .....		4,100
19	Financial instruments .....		513,600
20	Great Lakes protection fund .....		1,500
21	Groundwater discharge permit fees .....		18,700
22	Land and water permit fees .....		76,900
23	Medical waste emergency response fund .....		2,400
24	Metallic mining surveillance fee revenue .....		700
25	Mineral well regulatory fee revenue .....		1,200
26	NPDES fees .....		31,900
27	Oil and gas regulatory fund .....		85,700



1	Orphan well fund .....	7,100
2	Public swimming pool fund .....	3,700
3	Public utility assessments .....	2,000
4	Public water supply fees .....	26,200
5	Refined petroleum fund .....	360,900
6	Sand extraction fee revenue .....	600
7	Scrap tire regulatory fund .....	28,900
8	Septage waste program fund .....	2,700
9	Sewage sludge land application fees .....	12,100
10	Small business pollution prevention revolving loan	
11	fund.....	2,600
12	Soil erosion and sedimentation control training fund .	2,600
13	Solid waste management fund - staff account .....	40,400
14	Stormwater permit fees .....	17,400
15	Wastewater operator training fees .....	4,600
16	Water analysis fees .....	18,100
17	Water use reporting fees .....	3,100
18	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 563,000
19	<b>Sec. 109. AIR QUALITY DIVISION</b>	
20	Full-time equated classified positions .....	188.0
21	Air quality programs--188.0 FTE positions .....	\$ <u>26,768,000</u>
22	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 26,768,000
23	Appropriated from:	
24	Federal revenues:	
25	Federal funds .....	7,322,000
26	Special revenue funds:	
27	Air emissions fees .....	9,831,400



1	Environmental pollution prevention fund .....	1,337,000
2	Fees and collections .....	222,400
3	Oil and gas regulatory fund .....	134,600
4	Refined petroleum fund .....	3,589,900
5	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 4,330,700
6	<b>Sec. 110. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION</b>	
7	Full-time equated classified positions .....	305.0
8	Drinking water and environmental health--106.0 FTE	
9	positions .....	\$ 14,655,000
10	Hazardous waste management program--45.0 FTE positions	6,795,500
11	Low-level radioactive waste authority--2.0 FTE	
12	positions .....	227,700
13	Medical waste program--2.0 FTE positions .....	297,200
14	Municipal assistance--29.0 FTE positions .....	4,724,600
15	Radiological protection program--12.0 FTE positions ..	1,939,200
16	Scrap tire regulatory program--10.0 FTE positions ....	1,320,200
17	Oil, gas, and mineral services--59.0 FTE positions ...	12,012,800
18	Recycling initiative--3.0 FTE positions .....	999,100
19	Solid waste management program--37.0 FTE positions ...	4,925,900
20	Drinking water program grants .....	830,000
21	Noncommunity water grants .....	2,000,000
22	Septage waste compliance grants .....	275,000
23	Strategic water quality initiative grants and loans ..	97,000,000
24	Water pollution control and drinking water revolving	
25	fund .....	84,993,000
26	Scrap tire grants .....	<u>3,500,000</u>
27	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 236,495,200





1	Appropriated from:	
2	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
3	IDG, MDSP .....	1,635,600
4	Federal revenues:	
5	Federal funds .....	85,785,900
6	Special revenue funds:	
7	Campground fund .....	285,000
8	Electronic waste recycling fund .....	297,700
9	Environmental pollution prevention fund .....	3,686,500
10	Fees and collections .....	34,000
11	Medical waste emergency response fund .....	297,200
12	Metallic mining surveillance fee revenue .....	91,100
13	Mineral well regulatory fee revenue .....	203,300
14	Nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance .....	352,500
15	Oil and gas regulatory fund .....	8,991,200
16	Orphan well fund .....	2,290,200
17	Public swimming pool fund .....	596,000
18	Public utility assessments .....	227,700
19	Public water supply fees .....	4,217,400
20	Refined petroleum fund .....	670,300
21	Revolving loan revenue bonds .....	11,400,000
22	Sand extraction fee revenue .....	84,500
23	Scrap tire regulatory fund .....	4,820,200
24	Septage waste contingency fund .....	18,100
25	Septage waste program fund .....	489,000
26	Solid waste management fund - staff account .....	4,448,700
27	Strategic water quality initiatives fund .....	98,173,600



1	Wastewater operator training fees .....	249,200
2	Water pollution control revolving fund .....	2,814,900
3	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 4,335,400
4	<b>Sec. 111. REMEDIATION AND REDEVELOPMENT DIVISION</b>	
5	Full-time equated classified positions .....	291.0
6	Contaminated site investigations, cleanup and	
7	revitalization--202.0 FTE positions .....	\$ 24,329,900
8	Federal cleanup project management--50.0 FTE positions	8,858,900
9	Laboratory services--39.0 FTE positions .....	6,082,600
10	Environmental bond site reclamation program .....	126,800
11	Brownfield grants .....	1,500,000
12	Emergency cleanup actions .....	4,000,000
13	Environmental cleanup support .....	1,840,000
14	Environmental cleanup and redevelopment program .....	15,000,000
15	Refined petroleum product cleanup program .....	20,000,000
16	Superfund cleanup .....	<u>1,000,000</u>
17	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 82,738,200
18	Appropriated from:	
19	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
20	IDT, laboratory services .....	3,801,400
21	Federal revenues:	
22	Federal funds .....	6,248,100
23	Special revenue funds:	
24	Private funds .....	186,800
25	Clean Michigan initiative - response activities .....	1,500,000
26	Cleanup and redevelopment fund .....	16,758,900
27	Environmental protection bond fund .....	126,800



1	Environmental protection fund .....	1,995,400
2	Environmental response fund .....	2,931,200
3	Landfill maintenance trust fund .....	30,300
4	Public water supply fees .....	302,800
5	Refined petroleum fund .....	31,777,400
6	Revitalization revolving loan fund .....	100,700
7	Strategic water quality initiatives fund .....	15,000,000
8	Water analysis fees .....	1,978,400
9	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
10	<b>Sec. 112. UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK AUTHORITY</b>	
11	Full-time equated classified positions .....	1.0
12	Underground storage tank cleanup	
13	program--1.0 FTE position .....	\$ <u>20,000,000</u>
14	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 20,000,000
15	Appropriated from:	
16	Special revenue funds:	
17	Underground storage tank cleanup fund .....	20,000,000
18	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 0
19	<b>Sec. 113. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>	
20	Information technology services and projects .....	\$ <u>8,539,700</u>
21	GROSS APPROPRIATION .....	\$ 8,539,700
22	Appropriated from:	
23	Interdepartmental grant revenues:	
24	IDG, MDOT - Michigan transportation fund .....	85,100
25	IDG, MDSP .....	25,400
26	IDT, laboratory services .....	64,000
27	Federal revenues:	



1	Federal funds .....	976,000
2	Special revenue funds:	
3	Air emissions fees .....	658,000
4	Campground fund .....	8,300
5	Cleanup and redevelopment fund .....	752,100
6	Electronic waste recycling fund .....	6,400
7	Environmental pollution prevention fund .....	453,600
8	Environmental protection fund .....	86,300
9	Environmental response fund .....	163,500
10	Fees and collections .....	16,400
11	Financial instruments .....	1,614,900
12	Great Lakes protection fund .....	6,000
13	Groundwater discharge permit fees .....	75,700
14	Land and water permit fees .....	262,300
15	Medical waste emergency response fund .....	9,900
16	Metallic mining surveillance fee revenue .....	2,700
17	Mineral well regulatory fee revenue .....	4,900
18	Nonferrous metallic mineral surveillance .....	300
19	NPDES fees .....	139,200
20	Oil and gas regulatory fund .....	322,500
21	Orphan well fund .....	29,100
22	Public swimming pool fund .....	15,000
23	Public utility assessments .....	7,800
24	Public water supply fees .....	146,100
25	Refined petroleum fund .....	1,644,100
26	Sand extraction fee revenue .....	2,300
27	Scrap tire regulatory fund .....	63,500



1	Septage waste program fund .....	11,200
2	Sewage sludge land application fees .....	48,900
3	Small business pollution prevention revolving loan	
4	fund.....	10,600
5	Soil erosion and sedimentation control training fund .	10,300
6	Solid waste management fund - staff account .....	169,000
7	Stormwater permit fees .....	70,000
8	Wastewater operator training fees .....	18,900
9	Water analysis fees .....	73,400
10	Water pollution control revolving fund .....	43,100
11	Water use reporting fees .....	13,200
12	State general fund/general purpose .....	\$ 429,700

## PART 2

## PROVISIONS CONCERNING APPROPRIATIONS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

## GENERAL SECTIONS

Sec. 201. Pursuant to section 30 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963, total state spending from state resources under part 1 for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$339,168,900.00 and state spending from state resources to be paid to local units of government for fiscal year 2015-2016 is \$3,648,500.00. The itemized statement below identifies appropriations from which spending to local units of government will occur:

## GRANTS

Drinking water and environmental health .....	\$	1,800,000
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1	Surface water quality program. ....	500,000
2	Waste management programs. ....	1,073,500
3	Septage waste compliance program. ....	<u>275,000</u>
4	TOTAL..... \$	3,648,500

5       Sec. 202. The appropriations authorized under this part and  
6 part 1 are subject to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
7 MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

8       Sec. 203. As used in this part and part 1:

- 9       (a) "Department" means the department of environmental  
10 quality.  
11       (b) "Director" means the director of the department.  
12       (c) "FTE" means full-time equated.  
13       (d) "IDG" means interdepartmental grant.  
14       (e) "IDT" means intradepartmental transfer.  
15       (f) "MDOT" means the state transportation department.  
16       (g) "MDSP" means the department of state police.  
17       (h) "NPDES" means national pollution discharge elimination  
18 system.

19       Sec. 204. In addition to the metrics required under section  
20 447 of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1447, for  
21 each new program or program enhancement for which funds in excess  
22 of \$500,000.00 are appropriated in part 1, the department shall  
23 provide not later than November 1, 2015 a list of program-specific  
24 metrics intended to measure its performance based on a return on  
25 taxpayer investment. The department shall deliver the program-  
26 specific metrics to members of the senate and house subcommittees  
27 that have subject matter jurisdiction for this budget, fiscal



1 agencies, and the state budget director. The department shall  
2 provide an update on its progress in tracking program-specific  
3 metrics and the status of program success at an appropriations  
4 subcommittee meeting called for by the subcommittee chair.

5       Sec. 205. The departments and agencies receiving  
6 appropriations in part 1 shall use the Internet to fulfill the  
7 reporting requirements of this part. This requirement may include  
8 transmission of reports via electronic mail to the recipients  
9 identified for each reporting requirement, or it may include  
10 placement of reports on an Internet or intranet site.

11       Sec. 207. The departments and agencies receiving  
12 appropriations in part 1 shall receive and retain copies of all  
13 reports funded from appropriations in part 1. Federal and state  
14 guidelines for short-term and long-term retention of records shall  
15 be followed. The department may electronically retain copies of  
16 reports unless otherwise required by federal and state guidelines.

17       Sec. 209. The departments and agencies receiving  
18 appropriations in part 1 shall prepare a report on out-of-state  
19 travel expenses not later than January 1 of each year. The travel  
20 report shall be a listing of all travel by classified and  
21 unclassified employees outside this state in the immediately  
22 preceding fiscal year that was funded in whole or in part with  
23 funds appropriated in the department's budget. The report shall be  
24 submitted to the house and senate appropriations committees, the  
25 house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.  
26 The report shall include the following information:

27       (a) The dates of each travel occurrence.



1 (b) The total transportation and related costs of each travel  
2 occurrence, including the proportion funded with state general  
3 fund/general purpose revenues, the proportion funded with state  
4 restricted revenues, the proportion funded with federal revenues,  
5 and the proportion funded with other revenues.

6 Sec. 210. Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used for  
7 the purchase of foreign goods or services, or both, if  
8 competitively priced and of comparable quality American goods or  
9 services, or both, are available. Preference shall be given to  
10 goods or services, or both, manufactured or provided by Michigan  
11 businesses and associated subcontractors if they are competitively  
12 priced and of comparable quality. In addition, preference shall be  
13 given to goods or services, or both, that are manufactured or  
14 provided by Michigan businesses owned and operated by veterans, if  
15 they are competitively priced and of comparable quality.

16 Sec. 211. The director shall take all reasonable steps to  
17 ensure businesses in deprived and depressed communities compete for  
18 and perform contracts to provide services or supplies, or both. The  
19 director shall strongly encourage firms with which the department  
20 contracts to subcontract with certified businesses in depressed and  
21 deprived communities for services, supplies, or both.

22 Sec. 212. The department shall not take disciplinary action  
23 against an employee for communicating with a member of the  
24 legislature or his or her staff.

25 Sec. 213. (1) Funds appropriated in part 1 shall not be used  
26 by the department to promulgate a rule that will apply to a small  
27 business and that will have a disproportionate economic impact on





1 small businesses because of the size of those businesses if the  
2 department fails to reduce the disproportionate economic impact of  
3 the rule on small businesses as provided under section 40 of the  
4 administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.240.

5 (2) As used in this section:

6 (a) "Rule" means that term as defined under section 7 of the  
7 administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.207.

8 (b) "Small business" means that term as defined under section  
9 7a of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL  
10 24.207a.

11 Sec. 214. Funds appropriated in this part and part 1 shall not  
12 be used by a principal executive department, state agency, or  
13 authority to hire a person to provide legal services that are the  
14 responsibility of the attorney general. This prohibition does not  
15 apply to legal services for bonding activities and for those  
16 activities that the attorney general authorizes.

17 Sec. 215. (1) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1,  
18 there is appropriated an amount not to exceed \$30,000,000.00 for  
19 federal contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
20 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
21 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,  
22 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

23 (2) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
24 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.00 for state  
25 restricted contingency funds. These funds are not available for  
26 expenditure until they have been transferred to another line item  
27 in part 1 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act,



1 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.

2 (3) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
3 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 for local  
4 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
5 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
6 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
7 MCL 18.1393.

8 (4) In addition to the funds appropriated in part 1, there is  
9 appropriated an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00 for private  
10 contingency funds. These funds are not available for expenditure  
11 until they have been transferred to another line item in part 1  
12 under section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,  
13 MCL 18.1393.

14 Sec. 216. (1) The department shall report all of the following  
15 information relative to allocations made from appropriations for  
16 the environmental cleanup and redevelopment program, state cleanup,  
17 emergency actions, superfund cleanup, the revitalization revolving  
18 loan program, the brownfield grants and loans program, the leaking  
19 underground storage tank cleanup program, the contaminated lake and  
20 river sediments cleanup program, the refined petroleum product  
21 cleanup program, and the environmental protection bond projects  
22 under section 19508(7) of the natural resources and environmental  
23 protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.19508, to the state budget  
24 director, the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on  
25 environmental quality, and the senate and house fiscal agencies:

26 (a) The name and location of the site for which an allocation  
27 is made.



1 (b) The nature of the problem encountered at the site.

2 (c) A brief description of how the problem will be resolved if  
3 the allocation is made for a response activity.

4 (d) The estimated date that site closure activities will be  
5 completed.

6 (e) The amount of the allocation, or the anticipated financing  
7 for the site.

8 (f) A summary of the sites and the total amount of funds  
9 expended at the sites at the conclusion of the fiscal year.

10 (g) The number of brownfield projects that were successfully  
11 redeveloped.

12 (2) The report prepared under subsection (1) shall also  
13 include all of the following:

14 (a) The status of all state-owned facilities that are on the  
15 list compiled under part 201 of the natural resources and  
16 environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.20101 to  
17 324.20142.

18 (b) The report shall include the total amount of funds  
19 expended during the fiscal year and the total amount of funds  
20 awaiting expenditure.

21 (c) The total amount of bonds issued for the environmental  
22 protection bond program pursuant to part 193 of the natural  
23 resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL  
24 324.19301 to 324.19306, and bonds issued pursuant to the clean  
25 Michigan initiative act, 1998 PA 284, MCL 324.95101 to 324.95108.

26 (3) The report shall be made available by March 31 of each  
27 year.



1       Sec. 217. (1) The department may expend amounts remaining from  
2 the current and prior fiscal year appropriations to meet funding  
3 needs of legislatively approved sites for the environmental cleanup  
4 and redevelopment program, the refined petroleum product cleanup  
5 program, brownfield grants and loans, waterfront grants, and the  
6 environmental bond site reclamation program.

7       (2) Unexpended and unencumbered amounts remaining from  
8 appropriations from the environmental protection bond fund  
9 contained in 2003 PA 173, 2005 PA 109, 2006 PA 343, 2011 PA 63, and  
10 2012 PA 236 are appropriated for expenditure for any site listed in  
11 this part and part 1 and any site listed in the public acts  
12 referenced in this section.

13       (3) Unexpended and unencumbered amounts remaining from  
14 appropriations from the clean Michigan initiative fund - response  
15 activities contained in 2000 PA 52, 2004 PA 309, 2005 PA 11, 2006  
16 PA 343, 2007 PA 121, 2011 PA 63, 2013 PA 59, and 2014 PA 252 are  
17 appropriated for expenditure for any site listed in this part and  
18 part 1 and any site listed in the public acts referenced in this  
19 section.

20       (4) Unexpended and unencumbered amounts remaining from  
21 appropriations from the refined petroleum fund activities contained  
22 in 2007 PA 121, 2008 PA 247, 2009 PA 118, 2010 PA 189, 2011 PA 63,  
23 2012 PA 200, 2013 PA 59, and 2014 PA 252 are appropriated for  
24 expenditure for any site listed in this part and part 1 and any  
25 site listed in the public acts referenced in this section.

26       (5) Unexpended and unencumbered amounts remaining from the  
27 appropriations from the strategic water quality initiatives fund



1 contained in 2011 PA 50, 2011 PA 63, 2012 PA 200, 2013 PA 59, and  
2 2014 PA 252 are appropriated for expenditure for any site listed in  
3 this part and part 1 and any site listed in the public acts  
4 referenced in this section.

5 Sec. 219. Unexpended settlement revenues at the end of the  
6 fiscal year may be carried forward into the settlement fund in the  
7 succeeding fiscal year up to a maximum carryforward of  
8 \$2,500,000.00.

9 Sec. 221. Not later than November 30, the state budget office  
10 shall prepare and transmit a report that provides for estimates of  
11 the total general fund/general purpose appropriation lapses at the  
12 close of the prior fiscal year. This report shall summarize the  
13 projected year-end general fund/general purpose appropriation  
14 lapses by major departmental program or program areas. The report  
15 shall be transmitted to the chairpersons of the senate and house  
16 appropriations committees and the senate and house fiscal agencies.

17 Sec. 222. Within 14 days after the release of the executive  
18 budget recommendation, the department shall cooperate with the  
19 state budget office to provide the senate and house appropriations  
20 chairs, the senate and house appropriations subcommittee chairs,  
21 and the senate and house fiscal agencies with an annual report on  
22 estimated state restricted fund balances, state restricted fund  
23 projected revenues, and state restricted fund expenditures for the  
24 fiscal years ending September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2016.

25 Sec. 223. Part 1 provides authorizations to fund classified  
26 positions during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016. Line-  
27 item appropriations include limitations on the number of payroll



1 hours to be funded, on the basis of 2,088 hours per each FTE  
2 position. The department shall report the number of funded FTE  
3 positions within 15 days after the effective date of this part. The  
4 number of classified employees compensated through each line item  
5 is limited by the authorized FTE positions indicated in part 1, as  
6 adjusted for the number of reported funded FTE positions. The  
7 report shall be provided to the house and senate appropriations  
8 subcommittees on environmental quality and the house and senate  
9 fiscal agencies.

10 Sec. 225. The department shall cooperate with the department  
11 of technology, management, and budget to maintain a searchable  
12 website accessible by the public at no cost that includes, but is  
13 not limited to, all of the following for each department or agency:

14 (a) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by category.

15 (b) Fiscal year-to-date expenditures by appropriation unit.

16 (c) Fiscal year-to-date payments to a selected vendor,  
17 including the vendor name, payment date, payment amount, and  
18 payment description.

19 (d) The number of active department employees by job  
20 classification.

21 (e) Job specifications and wage rates.

22 Sec. 231. The department shall maintain, on a publicly  
23 accessible website, a department scorecard that identifies, tracks,  
24 and regularly updates key metrics that are used to monitor and  
25 improve the agency's performance.

26 Sec. 234. Total authorized appropriations from all sources  
27 under part 1 for legacy costs for the fiscal year ending September



30, 2016 are \$32,301,900.00. From this amount, total agency appropriations for pension-related legacy costs are estimated at \$18,340,800.00. Total agency appropriations for retiree health care legacy costs are estimated at \$13,961,100.00.

#### REMEDIATION DIVISION

Sec. 301. Revenues remaining in the interdepartmental transfers, laboratory services at the end of the fiscal year shall carry forward into the succeeding fiscal year.

Sec. 302. The unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for emergency cleanup actions, the environmental cleanup and redevelopment program, and the refined petroleum product cleanup program are considered work project appropriations and any unencumbered or unallotted funds are carried forward into the succeeding fiscal year. The following is in compliance with section 451a(1) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

(a) The purpose of the projects to be carried forward is to provide contaminated site cleanup.

(b) The projects will be accomplished by contract.

(c) The total estimated cost of all projects is identified in each line-item appropriation.

(d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2020.

Sec. 303. Effective October 1, 2015, surplus funds not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 in the cleanup and redevelopment trust fund are appropriated to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the natural resources and environmental protection



1 act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.503a.

2 Sec. 304. Effective October 1, 2015, surplus funds not to  
3 exceed \$1,000,000.00 in the community pollution prevention fund  
4 created in section 3f of 1976 IL 1, MCL 445.573f, are appropriated  
5 to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the  
6 natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451,  
7 MCL 324.503a.

8 Sec. 305. It is the intent of the legislature to repay the  
9 refined petroleum fund for the \$70,000,000.00 that was transferred  
10 to the environmental protection fund created in section 503a of the  
11 natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451,  
12 MCL 324.503a, as part of the resolution for the fiscal year 2006-  
13 2007 budget.

14 Sec. 306. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for the refined  
15 petroleum product cleanup program shall be used to fund cleanup  
16 activities on the following sites:

17 Site Name	County
18 Long Lake Super Market	Alpena
19 11192 S M-43	Barry
20 Mel's Service	Bay
21 American Laundry - Benton Harbor	Berrien
22 Spencer's Cleaners	Berrien
23 Baker Oil (W. Dickman)	Calhoun
24 USA MiniMart in Sault Ste. Marie	Chippewa
25 VanSloten Shell in Rudyard	Chippewa
26 City of Davison-Mill St	Genesee
27 Flint FD Fleet Admin	Genesee





1	Flint Water Department Service Center	Genesee
2	Howard Jameson A+H Racing	Gladwin
3	Clark #1501	Jackson
4	1201 Wealthy	Kent
5	1603 Diamond	Kent
6	2555 Oak Industrial Drive	Kent
7	501 Leonard	Kent
8	857 Wealthy	Kent
9	Market 103	Lapeer
10	Clark 1457 Adrian	Lenawee
11	Blanchard Grocery	Montcalm

12           (2) The department shall provide a report to the legislature  
 13 on the amount actually spent at each site listed in subsection (1)  
 14 and give a detailed account of the work actually performed at each  
 15 site.

16           Sec. 309. The unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
 17 brownfield grant program are considered work project appropriations  
 18 and any unencumbered or unallotted funds are carried forward into  
 19 the succeeding fiscal year. The following is in compliance with  
 20 section 451a(1) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL  
 21 18.1451a:

22           (a) The purpose of the projects to be carried forward is to  
 23 provide contaminated site cleanup.

24           (b) The projects will be accomplished by contract.

25           (c) The total estimated cost of all projects is \$1,500,000.00.

26           (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2020.

27           Sec. 310. (1) Upon approval by the state budget director, the



1 department may expend from the general fund of the state an amount  
2 to meet the cash-flow requirements of projects funded under any of  
3 the following that are financed from bond proceeds and for which  
4 bonds have been authorized but not yet issued:

5 (a) Part 52 of the natural resources and environmental  
6 protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.5201 to 324.5206.

7 (b) Part 193 of the natural resources and environmental  
8 protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.19301 to 324.19306.

9 (c) Part 196 of the natural resources and environmental  
10 protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.19601 to 324.19616.

11 (2) Upon the sale of bonds for projects described in  
12 subsection (1), the department shall credit the general fund of the  
13 state an amount equal to that expended from the general fund.

14 Sec. 311. Not later than June 1, 2016, the department shall  
15 provide a report to the house committee on natural resources, the  
16 house appropriations subcommittee on environmental quality, the  
17 senate committee on natural resources, and the senate  
18 appropriations subcommittee on environmental quality detailing the  
19 remediation and redevelopment actions funded by the May 12, 2015  
20 Calhoun County circuit court settlement between the State of  
21 Michigan and Enbridge Energy related to the July 2010 oil spill in  
22 Talmadge Creek and the Kalamazoo River.

## 23 WATER RESOURCES DIVISION

24 Sec. 402. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for the water  
25 quality and use initiative/general line item, the department shall  
26 update a report detailing a comprehensive plan for the use of the



1 water quality and use initiative funding appropriated in part 1 and  
2 identifying the amount of expenditures for specific programs made  
3 from the water quality and use initiative/general line item, the  
4 real-time beach monitoring program line item, and the wetlands  
5 program line item. The report shall be submitted to the  
6 chairpersons of the senate and house of representatives  
7 appropriations subcommittees on environmental quality and the  
8 senate and house fiscal agencies by September 30, 2016.

9 Sec. 405. If a certified health department does not exist in a  
10 city, county, or district or does not fulfill its responsibilities  
11 under part 117 of the natural resources and environmental  
12 protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.11701 to 324.11720, then the  
13 department may spend funds appropriated in part 1 under the septage  
14 waste compliance program in accordance with section 11716 of the  
15 natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451,  
16 MCL 324.11716.

17 Sec. 406. The department shall work with stakeholders to  
18 revise the groundwater discharge permit fee structure in section  
19 3122 prior to September 30, 2016.

## 20 AIR QUALITY DIVISION

21 Sec. 501. (1) From the increased funds appropriated in part 1  
22 for the air quality program, the department shall increase the  
23 funding available for compliance assistance, permitting,  
24 inspections, monitoring, and enforcement of facilities that are  
25 major sources of air pollution. The funding shall be used to assist  
26 with assuring that this state meets national ambient air quality



standards and that this state is in compliance with the clean air act, 42 USC 7401 to 7671q.

(2) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for the additional air emission fee revenue enacted by the legislature for fiscal year 2015-2016, the department shall hire 1 FTE dedicated to oversight of the air quality programs for the Upper Peninsula.

Sec. 502. The department shall not assess additional penalties under part 55 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.5501 to 324.5542, for violations that occurred under a previous owner unless compelled by a consent order or judgment, or other legal requirement.

#### RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Sec. 603. From the funds appropriated in part 1, by December 31, 2015, the department shall compile and make available to the public on a publicly accessible website a report containing a summary document of each completed asset management plan for any stormwater, asset management, or wastewater grant awarded to a local unit of government to fund the development of a plan. As a condition of receiving a stormwater, asset management, or wastewater grant, a local unit of government shall make its asset management plan available to the department upon request when completed and shall retain copies of the plan that can be made available to the public for a minimum of 15 years. The department shall make available a summary document of each plan on a publicly accessible website by September 30 of the year it was completed. The summary document shall include a summary of the plan, the



1 plan's major identified assets, and contact information for the  
2 local unit of government.

### 3 UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK AUTHORITY

4 Sec. 701. The unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for the  
5 underground storage tank cleanup program are considered work  
6 project appropriations, and any unencumbered or unallotted funds  
7 are carried forward into the succeeding fiscal year. The following  
8 is in compliance with section 451a(1) of the management and budget  
9 act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:

10 (a) The purpose of the projects to be carried forward is to  
11 provide contaminated site cleanup.

12 (b) The projects will be accomplished by contract.

13 (c) The total estimated cost of all projects is  
14 \$20,000,000.00.

15 (d) The tentative completion date is September 30, 2020.

## 16 PART 2A

### 17 PROVISIONS CONCERNING ANTICIPATED APPROPRIATIONS 18 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

#### 19 GENERAL SECTIONS

20 Sec. 2001. It is the intent of the legislature to provide  
21 appropriations for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2017 for  
22 the line items listed in part 1. The fiscal year 2016-2017  
23 appropriations are anticipated to be the same as those for fiscal  
24 year 2015-2016, except that the line items will be adjusted for



1 changes in caseload and related costs, federal fund match rates,  
2 economic factors, and available revenue. These adjustments will be  
3 determined after the January 2016 consensus revenue estimating  
4 conference.



## REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE ACTION

### DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Nature of Report:     / / URGENT  
                              / X / Routine

Budget: **Environmental Quality**

/ / House                / X / Senate                / / Conference  
/ / Subcommittee     / / Full Committee        / X / Floor

Action:                    Omnibus SB 133 as amended reported out

Members Present:        n/a  
Meeting Date:            May 5, 2015  
Meeting Time:            n/a  
SBO Analyst Present:     n/a

### ARTICLE VII HIGHLIGHTS

Changes from the Executive Recommendation are as follows:

- Restored \$1,337,000 environmental pollution prevention fund support to the air quality program (this was an SBO approved informal revision).
- \$100 placeholder for emergency water issues related to city of Flint (Hopgood)
- Did not include proposed air emissions fee increase of \$2,250,000 (Hildenbrand amendment)

### **BOILERPLATE**

Most current law boilerplate sections recommended for deletion were restored.

New section requiring the department to hire 1 FTE dedicated to oversight of the air quality programs for the UP was added by the Senate as part of an unofficial deal to get the air emission fee increase passed.

**GF/GP Impact:        \$100**  
**Gross Impact:        (\$912,900)**  
**Next Meeting Scheduled: TBD**

## REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE ACTION

### DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Nature of Report:     / / URGENT  
                              / X / Routine

Budget: **Environmental Quality**

/ / House               / X / Senate               / / Conference  
/ / Subcommittee     / X / Full Committee     / / Floor

Action:                 SB 121 (S-1), Draft 2 as amended reported (9 yes; 6 no; 2 pass)

Members Present:     Full committee  
Meeting Date:         April 15, 2015  
Meeting Time:         2 p.m.  
SBO Analyst Present:   Jenny Harrison (SBO)

### HIGHLIGHTS

Changes from the Executive Recommendation are as follows:

- Restored \$1,337,000 environmental pollution prevention fund support to the air quality program (this was an SBO approved informal revision).
- \$100 placeholder for emergency water issues related to city of Flint (Hopgood)

### **BOILERPLATE**

Most current law boilerplate sections recommended for deletion were restored.

New section requiring the department to hire 1 FTE dedicated to oversight of the air quality programs for the UP was added by the Senate as part of an unofficial deal to get the air emission fee increase passed.

### **AMENDMENTS**

**Senator Hopgood** offered two amendments:

1. \$100 general fund placeholder for an emergency water fund (related to Flint water issues). **Senator Green** commented that this is something we should look at and supported the amendment. Amendment **adopted** unanimously.
2. \$12.0 million general fund for the refined petroleum product cleanup program. Amendment **defeated** along party lines.

GF/GP Impact:         **\$100**  
Gross Impact:         **\$1,337,100**  
Next Meeting Scheduled: Senate Floor



	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<b>FY16 Supplemental</b>					
2						
3	Agency	FTE	GF/GP	Gross	Public Act	Reason
4	DEQ	2.0	\$6,300.0	\$7,300.0	143 of 2015	Flint water emergency
5	DHHS	0.0	\$850.1	\$1,850.1	143 of 2015	Flint water emergency
6	LARA	1.0	\$0.0	\$200.0	143 of 2015	Flint water emergency



## **STATE BUDGET OFFICE**

**May 15, 2013**

### **Department of Natural Resources Summer Youth Employment Program – 2012 Results**

#### **Background:**

During his March 7, 2012 Special Message on Public Safety, Governor Snyder directed the DNR to build new partnerships with recreation centers and organizations in the Detroit, Pontiac, Flint and Saginaw areas to help teens who too often see nothing but concrete to understand that opportunities exist far beyond their experience.

PA 236 of 2012 appropriated \$2.0 million general fund to begin initiative during FY12. PA 200 of 2012 contained \$3.0 million to continue the program in FY13 and the FY14 Executive Recommendation continues the program with \$3.0 million.

#### **Program:**

The following 13 agencies were selected to provide youth ages 16 to 19 with employment opportunities, work skills education and outdoor recreation experiences.

1. The Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency (Pontiac)
2. The Baldwin Center (Pontiac)
3. The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Flint (Flint)
4. The Genesee Regional Chamber of Commerce – Genesee Area Focus Fund (Flint)
5. The Genesee Shiawassee Michigan Works – Career Alliance (Flint)
6. SVRC Industries (Saginaw)
7. Disability Network of Mid-Michigan (Saginaw)
8. The First Ward Community Services (Saginaw)
9. Health Kidz R Us (Detroit)
10. The Youth Connection (Detroit)
11. The Greening of Detroit (Detroit)
12. Detroit Employment Solutions (Detroit)
13. Downtown Detroit Partnership (Detroit)

#### **Statistics from FY12 Program:**

- 813 participants were enrolled in the program
- Participants completed a minimum of 6 out of 9 weeks of employment
- 100,502 total hours worked

#### **Work Sites/Activities:**

- Urban farming
- Park maintenance
- Sorting and storing food donations
- Footbridge renovation at Kearsley Park
- Participation at Habitat for Humanity
- Landscaping activities
- Litter and debris pick-up
- Graffiti removal
- Beach erosion repair

- Farmer's markets
- After school youth program mentors
- Baldwin Center garden and greenhouse
- Maintenance at Kensington MetroPark
- Renovation projects at local parks and walkways
- Belle Isle
- Water quality testing
- Voter registration
- Child care
- General office clerical duties
- Cashier services
- Neighborhood cleanups

Recreation activities at:

- Holly State Recreation Area,
- Flint Institute of Arts,
- For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum,
- Genesee County Parks
- Green Pointe Nature Center
- Detroit Zoo
- Maybury State Park
- Bay City Recreation Area and Seven Lakes Recreation Area
- Bay City State Recreation Area
- Silver Lake State Recreation Area
- William G. Milliken State Park
- Bald Mountain Recreation Area
- Belle Isle Aquarium

Accomplishments:

- 1.2 tons of trash removed in Hart Plaza and Greektown
- Over 100 tires removed from Flint River
- Transformed recycled tires into painted floral planters
- Beach shoreline erosion prevention
- Completed workshops on resume writing, applications, appropriate attire, etc.
- Sold produce in community markets and earned profit
- Learned new landscaping skills
- Returned to school and enrolled in college
- Enhanced leadership skills
- Exposed to new careers
- Maintained over 10,000 trees
- Assisted in rehabilitation of property in Detroit
- Interviewed for internships with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)
- Applied for park ranger positions
- Assisted in cleanup of Belle Isle golf course
- Served as Junior Counselors at day camps